



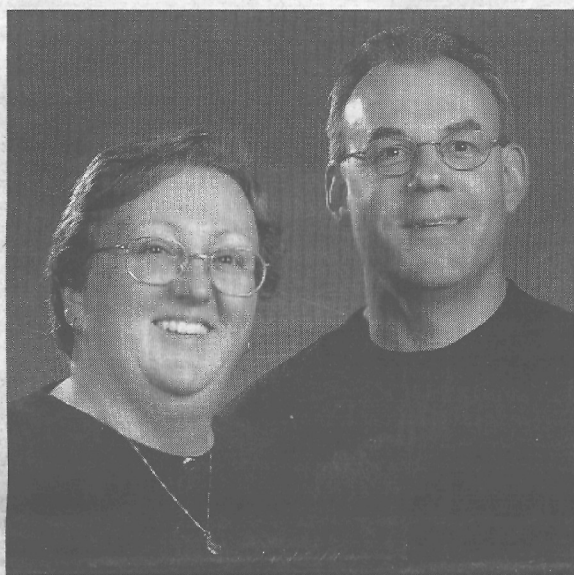
South Plainfield Observer

VOL 8, NO. 12

50 CENTS

OCTOBER 31, 2003

The Choice is Yours: VOTE!



Republican Council candidates Marge Reedy and Ray Rusnak.

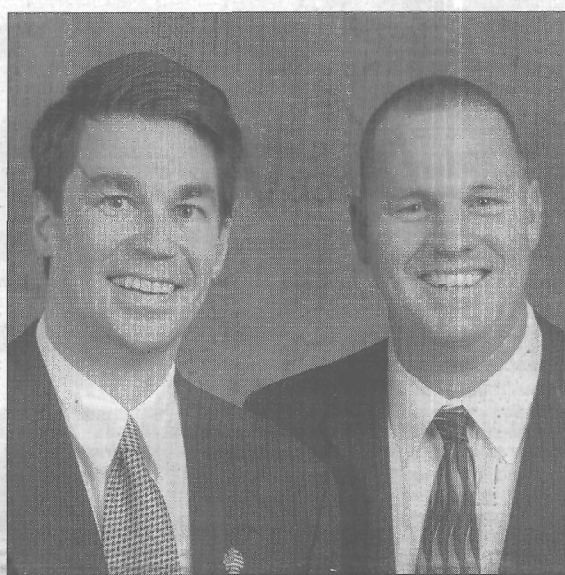
Voters will be asked next Tuesday to elect two members to the South Plainfield Borough Council, as well as two Middlesex freeholders and representatives to the New Jersey State Assembly and Senate.

Four candidates are seeking the two open council seats, Democratic incumbents Bob Cusick and Ray Petronko, and Republican challengers Marge Reedy and Ray Rusnak.

Also running for re-election in other races are South Plainfield residents Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan and Freeholder John Pulomena.

Polls are open Tuesday, Nov. 4 from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. If you're not sure where to cast your vote, call the Borough Clerk at (908) 226-7605. Please note that Districts 4, 10 and 15 should vote at the new Roosevelt School. Take the time to cast your vote; it really does count!

Vote



Democratic Council candidates Bob Cusick and Ray Petronko.

Niemczyk Honored with Cappy Award at Night of Tribute



Tulio Capparelli presents the first "Cappy Award" to Ed Niemczyk, pictured here with his wife of 62 years, Gertrude.

More than 100 guests gathered at the Senior Center last Saturday night to honor a man who has taken volunteerism to a new level.

Known to most as "Mr. Basketball," Ed Niemczyk was honored as the first recipient of the Cappy Award. When the new PAL Building was expanded a few years ago, a plaque was placed in the entrance of the PAL honoring Deputy Chief Tulio "Cappy" Capparelli for his dedication to the youth of our town. Each year the name of a volunteer will be placed on the Wall of Honor in recognition for their dedication. Capparelli was on hand

to present the award in person. Many others who have known Ed throughout the years also paid tribute, some by sharing their thoughts and memories. In addition to the Cappy Award, Ed received two certificates of appreciation, one from the Mayor and Council and one from Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan on behalf of the State of New Jersey.

For Ed, his wife Gertrude and his entire family, the evening was very special and emotional. Ed has always been very shy about receiving these well deserved honors, and when it came time to accepting the award,

he was so emotional, his son, Ed, Jr. took over and eloquently spoke for him. His grandchildren also presented Gertrude with a bouquet of flowers.

The evening's MC was Robert Boyle, a close friend of Ed's for many years. Officer Chris Colucci, PAL president, said that choosing Ed was probably the easiest choice the committee would ever have to make. The choice was made by a committee consisting of two PAL and two Recreation Commission members. According to Colucci, when it came time for nominations, one person's name was brought up repeatedly, thus the choice was made easily.

A slide show of Ed's life, created by Bill Haus, was a show stopper. When the presentation ended, there wasn't a dry eye in the crowd and those watching felt they had been privy to a view of the life of a man who is a true role model to his community and his family.

Ed, who is 86 years old, has been volunteering for over 50 years in South Plainfield, starting with youth

(Continued on page 16)

Three Youths Struck by 17-Year-Old Driver

On Tuesday morning officers responded to the intersection of Plainfield and Merchants avenues on the report of a pedestrian struck by a motor vehicle.

Police discovered that a 17-year-old South Plainfield resident operating a 1992 Ford Explorer traveling south on Plainfield Ave. made a left turn onto Merchants Ave. and struck a 13-year-old female student who was walking to school. That student, in turn, knocked over another female and a male (both 13-years-old)

whom she had been walking with.

The first victim received a moderate injury to her arm, along with scrapes and bruises. The second and third victims received cuts and bruises. Both females were transported to Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center and treated. It is unknown what their condition is at this time.

According to the driver, her vision was obstructed by intense sun glare. There were no summonses issued at this time. The accident was investigated by Officer Peter Papa.

REMINDER: Halloween Curfew

Mayor Gallagher has issued a curfew for Friday, Oct. 31, "Halloween." Trick-or-treat activities will be conducted between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Young children should be accompanied by a parent or other responsible adult. Households can indicate their willingness to welcome children by keeping their porch or exterior lights on. Youngsters should only call on homes with their lights on.



Last Chance to Visit the Haunted Woods Tour at Putnam Park

Finished trick-or-treating? Let the Almost Famous Players scare you silly tonight starting at 7:30. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$2 for kids. Not recommended for kids under eight. Need more info? (908) 756-8011

BOE Seeks to Fill Vacancy

The South Plainfield Board of Education is seeking candidates to fill the vacancy on the Board of Education created by a recent resignation. Any individuals interested in serving on the Board for the time remaining in this position should submit a letter of application and resume to: Pio Pennisi, Board President, c/o South Plainfield Board of Education, 305 Cromwell Place, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. All applications must be received by Tuesday, Nov. 11.

Vote

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Polls are open 6 am to 8 pm

You Can Make a Difference.

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, 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

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. 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.: 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.

November 18, December 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)

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) at 7 p.m.

in the Conference Room, Borough Hall

South Plainfield Observer

The South Plainfield Observer is published every Friday

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

(908) 668-0010 • FAX (908) 668-8819

 NANCY GRENNIER
 Publisher/Editor

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

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The South Plainfield Observer (U.S.P.S. 018253) is published weekly, except Thanksgiving week, by G&G Graphics Inc. 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080-2004. Second class postage paid at South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080-9998. POSTMASTER: Forward change of address orders to G&G Graphics Inc. 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080-2004. Subscription rates \$25 per year in South Plainfield; \$30 per year out of town. To subscribe: 908-668-0010.

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 sposerver.com or ggnan@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: ggnan@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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IN YOUR OPINION

To the Editor:

I attended the Oct. 20 Board of Education (BOE) meeting and witnessed the resignation of a "seasoned" board member. It appears that it was no longer possible for Dawn Jefferys to be a part of a board that makes unsound decisions.

Financial reports had been requested by Dawn for months and did not become available until the Friday before this MONDAY meeting. How does a board approve contracts for our teachers without knowing their financial status? I am grateful that contracts went smoothly, however, I am very concerned about how the increases will be paid for. If the money is there to cover these increases, then why did it take months to have the financial reports come to fruition? This question necessitates an answer! On the other hand, if the money is truly not there, then how will the increases be paid for? Will our children's programs be cut for the BOE's next budget to compensate the deficit?

I am saddened to have lost Dawn Jefferys as an advocate for the children of South Plainfield. Her resignation is a "wake up call" to all of us.

KIM MCMAHON
P.S. Isn't it a conflict of interest to have an assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction whose wife is a vice president of SPEA?

Dear Editor,

Once again it is that time of year to vote—election time. Every year, there is an election for either federal, state, county and local offices. This year it is the state (Senate and Assembly), the county and local offices. The winner this year in the Senate and Assembly race will run the state. Yes, it is important that you come out to vote. The people in office run your lives and spend your tax dollars. You should be sure they spend your money wisely. If you think the people in office have done a good job, vote for them. If not, vote for a candidate that you feel will represent you. Most of all, keep up with the way the government is using your tax dollars.

Be sure you come out to vote on Nov. 4.

WALTER KALMAN

Letter to the Editor

I want to take this opportunity to thank several people for helping us with our annual golf outing that was held Oct. 20. We had a good turnout for the outing. The outing was held at the Copper Hill Country Club in Flemington. Thank you to all the golfers; they had a wonderful time and we had a beautiful day.

I want to thank the members of our Education Foundation, especially Robert Hunter, Eric Radell, Ken Laffreniere, Rich Regan, Frank Mikorski and Karen Harrington. Also thanks to all our corporate sponsors and those that sponsored us with tee signs and flags. A special thank you to John Cecchetti for sponsoring the special holes-in-one.

Another special thank you to the family of Emil Leporino for sharing the evening with us. We were honored to have them all there with us at this event.

 We hope that everyone will remember us next year. Our next outing will be held at Copper Hill Country Club on Sept. 25. Mark your calendars!
**MARJORIE REEDY-PRESIDENT,
 SP EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter because I feel

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Corporate Accounts Welcome

 that the *Observer* is a very important newspaper concerning the community of South Plainfield. After 28 years of serving the people of South Plainfield at my barber shop, located at 730 Clinton Ave., I was informed that no one can park in front of my shop. One neighbor's complaint resulted in "no parking at any time" signs being posted directly in front of my shop. This is my primary parking and has resulted in significant loss of business.

I have contacted the safety traffic office and the mayor asking for a copy of the ordinance which supports this action. I was told that the original ordinance was lost in the flood of 1970.

I trust that you can help me by informing your readers about this situation and gain their support in eliminating the "no parking" signs in front of my shop.

JOSEF GEISEL

Dear Editor,

I am currently involved in the "Stand Up For Steel" campaign representing United Steelworkers of America.

This is a joint effort between steel corporations and the United Steelworkers of America to save the industry. Steel has been an important ingredient in building our strong nation. It continually helps build and rebuild our cities, our network of highways and rail systems. It is also there for our protection in our military. We need steel in order to maintain our position as a world superpower.

In recent years, the flood of foreign steel rose to completely destructive levels. Eighty-five percent of steel produced by the largest foreign producers is not market-based, it's subsidized, cartelized, government-owned or government-controlled. These unrestrained imports and collapsing prices have forced 39 American steel companies into bankruptcy. Fifteen domestic steel makers have been driven out of business entirely.

Nearly 55,000 steelworkers' jobs have been wiped out. Since Jan. 1998, 200,000 steelworkers' retirees, widows and their dependents have lost their healthcare.

In June 2001, President Bush ordered the ITC to investigate the steel import situation. They ruled unanimously that the American Steel Industry has been seriously injured by unfair trade. In 2002, President Bush imposed tariffs in order to restrict the flood of foreign steel being dumped on our market. The tariffs are working! The industry is seeing signs of recovery. If given a chance, the promise, not only of saving the U.S. Steel Industry that is so critical to our defense and our economy will occur, but their restoration of market forces to the industry globally will also result.

On Sept. 19, the ITC's report was submitted to the White House. Now the President can modify, leave as is, or terminate the tariffs. Cutting short or lessening relief would cripple restructuring efforts and likely lead us right back into crisis, with more jobs lost, further damage to steel communities and greater dependence on foreign steel.

We have time; however, we must now begin raising our collective voices and sending out message to the Presi-

dent and Congress, that the tariffs must be continued for the full three years.

**HIPOLITO RIVERA, JR.
 S.U.F.S. COORDINATOR**

To the Voters of South Plainfield;

Each year we hear the call to use our right to vote—a right that gives each eligible citizen a power that sometimes gets lost in the everyday lives of us all.

Last year, New Jersey changed the opening time for the polls to 6 a.m. This small change gives every voter an earlier opportunity to get out and vote.

Election Day is also a work day for many—and voting is something else that has to fit in a normal Tuesday with commuting, kids' activities schedules, work requirements, home obligations and many other items that need attention that day. Many of us say, "I'll vote on the way home from work," but on the way home we are running late, or not in the mood to stop and wait on line to vote, thinking I can skip voting this year, it won't matter.

As we have seen in past elections in Florida and other races, every vote needs to count, and a single vote can make the difference in any election.

The early morning voting time gives us all a chance to get to the polls before the weight of the day's chores descend on us. Fifteen minutes or less is all that is needed to drive to the polls and vote. And the poll workers are ready with a smile to help you get your day started by exercising your right to vote, one of the freedoms given to us as citizens of the United States.

Regardless of your political leanings, in the months following any election there are grumblings about the results and the way government responds to our needs. We make the time to make our voices heard after the fact.

Fifteen minutes or less is all the time needed to make your voice heard when it counts.

Make the time to make a difference on November 4.

**SINCERELY,
 BILL SEESSELBERG**

Dear Editor:

 Recently, both the *Home News Tribune* and the *Courier News* editorials said that the State of New Jersey should provide the additional funding requested by a number of the so-called "Special Needs" school districts. It seems that the answer to poor performance at most of the 30 special districts will be improved with more money. That has not been the case since the Supreme Court Abbott Burke decision, which directed the State and you, the majority of taxpayers, to provide funding so these special needs districts could spend as much as the wealthiest districts, which in most of the cases, these districts do. This didn't work, so then the courts said we, the majority taxpayers, should provide funding so these districts would have all day pre-school. The courts again said give them more money and they received 100% funding for new construction. It's time for the Supreme Court to realize that more money from the State will not provide improved results. Perhaps we should try asking these special needs communities to become re-

(Continued on page 10)

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A&P employees (l to r) Dee Rapatski, Colleen Lame and Jim Kwiatkowski celebrate Halloween early at their Customer Appreciation Day.

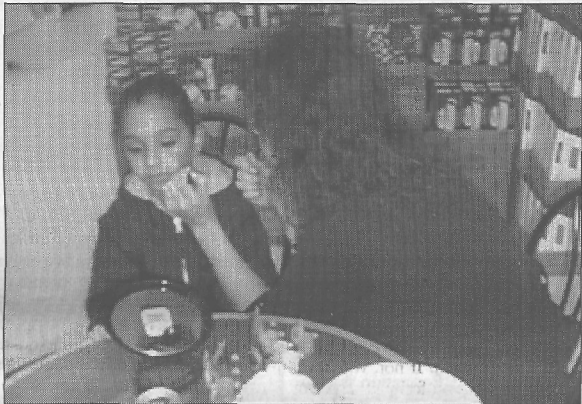
A&P Employees Celebrate Halloween

Last Saturday was Customer Appreciation Day at the A&P Store, located on Oak Tree Rd., with lots of free samples and gifts for everyone.

Children were given huge goodie bags at the door and employees walked around the store in Halloween attire handing out pizza, hot dogs and ice cream.

There were stations serving apple cider, orange juice, root beer floats and even a decorate-your-own cupcake table.

Kids loved the face painting artist, while they sampled all of the food and drinks. In addition, there was a raffle every hour for various store products.



Face painting was enjoyed by many of children at Customer Appreciation Day at A&P on Oak Tree Rd.

Middlesex County Health Department Recognizes Noise Pollution Program

According to Middlesex County Public Health Department Freeholder Chairman, John Pulomena, "The Middlesex County Public Health Department (MCPHD) is recognized by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) as the lead agency for all environmental services provided in Middlesex County. Our duties and responsibilities are enumerated in the County Environmental Health Act (CEHA)."

Pulomena stated, "In observance of County Environmental Health Week, the MCPHD acknowledges the Noise Pollution Program in celebration of the 25th anniversary of CEHA."

"When an investigation discloses that noise levels exceed allowable maximums, the responsible party is issued a Notice of Violation and given a specified period in which to come into com-

pliance. Continued failure to correct the violation may result in the assessment of penalties and possible court action. In 2002 the MCPHD Noise Pollution Program performed 76 investigations in regards to citizen complaints."

"Excessive sound can cause hazards to one's health, welfare, safety and quality of life. Disagreeable noise may cause a rise in blood pressure, make one anxious, tired or distracted, and give one feelings of helplessness or loss of control. By performing inspections received by citizens, the MCPHD Noise Pollution Program can provide assistance in order for complainants to maintain their quality of life."

Pulomena concluded, "The NJDEP and Rutgers Noise Technical Assistance Center published a revised Municipal Model Noise Code in 1997. Municipalities may adopt the new model code as written or modify it, subject to NJDEP approval. In addition to investigations, the MCPHD Noise Pollution Program will assist towns with the drafting and enforcement of municipal noise codes. The ordinance must include noise standards for residential, as well as industrial and commercial sources. Presently 11 municipalities have NJDEP approved noise codes."

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Host Family Volunteers Are Needed

World Heritage is seeking families, couples or single parents (with or without children at home) who are adventurous, fun-loving, responsible and most of all caring, who are interested in hosting a high-school-aged foreign exchange student.

By hosting a student from another country, your entire family will discover a world of fun and enlightening adventure. Students who spend a semester or year in the U.S. are fulfilling a lifetime dream. American culture plays an important role all over the world; the English language is the international language of our times. Share your home for a year; enjoy a friendship for a lifetime!

To begin this exciting cultural experience, please call Debra, a World Heritage Area Representative, at (800) 888-9040 or visit our website at www.world-heritage.org.

Come Out and Explore The Franklin Woods

Friends of the Woods (FOW) invites community members to join Dr. Emile Devito in an exploration of the woods that lie behind Franklin School. Walkers will meet in the school parking lot at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 1. FOW suggests comfortable walking shoes and binoculars for bird watching.

Traces of old homes can still be detected on this nine-acre parcel that is tucked into the corner of Clinton and Tompkins avenues, and many large, old trees grace the site. Previously owned by the Metuchen Diocese, the land was sold to a developer, who filed an application with the Planning Board to clear it and build a fifteen-house subdivision. However, Middlesex County's Open Space Fund purchased the property, and it has been designated as permanent open space.

The South Plainfield Environmental Commission briefly surveyed the parcel in August 2001, but it has not

been thoroughly investigated. FOW President Dorothy Miele says, "We may see some winter birds like juncos, nuthatches and cardinals. Then, there is that old beech tree with the initials carved in the trunk, the cactus that seems out of place (but is not), berry-bearing bushes for birds and small mammals. Maybe there is an owl's nest or cavity somewhere within the woods. I'm not that familiar with the place to say more than that."

Dr. DeVito is manager of Science and Stewardship with the NJ Conservation Foundation. A South Plainfield native, he knew this spot as a student at Franklin School. Dr. DeVito has led many walks for FOW. Participants love his energy and enthusiasm in sharing his extensive knowledge about nature and the local environment.

This is the last scheduled Walks 'N Talks program in 2003. For information, call A. Tempel at (908) 226-7621.

Borough Passes 2004 Budget

Last week the council officially passed the 2004 Municipal Budget.

The State of New Jersey recently announced that South Plainfield will receive \$200,000 in extraordinary aid; the Borough had been waiting to hear the amount of aid before passing the budget.

The municipal tax rate will remain the same, with no increase this fiscal year. Almost 44 percent of borough budget revenue comes from sources other than tax collections.

The total operating budget for 2004 is \$21,722,824.80. According to CFO Glenn Cullen, accomplishments in 2003 included a debt reduction of \$1,680,000, pension refinancing which saved \$480,000 and an upgrading by S&P of the Borough's debt rating. An increase in tax collections during this past year and a modification in health benefits saved \$250,000.

Salary increases averaged approximately 2.5 percent, an increase of \$342,199.

Molly Pitcher Presentation Coming to the SP Library

"Over Here, Molly Pitcher" is the name of the dramatic presentation by Stacy Roth, which will be held at the South Plainfield Public Library on Sunday, Nov. 9 at 2 p.m.

Every student reads about Molly Pitcher's exploits in their history books. Now hear Molly come to life with a first-person historical interpretation of her experience during the American Revolution.

Mary Ludwig Hays McCauly (a.k.a. Molly Pitcher) reminisces about the days when she accompanied her husband, John Hays, an artillery sergeant, through summer battles and winter encampments from Valley Forge to Monmouth to Morristown. Relating her tales of firing a cannon and the 1778 Battle of Monmouth after her husband fell wounded, to trudging behind the baggage, Molly provides a glimpse into what it was like to be a camp follower in the days when Ameri-

can independence was a dream rather than a certainty.

The presentation is hosted by the South Plainfield Historical Society and is offered through the Horizon's Speakers Bureau of the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The library is located at 2480 Plainfield Avenue. There is no admission charge.

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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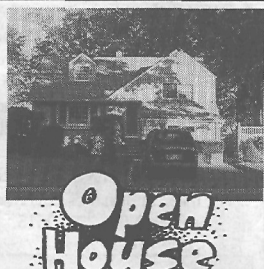
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Events

Polish Home Plans Halloween Party

November 1

The Polish Home, located on New Market Ave. is planning a Halloween Party on Saturday, Nov. 1 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. The cost of \$25 per person includes open bar, food, music and prizes.

For further information, call (908) 668-9442.

Country Breakfast to be Held at VFW

November 2

The VFW Memorial Post 6763 is hosting a country breakfast on Sunday, Nov. 2 from 8 to 11 a.m. A varied menu will be offered, as well as a children's menu.

The donation is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 12 years and younger. For more information, please call (908) 668-9751 after 3 p.m. daily and after 12 noon on weekends.

The VFW Memorial Post 6763 is located at 155 Front Street, South Plainfield.

Jane Doherty Ghost Tour at Liquid Assets

November 2

Ghost hunter Jane Doherty will be hosting a ghost tour of Liquid Assets at 118 New Market Ave. on Sunday, Nov. 2 every hour starting at 2 to 5 p.m. The bar will be closed until the 5 p.m. tour. No reservations are necessary. Tickets are \$10. For more information contact Jane at (908) 757-2508 or visit www.janedoherty.com.

Annual Election Day Supper at OLC

November 4

The Annual Election Day Supper sponsored by Our Lady of Czestochowa Rosary Society will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 4 at the OLC Parish Hall on Hamilton Blvd. from 4 to 7 p.m.

For information, call Ann at (908) 757-4192. For take-out-orders call OLC Hall on Nov. 4 after 3 p.m. at (908) 575-4192.

Senior Center Atlantic City Trip

November 5

The South Plainfield Senior Center will sponsor a trip 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.

Rainbow Academy Plans Open House

November 8

Rainbow Academy Child Care Center, located at 2177 Oak Tree Rd., will hold an Open House on Saturday, Nov. 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

In addition to the Open House, you are invited to visit the center for a tour during normal operating hours (7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday). For directions and additional information, visit their website at www.rainbowacademy.com.

What's happening in OCT/NOV

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 Yoga 10:30-11:30am Drawing Class 11:30am-12:30pm Senior Advisory Board Meeting 4:30pm	Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social 10am Computer Classes 10-11am or 2-3pm Men's Forum 1:30pm	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 Video Exercise Class 9:30-10:30AM Practical Crafts 10-11am Computer Class 1-2pm Decorative Painting 2:30-3:30pm	Bingo 10am-2pm Pizza Lunch Computer Class 10am-11am
Adult Crafts 9:30-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Drawing Class 11:30am-12:30pm Senior Advisory Board Meeting 4:30pm	Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social 10am Computer Classes 10-11am or 2-3pm Men's Forum 1:30pm	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 Video Exercise Class 9:30-10:30AM Practical Crafts 10-11am Computer Class 1-2pm Decorative Painting 2:30-3:30pm	Bingo 10am-2pm Pizza Lunch Computer Class 10am-11am

Veterans Program at Franklin School

November 11

All veterans are cordially invited to be honored at the annual Franklin School Veteran's Day Program on Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 1:45 p.m. in the Thomas B. Lenahan Activity Center at Franklin School. We hope that you will join us in our special reserved seating area.

Knights of Columbus Trip to Army Game

November 15

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a bus trip to West Point to see Army play Houston University on Nov. 15. Game time is 1 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person and the bus price will be \$25 per person.

If you are interested in getting tickets or need more details, please call Tony Moskal at (732) 727-4841 or Joe Scudato at (908) 754-0869.

The bus will be leaving from the Knights of Columbus building in South Plainfield on Hamilton Ave.

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 information, contact Mike Gallagher, (908) 755-9874; John Celentano, (908) 757-5691 or Buy-Rite Liquor, (908) 561-0051.

St. Stephen's Annual Gift Raffle Auction

November 15

St. Stephen's Orthodox Church, 609 Lane Ave., will hold its second annual Gift Raffle Auction on Nov. 15. This event will be held at the South Plainfield Middle School, Plainfield Ave. Doors will open at 6 p.m. for browsing and the auction calling will begin precisely at 7:30 p.m.

Admission charge will be \$6, which includes complimentary coffee and tea.

Pizza, soda and dessert will be available for purchase.

Join us for a fun evening and shop for your holiday gifts, as well. There will be beautiful theme baskets, small appliances, jewelry, toys, bed and bath items, door prizes and a 50/50 chance drawing. For more information, call (973) 635-2797 or (908) 754-4813.

Recreation Plans Trip to Atlantic City

November 16

It's time to "Go for the Gold." The South Plainfield Recreation is planning a trip to the Atlantic City Resort Hotel on Sunday, Nov. 16. The bus leaves from the PAL at 10:30 a.m. and returns about 8:30 p.m.

The cost is \$15 per person—you get back \$13 in coins. Sign up for the trip at the PAL Building.

— 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 this Friday and Saturday. The haunting lasts from 7 to 10 p.m.

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 info, call (732) 745-3446.

SingleFaces Events

October 31

Island Parties on Friday, Oct. 31 at the Shadowbrook, Rt. 35 in Shrewsbury at 9 p.m. Cost is \$12. Halloween Costume Party.

Circle Players Present Jane Eyre Musical

October 31-November 21

"Jane Eyre: The Musical" is a timeless tale of a young woman's search for liberty and love during a time in which women had little freedom and love was an accident of marriage, not its catalyst. "Jane Eyre: The Musical," by Paul Gordon and John Caird, co-creators of Les Miserables, will open at Circle Players on Friday, Oct. 31. The show received five Tony nominations, including best musical, for the 2000-2001 season.

Performances are Friday, Oct. 31; Nov. 7, 14, 21 and Saturday, Nov. 1, 8, 15 and 22 at 2 p.m. Sunday matinees are Nov. 2, 9 and 16 at 3 p.m.

Tickets for opening night, Oct. 31, are \$16 and include a champagne reception. All other performances are \$15. Seniors and students receive \$1 off, with I.D., on Sunday matinees.

Circle Players is located at 416 Victoria Ave., Piscataway. For tickets and information, call (732) 968-7555.

Alliance Church "Extraordinary Woman"

November 1

The Women's Ministry of Alliance Bible Church, in conjunction with Church Communications Network, will present a live simulcast of "Extraordinary Woman" at Alliance Bible Church, Warren on Saturday, Nov. 1, from 11:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m.

Registration is \$15, which includes lunch. Registration at the door is \$20. Register by calling (732) 469-1425. Childcare is not provided.

The church is located at 52 Mount Horeb Rd. in Warren, just minutes off of Interstate 87. Take exit 33 off I-87 and proceed toward Martinsville. Travel three miles and turn left onto Mount Horeb Road. The church is one mile on the right. For information or directions, call (732) 469-1425.

Harvest Festival And Craft Fair

November 1

The Good News Home for Women will hold the first annual Harvest Festival and Craft Fair on Saturday, Nov. 1 (raindate Nov. 8), 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 33 Bartles Corner Rd. in Flemington. There will be family fun with activities for children, including pony rides, clowns, balloons, face painting, storytelling, baked goods, new and used books for sale, antiques, yard sale items, free blood pressure screen, representatives from survivors of breast cancer, fire department and other community service providers. Child I.D. fingerprint program between 9-11:30 a.m. Crafts made by our residents and local hobbyists. Rent a table to sell your arts and crafts (\$30 donation).

Singles Mixed Doubles Tennis Party

November 1

Princeton Indoor Tennis Center, 92 Washington Rd., will host a tennis

mixed doubles night on Saturday, Nov. 1, 7 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. At this event you will meet new friends. Food and drinks will be offered. \$30 per person in advance; \$35 at the door. For reservations, please call (609) 799-8214.

Sunday Brunch at Dunellen Amer. Legion

November 2

The Dunellen American Legion Post 119 is hosting a Sunday brunch on Sunday, Nov. 2 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 137 New Market Rd. in Dunellen. Join us for an afternoon of great food!

Eggs/omelets (any style, made to order), homemade pancakes, waffles, and french toast, crispy bacon and sausage, country style biscuits and gravy, homefries, toast, coffee cake, coffee and tea will be offered. Cost is \$6 per person at the door.

HIV Service Planning Council Meeting

November 5

Join us for the next monthly meeting of the HIV Health Services Planning Council of the Middlesex-Somerset-Hunterdon Eligible Metropolitan Area on Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2-4 p.m. at the Middlesex County Board of Social Services Building, New Brunswick. The Planning Council consists of volunteers from Middlesex, Somerset and Hunterdon counties who make decisions regarding the medical and support service needs of persons living with HIV in our area. Orientation is provided for interested individuals. All are welcome! For more info, call Alicia Bunker at (732) 445-0512.

Metuchen-Edison Women's Club Mtg.

November 5

Join the Metuchen-Edison Women's Club for our monthly membership meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 5 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 17 Oak Ave. (corner of Rt. 27) in Metuchen.

Some upcoming projects include decorating the flower boxes at Metuchen Train Station, our 31st Annual Charity Auction on Nov. 21 and service projects for Women Aware, as well as community schools and libraries. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information about the club, call Diana Degnan, vice president, membership, at (732) 548-0925.

World Community Day 2003 "Circles of Love"

November 7

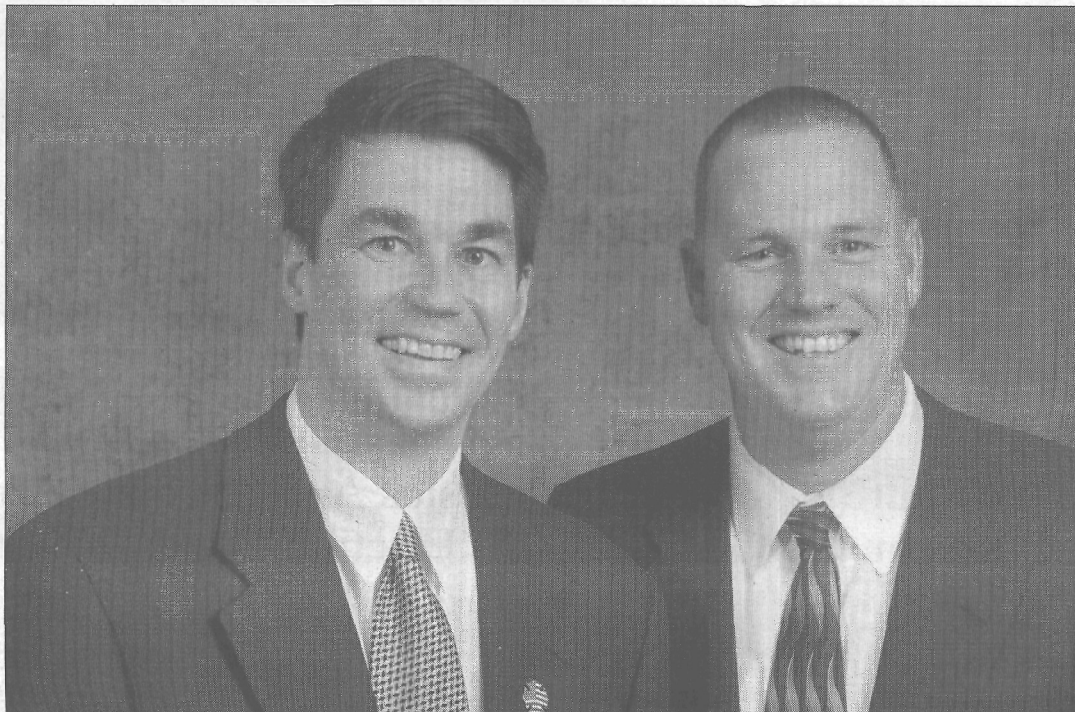
Christian women are invited to join us on Friday, Nov. 7, at 1:30 p.m. for the World Community Day as we extend our own circle outward in peace for the sake of justice with this year's theme, "Circles of Love." A local service is sponsored by Church Women United of the Plainfield Area at Trinity Reformed Church, located at 401 Green Brook Rd. in North Plainfield.

For more information, call Margaret Stewart at (908) 755-0615.

SEND YOUR EVENTS TO:

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

MUNICIPAL TAXES WON'T GO UP AGAIN IN SOUTH PLAINFIELD THIS YEAR!



Councilperson Ray Petronko and Councilperson Bob Cusick

No Other Town Comes Close To the Cusick/Petronko Record

- ◆ No Municipal Tax Increase again...that's the 4th time in 6 years!
- ◆ Borrowing slashed by 50%...Standard & Poors upgrade South Plainfield saving the borough almost \$500,000 in interest this year alone!
- ◆ New Senior Housing, the P.A.L. Doubled in Size, and New Senior Recreation Center!
- ◆ Putnam Park totally upgraded with Jogging Trail, Recreation facilities and a Soccer field!
- ◆ Over 130 roads now repaved "Pay-As-You-Go"!
- ◆ \$1 Million Dollar County Grant for paving, lights and new facilities at the girls and boys Baseball & Soccer Complex & Pop Warner Field!
- ◆ 30 more acres targeted for Open Space. The total is now over 100 acres permanently preserved!
- ◆ New Library to be built on Borough owned land on Plainfield Avenue!

CUSICK • PETRONKO

Democrats for Borough Council

Library Announces Job Information Programs

The South Plainfield Free Public Library, located at 2484 Plainfield Ave. is planning the following programs for November, as part of the library's Job Information Center.

Job Searching on the Internet

Wednesday, Nov. 12, 7:15-8:45 a.m.

Looking for a job? Have you searched on the internet? This workshop will explore the possibilities of combining traditional job search methods with the internet. Participants will look at full service job sites, New Jersey jobs, civil service, federal job opportunities and employment services. The basics of posting your resume online will be demonstrated. Lecture/Demonstration.

Resume and Cover Letters for Beginners

Wednesday, Nov. 19, 7:15-8:45 a.m.

Is your resume not getting you the results you want? What components make up a good cover letter? Are you unhappy with the way your resume looks? This workshop will provide some of the answers. Participants can bring their completed resumes to be discussed. Lecture/demonstration/group participation.

All programs are free. Space is limited and reservations are required. For more information, please call the library's Reference Desk at (908) 754-7885 or visit the library website at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us.

Nigerian King Visits Sacred Heart School

By Jane Dornick

Sacred Heart School fifth through eighth graders were honored recently with the presence of a real king.

King Anthony Unanka of Nigeria paid a visit to the students to spread his message of world peace through sharing religious values.

King Unanka plans to visit several towns throughout the United States during his short visit to get his message out to everyone.

King Unanka was escorted by Chief Charles Eke, also known as the father of Charles Jr., Divine, Brenda and Allen, who attend Sacred Heart School. Eke was named a chief by King Unanka back in Nigeria many years ago. Chief Eke and his family currently reside in Plainfield.

Father John Paul Alvarado and school principal Sister Cornelia Ramirez feel that Sacred Heart School is extremely blessed to have such a highly regarded religious leader speak to their students.



King Anthony Unanka of Nigeria and Chief Charles Eke address students at Sacred Heart School.

From the Republicans

Reedy, Rusnak: South Plainfield Needs Watchdogs on the Council



When Marge Reedy and Ray Rusnak go door-to-door talking to voters, several issues come up. Residents frequently talk about traffic and overbuilding, and what can be done about diminishing services and lack of open government. Essentially, it boils down to this: absolute power by one-party is hurting our town.

"The Democrats have been in charge for almost a decade, and they've lost touch with voters," said Reedy. "Think about it. Even though people want something done about overbuilding, the Democrats have not said one word about this problem during the entire campaign. They've also refused to address lack of open government and reductions in services."

"What's worse," added Rusnak, "is that they give the public half-truths. For example, they recently did a mailing to the whole town in which they touted debt reduction as a major achievement. But they omitted an important fact. Rather than borrow for big purchases, the Council is leasing. So while there is still a long-term obligation, it's not counted as debt in the budget. It's kind of like leasing a car you still have to pay for the bill every month."

"They've also refused to engage in any debate on our proposals," said Reedy. "We've been talking about things like extending Hollywood Avenue to relieve south side traffic, opening the compost area on Sundays, making the compactor hours more convenient, enacting 'pay to play' reform, cutting costs by bringing back our engineering department and rebuilding the public works department so it can handle snow plowing and leaf pickup. These are some low-cost ideas that can be put into place quickly."

Reedy agreed with how the Democrats have

lost touch. "They are so used to having absolute power that they've decided they can ignore what the voters want to talk about and hide behind a smokescreen. Ask anyone one around town, and believe me we have, and they'll tell you that overbuilding and congestion are the major problems. Yet our opponents don't have one proposal to slow down the building spree. And as far as traffic, they are Johnny-one-notes. They keep talking about a project that is far behind schedule."

"It takes gall," added Rusnak. "After making and breaking promises about Helen Street for eight consecutive campaigns, they are back making promises about when it will be completed again. Why would they continue to make promises after they've broken the promises time after time?"

"We think people have seen what's happened in Borough Hall and want change," said Reedy. "Ray and I can play an important role on the Borough Council by constantly reminding the Council that these issues need addressing and by acting as watchdogs for the public. Moreover, we can make sure the Democrats don't get away with some of their recent shenanigans, like holding secret meetings, giving favors to their builder friends and giving no-bid contracts to campaign contributors."

With only several days to go until Election Day, Rusnak summed up both candidates' feelings: "We end this campaign where we began it, talking about getting a handle on traffic and overgrowth, rebuilding services and meeting your needs and restoring open government. Remember, even if the Republicans win this year, the other side will still be in control. But at least you will have a voice. And if you elect us, we will make sure that voice is heard clear and loud."

From the Democrats

Cusick And Petronko Are Upbeat As Election Day Approaches



Council members Bob Cusick and Ray Petronko commented on the conclusion of their issue oriented, positive campaign. Bob Cusick said, "Raymond and I, along with the entire Democratic Organization, knew this was going to be a tough campaign. From the outset it was clear that the opposition could not criticize us on our record. You didn't need to be a genius to realize that they were going to try and attack us personally. We committed ourselves not to allow our campaign to respond in kind and I am proud to say we have kept that promise. While week after week, we have talked about the policies that have led to no municipal tax increase in four of the last six years and will result in no municipal tax increase next year too, the opposition has been wallowing in name calling and character assassination. While we set forth our platform for the future, including the total reconstruction of Hamilton Boulevard, the progress on the Helen Street Extension Project and the proposal we are most excited about, a new state-of-the-art library on Plainfield Avenue, the opposition has questioned every proposal and implied that somehow we are being untruthful. It's really frustrating to see nothing but negatives from the other side, but it is all worth it because the campaign gave Ray and I the opportunity to meet with every resident of our great Borough."

Council member Raymond Petronko expanded on his running mates comments. "Bob and I literally knocked on every door in South Plainfield over the last eight weeks. The best thing about the campaign is going door-to-door. The Democratic team set a goal this year of stopping at every house and we did it! There is nothing like walking in a neighborhood and giving the resi-

dents the opportunity of pointing out a road that needs repair or a needed park improvement or traffic problem. In fact, we added several streets to our repaving program for next year based on the comments we received as we walked the neighborhoods. It's really a shame that the Republican Party is so negative. South Plainfield is a great town. It's hard for me to put into words how nice everyone was when we knocked on their doors. Even the residents who said they weren't voting for us were always polite and patient with us."

Bob Cusick and Ray Petronko summed up the Democrats campaign saying, "We urge every voter to compare the record of the candidates running for both the Democratic and Republican Party and to also consider their proposals for the future. We are confident that after you do so you will agree that the entire Democratic slate deserves to be re-elected. On Election Day, please vote Column A, Buono for State Senate, Barnes and Diegnan for Assembly, Pulomena and Polos for Freeholder and Cusick and Petronko for South Plainfield Borough Council."

2003 VOTE

Please Be Sure to Vote
Tuesday, November 4
Polls are open 6 a.m to 8 p.m.

How You Can Be a Part of the South Plainfield Observer.

ENCOURAGE YOUR ORGANIZATION TO SEND US THEIR UPCOMING EVENTS. We want to add them to AROUND TOWN. It can make your event more successful. Send them to us by mail, fax or e-mail.

SEND US INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR MILESTONES, i.e., promotions, births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, graduations. Include photos. Share your good news with the community!

IF THERE IS SOMEONE YOU KNOW WHO MAKES A DIFFERENCE in South Plainfield? Thank them by letting us know.

USE THE OBSERVER AS AN ADVERTISING TOOL. Introduce your business to the community. Promote your specials or sales. Residents would rather patronize local businesses than travel out of town. It is more convenient and it's good for the local economy.

SUGGEST A BUSINESS FOR US TO SPOTLIGHT. If you have had great service in South Plainfield share it with your neighbors through the newspaper.

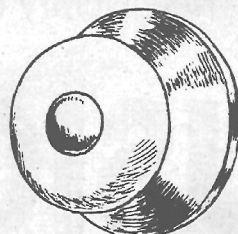
SUBMIT LETTERS TO THE EDITOR to allow readers to discuss and react to issues.

SEND US YOUR PHOTOS. If you have an event, take a photo, write a caption identifying the event and people and send it to us via mail. The best photos record action and don't include so many people that it is impossible to identify anyone. Please don't send us photocopies or laser prints. They don't reproduce well.

HOW TO CONTACT US. By mail: 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080; By phone: 908-668-0010; By fax: 908-668-8819; By email: ggnan@aol.

SUBSCRIBE. It's \$25. (in town) for one year!!

Can't find your front door?



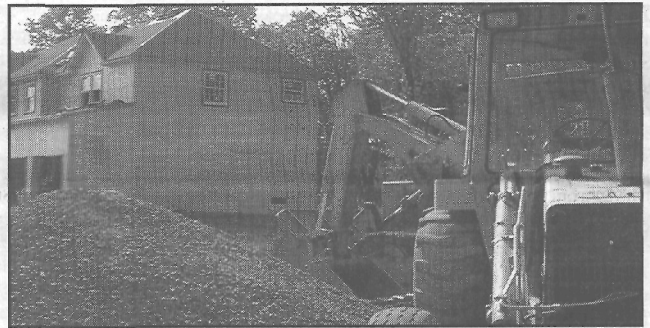
Time to clean up!
Advertise your garage sale in the *Observer*.
908-668-0010

The Democrats have LOTS of plans for South Plainfield...

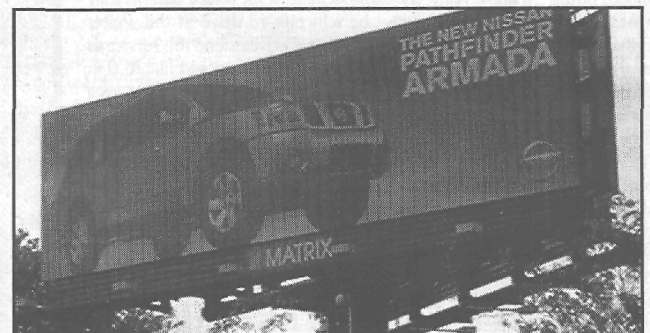
LOTS
more traffic



LOTS
more building



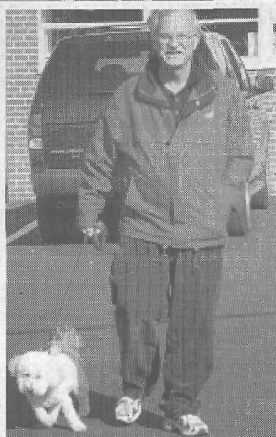
LOTS
more billboards



Tell them you've had enough.
Vote Reedy, Rusnak



Middle School children brought their dogs to school last Saturday to learn more about obedience training. Linda Teeple, who teaches obedience training at the Adult School, showed some of the steps she teaches in her class. Even the Observer's Fraiser took part in the training session. Adult School Principal Jim Lenox (right) leads Fraiser through the steps of healing and sitting. Another session on grooming is planned for this Saturday at 10 a.m.



From the South Plainfield Library Bookmarks

By Sunnie Randolph

The Friday, October 31, Story Time for Babies has been cancelled.

Some library patrons are voicing regrets for having missed some of the library's Sunday programs. We advertise them in this column, but please take the time to look at the library's bulletin boards, signs posted on the doors and web site. The library tries to educate and entertain with a variety of program offerings. Please try to attend some programs in the future.

The holiday seasons are growing closer. Keep the library in mind when you need postage stamps. With renovations going on at the South Plainfield Post Office, the library has convenient parking and no lines, at least most of the time. You may purchase individual stamps or books of stamps.

To all students and their parents: Please don't leave school assignments and projects until the last minute or wait until fifteen minutes before the library closes. We can provide the best assistance when we have advance notice or at least enough time to find the information. If you have a written copy of the assignment, please bring it with you for us to read.

With Thanksgiving less than a month away, the library has numerous cookbooks and magazines featuring Thanksgiving menus. Stop in and find a new recipe for the holidays. While you are at it you may find some new cookie recipes for Christmas.

The library has the Edith Goodrich Homebound Homebound Delivery Program. This program, through volunteers, provides a free delivery and pick-up of library materials including books, large print books, videos, CDs, magazines, and books on tape to residents of South Plainfield who are unable to get to the library because of illness or disability. With winter approaching, some senior citizens may be reluctant to drive in the winter weather and we extend this service to them also. If you would like to sign up for this program, please give us a call at the library.

If you have seen the movies "Under the Tuscan Sun" or "Mystic River," the library has the books the movies were based on. Movies based on the books "Girl With a Pearl Earring" and "Cold Mountain" will be coming out soon. Read the books before the movies comes out.

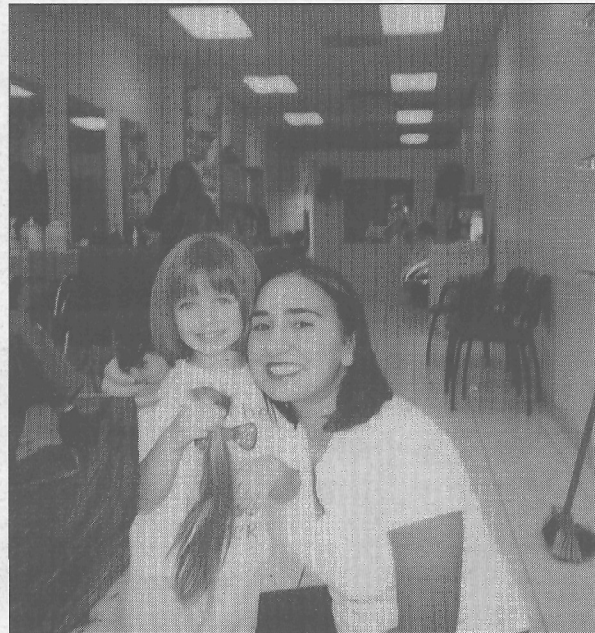
Patricia Cornwell's new book *Blow Fly* is out. Place a hold and get in line to read it. It is good!

Scouting For Food Program

It's that time of year again. During the first week of November, cub scouts throughout South Plainfield will be conducting their annual Scouting For Food Project. The food collected is sorted and will help families in need this holiday season.

Residents will have a bag placed on their door during the first week of November. The bag/food pick up will be on Nov. 15. Please only place non-perishable foods in the bags. Please note that the bags indicate they will be picked up the following Saturday of the day you receive them. Some bags will be placed early because of the schools being closed and people being away.

Cub scouts are participating from Riley, Kennedy, Franklin and Sacred Heart Schools. We all thank you for and look forward to your donations that aid in our success of the program. Should you have any questions or do not have a bag and would like to donate please call Marie Markey at (908) 755-3213 or feel free to drop off the food at the borough hall the morning of the 15th.



Amanda George and Leann DeCillis display their cropped locks.

Girls Lose Their Locks In the Name of Chairty

Amanda George and Leann DeCillis recently had their hair cut for Locks of Love, a charity that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children under the age of 18 who have experienced hair loss due to a medical condition.

Amanda, 18, graduated from South Plainfield High School last year and attends St. Joe's College in Philadelphia. She has been growing her hair for years in anticipation of donating it to charity. During a school break Amanda came home to have it cut.

This was Leann's first haircut, and she was very happy and proud to be a part of the gift of giving.

The girls went to the beauty shop together on Oct. 13. The hair to be donated had to be at least ten inches long to be eligible. The hair will be mailed to Locks of Love in Florida. Amanda is the daughter of Carrie

and Charles George of South Plainfield. Leann, 4, is the daughter of Stacy and Nick DeCillis, also of South Plainfield. Amanda is the oldest grandchild of Joy and Jack Minarck and Leann, 4, is their youngest. Leann is also the granddaughter of Grace DeCillis.

You can contact Locks of Love at 2925 10th Ave. North., #102, Lackworth Fla. 33461, or call (888) 895-1588. They also have a website: www.locksoflove.org.

Special Meeting Notice

There will be a Special Public Meeting of the South Plainfield Governing Body at 5 p.m. on Nov. 6 to adopt Ordinance #1637, which provides the funds for the right of ways and easements for the Hamilton Blvd. road project.

SDW Selling Tickets for "Evening of Giving"

The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop has tickets available for the Menlo Park Mall's "Evening of Giving," a chance to enjoy local performances and some shopping experiences, along with celebrity appearances and other surprises. The event takes place on Sunday, Nov. 23.

Tickets are available by calling (908) 756-6461. The cost is \$8, with a portion of the ticket price going to the Summer Drama Workshop to help fund their annual programs.

Okay, we can't promise
you your name in lights.
But we can put your
business in black & white
in front of 21,000 people.

Be A Star.

Advertise in the Nov. 21 issue,
of the *Observer*, going to
every home in South Plainfield.

Call 908-668-0010 now
to reserve the best space.

Deadline is Nov. 10

Bunchi's All About Arts & Crafts

☑ ONE-STROKE PAINTING PROGRAM.

A complete program that actually teaches this technique & more

☑ DECORATIVE PAINTING PROGRAM for EVERYONE.

A must for folk and tile painting lovers.

☑ YOUNG ARTIST PAINTING PROGRAM.

The best introductory painting program with cool, fun projects!

☑ LOTS OF NEW PAINTING PROJECTS for everyone and any occasion!

☑ KIDS' DRAWING & CRAFT Classes.

The Best CRAFT BIRTHDAY PARTIES!

No Comparison! Guaranteed Fun!
Great Projects!

Please inquire about troops, chapters,
fund-raisers & in-home parties.

175 Front Street
(908) 755-4049

Hours
M-F 10-6
Sat 10-5
Closed Sunday

For Kids & Teens

www.bunchis.com

South Plainfield High School Band Hosts Competitions



By Patricia Abbott

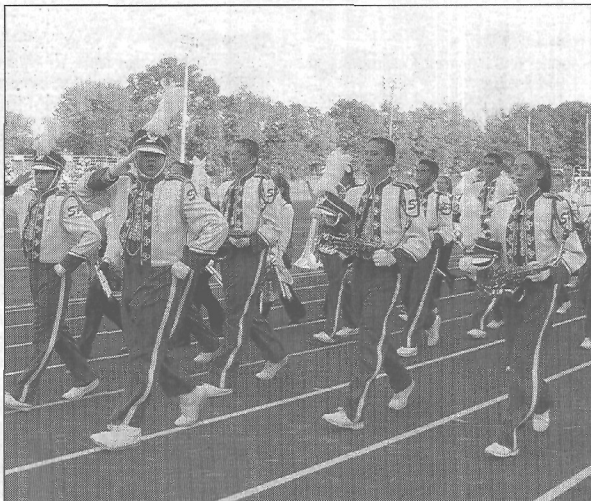
The South Plainfield High School Band is marching onward towards yet another successful season. They recently enjoyed an exceptionally busy weekend hosting both a Tournament of Bands Competition and the 22nd Annual South Plainfield Festival of Bands.

Seven marching bands from throughout the area participated in Tournament of Bands on Oct. 18.

Bands were grouped according to size. First Place Group I was Gateway High School, Group II was Governor Livingston High School, Group III was West Essex High School. As hosts the South Plainfield Marching Tigers, a Group III unit, performed as a judged exhibition band scoring 82.35. The Tournament of Bands is a large organization that hold competitions along the East Coast.

The annual Festival of Bands was held the following day. Eight marching bands were entered. The winners were: First Place Group I—Dunellen High School, Group II—Warren Hills Regional High School, Group III—Nottingham High School, which was also awarded “Best Overall Band.” South Plainfield’s band once again performed as a host band.

Both evenings included a variety of food at the concession, as well as air, flower and candy gram booths manned by parents as well as numer-



ous vendors.

The SPHS Marching Tigers consist of 60 band members and 29 color guard. Drum majors are Wajdi Kanj and Josef Rodriguez. Color Guard captains are Ashlen Udell and Samantha Gentile; Student Director of Music and Marching is Joshua Jackson and Drum Captain is Danny Lammi. Music from this year’s show was from “X-Men II.” Band director is Mark Tweed; assistant director is Kathy Petrocelli; color guard advisors are Angela Green and Kara Gregorio. Marching advisors are Joe Borgese and Kevin Adams; Music arranger is

Brian Sleeper. Percussion advisors are Bob Publik and Charlie Bubnick and cymbals advisor is Maggie Temple. The two events were chaired by Nanette Babinetz.

Band Director Mark Tweed commented, “The weekend was a great success. The students rose to the occasion with time spent on preparing for the shows, and the parents did a fabulous job coordinating the events.”

Kathy Petrocelli summed up the weekend saying, “I’m always full of pride when I watch our marching band on the field. I wish everyone in South Plainfield could see our talented students perform.”

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE NO. 1638
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:
Ordinance #1638 entitled: AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL LAND KNOWN AS BLOCK 335 LOT 1 IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD TO JOHN MATWIJCOW IN THE AMOUNT OF \$60,000.00 was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, October 31, 2003 and that a public hearing be held at 7:00 p.m. on November 13, 2003 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ORDINANCE NO. 1638
AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL LAND KNOWN AS BLOCK 335, LOT 1 IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY TO JOHN MATWIJCOW IN THE AMOUNT OF \$60,000.00.
WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield is the owner of property known as Block 335, Lot 1, said property being situated on corner of Spicer Avenue and Fulton Street, in the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as set forth in Appendix A attached hereto, and
WHEREAS, John Matwajcow, is the owner of a contiguous parcel, and
WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield by and through its governing body has deemed that Block 335 Lot 1 is not needed for public purpose or use, and
WHEREAS, New Jersey Statute provides for the sale of said parcel to a contiguous owner without the need for public sale;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, that the said property shall be sold to said contiguous owner on November 13, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building of the Borough of South Plainfield, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey and will be made subject to the following conditions;

1. That conveyance by the Borough of South Plainfield shall be by Bargain and Sale deed without covenants and without representations as to the marketability of title. In the event that the purchaser shall determine that title of the property in question shall not be good and marketable, and questions as to the marketability of title shall be submitted to the Borough Clerk's Office within forty-five (45) days of the date of sale. In the event said questions have not been raised within said forty-five (45) day period, then and in that event all questions relating to the marketability of title shall be deemed waived and this matter shall proceed to closing of title within ninety (90) days of the date of sale.
2. Easements, both of record and not of record.
3. Restrictions of record.
4. Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield as presently constituted without representations as to the use to which said property can be put.
5. In the event that the purchaser is unable to close title within ninety (90) days of the date of sale, they shall forward to the Borough of South Plainfield a check representing the balance of the purchase price to be placed in the general fund of the Borough.
6. In the event that the purchaser fails or refuses to close title and/or pay the consideration therefore within the ninety (90) day period, then in the event, the Borough of South Plainfield, may, by resolution of the Mayor and Council, declare the transaction null and void and the purchaser's deposit shall be retained by the Borough of South Plainfield as liquidated damages.
7. At the time of second reading of this Ordinance, ten percent (10%) of the purchase price plus \$1,000.00 shall be paid by the purchaser representing the cost of advertising, legal fees and associated costs incurred by the Borough. The purchaser shall be credited the cost of any appraisal previously paid by the purchaser as required by the Land Management Committee.
8. The purchaser shall make application for any required approvals, including but not limited to subdivision approval, on site and site improvements as required by appropriate

- Borough Boards, Agencies and Officers, and all costs shall be paid by the purchaser.
9. It is expressly agreed by the purchaser that if the subject parcel does not require Planning Board or Board of Adjustment review, then in that event, the purchaser will make all required improvements as determined by the Borough Engineer. The necessary performance guarantees shall be posted for same prior to the issuance of any building permits.
 10. Purchaser recognizes that the sale is subject to development standards to be set by the Planning Board, Board of Adjustment and/or the Borough Engineer in addition of the Middlesex County Planning Board, if applicable. This sale is made without representation as to same and is subject to same.
 11. The subject parcel shall merge with and become a part of the contiguous parcel owned by the purchaser and shall not be subdivided at any future date.
 12. Purchaser will take any action required by the

- Borough Engineer and/or the Borough Environmental Officer to protect any designated wetlands or flood plane existing on the subject parcel.
13. Certain properties within the Borough of South Plainfield may be designated as contaminated sites by the Environmental Protection Agency and/or the Department of Environmental Protection. One such property is the "Cornell Dubilier" facility now known as the Market Avenue which has been designated as a Super Fund site. The purchaser acknowledges knowledge of such locations and the existence of same will not be a basis for avoidance of buyer's obligations.
- This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon publication and adoption in accordance with New Jersey Law.
- Mayor Daniel J. Gallagher
- ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri, Municipal Clerk
\$140.25 October 31, 2003

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE 1636
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:
Ord. 1636 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #892, ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING HANDICAPPED PARKING" 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 23, 2003 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk
\$20.00 October 31, 2003

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Vote

IN YOUR OPINION

Continued from page 2

sponsible and provide local funding like the rest of us.

Recently the Superintendent of Schools of Newark said she felt that special needs district funding should not be a decisive issue. Well, it already has. Tell me why my district should not get full funding for pre-school? Tell me why my district does not receive 100 percent State funding for school construction? Tell me why 30 school districts out of 611 receive over 50 percent of State education funding?

Paul Mulshine, in his column on Oct. 21 in the *Star Ledger*, really makes this issue of unfairness clear. He reports Morris County taxpayers pay \$575 million in income taxes, but Morris County only gets back \$143 million a year in State aid for the 39 school districts in Morris County. Compare this with the only \$500 million received by Newark. My recommendation is that if there is to be aid for "Special Needs" districts. The decision for funding should be based on the average cost per student in the State, not on what the wealthiest districts spend. Let the local taxpayers pay for anything above this.

The fairest approach would be for the Legislature to do its job and provide funding on a per capita basis. Then State school funding would be provided equally for each student. It is also about time someone determined who funds the Education Law Center which time after time goes to the Supreme Court for more money for Special Needs districts. When you make your decision for whom to vote for in this coming election, ask the candidates what they will do to help non-Abbott districts get more State school aid. If they use the Supreme Court Abbott-Burke funding decision as a crutch or excuse, then don't vote for them.

SINCERELY,
FRANK MIKORSKI

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter to ask the residents for their support on Election Day, Nov. 4. Ray Petronko and I have worked very hard the past three years for the residents of South Plainfield. During my term on the Borough Council, we have seen the PAL double in size, opened a new senior citizen housing complex and a new senior citizen recreation center.

Ray Petronko and I support open space in our town. In our first year on the council together, we were successful in receiving a grant to acquire the parcel of land at the corner of Clinton and Tompkins avenues, preventing it from being developed. We also received an open space grant which enabled us to expand Putnam Park. The grant was for \$1 million from the Middlesex County Open Space Trust Fund. You may recall that there was supposed to be a Walgreens on that corner prior to the grant.

During that last three years, we have seen over 50 roads repaved on a "pay-as-you-go" basis. Durham Ave. was widened to two lanes from Hamilton Blvd. to Rt. 287. New sidewalks were installed on Belmont Ave., also paid for by a grant. Not one penny was borrowed. Borough Hall was renovated and the parking lot behind the municipal building was redesigned to add additional parking for the residents.

At the request of the VFW and the American Legion, we replaced the street signs named after veterans who gave their lives for this country with new ones that include an American Flag and a gold star.

In closing, I would like to ask the residents of our Borough to vote for Freeholder John Pulomena and Assembly Patrick Diignan. We couldn't ask for better representation on the County and State level than these two fine men.

Freeholder Pulomena was instrumental in getting us over \$2.75 million in grants for open space. As a matter of fact, just this past month, Freeholder Pulomena was able to secure another \$1 million grant which will be used for upgrading our baseball complex, Pop Warner football field and the Ponytail Softball complex. Assemblyman Diignan was able to secure a \$200,000 grant from the State which enabled the Borough to install a state-of-the-art communication system for the Borough's Police Department. His influence in Trenton has also enabled the Borough to receive \$250,000 from the New Jersey DEP for the cleanup of Veterans Park. Both of these men deserve your support. So on Election Day, please support the team of Diignan for Assembly, Pulomena for Freeholder and Petronko and yours truly for Borough Council.

SINCERELY,
COUNCILMAN BOB CUSICK

Dear Editor,

Since this is the last issue of the *Observer* before the election, I wanted to thank the people of South Plainfield for their hospitality over the past nine weeks. Door-to-door campaigning takes a lot of time and energy, but nothing replaces talking one-on-one with voters. We may not have the money for the slick ads and mass mailings, like our opponents, but I still think we got the better end of the deal. I wouldn't trade what we learned for their riches.

Ray Rusnak and I have met so many wonderful people. There's the woman on Wells Drive who gets woken up in the wee hours of the morning by the garbage truck at CVS, the elderly couple on Oakmoor Ave. who are afraid South Plainfield is no longer affordable for senior citizens and the Durham Ave. resident who fights traffic each morning just to get out of his driveway.

We also can't forget the woman on Houston St. whose curbs are like sand castles, the people on Central Ave. who are concerned that we lost control of the town's development and the people in senior housing who have problems with parking and building maintenance. There were so many who made this campaign an amazing experience.

I've been in town for a long time, but each time I went to knock on doors I learned something new. And even when people told me something I already knew, it reinforced the need to solve the problem. By far, the issue people wanted us to tackle most was traffic and overbuilding. And if elected, that will be a top priority. It would be foolish to say we could stop all building, but we can do some common sense things to curtail it, things like putting a halt to selling Borough-owned land to builders and reexamining the town's zoning regulations.

The same is true for traffic. We need to get the Helen St. project on track, because it's already behind schedule. But as important as that project may be, we can't risk everything on one endeavor. One project won't solve the town's traffic problems. For example, we should look at extending Hollywood Ave. and making other changes that would reduce traffic.

There are so many ways Borough government can make our lives easier. For instance, making the compost and recycling hours more convenient would be inexpensive and easy to do (a couple hours on Sundays from April to mid-November). The other side has made fun of this idea, but why shouldn't town services be available when we need them?

I hope the people of South Plainfield will give us a chance to show what we can do. Our opponents had their chance and even if Ray and I are elected the Democrats will still have control of the town, but at least there will be a new point of view and some new ideas.

Again, thank you for a wonderful experience, and please consider Ray Rusnak and me when you vote on November 4.

MARGE REEDY
CANDIDATE FOR BOROUGH
COUNCIL

Dear Editor:

I have been honored to serve as your representative in the New Jersey General Assembly for the last two years and I respectfully ask for your support on Election Day, next Tuesday, Nov. 4.

I was born and raised in South Plainfield and the good Lord willing, I will die here. I really believe that the residents of our little town possess the combination of hard work, intelligence and good old common sense, which has made this country great. I have tried to convey that spirit down in Trenton and I think it has made a difference. South Plainfield has received over \$1 Million Dollars in additional state aid over the last two years as a result of the work of Senator Barbara Buono, Assemblyman Peter Barnes and I. We received over \$200,000 for the new Computer Assisted Dispatch System for our Police Department and \$250,000 for the clean up of Veterans Park. South Plainfield received full funding for special needs children in our schools and \$200,000 in extraordinary aid to offset local property taxes.

I am also proud that we were finally able to get signage on Rt. 287 clarifying the South Plainfield exits and the tree and flower planting at the entrance to 287 on Durham Ave. In addition the traffic signals at the Rt. 287 exit ramp onto Durham Ave. are in the process of being moved back and the turning lane widened. If you honor me with re-election, I promise to continue to work as hard as I can to see that we get our fair share from State Government.

There are other important choices on the ballot next week. Our hometown Freeholder, John Pulomena, is up for re-election along with his running mate, Jim Polos. John has done more for our town than could be included in this letter. Just last week he brought a check to South Plainfield for \$1 Million Dollars from Middlesex County to pay for improvements to all of our sports complexes and a learning center for the environmental preserve. He convinced his colleagues several years ago to use open space money to preserve the corner of Park and Oak Tree Avenue, which is now the beautiful expanded Putnam Park. This property was originally earmarked for a Walgreen's Drug Store. John is also the one who arranged for the county to pay for the cost of the reconstruction of Hamilton Blvd. next year.

On the local level, the choice is clear. Bob Cusick and Ray Petronko are outstanding council members. They are an integral part of the policies that led to the new Senior Recreation Center, doubling in size of the P.A.L. and the new Senior Housing Complex on Morris Ave. Most importantly, they have been champions of "Pay As You Go" government that has reduced the Borough debt by \$10 Million Dollars and resulted in *no municipal tax increase* in four of the last six years.

Please vote Column "A" all the way on Nov. 4. Buono, Barnes, Diignan, for Senate and Assembly, Pulomena and Polos for Freeholder and Cusick and Petronko for Borough Council. Thank you for your consideration.

ASSEMBLYMAN PATRICK DIEGNAN

Dear Editor,

Right after Labor Day I wrote a letter to the editor that appeared in this paper explaining why I was running for Borough Council and what I thought I could achieve if elected. Well, next week's the big day, and it seemed like the right time to follow up on what the campaign has been like and what I've learned over the past two months.

First, I learned that campaigning is not always fun. I knew going in it would be frustrating when the other side distorts your positions, puts words in your mouth, and ducks the issues. These things have all happened, and yes, it's frustrating. But the positive things about the campaign far outweigh these frustrations.

So many things made this campaign memorable. One was being able to work with my running mate, Marge Reedy. When we walked door to door it was amazing to see how many people

knew and adored Marge. It would be a shame if South Plainfield passed up the chance to put Marge on the Borough Council. I can't imagine anyone working harder for our town.

Meeting people on the campaign trail was another great experience. People were not shy about telling us what they liked and disliked. It reinforced the importance of tackling certain tough issues if elected. Repeatedly people told us something has to be done about traffic, overdevelopment, diminishing services and lack of open government. These things will top our agenda if you choose us to represent you.

I also got the chance to work with some amazing volunteers—people who work behind the scenes simply because they want to make South Plainfield a better place. These people went with us door-to-door, stuffed envelopes, and contributed what they could so we could afford signs and literature. They deserve a huge thank you.

Marge and I have been careful not to promise things we could not deliver. We'll leave that to others. There are a few things I can promise though. I said it before and I'll say it again. I'm running for office, in part, because I want to bring an independent voice to the council and restore open government. I promise to do that if elected.

I also promise to work hard to do what's right. We need council members who will do what's right for South Plainfield regardless of what their friends, contributors or party says. We also need council members who are independent thinkers and who respect the public. That's the kind of councilman I want to be, and I'd be honored if South Plainfield gave me that chance.

RAY RUSNAK,
BOROUGH COUNCIL CANDIDATE

Letter to the Editor,

For the last six years I have had the opportunity to serve as your Freeholder. During that time, the Middlesex County Freeholders have worked hard to preserve open space, enhance existing park facilities and maintain the second lowest equalized tax rates in the state. In addition, I have taken the lead to secure \$1 million dollars of county funds towards the upgrade of our girls' softball fields, the baseball, soccer and football fields and an educational facility at Highland Ave. Woods. Under the Tech 2000 program, I have taken the lead on behalf of all the Freeholder Board to invest \$5 million dollars over a five year period to ensure there is a computer in every classroom. I am proud of our achievements, but I also know we can do more. So on Election Day, Nov. 4, I ask for your support for myself and my running mate, Jim Polos, to continue as members of the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

As part of the "hometown team," we have a tremendous opportunity to continue to be a driving force in the New Jersey Assembly by re-electing our very own Patrick Diignan. There are not many towns who have the opportunity to have representation at the local, county and state levels of government. We have already seen the tremendous financial benefit of county and state representation. I know that Assemblyman Patrick Diignan will make sure our voices are heard.

To ensure we continue to move South Plainfield in the right direction, I ask that you support Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick for council. This mayor and council have put our financial house in order after years of reckless borrowing and spending by the Republican controlled council. We must never go back. We can't afford it!

On Election Day, support the "hometown team" of Pulomena, Diignan, Petronko and Cusick. We will continue to work hard to make South Plainfield a great place to live.

Thanks again for your continued support.

JOHN PULOMENA

Dear Editor,

As a member of the South Plainfield Library Board and a member of the

Continued on the next page

United States Postal Service			
Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation			
1. Publication Title South Plainfield Observer		2. Publication Number 0 1 1 8 2 5 3	
3. Filing Date 10/10/03		4. Issue Frequency Weekly except Thanksgiving	
5. Number of Issues Published Annually 51		6. Annual Subscription Price \$25	
7. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP + 4) 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080			
8. Full Name and Complete Mailing Address of Publisher, Editor and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank) Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) Nancy Grenier, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080		Contact Person Nancy Grenier Telephone 908-688-0010	
9. Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Same as above			
10. Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Same as above			
11. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)			
Full Name		Complete Mailing Address	
Nancy Grenier		1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080	
Wayne Grenier		1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080	
12. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None			
Full Name		Complete Mailing Address	
None		None	
13. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input type="checkbox"/> Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)			
14. Publication Title South Plainfield Observer		15. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below 11/10/00	
16. Extent and Nature of Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		3352	
b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation		90	
c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3) and (4))		1070	
d. Free Distribution by Mail (Samples, complimentary, and other free)		1156	
e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carrier or other means)		2381	
f. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15d and 15e)		731	
g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f)		3112	
h. Copies Not Distributed		240	
i. Total (Sum of 15g and 15h)		3352	
j. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c divided by 15g times 100)		75.5%	
17. Publication of Statement of Ownership		85.7%	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publication required. Will be printed in the 10/31/2003 issue of this publication.		<input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.	
18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager or Owner Nancy A. Grenier Date October 10, 2003			
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).			
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6. In item 16, indicate the date of issue in which this Statement of Ownership will be published.			
7. Item 17 must be signed.			

IN YOUR OPINION

Vote

Continued from previous page

Community Pool, I must express my thanks and gratitude to Councilmen Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick.

Ray has gone above and beyond as the liaison to the Recreation Board. The additions to the Community Pool, the slides and miniature golf, have made the pool profitable this past summer despite the rainy weather. Ray has the foresight to know what is best for the residents of South Plainfield and is constantly looking for ways to improve all recreational services for the community. Many of these improvements have helped the youth in this town and I am thankful that we have that kind of a councilman who looks to the future through the youth of today.

When Bob announced the building of a new public library for South Plainfield, the library board was in attendance. Needless to say, we are extremely excited about this project under the leadership of Councilman Cusick. Once again we have a councilman who is looking for the future of our community. The present library building is growing too small for the community as our town is growing. The library staff is superior and services our needs through innovative programs, but can you imagine what future endeavors can be accomplished with a larger building.

Bob Cusick and Ray Petronko are the right men for the job. They have stood by us and have made the right kind of improvements to help our community. The projects they have undertaken will service our residents for many years.

As to the republicans who constantly bring up the Helen Street project, you need to start realizing that South Plainfield has been working diligently on this project. When the state and federal governments are involved with all their "red tape," you know there will be delays. Besides complaining about this project, I haven't heard anything that the Republicans are proposing for the future of the town.

When you look at all the improvements that have taken place in South Plainfield and once again with no local property tax increase, you know your vote should be for Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick.

SINCERELY,
CHERYL NAGEL-SMILEY

To the Editor

Well here we are again, late October, a short time away from the Nov. election. Many of you I'm sure don't pay too much attention to "politics" when it gets to be the "silly season" and I don't blame you. However, you do need to make a decision concerning which candidate is the best for our town and you personally.

Having served on the Borough Council for many years, I believe I have a good understanding of the qualities necessary to being a good councilperson:

1) Listen to the people. Don't think you are smarter than anyone else. Remember this is a government "of the people, by the people and for the

people."

2) Spend the taxpayer's money like it's your own paycheck.

3) Be positive about your outlook. Don't waste time stressing what seems to be wrong, but spend your time researching the issues and proposing projects to improve our town.

I truly believe that Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick exemplify these qualities. They are hard working candidates that listen to the people, are frugal with your tax dollars and identify opportunities for improvement, then act to implement the programs to enhance our town.

Ray has done a fabulous job with recreation and the seniors. All of the existing parks have been renovated and he has even created new parks and precious open space. Bob has worked with the Department of Public Works (DPW) and has recommended that we build a new library. They are both dedicated to making our town a better place for future generations.

We are also fortunate to have John Pulomena running for Frechholder and Patrick Diegnan running for Assembly. They have also demonstrated that they care about our town and have helped to get large grants for open space, recreation improvements, etc.

Please vote on Nov. 4 and when you do, please vote for these dedicated individuals.

JIM VOKRAL, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

To the Editor,

On Nov. 4 you will vote for council members. We now have a monopoly of one party as our governing body. Just as I believe that monopolies in business and industry do not serve the interest of customers. The same applies to one party of governing bodies.

You have the opportunity to provide some diversity in thinking in this election. I ask you to support Marge Reedy. I know her personally and have worked with her on the Board of Education. She has been a tireless worker and volunteer for this community and the students in particular. She deserves your support. On Nov. 4 vote for Marge Reedy and Ray Rusnak.

FRANK CORNELL

Dear Editor:

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

In the early 1990's, our municipal taxes were on the rise and the borough debt was out of control. The reason for this was that the prior administration preferred to borrow money instead of managing the money we had. The Democratic team introduced the pay-as-you-go approach to spending tax dollars and this approach has allowed us to keep taxes low while paying down

the enormous debt.

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

Bob Cusick and Ray Petronko are committed to maintaining a fiscally sound government by managing spending, controlling taxes and reducing our outstanding debt. Please join me in supporting them for re-election this November.

COUNCILMAN CHARLES BUTRICO

To the Editor,

On Nov. 4 you will be going to the polls to vote for candidates for the Borough Council. I am sure everyone is aware that there is a campaign, what with numerous signs, mailing, whole page ads in the paper and a whole list of new projects being announced concurrent with the campaign. Obviously all this activity does cost money and obviously some are more fortunate than others in having considerable finances to promote their candidacy.

There is a candidate I would like to bring to your attention. That is Marge Reedy. Over the years she has made substantial contributions to the community. Without a great deal of fanfare and very little publicity, here is her record as a volunteer—member borough historical society, past president high school music booster group, president South Plainfield Education Foundation; member of the Cultural Arts of South Plainfield, a nine year member of the Board of Education with two terms as president. I know Marge and have worked with her on the Board of Education. She has always stood for issues in the best interest of students and taxpayers. It is for these reasons I know she would be effective as a council person and represent all the people objectively. Please vote for Marge Reedy on Nov. 4.

FRANK A. MIKORSKI

Letter to the Editor:

I have known Patrick Diegnan my whole life...he's my uncle. Uncle Patrick is honest, dedicated and hard working. Most importantly however, he truly cares about people. My grandfather had a favorite expression. I can still hear him saying, "What about the other guy?" He regularly repeated these words to his seven children, one of whom was my mom, and his grandchildren. What he was instilling in all of us was a concern about another person's needs and point of view. Obviously my grandfather's words had a great impact on my uncle. As a member of the New Jersey Assembly, Patrick Diegnan has spent the last two years thinking about all of the residents of New Jersey and in particular his home

town of South Plainfield. I don't need to list the grants and programs he has sponsored which have benefited all of us. Let me keep it simple, I know my Uncle Patrick as well as anyone and I know he is an asset to our state. In this day and age when the general view of politicians is negative, it's good to know of an honest man doing his best to make a difference. It makes me proud of my uncle. Vote for the entire team of Buono, Barnes and Diegnan next Tuesday, Nov. 4.

JOSEPH RYDAROWSKI

To the Editor,

I've known Ray Rusnak for the better part of 10 years. I met Ray through a friend as a result of playing softball and over the years, our relationship has grown from teammates to friends. Ray possesses the qualities that people running for office should have. He was always been open and honest and true to his word. He is also one of the most reliable people I know and when he says he is going to do something, he follows through and accomplishes it.

The people of So. Plainfield would be hard pressed to find a better person to sit on their town council.

RICH PETAENA

To the Editor,

Has anyone taken the time lately to see the improvements at Putnam Park? While driving by the park recently, I noticed some people walking down a path around the park. I had extra time on my hands so I decided to stop at the park and have a look for myself. The first thing I saw was a new big parking lot. I parked my car and started walking around the new path. It is beautiful. I must commend Councilman Ray Petronko on a beautiful job. Ray certainly kept his promise that the park would be beautiful and a great addition to our Recreation Department. Councilman Petronko also did a great job with the Community Pool. There are new sliding boards and a miniature gold course. We all have Councilman Ray Petronko to thank for these fine improvements.

Come November, let's keep him in office along with Councilman Cusick to keep South Plainfield on the right track. Great job, Ray. Keep up the good work.

JOE ABATE

To the Editor:

On Election Day, I will be voting for Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick for South Plainfield Borough Council. Their Pay-As-You-Go financial policy has kept our tax rate as one of the lowest in Middlesex County and cut the Borough's debt by over 50 percent. Even with this tight financial policy, they have been able to make some quality improvements to South Plainfield, such as the preservation of 100 acres of open space, the improvements to Putnam Park, the new skate park, the new senior recreation center and the new senior housing. These improvements have made South Plainfield better for every resident. Their plans for

the future include reconstruction of Hamilton Blvd., completion of the Helen St. project and a new library. Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick are working hard to make South Plainfield better and they have earned re-election to the Borough Council.

NICOLE PALMERI

Dear Editor,

This Tuesday, South Plainfield goes to the polls to elect two new members to the Borough Council. I am going to vote for Marge Reedy and Ray Rusnak.

Marge and Ray address the issues that affect our quality of life: overbuilding, which in turn, brought us oppressive conditions like traffic congestion and diminishing services. We all know how bad traffic is, but the Council continues to encourage more building. Marge and Ray have some ideas to help control traffic and building, one of which is to stop selling Borough-owned land to developers.

They also want to bring back open government. Our current officials are having secret meetings and giving huge no-bid contracts to their contributors. Marge and Ray have proposed reforms that would stop these abuses.

Reedy and Rusnak are waiting for the opportunity to address the quality of our municipal services. None of us wants to relive the leaf pickup and snow plowing programs of last year. Marge and Ray have also proposed adding Sunday compost hours, as well as cleaning up that whole area. This would allow residents to drop things off without getting covered in mud and soot. I am sure that these improvements can be accomplished within our current tax structure.

I hope you will consider Marge Reedy and Ray Rusnak when you vote. They are honorable citizens, our neighbors; people who really care about our town and I know they can make a difference if elected.

CYNTHIA GUANCIONE

To the Editor:

I have known Patrick Diegnan for many years. He is a special person who is always ready and willing to help others whether personally, in his capacity as an attorney or as an Assemblyman. He is one of the most compassionate and honorable men I have ever had the pleasure to meet.

He has always taken an interest in the Borough of South Plainfield where he was born and raised. He served on the Zoning Board of Adjustment, the Environmental Commission and was President of the Sacred Heart Parish Council. He was also recently named to the SPHS Hall of Fame.

Since he was elected to the Assembly two years ago, Patrick has worked tirelessly to get us the help from state government that we deserve. Because of his efforts, we received \$200,000 in Extraordinary Aid to offset property taxes, a \$200,000 Homeland Security grant to purchase a Computer Assisted Dispatch System for South Plainfield's Police Department, a \$250,000 De-

Continued on page 12

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IN YOUR OPINION

Continued from page 11

partment of Environmental Protection grant for the clean up of Veteran's Park and \$300,000 for Sidewalks and Curbs on Belmont Ave. and Church St. plus Handicapped Access for the Municipal Complex. They will be installing bathroom facilities at the newly expanded Putnam Park, funded through a grant Assemblyman Diegnan secured. The tree and flower plantings at the Rt. 287 intersection was his initiative and soon the traffic light at the exit ramp onto Durham Ave. will be moved back and the turning lane widened.

Patrick Diegnan supported the establishment of a "do not call" list to shield us from unsolicited phone calls, co-sponsored legislation to create a statewide constitutional convention to reform the property tax structure and helped bring real auto insurance reform to New Jersey, lowering our rates and getting uninsured drivers off the road.

Recently endorsed by the Senior Truth Squad, he has been a champion for our senior citizens, fighting to restore full funding for prescription drug programs such as PAAD and Senior Gold. He has supported legislation to curtail predatory lending and to increase criminal penalties for individuals who victimize a senior citizen.

Patrick Diegnan has worked to improve the quality of life for South Plainfield residents and citizens throughout the state. He deserves to be re-elected. I ask that you join me next Tuesday in voting for our hometown Assemblyman, Patrick J. Diegnan, Jr.

KAREN CESARO

Dear Editor,

I am not normally one to write a letter supporting a candidate for public office, but I've known Marge Reedy for almost 30 years and support her wholeheartedly for Borough Council. Marge is a good friend, not just to me, but also to South Plainfield.

Whether it is helping the high school band or the PTA, serving on the School Board, working to get funds for the winter guard, or helping to raise scholarship money for the Education Foundation, Marge is always there for our kids. It amazes me how many things she can juggle without losing a beat.

Please support Marge and her running mate, Ray Rusnak, when you vote this year on Nov. 4. I know I will.

SINCERELY,
KAREN MAGNER

To the Editor:

Americans are tired of politics, as usual. They are tired of politicians who don't know what to say until they've read the results of the latest poll. We in South Plainfield are fortunate to have four worthy candidates that are not afraid to speak their own minds and put our citizens first. The Democratic ticket, led by Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan, Freeholder John Pulomena and Councilmen Ray Petronko and Bob

Cusick have all worked tirelessly for the people of South Plainfield. The benefit of having a South Plainfield resident in the Assembly and on the Freeholder Board can be easily measure by the grants and aid our Borough has received. The Putnam Park upgrade is a great example of local, county and state government working together. As a resident of the Putnam Park area, I want to thank you all for your efforts. I also applaud the Mayor and the Council for their "pay-as-you go" approach to the municipal projects the past several years. Roads are continually being paved without jeopardizing our future with additional debt. Every year, the mayor and council promise to pave more roads and these promises have not been broken. Lets keep a great thing going. Please join me in reelecting Patrick, John, Ray and Bob; they truly deserve your support.

PAUL RASMUSSEN

Dear Editor,

Ray Rusnak and I have been on the same softball team for years and I am proud to call him my friend. In fact, he and his wife Robyn are two very special people.

Ray cares about people and he cares about his community. I can't imagine having anyone better serve the residents of South Plainfield. Please support Ray on Nov. 4. You won't be sorry!

JEFF HEALEY

To the Editor:

The people of South Plainfield have an excellent opportunity this year to ensure that they have their own team fighting for them at all levels of state government.

On Election Day, vote for the hometown team of Patrick Diegnan for State Assembly, John Pulomena for Middlesex County Freeholder and Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick for Borough Council.

It's not very often that one town has a chance to have so much influence. Pat Diegnan has done a great job in only his first term as our Assemblyman, sponsoring over 60 bills in the Assembly and serving on the Judiciary Committee, the Education Committee and the Commerce and Economic Development Committee.

John Pulomena has continued to do a great job for South Plainfield as Freeholder by helping the Borough to get county grants for open space preservation. Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick have instituted prudent fiscal planning which has helped to keep the Borough's municipal tax rate as one of the lowest in Middlesex County.

If you want to make sure that South Plainfield's voice will be heard in New Jersey, vote for Patrick Diegnan for State Assembly, John Pulomena for Middlesex County Freeholder and Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick for Borough Council.

WILLIAM A. NAGY, JR.

Dear Editor,

When Ray Rusnak told me he was running for South Plainfield Borough Council, I remember thinking how lucky the voters would be to have him represent them. Ray's a great friend and an all-around good guy.

Even though I knew he would work hard to get elected, it still surprises me how much he's done by way of campaigning. He's been knocking on doors and listening to people day-after-day. That's important. Politicians talk a lot, but they're not that great at listening. Ray is. He really cares about this town and I know he'd make a great councilman. Please vote for Ray Rusnak next week. I know I will.

LISA QUIGLEY

Dear Editor:

I couldn't help but write to tell you how impressed I am with the Democratic Council Candidates Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick. Throughout their time on the Borough Council, I have seen that they truly care about our Borough. Everywhere I look, improvements are happening. Even more remarkable is that these two seem to be involved with many of them. From the road improvements to the park improvements, to the new senior citizen recreation center to the curb restoration program, Bob and Ray have their fingerprints on these

projects. I couldn't be happier that they represent us on the Council. I can't remember when two other council members deserved to be re-elected more. I will certainly be casting my vote on Nov. 4 for Bob Cusick and Ray Petronko for Council.

ELEANOR HAINES

Dear Editor:

One would think it is great that we haven't seen a tax increase according to the Democrats' signs, but my tax bill keeps going up and up. The Democrats say "no tax increase," but yet they continue to sell off borough-owned property to Democratic contributors who continue to build and add a burden to our school system, to our roads, to our parks and to us, the taxpayers. Our county taxes go up and our school taxes go up because of the neglect of the powers of the Democrats.

There is no one watching the store, no one to challenge, no one to say no to the builders who are contributing to the Democratic party. It is time to elect people who are not afraid to say no, people who truly will do the best for the taxpayers.

Marge Reedy and Ray Rusnak are those people. They will do what is best for our town, not what is best for the Democrats and their friends. It is time

Vote

for honesty and integrity to return to South Plainfield.

Vote for Reedy and Rusnak!
JOAN ELLIOT

Dear Editor,

When you look at South Plainfield's recreation and senior programs and compare them to other townships, it is clear that we have one of the best programs in Central NJ. Over the last three years, we have seen a Senior Housing Center opened, a new Senior Recreation Center, the Putnam Park expansion, the PAL expansion, improvements to the Community Pool and many, many more.

This was all accomplished while keeping the tax rate flat. Councilman Ray Petronko has been instrumental in moving all of these projects ahead and he is the reason why South Plainfield enjoys one of the best recreation programs in New Jersey. Let's keep it going by re-electing Ray Petronko on Nov. 4.

EDWARD K. LARSEN

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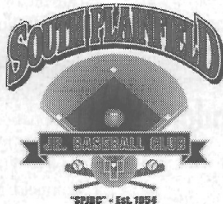
By Lee Flanagan

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

Monday night Nov. 3 is our next Club Members meeting. Come on out and hear what is going on at the SPJBC. The cost of the Junior Baseball Club registration from now to Jan. 1, 2004 is \$75. However, there are only a few dates left to catch this early discount. The dates are: Nov. 3, Nov. 12, Dec. 1 and Dec. 15. Times for all of the dates are 6 to 7 p.m.

After those four dates, the registration will increase to \$95. There will be no exceptions. This will give parents seven opportunities to sign up their son or daughter before the first of the year. We are also selling SPJBC club members cards for \$10. A manager or coach will not be allowed on the field without a club member's card. Buddy Hutchison is asking all managers, to return your equipment bags prior to the club members meetings in November or December if you still have them from the spring season. According to our records, there are several equipment bags still outstanding.

The Junior Baseball Club is running a trip to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York. Yes, the Baseball Hall of Fame. On Monday Dec. 29, we will be leaving 6 a.m. in the morning by bus and arrive in Cooperstown at 11:30 a.m. and take the complete tour of the Baseball Hall of Fame.



We will leave Cooperstown and stop at the Old Country Buffet on the way home. This will be a great trip. Total cost for the whole trip is \$65 per person; this includes transportation, entrance to the Hall of Fame and Buffet style dinner on the way home. We would like to start registering parents and kids for this trip. It is very important to register early so you are not left out.

The Women's Auxiliary will once again be conducting a "Night of Holiday Shopping" this event will take place at the Menlo Park Mall on Nov. 23 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Ticket price is \$8. This is a night of special shopping discounts, entertainment and events. For more information, call Stacy Lake at (908) 757-9531 or Betsy Spayder at (908) 757-8928.

The SPJBC is always based on the volunteer efforts of parents, grandparents and friends. Any help you can give to us is always appreciated. Recognize yourself as unique and valuable. The one thing everyone needs to remember is we are here for the kids. The world is divided into people who do things—and people who get the credit. Volunteering time to the youth of South Plainfield is the best. It will be time well spent. "It is a new beginning"



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South Plainfield Football Eagles

BONFIRE! The SP Football Eagles will celebrating the season end with a Bonfire at the field on Nov. 1, beginning at 6:30 p.m. All program participants will receive a free hot dog or slice of pizza, a drink and a dessert. Combination tickets will be available to friends, siblings and family members for \$2. Cheerleaders will perform their competition routine for the last time of the season. Join us for SP Eagle Spirit, music and bonfire fun!

UNIFORM RETURN: Mon.-Wed., Nov. 3-5, 5 to 7 p.m. at the Fieldhouse. Uniforms must be returned cleaned and all items to be eligible for Bond Return and invitation to the season Award/Pizza party.

AWARD/PIZZA PARTY: Our season finale—please join your team in receiving recognition for the season and celebrate with your team for the last time! We will also say goodbye to those who have completed the program. Dec. 6 at the PAL. Flag and Mighty Mite Football and Cheerleaders at 5-6 p.m. and Jr. PeeWee and Jr. Midget Football and Cheerleader from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

The South Plainfield Eagles were away on Oct. 19 in Flemington.

The Flag football players and cheerleaders began the day. Highlighted this week in football were Anthony Chirumbolo, Frank Ferraro, Matt Gallant, John O'Sullivan, and Vincent Pellegrino. Cheerleaders are Sarah Walsh, Allison Tuyp, Amy Grene Ramjatau, and Ashley Franchak.

Mighty Mites defeated the Flemington team in an exciting game 7-0. Ryan Hughes caused a fumble that was recovered by Corey Stastencko. Eric Burham had two great openfield tackles and a 15 yd. run for a first down. Malik Cisson had many tackles in the backfield resulting in a loss of yards for Flemington. Joe Pellegrino had a great run for important yardage. Troy Heilman is credited with the touchdown with the extra point by Tyler Hunt. Highlighted Mighty Mites this week were Tyler Lewis, Joseph Miller, Erick Rodriguez and James Agee.

The **Mighty Mite Cheerleaders** highlighted this week are Emma Slotterback, Tatiana Lea Smith, Kaitlyn Sheedy and Kaitlyn Hughes.

The **Junior Pee Wee** team had a very exciting game. They are playoff bound! Flemington ended in a tie score 13-13, which kept the Eagles fans at the edge of their seats until the

end of the game. Nick Heilman gained great yardage throughout the game braking tackles and had a great run from midfield resulting in the touchdown. Mike Wagner scored the extra point, recovered a fumble caused by David Smith and Wagner ran it in for a touchdown. Charlie Gruver recovered a fumble. Great offense was provided by David Smith as center, Mike Tangorra as guard and Alex Liszewski as left end. On defense, Frank Malecki, Jarrell Wakins, Randy Jakubik and Ryan Aguiar. Junior Pee Wee Cheerleaders highlighted this week are Veronica Doyle, Caitlyn Driscoll, Allison Morgan and Michelle O'Sullivan.

The **Junior Midgets** suffered a loss to Flemington 26-12. Responsible for the Eagles touchdowns were Michael Burton and Justin Smith. Playing offense Kyle Hughes, Robert Scott, Andrei Williams and Seth Yocum. On Defense, Steve Mazzelli, John Wylam, Jimmy Gorman and Vikash Budhar.

The **Junior Midget Cheerleaders** highlighted this week are Laurie Ascencio, Samantha Hogan, Kimberly Pham, Cassie Prendergast, Amanda Steger and Stephani Sherwood.

On Sunday Oct. 26, the South Plainfield Football Eagles hosted their last home game to Somerset Hills.

Our Flag game highlights football players were Tyler Smith, Justin Counts, Jordan Mandel, Connor Skelly and Brandon Rickert. Cheerleaders: Amanda Courtney, Taylor Maistickle, Shannon Fonti and Courtney Maino.

Mighty Mites suffered defeat to Somerset 19-6. Ryan Hughes had a 25 yd. run. Troy Heilman was responsible for the touchdown. Nick Brinks had many saving tackles. High-

lighted this week are Ryan Bors, Ryan Harris, Justice Dickerson, Erik Ellsman and Michael Dolan.

Mighty Mite Cheerleaders highlighted are Zoya Hodge, Cassidy Gillis, Nina Barvosa, Nicole Miller and Meghan Skelly.

Junior Pee Wee won over Somerset Hills in a nail biter 14-3. Nick Heilman was responsible for both touchdowns. Mike Wagner threw a beauty to Nick Heilman who ran it in. Mike Wagner was responsible for both extra points. Brandon Downes had two interceptions and Charlie Gruver had saving tackles and a sack. Also highlighted this week were Mike Molinaro, Shawn Gorman, Stephen Petriello, and Kevin Smith.

Junior Pee Wee Cheerleaders highlighted this week are: Allison White, Casey Butrico, Kendell Christ, Gerianne Scarpitto and Rachel Scudato.

Junior Midgets lost to Somerset Hills 23-6. Tim Gaughan returned the opening kickoff with an eighty yard run for a touchdown. Michael Burton and Dough Bush played outstanding offense. Michael Jefferys and Kyle Hughes kept the pressure on Somerset's offense by making many defensive stops behind the line of scrimmage. Others to be highlighted are Corey Hay, Patrick Millard, Tarek Wakins, Justin Smith and John Wylam.

The **Junior Midget Cheerleaders** highlighted this week are Kimberly Relyea, Elizabeth Gratta, Paige Herriot, Nicole Molinaro, Danielle Yulick, Alyssa Scudato, Brigitte Kelly and Jessica Scarpitto.

The Junior Pee Wees played Hunterdon Hills away earlier this week. Flag, Mighty Mite and Junior Midget play Hunterdon Hills, Saturday, Nov. 1 away.

SOUTH PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL From Sharon Miller

Field Hockey Corner Weekly Wrap-Up



This year's varsity team has completed a truly spectacular regular season by adding yet another two wins to bring their record to 15-2-1 after defeating both Metuchen (5-0) and Old Bridge (4-0).

The team once again gained the top seed for the Greater Middlesex Conference Tournament (GMC's), which began this past week. They faced eighth seeded South Brunswick on Oct. 28 in the first round of the tournament tournament defeating them 7-1 which now brings their record to 16-2-1. As of this writing, the results of the Oct. 30 semifinal round is not yet known.

Congratulations to the team as they continue to be ranked as Number 1 in Middlesex County and eighth in the State Group 3. (rankings as of 10/29)

Week of Nov. 1—The must-see game of the season takes place on Saturday, Nov. 1 at 2 p.m. on the Carol Espinosa field, as South Plainfield once again hosts the GMC Championship game.

Special Events—The team will be competing in the state sectionals for North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3. The schedule for these games are not yet available.

Please come out and support a wonderful team of players. There are only a few games remaining and you don't want to miss seeing this team play!

The best of luck to players and coaches in the GMC's and States. Go Tigers!

Sonics Shut Out Invaders

The South Plainfield Sonics hosted the North Hunterdon Invaders on Sunday at the Kenneth Avenue Complex. The Sonics took the lead early in the first half when Dana Hunt eluded several players and scored unassisted. A Sonics goal was called back and at the half, the score remained Sonics 1-North Hunterdon 0. Shaun Alers, Lucas Goitandia and Charlie Huber played outstanding defense throughout the game. Collectively, they prevented the Invaders from penetrating too far into the home half of the field.

Some fancy footwork by midfielders Mike Zelasko, Will Mott and Kurt Maniaci kept the Sonics one step ahead of their opponents. The Sonics still lead by one when another South Plainfield goal was called back by the official. Then, a hand ball in the box

was called on the Invaders. Danny Hunt scored on the penalty kick that shot by the keeper's outstretched arms to increase the Sonics lead. The ball remained deep in the Invaders territory for the majority of the second half. With just two minutes left, Danny Hunt passed to Jose Moya who scored, making the score 3-0 Sonics.

At the whistle, the Sonics were victorious over the Invaders for the second time this year in as many games. Preserving the shut out for the Sonics were goalkeepers Nick Ross and Nick Tuyp. The final score was Sonics 3-Invaders 0. This makes the Sonics record to 5-2 with three games left to play in the season. The Sonics are on the road to Hopewell Valley on Sunday to take on the Thunder. Good luck and keep up the great effort.

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TONIGHT!**

Obituaries

Mary Agnes (Gilroy) Adlassnig, 92

Mary Agnes (Gilroy) Adlassnig of South Plainfield died on Thursday, Oct. 23 at the JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Mary was born and raised in Newark and resided there before moving to South Plainfield 38 years ago.

Mary was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield.

Her family are the owners of R&C Auto Body in South Plainfield for the last 40 years.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Stephen R. Adlassnig, who died in 1991.

She is survived by her sons, Richard S. and his wife Karen Adlassnig of Brick and S. Carl and his wife, Dianne Adlassnig of South Plainfield; four grandchildren, Sharon Ferraro, Kim Chericello, Carl Adlassnig and Jennifer Swan and seven great grandchildren.

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

Elizabeth M. Meyrick Grego, 85

Elizabeth M. Meyrick Grego of South Plainfield died on Tuesday, Oct. 21 at the Cedar Oaks Care Center in South Plainfield.

Betty was born in Hazleton Pa. and moved to South Plainfield in 1939. She and her late husband, Joseph, then moved to South Miami Beach, Fla. in 1973 and returned to South Plainfield where she had resided since 1982.

Betty was a sales clerk at the former Tepper's Department store in Plainfield for many years.

She was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield.

Betty was a former member of the South Plainfield High School Booster Club and the Canasta Club of South Plainfield.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Joseph J. Grego, who died in 1984.

She is survived by her son, Joseph C. and his wife, Debbie Grego of South Plainfield; four daughters, Donna and her husband Tony Prekel of South Plainfield, Carol and her husband Eric Schlesinger of Nashua, NJ, Nancy Bertelsen of Rancho Verde, Calif. and Betty and her husband, George Makarewicz of South Plainfield; a brother, William Meyrick of North Plainfield; 13 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory can be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 299 Cherry Hill Rd., Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Gloria M. (Bowden) Corio, 79

Gloria M. (Bowden) Corio died suddenly on Tuesday, Oct. 21 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Elizabeth, she grew up in Linden and had resided in Elizabeth before settling in South Plainfield in 1951, where she has resided ever since.

Mrs. Corio had been a waitress for the former Coral Lounge in South Plainfield for 27 years and later worked for the Red Bull Inn in Bridgewater.

She was an active member of the South Plainfield Senior Citizens and served as their vice president. She was also an original member of the South Plainfield Community Pool, where she loved to take in the sun and has been

a member every year since its opening. Mrs. Corio also enjoyed her crafts, cooking and gardening and time at the beach. She especially enjoyed her grandchildren and her great grandchildren.

She is the former spouse of Wallace Bowden. Her husband, Joseph Corio, died in October 1982.

She is survived by her children, Carolyn and her husband, Thomas Boyle; Nancy and her husband, Jerry Gillen; Wayne and his wife, Barbara Bowden, all of Ormond Beach, Fla. and William and his wife June Bowden of South Plainfield.

Also surviving are seven grandchildren, Shery Marcoux, Vincent and Michael Agostino, James, Robert, Erica and Thomas Bowden and her five great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Frank A. Addesa, 82

Frank A. Addesa died on Monday, Oct. 20 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born and raised in Newark, Frank moved to South Plainfield in 1960. He was a veteran of World War II, serving with the army and earning a Purple Heart as a POW. He was also a member of the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus and Sacred Heart Choir, where he sang as tenor.

A graduate of Montclair State University, Frank earned a degree in music. From Montclair, Frank went on to Rutgers, where he earned his Masters in Library Service.

He had a great love for music, especially the piano, teaching piano lessons from his home to others.

He is predeceased by his sister,

Gloria Addesa and two brothers, William and Jack.

Surviving are his wife, Mary (nee Krakowski) of 52 years and three brothers, Emil and his wife Connie of West Caldwell, Nicholas and his wife, Guilda of Fla. and Vincent of Morris Plains. Also surviving are many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Joseph A. Mondoro, Jr., "Bear," 46

Joseph A. Mondoro, Jr., "Bear," died on Saturday, Oct. 25 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Born in Plainfield, Joe lived in South Plainfield for 39 years before moving to Piscataway in 1996. He was a coach in the South Plainfield Little League for over 10 years and a member of the South Plainfield Elks Lodge #2298 and the former Dunellen Elks Lodge as well. Joe was a member of the South Plainfield Italian American Club and an avid softball player, playing in the Dunellen Softball League for many years.

Joe graduated from St. Joseph's High School in Metuchen and soon after became an active member of the St. Joseph's Alumni Association. He was a parishioner of Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield and for many years, he worked the zeppole booth with his father during the Sacred Heart Festival.

He was a member of United Food & Commercial Worker's International Local Union #1262 out of Clifton and was employed by various food stores as a receiving department manager.

He is predeceased by his father, the

late Joseph A., Sr., who died in 1990.

Surviving are his beloved wife, Sharon (nee Mouncey) of 17 years; his mother, Ann (nee Spinnelli); two sisters, Maryanne Costa and her husband Gary of East Brunswick and Michelle Geene and her husband Paul of Edison; a brother, Carl and his wife Darlene of Mobile and a niece, Jennifer Harbaugh and a nephew, Mark Costa.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Donations may be made in Joe's memory to the St. Vincent DePaul Society, 200 Randolph Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Maria Diaz (nee Perez), 93

Maria Diaz (nee Perez) died on Friday, Oct. 24 at Cedar Oaks Care Center.

Born and raised in Puerto Rico, Maria moved to the Bronx, N.Y., where she resided for nearly 20 years before moving to Edison and finally settling in South Plainfield 30 years ago, where she was able to raise her entire family.

She is predeceased by her husband, the late Evaristo Diaz, who died in 1981; all of her brothers and sisters and by her son-in-law, Roberto Caballero.

Surviving are three daughters, Carmen Rivera and her husband Hipolito of South Plainfield, Gladys Coakley and her husband, John of South Brunswick and Rose N. Caballero of the Bronx and seven grandchildren, ten great grandchildren and six great-great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Sal Esposito requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit a detached garage over 576 sq. ft. considered a second principal structure; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 224 Lowden Avenue on Block 276, Lot 6 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, November 20, 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 31, 2003

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PENDING BOND ORDINANCE NO. 1637 AND SUMMARY

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, on October 23, 2003. It will be further considered for final passage, after public hearing thereon, at a meeting of the Borough Council to be held at the Borough Municipal Building, Council Chambers, Plainfield Avenue, in said County, on November 6, 2003 at 5:00 p.m. During the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting copies of the full ordinance will be available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk's office for the members of the general public who shall request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:

Title: BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS EASEMENTS AND RIGHT OF WAYS FOR THE HAMILTON BOULEVARD ROAD PROJECT, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$1,850,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,757,500 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

Purpose: The acquisition of land and certain lesser interests in land consisting of temporary construction easements and permanent right of ways along portions of Hamilton Boulevard within the Borough by the Borough in conjunction with the reconstruction of such roadway by the County of Middlesex.

Appropriation: \$1,850,000
Bonds/Notes Authorized: \$1,757,500
Section 20 Costs: \$400,000
Useful Life: 38.84 years

VINCENT BUTTIGLIERI,
Clerk of the Borough of South Plainfield

\$49.00

October 31, 2003

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policereport

• On Oct. 21 a Sherman Ave. resident reported that someone hit a golf ball that went through their second floor bathroom window.

• A Piscataway resident reported that her Pentax digital camera had been stolen during her baby shower at Grand Buffet on New World Way.

• A So. Central Ave. resident reported that her vehicle has been hit by a paint ball while driving down Church St.

• A W. Nassau St. resident reported the theft of \$3,000 cash from an end table drawer. There was no forced entry.

• A Day St. resident reported that the rear drivers side window of their 1993 Mazda MPV was smashed out while parked on Jackson Ave.

• On Oct. 22 Daniel W. Oyecade, 22, of New Brunswick was arrested at DMV for exhibiting false documents to obtain a driver license.

• A Delmore Ave. resident reported the theft of a Haro Backtrail X2 bike which was left unlocked in front of the library.

• A Beatrice Pl. resident reported that the driver side window of their 1993 Ford Ranger had been smashed out.

• A So. Ninth St. resident reported the theft of an inflatable Winnie the Pooh from the front lawn.

• Louis E. Jones was arrested for driving while intoxicated, refusing to take a breathalyzer test, no insurance, speeding and failure to exhibit a registration at a motor vehicle stop.

• An employee of R-Tape on Ingersall Rd. reported that the rear window of his 1991 Honda Accord had been broken and an Alpine AM/FM/CD player was removed.

• An employee of Superseal on Helen St. reported the theft of a Panasonic AM/FM/CD player from their vehicle.

• Red Lobster on Hadley Rd. reported that a customer had left without paying a \$125.28 bill.

• On Oct. 24 a Piscataway resident reported that someone had removed her wallet after she left it at the cash register at 1245 W. 7th St.

• Staples on Hadley Rd. reported that a Russian man had attempted to make a return for cash and was told they do not give cash returns over \$500. The man left when police were called.

• A W. Golf Ave. resident and Plainfield resident were given summonses for illegal dumping of car parts on Metuchen Rd.

• Domino's on Maple Ave. reported that a customer tried to buy bread sticks with a fake \$100 bill. The customer left the store when told it wasn't real.

• Jersey Oil on Hamilton Blvd. reported that their front door had been forced open and 146 packs of assorted cigarettes totaling \$875 was missing.

• A High School student reported the theft of her pocket book from the band room.

• Parita J. Lakdawala, 21, and Jignisa B. Patel, 21, both of New Brunswick were arrested at Macy's for shoplifting \$230 worth of jewelry.

• An Elsie Ave. resident reported leaving her wallet at 688 Oak Tree Ave.

• An Ivy St. resident reported the theft of a 1996 Honda Accord EX from the parking lot of Regal Cinema.

• The manager of Woodland Manor on Calderone St. reported that the wooden fence near Frederick Ave. had been damaged. The door to the storage area of building 8 was also damaged.

• A Roselle resident reported that the passenger door lock of her vehicle had been smashed and a Pioneer AM/FM/CD stereo were missing while parked at 301 Helen St.

Classifieds

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HELP WANTED

FUNERAL HOME ASSISTANT—Funeral home is looking for a person to assist with funerals, tend to the door for afternoon and some evening visitations and perform removals. Position requires person to work a few various hours week-days and weekends. Person should be retired or have a flexible job/hours, in good physical condition and be willing to obtain a CDL (Commercial Drivers License). All individuals will be trained. Interested individuals should contact Jim at McCricken Home For Funerals. (908) 561-8000.

MARKETING-WORK INDEPENDENTLY training bank reps for a worldwide leader in the credit card industry. Internet access, reliable transportation, professional attire and customer service exp. required. Immediate positions in Middlesex, Union, Somerset, Morris and Warren Counties. Call 1-800-655-3044 (x583). EOE

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Niemczyk Honored with Cappy Award at Night of Tribute

(Continued from page 1)
recreation activities. He continues volunteering to this day, spending every Saturday at the Middle School running the Ed Niemczyk Youth Basketball League. The league was named after him in 1999, in recognition of

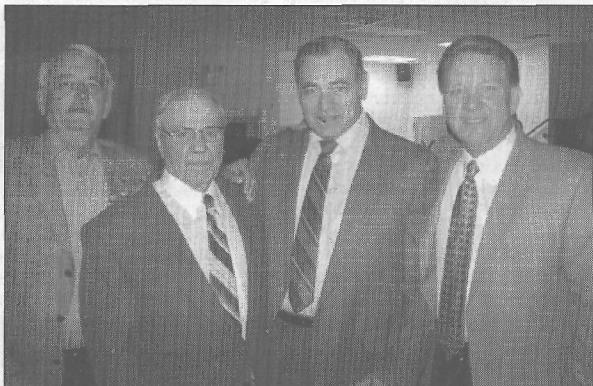
his many years of service to the youth of South Plainfield.
In 1954 there was no available space in South Plainfield to run a basketball program, so Ed started one in Plainfield. He was also one of the original founders of the South Plainfield Little

League Baseball Program. Since 1962, he has been a supervisor at the PAL Recreation Center.
One of 13 children, Ed grew up in South Plainfield. He worked for 45 years at Harris Steel and helped fabricate the steel that went into build-

ing the PAL Recreation Center. He raised two children in South Plainfield, daughter Arlene and son Ed, Jr. Ed has received many awards over the past 50+ years, including honorary grand marshal of the 1988 Labor Day Parade.



Gertrude Niemczyk receives flowers from her grandson. At right is (from left) Paul Thievon, Cappy Award recipient Ed Niemczyk, former South Plainfield councilman and high school athletic coach Anthony Catoia and Jim Kahora, former athletic coach.



Special Services At Sacred Heart On All Souls Day

The Feast of All Souls falls on Sunday, Nov. 2. While Sacred Heart will remember all of their beloved dead at each of the liturgies that weekend, the 11:30 a.m. Mass will be celebrated by priests who will name all those who have been buried from Sacred Heart Church over the last year. Family members of the deceased who would like to participate in a special remembrance during that liturgy are invited to call Dan Mahoney at (908) 756-0633 ext. 39. Visitation and blessing of graves will follow at the parish cemetery, Holy Redeemer, at 1:30 p.m.

Throughout the month of November, the Book of the Dead will be placed near the Communion Rail in the church so that people may enter the names of loved ones who have died this past year, who will be remembered in prayer.

I am very pleased that the Mayor and Council adopted an ordinance establishing a new department in the borough government, the Office on Aging. A very important step for our community and especially for our senior citizens, it establishes a visible, central point of origin for the dissemination of services and opens the door for significant growth of services.

There was a time when our primary focus was transportation and recreation. But the growth of our senior population and the scope and diversity of the needs of seniors is rapidly changing and we must therefore adapt and expand with these changes. Priorities are shifting. Recreation, although a primary part of the overall senior program, is beginning to be overtaken by more basic human services and social services. The 2000 census indicates that the borough's senior population 65 and older is 14.1 percent of the borough's population. Add in those residents 55 and older and the numbers more than double.

A multifaceted service delivery system is emerging as an integral part of our function. We are evolving into a

broader and more diversified arm of borough government. Health and human services, life enrichment programs, information and assistance, resources and referrals for residents and caregivers, advocacy, community outreach and nutritional services are among the areas of support that are now at the forefront of what we are doing at the Senior Center.

The Office on Aging is dedicated to meeting the needs of our senior citizen population by providing access to services, advocacy for rights and needs and resource management to ensure effective coordination of services. Our goal is to provide programs and services that promote and enhance health and wellness and create a positive image of aging and improve their overall quality of life. The intent and purpose of the Office on Aging is:

- Be the designated department to advocate, plan, coordinate and provide programs and services to senior citizens of the borough, their families and caregivers.

NOTES FROM The Senior Center

by Joann Graff

- Serve as the connecting link between the borough and County Office on Aging and the State Department of Health and Senior Services in the development and enactment of various senior programs initiated by federal, state and county directive.

- Provide programs and services that focus on the health, education and welfare of our seniors and improve the quality of life of older adults with particular emphasis on those

who are frail, isolate and home bound.

The initial point of contact

for all senior citizen matters will be through the director's office at the Senior Center. The center will also serve as a resource center for agency personnel and caregivers to the elderly. Many programs shall also provide practical help and a social outlet for healthy, active, older persons. We will also seek to create an environment that promotes a positive image on aging by encouraging personal growth, social interaction, education

and independent living skills.

The Office on Aging will develop and coordinate programs and services for the senior population and shall include, but not be limited to, the following: information and assistance (Title III B), assisted transportation, community outreach and advocacy, nutritional services including Senior Meals Delivery Program, senior health insurance counseling, home support services, recreational programming, health promotion and wellness programs, resources and referrals for the senior population, their families and caregivers and development of support groups.

Amoco Robbed at Knife Point

The Amoco gas station on Durham Ave. was robbed of an undisclosed amount of cash early last Saturday morning.

Two white males approached the gas station attendant, one brandishing a knife, and demanded money. The 67 year-old Piscataway resident complied and the suspects fled into a waiting black two door car and sped north

on Durham Ave.

Both suspects were described as being 5'8" and 5'10", wearing dark pants, hoods with something pulled over their faces.

No injuries were reported. South Plainfield Police Detectives Gary Kline and James Darby are investigating any possible leads.

THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

invites you to attend a

Wine Tasting

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Saturday, Nov. 15, 6 to 11 p.m.
at Embassy Suites, Piscataway

Tickets, \$40, include 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) 561-0051

Is title insurance required by law?

No. For buyers, it's optional, although lenders typically require that you buy it for them, to cover their risk.

What does title insurance protect against?

Title insurance protects you from financial loss in the event a problem develops relating to the rights of ownership of your property. There may be undisclosed liens on your property that even a title search would not reveal for whatever reason. Title insurance would cover the cost to settle the lien and in most cases also cover any legal fees you may incur.

But the lender already requires title insurance, wouldn't that cover any liens?

There are two types of title insurance policies. The Lender's Policy, which you will be required to purchase, only insures that the lender has a valid, enforceable lien on the property. An Owner's Policy is designed to protect the purchasers of the property against any undisclosed liens or "title defects" that may have existed prior to their taking ownership of the property. For example, the prior owner could have had a \$200K judgment that was a lien on the property and somehow went unnoticed. The new buyer's Owner's Policy would cover the costs necessary to resolve the issue and create "clear title."



Brian Riccioni — CEO, Hallmark Title Agency

How much does title insurance cost?

There is a one-time premium for the coverage and it is based on the purchase price of the property. This one-time cost provides continual coverage for the entire time the property is owned by that buyer. The cost of the coverage is regulated by the state. Therefore no title insurance agency can charge you more or less than the regulated rate. That goes for both Owner's and Lender's coverage.

Why should buyers insist on Hallmark Title Agency for their title insurance?

Well, for starters, has any other title insurance agency ever told you this much truth about title insurance? And secondly, buyers should insist that their real estate attorney, or whoever is representing them in their closing, ally with Hallmark Title because of our unique partnership with Unity Bank. Unity Bank stock has appreciated over 40% since year-end 2002 and their continued revenue and earnings growth gives Hallmark tremendous financial muscle. Plus, Hallmark has working access to the leadership and smart money managers on board at Unity Bank.

Cool.

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