

# South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 8, NO. 34

50 CENTS

APRIL 16, 2004

## VOTE on BOE Budget Tuesday!

Voters will go to the polls next Tuesday, April 20, to vote on the 2004-2005 School Budget and to elect three school board candidates to serve for three years each. Candidates are board members Pio Pennisi, Steve Bohn and Terry Alexa, who are all running unopposed.

This year's budget, if approved, will mean a tax increase of six points, or approximately \$70.35 per average household.

The total budget is \$44,185,421, an increase of \$1,413,624. The amount to be raised by property taxes is \$32,564,229.

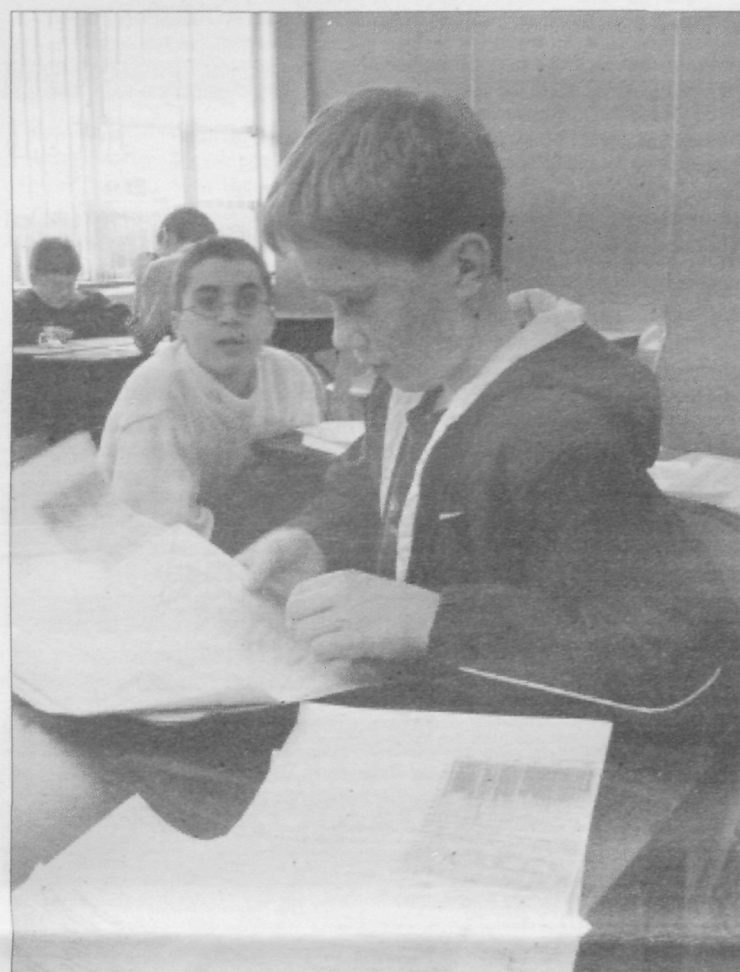
At last week's Board of Education

budget meeting only two residents spoke about the proposed budget. They were former board members, Frank Mikorski and Dawn Jefferys, who both expressed their amazement that funding for capital outlays this year is zero and that maintenance and transportation portions have both been decreased. They questioned whether this is even feasible during the next year. One area the budget is increasing is in salaries, which reflects the pay increases teachers received through negotiations of their new contract, giving them a 13.9 percent increase over three years. They will receive increases of 4.9%

in the 2003/2004 school year, 4.5% in 2004/2005 and 4.45% in 2005/2006. Another increase this year will be in healthcare costs, which have risen over 10 percent.

Since the budget was introduction, Dr. Robert Rosado has visited schools in the district and presented an overview of the proposed budget, which includes maintaining current class size, adding more SAT prep programs, the addition of a CAD program, technology programs and much more. The total cost per pupil in the district is \$10,313 (2002-03), \$1,000 below the state average.

South Plainfield property taxes represent 60 percent of the school budget, yet last year only 1,583 voters of the 12,427 registered voters (12.73%) voted on the budget. This year the candidates are running unopposed, and the percentage may be even lower. Registered voters are encouraged to go the polls vote on Tuesday, April 20. It only takes a few minutes, but means a lot to the future of the students in South Plainfield. Polls are open from 2 to 9 p.m. For polling locations, call Borough Clerk Vinnie Buttiglieri (908) 226-7605.



Members of Grant School Stock Market Club research their investments.



Lena Tufaro, a life-long resident of South Plainfield, is presented a Certificate of Appreciation from Tulio (Chuck) Capparelli, left, and William Tuthill for participation in the South Plainfield Historical Society Oral History Preservation Program. Lena's tape recorded interview was transcribed and added to the archives. Over 60 interviews have been recorded since February 2003.

## Historical Society Reunion Sunday

South Plainfield Historical Society invites present and former residents who grew up in, or moved to, the Borough of South Plainfield through the mid-1950s to Reunion Sunday on April 25. This sentimental journey back in time will allow guests to browse the society's extensive collection of photographs, and view several old movies, including the 1951 Anniversary Parade and one on Hadley Airport. Guests will be invited to leave a videotaped remembrance of their thoughts on living in the borough in earlier days. A special room equipped with videotaping equipment, manned by students from the South Plainfield

High School Graphic Arts Club, will be accessible all afternoon.

Guests are encouraged to bring old photographs representing their lives in "old" South Plainfield which will be duplicated and returned.

Reunion Sunday originated as a direct result of the Oral History Preservation Program formally begun by the society in February 2003 when the staff interviewed residents each Tuesday morning for the purpose of gathering information about the culture and heritage of the community. Many expressed interest in a town reunion and in viewing the growing photo archive.

Story/photos by Patricia Abbott

Do you find the Stock Market confusing? At Grant School, it's as simple as child's play. At a recent Stock Market Club meeting, members huddled in groups with heads

Current officers of the Historical Society are Dorothy Miele, president (908) 754-3073; Kathy Horvath, 1st vice president; Sarah Miele, 2nd vice president; Maryann Veit, treasurer; Betty Lou Hamilton, secretary; Richard Hamilton, recording secretary. Tulio "Chuck" Capparelli (908) 755-7993 is the Oral History Preservation program coordinator.

The informal gathering at the South Plainfield Senior Center on Maple Ave., is scheduled from 1-4 p.m. Light refreshments will be served to the sound of a big-band DJ John Zazzara. There is no admission charge.

## Mayor Proclaims Volunteer Litter Cleanup Week

At the April 5 Council meeting, Mayor Gallagher proclaimed the week of April 17-24, "Volunteer Litter Cleanup Week," and asked all sectors of the Borough to participate. The South Plainfield Clean Communities Advisory Board sponsors this annual spring cleanup, which usually draws between 150 and 200 participants. Raindate is April 24.

Volunteers are needed to remove litter from parks, along roadsides and from streams. Boy and Girl Scout troops, Cub Scout packs, church groups and members of the

S.P. Clean Business Association have already signed up to work. Individuals have also volunteered to organize their neighborhoods, and to join in the big cleanup day on Saturday, April 17 from 10 a.m. until noon.

Participants will be invited back to Borough Hall after the cleanup for the Pickup Picnic at noon, including complimentary pizza from Domino's, a six-foot sub from Hometown Heros, soda from the A&P and door prizes from the Environmental Commission. Mayor Gallagher will be on hand to award the prizes to winners

of the Design-a-T-Shirt contest.

Volunteers will meet at Borough Hall from 9 to 9:30 a.m. to collect gloves, bags and rakes before dispersing to cleanup locations, including: Putnam Park, Willow Ave. Park, So. Clinton Ave., New Market Ave., Oak Tree Open Space parcel, Tompkins Ave. Open Space Parcel, Garfield Ave. and Riley School area. Other locations will be added if there are enough volunteers. The Friends of the Woods will hold their annual Spring Trail Maintenance in the Highland Woods Nature Reserve as part of Cleanup Day.

bent, pouring over newspapers and charts.

Advisor for the weekly club meetings is Frank Mikorski, assisted by volunteers Greg Young, school counselor and site supervisor for all the after school activities, and fifth grade math teacher Linda Rodino. The club provides an introduction to the stock market, offering members an overview of how the market operates.

Mikorski said, "I feel it is important for students to become aware of the need to plan for their future retirement. This program will assist

them in this regard."

The club is currently participating in a stock market contest sponsored by INJersey.com, the online site of the Gannett New Jersey Newspaper Group. The eight-week contest began with the opening bell of the stock exchange on March 8 and will end with the closing bell on April 30. Seventeen students divided into five teams, and each began with an imaginary \$50,000 to invest. They must distribute this equally between five different stocks taken from the New York, NASDAQ National

(Continued on page 6)



**The Hunt is On!** Children one to ten came out to the PAL last Saturday for the Rec-sponsored annual Easter Egg Hunt. Seven hundred twenty five kids searched for eggs and visited with the Easter Bunny.



**If you enjoyed this edition of the  
Observer & would like to subscribe,  
call 908-668-0010.**

## Mark your calendars

Log on to  
**southplainfieldnj.com**  
for the latest  
meeting agenda

### council meetings

Meets twice a month on the first and third Monday.

Borough Hall Council Chambers • Questions? 908-226-7605

	Agenda Meeting	Public Meeting
Monday, April 19	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 4	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Monday, May 17	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.

All meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (NJS 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

April 20, May 11 and 25, June 8 and 22, July 6 and 20, Aug. 10 and 24,  
Sept. 21, Oct. 12 and 26, Nov. 16 and 30 and Dec. 14 and 28.

### zoning board of adjustment

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month

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

April 22, May 13 and 27, June 10 and 24, July 8 & 22,  
Aug. 12 and 26, Sept. 9 and 23, Oct. 14 and 28, Nov. 4 and 18 and Dec. 2 and 16.

### board of education meetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted

Committee of the Whole meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting held Tuesdays at 8 p.m.

### 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 plan sub-committee

Meets once a month on the third Tuesday of the month, 8 p.m.

April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20, Aug. 17,

Sept. 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 16 and Dec. 21.

### 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

May 4, June 1, Aug. 3, Sept. 7, Oct. 5, Nov. 2 and Dec. 7.

### environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)

Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7621

May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10, December 8 and  
January 12, 2005.

### 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

To the Editor,

Compliments to the staff and administration of the South Plainfield Schools for making some very positive-format changes in the April 7 All District Festival. Given all the effort of the staff and students, it was gratifying to be able to see and hear the performances in a professional setting.

**LIZ HARRINGTON, SP PARENT**

To the Editor,

I come from a family who instilled in me the importance of voting in every election. Once I turned 18 and could vote, my parents insisted I vote in all school board elections and vote on the school budget. They attended Board of Education meetings throughout and beyond our attendance in the public school system. I am very proud to say even while away from home and through the use of absentee ballots, I have supported every school budget over the past 23 years, 17 have been in South Plainfield.

It saddens me that for the first time ever, I will be voting 'no' to the proposed school budget. Many know I resigned from the Board of Education in October because I felt uninformed about the financial matters of the district and felt the board was being asked to vote on items that were not properly budgeted.

Since my resignation an audit was completed, and each month another member of the public and former board member Frank Mikorski has asked specific questions of the Board and Business Administrator regarding the audit and the state of the district's financial well being. On each occasion no answer has been provided to Frank, instead he has been invited to private meetings outside of the public's hearing, and because the public has not been invited to these meetings, we have no idea what the answer is. Unfortunately, few attend the meetings of the Board of Education, therefore you the public would have no way of knowing that instead of answering Frank's questions, he was made to provide a list of questions to the auditors. The answers then were addressed back to Frank, yet he raised these questions publicly.

When the Board of Education changed its practice of conducting the business of line item transfers to a meeting the public generally does not attend, the COW, I asked that the public be informed of the monetary transactions by including for the record a list of line item transfers in the agenda of the meeting the public does attend the regular meeting, because I believe the public has a right to know how our money is being handled. The list of line item transfers has not been a part of the meetings following my request.

### AIDA SANTOS

ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT  
BRANCH MANAGER

### Valley National Bank

Durham Ave. & Hamilton Blvd  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

(908) 757-5868

Fax (908) 757-0494

**REGISTER**  
34th Annual "SuperSkills"  
**ROVERS**  
**SPRING**  
**SOCCER**  
Boys & Girls ages 3-12  
**6 Super Sessions**  
Kicks-off wk of April 18th/25th!  
SITES  
North Edison/South Plainfield • Scotch Plains  
Metuchen/Edison Central • Highland Park  
**PROFESSIONAL STAFF**  
LIMITED ENROLLMENT—Call today to reserve  
**732-777-1600**

## IN YOUR OPINION

### Submit Letters to the Editor:

Letters may be submitted to the Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, by email: ggnan@aol.com, or faxed to 908-668-8819. Deadline is Monday, 5 p.m. Letters must be accompanied by a name and telephone number for verification. Limit letters to no more than 400 words. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. We reserve the right to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject.

This budget represents an increase to the taxpayers of six cents; its publicized impact to the taxpayer is \$70.32 on a home accessed at \$117,200, and most live in homes accessed at a much higher amount than that.

In this budget there is no money budgeted for Capital Outlay, in 2002-2003 the amount expended was \$1,300,739 in 2003-2004 budgeted \$1,402,727, yet this year for the first time there is zero budgeted. At the public meeting of April 8, Frank Mikorski provided a 10 year trend of expended amounts for Capital Outlay. Never in 10 years has the Board of Education budgeted zero; I suppose there will be no effort to continue to maintain the integrity of our facilities. The Operation and Maintenance of plant services accounts has been reduced from last year's budget by \$562,552, bringing the total below 2002-2003 budgeted and close to the amount spent in 2001-2002. It is unbelievable to me that we can go back to the costs of 2001-2002! The transportation budget has been reduced to lower than 2002-2003 expenditures, while our student population rises and with the upcoming negotiations of the bus drivers' contract in June of this year.

While sitting on the board, a contract with teacher's secretaries and aides was negotiated at a 4.95% increase for this year with no changes to benefits each employee receives. If one carefully looks at the budget's increased amounts, it is reflected in salaries and benefits, while decreasing areas important to the continued care of the facilities, maintenance and transportation services.

In the March 19 edition of *The Observer*, it was reported that to solve the

parking and traffic issues at each of the schools it would require an investment of over \$3.5M. Last year the budget included \$1M to address safety issues. Shoor-DePalma reported just addressing safety issues would require \$1.76M, yet the board did not opt to include the deficit of \$760,000 to address the safety concerns. I have to wonder which of the safety issues did not make the cut? Is it my child's school or yours?

The item that causes me the most concern is the surplus number. The required amount in surplus should be three percent of the budget. The attorney at the April 8 meeting of the Board made the statement that the State does not require it; that it is a guideline for Boards of Education to follow. In the history of budgets I have voted on in South Plainfield, it has never fallen below that number of three percent in any budget. The "guideline" is there for a reason, and with the under budgeted amounts in the above mentioned areas, it will be a scary year for all if there arises a need in capital outlay, operation and maintenance of plant or student transportation. Our staff members have been complaining for months about the frozen state of finance; some not being able to order tissue for the nurses' offices, paper clips and office supplies, etc. Can you imagine how tight the budget will be this year? I suppose the cuts will affect our children as salaries and benefits will be paid no matter how tight the budget is.

We elect members to the Board of Education each year to assure representation with regard to the taxpayer's interests. Although a qualification to be a board member is not being a certified accountant, when the public raises concerns, board members should be acting on our behalf and assuring the public that all is well. Board members should be assuring the public that our children's needs will be met and that the buildings will be maintained. If you take the time to look at this budget, you will see this is not so. Who is representing you?

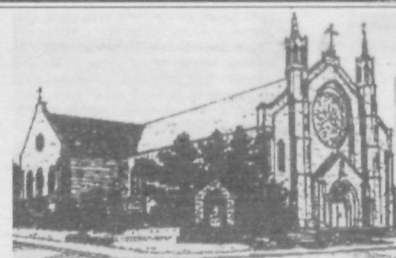
In addition to my not supporting the budget, I will be writing in two candidates, Frank Mikorski and Jeff Seider. At least I will then know someone with a conscience will be watching

(Continued on page 8)

## Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.  
South Plainfield, NJ

Rev. John Paul  
Alvarado, Pastor



### Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

### Mass Schedule:

Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.

Weekdays 6:30 a.m. (except Monday) 9:00 a.m. (church)

Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.

Holy Days 7 p.m. (Vigil); 6:30 and 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m. and 7 p.m.

## Do You or a Loved One Need Home Care?



We provide:

- Skilled Nursing Care
- Home Health Aides/  
Homemakers
- Baby Nurses
- Live-In's/Hourly

Certified, Licensed & Bonded



You can receive the care you need in the  
privacy of your own home.

**Call DORSON HOME CARE.**

732-376-0003 • 886-576-3460 • 973-672-7691

~ "Demonstrating Healthcare With Integrity" ~



## 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

Web page:  
www.spobserver.com  
For subscriptions, advertising or  
information, call (908) 668-0010.

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

WAYNE GRENNIER  
Associate Publisher  
SUSAN KANEPS  
Art Director/Associate Editor  
PATRICIA ABBOTT  
Staff Writer/Photographer

CAROL GRENNIER  
Editorial Assistant

TONI MARIE CICCIA  
Production Assistant

CHRISANN ZUSHMA  
Web Page Design

ROXANNE CORTESE  
JANE DORNICK  
WILLIAM TUTHILL  
Advertising Sales

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 ggnan@aol.com or ngrennie@ix.netcom.com. Include your name, address, telephone number. You can subscribe or contact us at: spobserver.com.

### 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.





## Sacred Heart Daisies Hold Investiture Ceremonies

Junior Girl Scout Troop 232 hosted an Investiture Ceremony to welcome their younger sister Girl Scouts of Sacred Heart Daisy Girl Scout Troop 485, the newest addition to the Sacred Heart Girl Scout family, into the Girl Scout community. Pictured left to right (back row): Christina Pokorny, Caresse Simmonds, Sarah Rush, Jessica Napolitano, Megan Kerper, Adrienne Novak, Victoria Gaydos, Katie Muglia, Alexa Fee, Celeste Simmons, Iris Ivanioc and Nicole Stoeckel. (Front row) Brianna Diefenbach, Page Ewing, Melissa Pokorny, Kara Slattery, Lauren Yanick, Laryssa Fee, Mia Udo and Virginia Novak.

## J. Anthony Equipment Co. Wins Glitter Award

Richard Anthony, owner of the J. Anthony Equipment Company, and son Robert, accepted the South Plainfield Clean Business Association's Glitter Award from CBA President Joe Diegnan at their place of business at 4201 South Clinton Ave. The award was presented in recognition of J. Anthony's ongoing improvements to the condition of the property.

They bought the old building in May of 1998. Anthony recalls that the Zoning Board was interested in improving its appearance, since it is one of the first businesses you see when you enter South Plainfield from Piscataway on Tyler Place. The property was so overgrown that the building was barely visible. They cleared out the brush, and in 2000, installed the parking lot and fence. A-Tech Landscaping, which rents some of the space on the property, installed new landscaping in 2001. More recently, the building's exterior has received attention. A new awning was installed. After several efforts to clean the brick frontage failed, Anthony had his son David, paint it. It took four coats of paint, but the building now presents a crisp, cheerful face to the South Clinton Ave. traffic.



Richard Anthony and son Robert accept the South Plainfield Clean Business Association's Glitter Award from CBA President Joe Diegnan.

The landscaping continues to be maintained by Jon Dean of A-Tech, but Anthony said they all are involved in picking up the litter that blows onto their property. He said that he was happy to receive the Glitter Award.

## Sacred Heart Announces Summer Program

Sacred Heart School announces its summer program for 2004. Camp is open to all current Pre-K 4-year-olds to sixth grade.

Academics are offered to all child-

ren because it meant that his efforts to make this fifty-year old cinder block building presentable were being noticed.

J. Anthony Co. specializes in welding work on bridge decks. Anthony's first major job was the Hamilton Blvd.-Lakeview Ave. overpass in 1968. He has worked on most of the bridges in the NY Metropolitan area, including the Brooklyn Bridge, the Verrazano-Narrows, the George Washington and the Manhattan Bridges. He has also worked on the bridges that lead to Disney World.

The CBA gives Glitter Awards to local businesses that are unusually well maintained or have recently improved their appearance through renovation or landscaping. Membership is open to all businesses that share its goals of enhancing the appearance of commercial districts through property maintenance and litter control. For information, call A. Tempel at (908) 226-7621.

ren currently in grades K-7. The program runs July 6 through Aug. 5.

The schedule is: Full day-8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Half day-8 a.m.-Noon or Noon-4 p.m. Before and after camp child care is available from 7:30-8 a.m. and 4-5:30 p.m.

Academic course offerings are: Math, K-6; Math Coop Test Preparation, Grade 7; Reading, K-6; Writing Workshop, K-7; Computers, K-7 and Ceramics, K-7.

Sign up for camp, academics or both. Sign up for one week or all five weeks.

For information and registration materials, stop by the school office or call (908) 756-0733 ext. 32 or 33.

## BOE to Proceed With School Traffic Improvements

The Board of Education has voted to go out to bid on a portion of the Phase One traffic study project submitted by Schoor DePalma last month.

The board has chosen the following schools: Franklin, Kennedy and Riley schools to start the bidding process. The Middle School will also be added to Phase One as an alternate.

*Franklin School* (cost \$240,600) will add a one-way parking lot along Franklin Ave., providing a location for student drop-off and pick-up near the front door as well as 47 parking spaces. The soccer field will be relocated and reoriented to utilize the existing lawn area in its current condition. Parking will be prohibited from 7 to 9 a.m. and 2 to 4 p.m. on school days along the south side of Franklin Ave. from Clinton Ave. to the school property line, as well as Gray Drive.

*Kennedy School* (cost \$448,000) will expand the existing parking area along the south side of the school and provide a two-way driveway connection to West Crescent Pkwy. and then onto South Plainfield Ave. The expanded parking area will provide a student drop-off and pick-up location and a second means of access. The expanded parking lot will provide parking for approximately 110 cars. Parking will be prohibited 7 to 9 a.m. and 2 to 4 p.m. on school days along the west side of Norwood Ave. from

South Plainfield Ave. to the existing school driveway, along the east side of Norwood Ave. from South Plainfield Ave. to West Fairview Ave., as well as along one side each on Adams, Sterling and West Fairview avenues.

*Riley School* (cost \$214,000) will provide a new student drop-off, pick-up location and parking area at the rear of the school along Walter St. This one-way student drop-off, pick-up parking area will provide approximately 40 parking spaces. A new drop-off and pick-up area will mean the jungle gym climbing equipment located near the rear of the school will be relocated. Parking will be prohibited from 7 to 9 a.m. and 2 to 4 p.m. along the west side of Walter St. from the exit drive of the proposed parking area to Murray Ave. and along the east side of Walter St. from Mildred St. to Murray Ave.

*The Middle School* (cost \$324,000) alternative project will include a new front parking lot which will provide a new bus access loop and parking area at the front of the school. The one-way bus loop will accommodate a demand of eight buses and provide 50 parking spaces. Bus activity will be relocated from the south side of Lake St. to the new bus location. No parking will be permitted at any time along the north side of Lake St.

The total cost for the three schools will be \$902,600, which was budgeted for in last year's school budget.

## BOROUGHNOTES

### Council

■ The Mayor proclaimed April 17-24 Volunteer Litter Clean-up Week.

■ Council Raymond Petronko announced that the senior citizen building has a new ice machine, and will be getting a handicapped lift. There are now 700 seniors enrolled.

■ An ordinance was introduced to regulate parking on Randolph Ave. to help with the traffic flow at Sacred Heart School.

■ Because of an amended agreement with the Middlesex County Public Health Dept., the Borough will be saving \$30,000.

■ Dennis Kean has been hired as a part-time recreation attendant effective April 5.

■ Four ordinances were introduced at the April 19 meeting, which include \$195,000 for the Phase 2 repaving and striping of Belmont Ave.; \$180,000 for road improvements to Durham Ave. (partially funded with a grant of \$170,000); \$20,000 for improvements to the Municipal Building; and \$6,000 for improvement to the Office on Aging Building (Senior Recreation Center). A public hearing for these ordinances will be held at the April 19 meeting.

## Slim and Tone

30 Minute Workout for Women

**\*\* SPRING SPECIAL \*\***

**3 MONTH TRIAL MEMBERSHIP\***

No Initiation, Process or Hidden Fees

- Convenient ALL day hours  
M-F 8-7:30 Sat 8-2
- Clean, Private Setting
- Mother/Daughter Special Rates
- Friendly, helpful staff
- Ideal for ages 13+

**(908) 769-0009**

Staff Certified in CPR

\*For new members only!  
(with one year EFT or Prepaid membership)  
With this AD! Just mention the Observer  
when calling or on your first visit.

**\$39  
Monthly**  
No Initiation or Process Fee



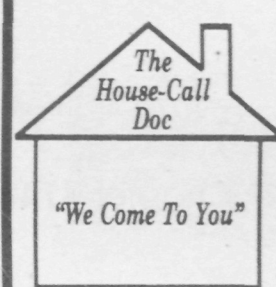
30-Minute Workout  
for Women

Improve  
muscle tone &  
cardio fitness

Rosemary Holt, PROPRIETOR  
Vicky Kiczula, CO-MANAGER  
Nancy Pasternak, STAFF MEMBER  
Melissa O'Connor, STAFF MEMBER  
Amy Leso, STAFF MEMBER

**2601 Hamilton Boulevard**

(Between Home Depot & Durham Ave. 1 Block from the Car Wash)



Phone: (908) 755-2289  
Cell: (908) 581-3610  
E-Mail: SoPlfdDoc@aol.com

**Aiello**  
Chiropractic Center, P.C.  
Dr. Patrick M. Aiello, D.C.

**Under New Management! GRAND REOPENING**  
**OPEN M-S 8-8, Sun 8-7**

**Lowest Prices  
Highest Quality  
Large Assortment**



**Fresh!**

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

**GREAT FARMERS MARKET**

1620 Park Avenue (formerly Acme) South Plainfield

**FREE**

Extra Large  
Eggs or 5lbs.  
baking potatoes  
Min. purchase \$10-  
PRODUCE ONLY  
Expires 4/30/04

**\$3 Off**  
Purchases  
Over \$30  
Produce Only  
Expires 4/30/04

908-769-4144



## Recreation Trip to Italy

The Recreation Dept. is sponsoring a nine day classic Italy tour from March 6-14, 2005. Sightseeing tours to the Vatican, Ancient Rome, the Trevi Fountain and more. Per person is \$1,699 including airfare. A valid US passport is required. For more information, call Recreation at (908) 226-7713.

# Events

## Suburban Woman's Club Yard Sale

April 17

The Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield will hold a yard sale on Saturday, April 17 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the American Legion Hall on Oak Tree Road.

There will be something for every one, including a bake sale!

Proceeds to benefit local charities and the club's annual scholarship fund.

## Rainbow Academy Plans Open House

April 17

Rainbow Academy Child Care Center, 2177 Oak Tree Rd., will hold an Open House on Saturday, April 17, 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](http://www.rainbowacademy.com).

## AARP Chapter 4144 Meeting

April 19

South Plainfield AARP Chapter #4144 will meet at the Senior Center on Monday, April 19 at 12:30 p.m. the speaker will be Sy Larson, who will discuss the new prescription plan as laid out by the Bush administration.

## Winter Guard Fundraiser at Wendy's

April 19, 21, 22

The SPHS Winter Guard is holding a fundraising event at the Wendy's in South Plainfield on April 19, 21 and 22. Please stop by and purchase a meal between 5-8 p.m. on these evenings and Wendy's will donate 20% of the gross sales to the Winter Guard.

Please note that you must mention the Winter Guard when placing your order.

For additional information, please call (908) 791-0294.

## South Plainfield Republican Meeting

April 21

The regular monthly meeting of the South Plainfield Republican Organization will be held on Wednesday, April 21, at the American Legion Hall on Oak Tree Rd. The meeting will begin at 8 p.m.

All residents of the borough are invited to attend to meet council candidates Marge Reedy, Ray Rusnak, and Bob Jones and discuss any borough issues and concerns.

## Pilgrim Covenant Learning Ctr. Open House

April 24

Pilgrim Covenant Learning Center, Inc., 3121 Park Ave. will hold an open house on Saturday, April 24, 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.

The Learning Center, a state certified school with over 30 years of experience in child care, offers a variety of programs for children ages 2½ to 5 years old, both full and part time classes and summer camp.

If you are unable to attend the open house, visit the Learning Center Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. For information, call (908) 756-4879.

## What's happening in APRIL

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 AM-12:30 PM—CREATIVE PAINTING 10AM**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>April 21: NJ Office of Unclaimed Property will be on hand to explain lost or forgotten assets just waiting to be claimed, 1pm</b> <b>May 26: Hunterdon Hills Playhouse "Everyone Loves Opal"</b>				
<b>EVENTS</b> Adult Crafts 9:30 Yoga 10:30am Drawing Class 11:30am AARP Meeting 12:30pm	Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social Group 10am Lunch Available Computer Class 12-2pm	Exercise 8:45-9:45 Line Dancing 10-11am Movie Time 11:30am AARP Crafts 1pm Computer Class 11am-1pm Speaker at 1p.m. Unclaimed Property	Weekly Shopping 15 Pathmark 9am Practical Crafting 10-11am Pinochle Club 1pm	Meditation Group 9am 16 Bingo 10am-2pm Pizza Lunch available Bridge Club 12:30pm. Men's Forum Steering Committee Meeting
19 Adult Crafts 9:30 Yoga 10:30am Drawing Class 11:30am AARP Meeting 12:30pm	20 Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social Group 10am Lunch Available Computer Class 12-2pm	21 Exercise 8:45-9:45 Line Dancing 10-11am Movie Time 11:30am AARP Crafts 1pm Computer Class 11am-1pm Speaker at 1p.m. Unclaimed Property	22 Weekly Shopping Pathmark 9am Practical Crafting 10-11am Pinochle Club 1pm	23 Meditation Group 9am Bingo 10am-2pm Pizza Lunch available Bridge Club 12:30pm.
TO SIGN UP FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER, VISIT THE CENTER.				

## Historical Society Reunion Sunday

April 25

South Plainfielders! Renew old friendships and reminisce of times gone by at "Reunion Sunday" on April 25 from 1-4 p.m. The "Reunion Sunday" is sponsored by the South Plainfield Historical Society. It will be held at the South Plainfield Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave. Light refreshments will be available and there is no admission fee. All are welcome. Don't worry—there's ample parking!

## Columbiettes Annual Fashion Show

April 25

The Columbiettes will hold the annual charity spring fashion show on Sunday, April 25 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 334 Hamilton Blvd. Doors will open at 12:30 p.m.

Fashions will be by Dress Barn and Dress Barn Woman, both in South Plainfield. The luncheon will be provided by Catering By Carole in Edison. Cost is \$20.

Reservations can be made by calling Geri at (908) 753-2032. Deadline is April 22.

## AARP Chapter 4144 Trips Announced

April 28-29

There are still tickets for the overnight trip to the Delaware Racetrack, Three Little Bakers and Atlantic City for April 28 and 29. Cost is \$160 for double occupancy, which covers all expenses, including transportation from South Plainfield. Call Lee at (732) 968-6613 for details and reservations.

## Fire Department Plans Bingo Fundraiser

April 30

The South Plainfield Fire Department will be holding a fundraiser on Friday, April 30 starting at 7:30 p.m. The event takes place at Sacred Heart School.

The bingo will help to support the new Firefighters Memorial, honoring all of its members. The memorial is going to be constructed on Plainfield Ave. next to the Senior Center.

For information, call (908) 756-4761.

## Education Foundation Art Auction

May 1

The South Plainfield Education Foundation will hold their annual art auction on May 1 at SPHS. Preview is 6:30-7:30 p.m. Auction begins at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$5. Tickets are available at the door. There will be refreshments served.

The auction will be presented by Ross Galleries from New York. They also have celebrity signed items that will be brought by special request—signed baseballs, record albums and guitars. For special requests, call Marge Reedy, (908) 561-3951.

This year's honorary chairperson is Patrick Diegnan, Legislator from the 18th District.

Come out and join us for a fun evening!

### 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](mailto:ggnan@aol.com).

## Senior Center EVENTS

For information, call (908) 753-ARTS.

## Brookdale Performing Arts Center

April 17-24

The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood will be presented at the Brook Performing Arts Center on April 17, 24 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and April 18, 25 at 2 p.m. Tickets are all \$5.

To make a reservation, call the Box Office at (732) 224-2411.

## Woodbridge Area (WOWS) Social

April 18

Woodbridge Area Widows or Widowers (WOWS) will hold a fund raiser dance/social on Sunday, April 18, 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. All are welcome. Live Band. Refreshments. \$8. Elk's Hall, 655 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. Call (732) 297-1775.

## Decorative Arts Workshop at Olde Towne

April 18

Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission and East Jersey Olde Towne Village, 1050 River Road, Piscataway announce a Decorative Arts Workshop: Stenciling on April 18 at 2 p.m. The Village presents an interactive workshop with the Historical Society of Early American Decorative Arts. Participants will learn the techniques of stenciling and create paintings on watercolor paper, which will then be affixed to an album that they can take home.

To register for this free event, call East Jersey Olde Towne Village at (732) 745-3030.

## B'nai B'rith Married Couples Meeting

April 18

The B'nai B'rith Ketubah Married Couples Unit (40+) will be meeting for a buffet dinner at the China Buffet, 3005 Highway 35 (Hazlet Plaza) in Hazlet at 6 p.m. on Sunday, April 18. The cost is \$15.25 per person, includes soda, tax and tip. Non-members are welcome to attend. Please RSVP to Elaine at (908) 232-0062 by April 16.

## — Out of Town —

## Circle Players Present Dramey

April 16-30

*The Cripple of Inishmaan*, a dramedy by Martin McDonagh, opens at Circle Players, the community theater of Piscataway, on Friday, April 16, directed by Gordon Wiener.

Performances are Fridays, April 16, 23 and 30; Saturdays, April 17, 24 and May 1 at 8 p.m. Sunday matinees are April 18, and 25 at 3 p.m.

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

## Art and Photography Exhibition

April 16, 17 and 18

The Edison Arts Society is pleased to present its third year of "The Gardens of the Garden State," a unique collaboration between gardeners and artists. This juried exhibition will be held at the Center Court of Menlo Park Mall on Friday, Apr. 16, 6 to 9 p.m., Saturday, Apr. 17, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday, Apr. 18, noon to 4 p.m. A reception and awards ceremony will be held on Sunday at 2 p.m.

## 2004 GOLDEN GLOVE FINALS

All bouts sanctioned by: NJ Association of USA Boxing Inc.



Doors Open at 7 pm  
Bouts Start at 8 pm

Friday ~ April 16, 2004

South Plainfield High School

200 Lake Street, South Plainfield, NJ

General Admission ~ \$12.00

GOLDEN RINGSIDE \$ 75.00

includes DINNER AT 5:00 PM

at Flanagan's Restaurant

2501 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ

For Tickets or Reservations Call

(908) 226-7663 or (908) 753-1341

Ticket purchase includes a chance to win a 51" Big Screen TV

Sponsored by The South Plainfield PBA Local 100

## Hot & Cold CATERING

BEST

BEST

BEST

Quality

Service

Value

CALL US TO ARRANGE YOUR PARTY!

BUY ONE  
6" HERO  
GET 2<sup>ND</sup> ONE  
\$.99¢  
Valid thru 4/23/04

\$5.00  
OFF ANY  
CATERING  
ORDER  
OVER \$50  
Valid thru 4/23/04

"Quality Food For  
Everyday Heroes"

HOMETOWN  
HEROS

340 Hamilton Blvd.,

(908) 755-HERO (4376)

OPEN 7 DAYS





Members of the South Plainfield Fire Department, Police Chief Robert Merkler and Councilman Dennis Cerami (far right) accept donations from Mark Zelff on behalf of the Sons of American Legion.

## Sons of American Legion Support Scholarships and Local Organizations

The Sons of the American Legion's golf outing, held last September, was extremely successful. The outing raised \$3,200; \$1,000 was placed in the SPSHS scholarship fund to support \$500 scholarships for two SPSHS seniors. The Legion has also donated \$200 each to the fire department, the rescue squad and to PBA 100.

The Sons of the American Legion would like to thank the following individuals and companies for their sup-

port: J.T. Penyak, Michael Quigley, Foster & Company, Inc., Chaumont Post 243, Allied Bldg. Products, STK Electric, Conover-Beyer Associates, So. Plainfield PBA Local 100, Golden Mortgage Corp., Hoffman Tire, Plainfield Roofing, Bradco Supply, Mateyka Electric, Ashley's Woodworking, Spark-a-Matic Welding, Brad Bullard, JPRC INC Liquid Assets, the Catalini Family, Vail Hardware, the O'Brien Family,

Plainfield Animal Hospital, Polish National Home, Santoro & Santoro, the Boyle Family, J.T. Penyak Roofing, DeRose & Kuchinski, R&S Seamless Gutter, Importico, Richard Rembert, Jr., Jafco, Hole in One International, Pinto Disposal, S.A.L. Squadron 243, the Zelff Family, the Moran Family, Flanagan's Pub, Central Jersey Holistic Health, and Big Ed's.

## Friends of the Woods Walks 'n' Talks Programs

Friends of the Woods at Highland Woods Environmental Education Reserve brings you the 2004 Free Walks 'n' Talks Programs

**Saturday, April 17—Trail Maintenance from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.** Meet at the main gate on Sylvania Place. Please bring rake or shovel, pruners, wheelbarrow. Pizza and soda served at Borough Hall at noon. Rain date April 24.

**Saturday, May 1—Wildflower Walk at 1 p.m.** Take a guided walk through Highlands Woods to view the wide array of native wildflowers and other botanical species. Meet at Sylvania Pl. gate. Rain date is May 2.

**Saturday, May 8—Birdwatching: South Plainfield Style at 7:30 a.m.** Amateur and experienced birders will enjoy this car caravan to birding

sites in South Plainfield. Meet in the parking lot at Putnam Park off Oak Tree Ave. We'll look for spring warblers here and across the street in the open space behind the A&P. From here our choices are: Tompkins Ave. open space tract, Veterans Park, Spring Lake Park, Highlands Woods and the fringes of the Dismal Swamp. Bring binoculars. Rain date is Sunday, May 9.

## Business Association to Sponsor Golf Outing

The South Plainfield Business Association is sponsoring their 7th Annual Golf Outing on Tuesday, May 4 at Cranbury Gold Club in West Windsor.

Entry fee includes the 18-hole event; use of locker room, greens, fees and cart; continental breakfast; complimentary beverage cart; hot dog chips "at the turn"; open bar (beer, wine and soda) and a BBQ luncheon.

Casual attire. No metal spikes are to be worn on the greens.

Prizes will be awarded for hole-in-one prize, the longest drive, closest to the pin (two holes), low gross, low net and the most honest golfer.

The day starts with the registration and a continental breakfast at 8 a.m. Shotgun start begins at 9 p.m. and the open bar begins at 2 p.m. The

BBQ luncheon starts at 2:30 p.m. and the day comes to a close with the 3:30 p.m. award ceremony.

The entry fees are as follows: Corporate: Eagle (includes foursome/flag/tee)-\$1,000, Birdie (includes twosome/tee)-\$500; Corporate Underwriter: Breakfast Sponsor-\$250, Beverage Cart Sponsor-\$250, Flag 1st and 18th Green-\$175, Flag 2nd-17th Green-\$125 and Tee Sign-\$100.

RSVP by April 18. For info, call Bob Longo at (908) 753-7004 or Ed Koznowicz at (908) 754-8900.

## Ponytail Assoc. College Scholarships Applications Avail.

The Parents Ponytail Asso. is sponsoring three \$500 college scholarships. Applications are being accepted and may be obtained from the SPSHS guidance office. To qualify, the applicant must be a high school senior graduating this June, a current resident of South Plainfield, and must have played for a minimum of four years for the Ponytail Softball League. To qualify for the Ponytail All-Star scholarship, applicants must have played for a minimum of four years and the Ponytail All-Stars for a minimum of three years. All-Star players may apply for both the recreation and All-Star scholarships, however, a player is eligible to receive only one scholarship. Refer to the application for details.

Filing deadline is May 7. Mail applications to SPPPA Scholarship, P.O. Box 441, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or return to SPSHS guidance office in envelope labeled "SPPPA Scholarship." Verification of school enrollment is required prior to funds being awarded.

For information, contact Public Relations Officer James Bishop at (908) 757-2549.

From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

### National Library Week Will Be Observed April 18-24

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April. It's a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. All types of libraries—school, public, academic and special—participate.

This year, the Allied Professional Association of the American Library Association (ALA-APA) will sponsor the first-ever National Library Workers Day on Tuesday, April 20, during National Library Week (April 18-24). The purpose is to recognize all library workers, including librarians, support staff and others who make library service possible every day.

The message of National Library Workers Day is "Libraries Work Because We Do!" Stop in to the library this week to chat with the staff. While there, complete the library's survey.

#### New Jersey Libraries Fact Sheet

- New Jersey Public Libraries (from the NJ State Library's 2002-2003 Annual Plan)
- Attendance - 41,970,399
- Reference Questions - 7,495,219
- Circulation - 51,396,103
- Program Attendance - 2,808,912
- Statewide Summer Reading (from the NJ State Library's 2002-2003 Annual Plan). New Jersey's children read 1,497,657 books in the summer of 2002.

#### Have You Started Reading Yet?

*One Book New Jersey* (OBNJ) is an exciting program that libraries and their partners across the state will promote—again—in 2004.

The goal is to bring people together through literature by encouraging them to read the same book and participate in discussions and other events centered on that book. OBNJ celebrates reading, literacy and all that New Jersey's libraries do.

Local and statewide events will occur during April 2004, with major events planned for National Library Week, April 18 through 24.

New Jersey's librarians have selected these books for OBNJ 2004:

*The Pine Barrens*, by New Jersey's own John McPhee, is the Adult Selection;

*The Body of Christopher Creed*, by Carol Plum-Ucci, also a native New Jerseyan, is the Young Adult Selection;

*Because of Winn Dixie*, by Kate DiCamillo, is the Middle Reader's Selection; and

*How The Cat Swallowed Thunder*, by Lloyd Alexander, is the Read-To-Me Selection.

Please visit the South Plainfield Library and be a part of *One Book New Jersey!*

*This week's column was compiled by Allan M. Kleiman, Reference Librarian, South Plainfield Public Library. Visit us on the web at: www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us/*

### Class of 1989 Seeks Members

Attention friends and family members of SPSHS Class of '89! The class reunion is planned for Nov. 27 from 7 p.m. to midnight at the Edison Sheraton.

Please help us by emailing information or for requesting information

about the reunion to [SPHSClass0889@yahoo.com](mailto:SPHSClass0889@yahoo.com).

If you have not sent a deposit, it's not too late. Send your check for \$90 per person to c/o SPSHS Class of '89, P.O. Box 191, So. Plainfield, NJ 07080.

### Sacred Heart Seeks Craft Vendors

The Sacred Heart Home School Association is seeking craft vendors for the Sacred Heart Church Family Carnival May 20 through 24. Table space is \$25 each day for Thursday and Friday and \$50 each day for Saturday and Sunday. Call Kathy Thomas, (908) 755-0891, by May 3 for reservations.

Personalized Handcrafted Items • Boyd's Bears • Village Candles

Custom Creations & Gifts, Inc.

**SPRING** Great Selection of  
ITEMS ARRIVING DAILY! Boyd's Bears

The only place in town for... Great All Inclusive Craft & Ceramic Birthday Parties

24 South Plainfield Ave. 908-755-5060

Boyd's Bears • Village Candles • Personalized Handcrafted Items

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

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

HOUSE CALLS AVAILABLE

300 MAPLE AVE.  
SOUTH PLAINFIELD

(908) 754-8008

The South Plainfield Health Department  
Is Conducting Its Annual

## RABIES CLINIC

At the  
South Plainfield Borough Garage  
(corner of Spicer and Belmont Ave.)  
Dog and Cat Owners are urged to bring  
their pets for inoculation.

Dog & Cat Licenses Will Be Available  
Please Note: Cats must be in a carrier

DATE:  
Saturday, April 24, 2004  
9:00 am-12:00 noon

For More Information Please Call

**226-7631**

**Park Avenue Beauty Supply**  
Specializing in Beauty Care Products & Accessories  
1910 Park Avenue, South Plainfield  
908-222-1616

10% Discount for Licensed Beauticians and Barbers





Stock Market Club Advisor Frank Mikorski pours over the financials with a member of the club.

## Stock Market Club Offers Big Payoff

(Continued from page 1)

Market, NASDAQ Small Cap and/or American Stock Exchanges. Stocks had to be \$5 per share at the start of the game. Over the past month the teams have been tracking the activity of their stocks competing with teams across the state to see which records the greatest gains. The top statewide contender will win \$500 and a trophy for their school. Each Gannett NJ Newspaper will award its local winners, 1st place, \$300, 2nd place, \$200 and 3rd place, \$100. The contest is open to youth in grades 1-12 as well as teachers and administrators. Teams must consist of 3 to 12 people.

In addition to the Gannett competition, the club plans to run their own contest. According to Young, the students will select stocks and then simulate the buy, trade and sell process. They will learn to track the stocks by visiting web sites to obtain information on all the stocks listed on the New York Exchange. The youths will participate in discussions on how to de-

termine if a stock is a good investment based on variables such as risk and performance. They will work to determine if a stock has good growth potential or if it is simply a safe (blue chip) investment. Students will research and analyze their choices and buy, sell or negotiate trades with other students each week. Young said, "Although the boys and girls are only fifth and sixth graders, we feel that the sooner they learn about the world of finance, the more likely they are to see the potential payoff in terms of a strong education and a career and the

potential for tremendous job satisfaction and great financial rewards."

Grant stock market teams are: *Stockees*-Willie Hartman, Christopher Richard and Chris Zwatschka.

*Meteor Dragons*-Matthew Brazza, Arham Jain, Harrison Lee and Jonathan Sukenik.

*Grant Tigers*-Sarah Hageman, Tommy Loalbo, Shawn Parisi and Chris Hoagland.

*South Tigers*- Vickie Esposito, Jessica Gregorio and Katherine Samul

*Moneymakers*- Gib Delacruz, Joseph Ifrach and Eddie Sullivan.

## SPHS Hosts Genetic Update Conference

By Jane Dornick

Renowned genetic specialist Dr. Sam Rhine held a one day conference in the South Plainfield High School auditorium on April 5. AP and Honors Biology students and teachers from the high school and several schools throughout New Jersey attended this special event which featured topics such as embryology, cloning, stem cells and twinning.

The conference is designed to teach the latest in genetic advances, hot research areas and career opportunities and pose ethical dilemmas students will face as technological advances continue. Dr. Rhine also travels around the country teaching about prevention of birth defects and AIDS awareness. He has an BA, MA and Doctorate from Indiana Univer-



Dr. Sam Rhine

sity, is a Harvard Medical School Lalor Foundation Fellow, and has received numerous honors and awards for his speaking. The high school was honored to have hosted such a prestigious gentleman.

## Medicine Shoppe Joins the Fight Against Osteoporosis

The incidence of osteoporosis is significant, affecting more than 25 million Americans. As life expectancy increases, more of the population enters the age group that is most prone to disease. It is a painful disease that cripples and deforms. Osteoporosis is costly, with annual costs estimated at \$13.8 billion in the United States.

That's why the Medicine Shoppe has begun an Osteoporosis Awareness Initiative and will offer bone density

scans with state-of-the-art bone mineral density testing equipment. An Osteoporosis Screening will be held on April 22 at 144 Maple Ave. (across from the Volunteer Fire Dept.), from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The cost for a bone density test is \$20. The test is quick (under five minutes), painless and accurate.

There are 1.3 million osteoporosis related fractures per year in the USA. Of those, 250,000 are fractures of the

hip. Of hip fractured patients, 15 to 25% need to enter long-term care institutions shortly after the fracture. Loss of estrogen production is the major risk factor for most women. However, there are other important risk factors about which the public should be aware. There are no reliable early warning signs of osteoporosis.

For more information, call the Medicine Shoppe at (908) 754-0707.

## U.S. Factory Outlets to Anchor Golden Acres

U.S. Factory Outlets will replace the former Bradlees as the anchor store in the Golden Acres Shopping Center. The opening in May will be part of four new stores for the year. Other new stores are Chambersburg, PA, Kokomo, IN and Bristol, TN.

Established in 1983, USFO operates stores in 15 other states. It offers manufacturer closeouts and other items at discount of 40 to 80 percent off department store prices. The merchandise mix of hard goods and apparel are targeted at customers to whom savings are important.

"USFO carries a very exciting assortment of merchandise and the prices are even more exciting," said USFO chairman and CEO Frederic Raiff. "We have a constant flow of goods from manufacturers looking to liquidate their stock. One week a customer might see ladies' sportswear at a tremendous price—next week, it's videotapes. It's a fun shopping experience," he said. While the stores carry many national and regionally-known labels, "we're a value-oriented, not a

label-oriented store," said Raiff.

The store opening supervisor is William Hambrick, who will be assisted by Dale Tolbert.

In another update on the mall's progress, Polimeni Realty has noted that a billiards/ family center may open

in part of the remaining building. An 8000-square-foot entertainment business would house billiards as well as games, party rooms and a food counter. The entrance would be off of Case Drive. The remaining part of the building has yet to be filled.

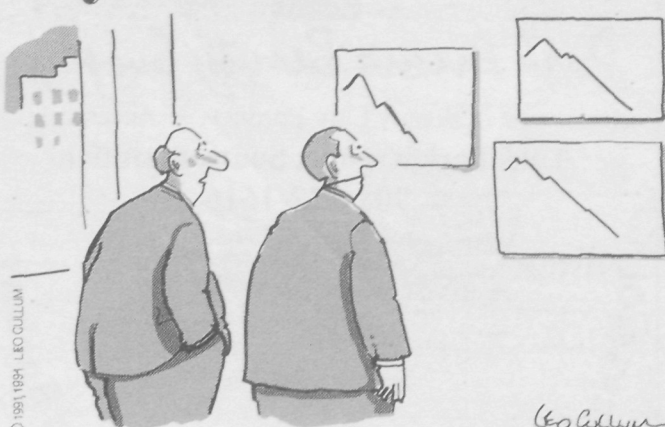


Forty-one South Plainfield Girl Scout Troops recently participated in the Girl Scout cookie fundraiser. They sold 18,845 boxes of cookies, almost one box per South Plainfield resident! Troop leaders (l to r) are Diane Conroy, Michele Billich, Maria Perry, Denise Werner and Linda Skelly.

## South Plainfield Class of 84 Reunion

If you are member of the SPHS Class of 1984 and would like to attend the 20 year reunion, please contact Reunions Unlimited, Inc. at (732) 617-1000.

## Concerned about the direction of your business?



**Advertise in the Observer.**  
**Call 908-668-0010 for rates.**

## SPHS Winter Guard Wildwood Trip Gets OK'd

The SPHS Winter Guard will compete in Wildwood later this month, but the trip will not be entirely funded by the BOE as the group has asked.

The Guard had asked the BOE to pay for transportation and lodging costs, but the board voted to pay only for the cost of transportation. BOE member Mike English voted 'no' on both counts, saying that other organizations raise funds throughout the year to pay for trips and it wouldn't be fair to them. The BOE has paid for lodging for wrestlers who compete in Atlantic City, but cheerleading and bands fund their own trips.

The vote for paying the cost of transportation was 8-1 in favor; the vote for lodging was very close, 5-4, against providing the funding.

## SPRING FLOWERS AVAILABLE

Lilies~Carnations~Tulips

All Planters, Bamboo & Cut Flowers On Sale!

\$10 Off \$100 & Up \$5 Off \$50 & Up

Park Avenue Flowers, Inc.

1620 Park Ave, South Plainfield 908-561-4300

GREAT FARMERS MARKET

Special Orders Welcome

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

We Specialize in No Cost Refinancing  
Free Pre-Qualifications

Purchases • Refinance • Debt Consolidation

Past Credit Problems Understood

No Income Verification Loans

Borrow up to 125% of Value • Loans

Mixed Use and Commercial Properties



Se Habla Espanol

**908-822-0090**

2325 Plainfield Ave. Suite 2E South Plainfield, NJ





Over 500 diners attended the annual Lions Palm Sunday Gourmet Breakfast. The event, featuring breakfast made to order, drew a record number of visitors.



**Your #1 Source for South Plainfield News**

Assemblyman David W. Wolfe,  
District Office: 852 Hwy. 70, Brick,  
NJ 08724 (732)-840-9028 email:  
AsmWolfe@njleg.org.

Second place winners were Mrs. Hepburn's, "The Mysterious Six"—

## A black and white photograph of a classroom scene. A teacher stands on the right, facing a group of students seated at desks. The room is filled with bookshelves and educational materials.

Good luck "Dropouts!"



Boy Scouts from Troop #243, sponsored by St. Stephens Church, attended a recent Borough Council meeting. Last month Mayor Dan Gallagher paid a visit to their troop meeting as part of the scouts' efforts to earn the Citizenship in the Community Badge. Pictured are Mark Sprenger, Chris Sesselberg, Nick Whitney, Jim Nagy, Scott Suleski, Joseph Fugazzi and Mayor Dan Gallagher.



**NOW ACCEPTING  
NEW PATIENTS**

Birch Pointe Commons • 3840 Park Ave., Suite 102, Edison  
**(732) 549-9049**

• NO OBLIGATION •

# Weichert

Referral Associates  
CO. INC.

 "A COMPANY ON THE MOVE" 

1625 STATE ROUTE 10  
MORRIS PLAINS, NJ 07950



Junior Journalist Kathrine Podlovits, with parents Robert and Karen and sister Kara, receives dinner from Debbie and Charlie Kurland of Hometown Heros.

**PICK UP THOSE PENS  
& ENTER TODAY!**

"A COMPANY  
ON THE MOVE



## IN YOUR OPINION

(Continued from page 2)

the finances of this district. I hope you will join me!

**DAWN JEFFERYS**

### To the Editor,

Last night, I learned on Lou Dobbs Tonight that over 25% of the jobs that are outsourced required the American worker to train their replacement. The "use of force" is truly repulsive and is being done by threatening to take away pensions and other compensation. No American should be humiliated in such a manner. The psychological damage alone can crush a person. When is our government going to take action against such outrages? In addition, this is compelling proof that "training" is not the answer. These workers were more qualified than the replacements they were forced to train.

**ROBERT J. SCARDAPANE**

### Dear Observer:

The Almost Famous Players would like to thank all who attended and supported their first coffeehouse. The successful event was attended by over 75 people of all ages. Performing were local residents Justina Carubia, Steve Ambielli, Abbie Falato, Chris Abbott, Joe Rodriguez, Eve Barkalow, Tim Barkalow and Dave Sala from Pennsylvania. MCs for the evening were Vinnie Carubia and Marie Lombardi. The success is due in part to the hard work of Almost Famous Players Board members and volunteers: Dan and Patty Nigro, Patti, Bob and Eric Ambielli, John Bundy, Kaitlin Bundy, Rachel and Damian Henderson, Kathy Winner, Dee and Roy Carubia, Marissa Kline, Dave Garatino and Jesse Colby. In between sets a check was presented to the South Plainfield Fire Department in appreciation for providing light trucks during the Putnam Park show. Without their assistance the show would not have taken place.

Proceeds from the coffeehouse will fund the group's Haunted Woods Tour 2004 show. Numerous local businesses and residents generously provided donations and gift certificates for door prizes. Almost Famous Players Board would like to thank Debbie and Bob Boyle, William P. Simonitis, Esq., of L.L.C. Scotch Plains, Ciccio's Pizza, Captain Wonka's, Hometown Heros, SPHS Players, Joan Abbott, Pizza Stop, Charlie's Ice Cream, Bella Grotta Pizza, Travis Lanuui, George and Maryann Alemezohu, South Plainfield Observer and

Maureen Rivers.

The group is currently scouting out a new location for their second annual Halloween Show. They are also seeking an accountant to donate services so that the group can officially become a tax exempt and non-profit organization. Plans for 2004 include additional coffeehouse events, donations to the fire department and rescue squad as well as starting a theater arts scholarship.

A special thank you to Recreation Director Mike English for believing in Almost Famous and offering us this opportunity.

**PATRICIA ABBOTT, FOUNDER & PRESIDENT, ALMOST FAMOUS**

### To the Editor

There were two public meetings scheduled by the Board of Education on the proposed budget. One meeting had two members of the public present including myself and at the last meeting two individuals addressed the budget proposal. The poor attendance was probably the result of changes in originally scheduled dates.

There are a number of issues in the proposed budget you should be aware of. A review of the proposed line item expenditure clearly reflects that increases are primarily allocated to salary and benefit costs. To put it simply, increases are to cover the costs of the Union agreement negotiated effective 7/1/03. You may recall those increases were 4.9%, 4.5% and 4.45% over three years. The line items for benefits from 3/04 and 4/05 proposed budget included significant increases in benefit costs. Yet in negotiations there were no changes in plan design to help absorb these cost increases. Contrast these increases with other budget line items.

We know that over the last few years gasoline, oil, maintenance of vehicles and insurance costs have increased, yet the proposed transportation budget is less than that last year and even lower than two years ago. The operations and maintenance budget as proposed is less than last year and again lower than two years ago. Realistically, have your energy and home maintenance costs been lower the last two years?

The line item for capital outlay is 0. Go back to past budgets. I went back through 1994 to 2004. There has never been a year which did not include outlays which are used to protect the integrity of the physical plant, facilities and replacement of equipment. The proposed capital outlay budget ignores recommendations for

facilities improvement plan approved by the state. You know as well as I do that realistic budgets should include funds for capital outlay.

The proposed amount of local tax levy dedicated to current expense is \$32,564,229 as opposed to 3/04 of \$30,802,735, an increase of \$1,761,494, or about 10 tax points. However, the impact to this budget is reduced to six tax points due to the changes, which I believe are unrealistic, in the transportation, operations maintenance and capital outlay line items. In addition, the debt service portion of the tax rate is reduced from \$1,037,237 to \$408,175, or four tax points. This reduction is possible because the previous board refinanced the outstanding Certificates of Participation issued in 1992. This refinancing reduced interest costs to 3.8% from 6.5% and also reduced the principal amount outstanding.

This budget proposes the use of \$900,000 in surplus on the assumption that this year's budget will produce a surplus. Look at the record of budget performance to date. The district's own reports on account detail expenditures as of 1/31/04 reflect a spending pattern on a budget adjusted basis of \$44,775,389 whereas the approved budget was and is \$42,771,797. When asked how this type of spending pattern could produce a \$900,000 surplus, I was told it would be there. How? I don't know, do you?

This proposed budget with increases in salary and benefit line items were designed and dedicated to those costs at the expense of the other lines mentioned earlier. Bear in mind failure to adequately provide funding for significantly essential and important components of our district's operations is a mistake. What it really does is postpone these costs to some future dates.

When the budget was introduced, a board member stated that this proposed tax increase is less than last. What was not mentioned was that last year's budget, which was approved, included a capital outlay of \$1,402,727, with \$900,000 dedicated and allocated to improve traffic safety for our children with improved parking and changes in traffic patterns at our elementary schools and the balance to meet other district equipment needs.

You can ask and judge for yourself. Does the proposed budget meet the operational needs of the district? I don't believe it does.

**FRANK A. MIKORSKI**

## southplainfieldpeople Milestones

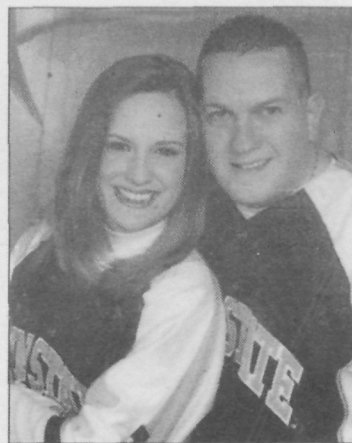
### Tricia Kross to Wed Kenneth Palmer

Edward Kross of Bound Brook and Nancy Brown of North Brunswick are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Tricia Dorothy Kross, to Kenneth Richard Palmer of South Plainfield. The grooms parents are Virginia Palmer of South Plainfield and the late Richard Palmer.

The bride is a graduate of The College of New Jersey in Trenton and is employed as an English teacher with the Sayerville Board of Education.

The groom is a graduate of Penn State University and is a senior editor at The Giant Insider in Rochester, N.Y. Ken is also a freelance journalist.

A July 4, 2004 wedding is planned.



Tricia Dorothy Kross and Kenneth Richard Palmer

### Local Police Lieutenant Appointed to Governors Commissioner

The NJ Senate recently confirmed the appointment of South Plainfield Police Lt. Michael E. Grenier to the 9-1-1 Commission by Governor Jim

McGreevey. Grenier has been a member of the police department for more than 20 years and is the police liaison to Emergency Management.



Tiger Den 5 and Bear Den 9 of Riley Pack 224 toured the South Plainfield Police Department where they learned the importance of the 911 system, toured a jail cell and had an opportunity to talk with the dispatchers. We would like to thank Officers LaMonda and Franchak for organizing the tour and the dispatch personnel for their lesson. Pictured are Officer Franchak, Anthony Austin and Officer LaMonda. Second row: Michelle O'Sullivan, Cesar Fernandez, Joshua Coupe, Christopher Markey and James Markey. First row: Brandon Rickert, John O'Sullivan, Frankie Ferraro and Zachary Henderson.

### Looking for a Volunteer Opportunity?

Free Tutor Training to teach Reading and English as Second Language (ESL). A six week course gives you all the information needed to teach adults. Call LVA-Plainfield at (908) 755-7998 or email [stillman@lvmx.com](mailto:stillman@lvmx.com).

Children's program seeking volunteers to be listeners! Friday mornings 9:30-11 a.m., July 2-Aug. 6. Sit with a young child and support his/her reading skills by smiling and listening! Call Plainfield Public Library at (908) 757-1111 x128.

# Dining Out!

Why Cook? Enjoy one of these local restaurants everyday.

Advertise in the South Plainfield Observer Dining Guide. Choose from a one column (\$180) or two column (\$360) ad that runs for 10 weeks. We will design a custom ad for your business. Also included is a one-time feature with write up & photo.

**Open Daily**

**CAPT. WONKA'S**

**Fish n' Chips**

**ENGLISH & SOUTHERN**

**STYLE FISH, CHIPS**

**& MORE...**

**Tel (908) 222-2025**

**1912 Park Ave. South Plainfield**

**METRO HUT**

**Cheesesteaks & More**

**OPEN MONDAY**

**TO SATURDAY**

**6:30 am-3:00 pm**

**10% Off with this ad**

**409 Hanilton Blvd. • S. Plainfield**

**(908) 222-9595**

**Catering Available ~ We Deliver**

*Come in today & try a freshly made panini sandwich!*

**NOW OPEN !!!**

**SAM'S**

**grille**

*Try our grilled dishes marinated and cooked to tender perfection*

*Feel and taste the difference!*

**GOLDEN ACRES SHOPPING CENTER**

**3600A PARK AVE. SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080**

**Business Hours: Monday to Friday 10 AM to 9 PM**

**Saturday 10 AM to 10 PM Sunday 10 AM to 8 PM**

**TEL (908) 756-9191 FAX 756-7929**

**For information about Dining Out!, call 908-668-0010.**



# Sports

By Lee Flanagan

## JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

Opening Day arrived! Despite the Opening Day weekend that was rained out, SPJBC started play on April 6. There have been some outstanding games this past week. Congratulations to Bobby Sacks and Nick Heilman who clubbed home runs this past week in the Small Fry A League. Let's all see that this season is one of fun and learning for all.

The success of the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club is the result of our unpaid volunteers who have worked throughout the year. All of these volunteers have donated their time during the season as well as in the off season. They deserve credit and thanks for a job well done. Recently Noel Burton, Bob Boyle and Chris Hansen have volunteered their



time and resources for the SPJBC. These individuals and many others have worked hard to make the SPJBC a better place for our kids. A lot of work has been accomplished the last two months at the SPJBC due to tremendous volunteer efforts. Thank you.

Our big Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser is this Saturday, April 17 at Roosevelt School. We will start serving at 5 p.m. This will be a great night for everyone connected to the SPJBC. Adults are, all you can eat, \$7 and kids are \$5. Anthony Celentano is in charge of this fabulous event.

Our mid-month meeting is coming up Monday, April 19, 8:30 pm. Come out and see what's going on at the SPJBC and the "new beginning".

## Wrestling News

By Bob Hunter

## Team New Jersey Wins Middle School National Duals

Team New Jersey captured the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual AAU Middle School National Duals in Des Moines, Iowa. Team New Jersey captured the title by winning nine dual meets and defeating Team Jordan, which is based in Ohio, in the finals. Team Jordan is coached by Olympic Gold Medalist Jeff Jordan, who trains the top youth wrestlers from around the country.

New Jersey knocked off the defending champions in a seesaw battle, 42-40. Team New Jersey members were selected based on their performance at the New Jersey State Tournament. South Plainfield team members included Patrick Hunter (90) and Mark Wagner (130). Team championships and individual national

championships were also at stake. Hunter was 9-0 for the tournament and defeated national champion Brad Squires 7-1 in the finals for first place. Wagner was 8-1 for the tournament and finished in second place.

**In Other Wrestling News...**

South Plainfield Freestyle and Greco Roman wrestlers qualified for the upcoming Middle Atlantic Freestyle and Greco Roman Championships which will be held in Wilmington, Delaware next month.

Qualifying for South Plainfield were Anthony Ashnault, Scott Whalen, Billy Ashnault, Mike Jakubik, Brian Hunt, Patrick Hunter, Jimmy Conroy, Jake Smithline and Mark Wagner.

## SPHS Bowling

BY RALPH FECH

## SPHS Girls' Varsity Bowling Finishes 9th in State

### 2004 Individual Team Summary

Senior Capt. Vicki Boley

High Game 268, High Set 741, Average 196.8/107 Games... ALL STATE ALL GROUPS Star Ledger 1st Team... All Area Home News 1st Team... All All Red Division ...All GMC Conference... NJSIAA Individual 8th in State... Bishop Ahr Holiday (Gold HG 237, Bronze HS 628)... GMC Individual (Bronze 3rd-709)... Central Jersey State Sectional Champion (Gold 694)... New SPHS Record for High Game 268 (Old Record 267, Melissa Jamieson 2002)... New SPHS Record for High Set 741 (Old Record 694, Melissa Jamieson 2002)... 500-200+ games, 13-600+ sets, 2-700+ sets.



Sitting L to R: Lindsay Hunsicker, Angelique, Kim Gaub, Rebecca Dacchille; standing L to R: Coach Ralph Fech, Beverly Jamieson, Shanney Rivers, Capt. Vicki Boley, Coach Lori Gerstl. Not pictured: Anna Ferrer.

Junior-Kim Gaub	High Game 217	High Set 548	Average 99 Games 158.6
Sophomore-Beverly Jamieson	High Game 226	High Set 550	Average 99 Games 153.5
Sophomore Angelique Rualo	High Game 191	High Set 483	Average 92 Games 137.5
MOST IMPROVED			
Sophomore Lindsay Hunsicker	High Game 171	High Set 456	Average 81 Games 128.5
Sophomore Anna Ferrer	High Game 180	High Set 434	Average 42 Games 115.1
Junior Shannen Rivers	High Game 149	High Set 378	Average 32 Games 100.0
Freshman Rebecca Dacchille	High Game 160	High Set 412	Average 21 Games 132.7
ROOKIE OF THE YEAR			

### Tournament Summary

Westfield Invitational	5th out of 14 teams	Central Jersey Winter Classic	12th out of 35 teams
Joe Romer Memorial	8th out of 20 teams	Central Jersey State Sectionals	4th out of 31 teams
Bishop Ahr Holiday Classic	5th out of 26 teams	NJSIAA All Groups Final	9th out of 15 teams

Voted GMC Red Division Sportsmanship Award - Overall Record (17-9-1) Includes 16 Shutout Wins

### Our Lady Of Czestochowa R.C. Church

807 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield

#### MASS SCHEDULE

Daily at 8am except Wednesdays  
Wed. eves. with homily 7:30pm-Rev. Edward Struzik

Regular Weekend Schedule:  
Saturday evenings 5:30pm  
Sunday mornings 8am and 11am

### NOW OPEN!

## Stepping Stones

### LEARNING CENTER

4001 Hadley Road - Suite F, South Plainfield, NJ  
(Located down the road from Kmart)

**Enroll Now 908-755-9669**

- Ages 2½-5 years
- State-licensed, Certified, Experienced Staff
- Full or Half Day Sessions
- Full Day Kindergarten with Before & After School Care
- Nursery School Program for 3 & 4 Year Olds
- Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum
- Cold Breakfast and Snacks are Included
- Large Indoor and Outdoor Play Areas

**Open Year Round 7AM-6PM (Mon.-Fri.)**

A

B

C

1

2

3

## Find Your Way.

Follow the ups and downs of the borough in the Observer, an independent newspaper for the residents and businesses of South Plainfield exclusively.

Send a check or money order for \$25/one year (out-of-town-\$30) to: South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or call 908-668-0010 to pay by credit card.

**We now accept VISA and Mastercard**

☒ I would like home delivery of the Observer.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD NO. (MC OR VS) \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_



## Obituaries

### Robert Y. Strang Jr., 81

Robert Y. Strang Jr. of Sarasota, Fla., formerly of South Plainfield, died Thursday, April 8, at Sarasota Memorial Hospital after several months of declining health.

Born March 9, 1923 in Munhall, Pa., Mr. Strang was the son of the late Robert Y. Strang Sr. and the late Elizabeth Barber Strang. He retired from Teledyne Firth Sterling in 1980 as a district sales manager after 38 years of service and had also worked as a ranger at the Palm Aire Golf and Country Club in Bradenton, Fla. for several years. He was a charter member of the South Plainfield Elks Club.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Jean Crawford Strang; a son, Robert C. Strang and his wife Susan of Salisbury, NC; a daughter, Janice Fleming and her husband David of Nashville, Tenn.; a sister, Roberta Earley of Pittsburgh, Pa.; four grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

A celebration of his life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorial donations to the American

Cancer Society, 600 US Highway 301 Blvd., West Bradenton, FL 34205 or the American Heart Association 2975 Bee Ridge Rd., Sarasota, FL 34239.

### Robert P. Tucceri, Sr., 74

Robert P. Tucceri, Sr., died on Tuesday, April 6 at Victoria House in Matawan.

He was born in Medford, Mass., grew up and resided in Massachusetts before entering the United States Air Force in 1948. Upon his separation in 1952 after his service during the Korean conflict, he resided in Piscataway for several years before settling in Hazlet.

Mr. Tucceri was a self-employed home improvement contractor, operating Bob's Lifetime Aluminum of Piscataway.

He was a former member of the Arbor Rescue Squad and the Arbor Fire Department, both of Piscataway.

He is predeceased by a son, Richard Tucceri, who died in 1992.

Surviving are his fiancé and best friend, Ann Cogliano; two daughters,

Debra Templeton of Parlin and Denise Beattie of Annandale; two sons, Bob Tucceri, Jr. of Piscataway and Ronald Tucceri of North Carolina and a brother, Gene of Massachusetts.

Also surviving are six grandchildren, Jesse Templeton, Anthony Tucceri, Robert Tucceri, Jennifer Beattie, Carlos Domingues and Ryan Beattie.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

### Margaret "Ollie" Burr (nee Thomas), 84

Margaret "Ollie" Burr (nee Thomas) died on Tuesday, April 6 at the home of her daughter in South Plainfield, following a long illness.

She was born on October 31, 1919 in Brooklyn, NY and grew up there. After WWII, she moved to Plainfield for a brief time before moving to South Plainfield, where she had lived for the past 55 years.

While in New York, Ollie had been a telephone operator and later a line supervisor for NY Telephone, work-

ing in Radio City. After moving to South Plainfield, she had worked for Answer Phone as a line supervisor in Plainfield for a brief time. She then began working as a receptionist for the Plainfield Animal Hospital in South Plainfield which was, at the time, owned by Dr. Lunna. She then worked for 10 years as the office manager for Dr. E.W. Friedlander and finished her career as the office manager for Doctors Weisenreider and Catapano, retiring 15 years ago.

Ollie was a member of the Wesley United Methodist Church in South Plainfield.

Her husband, William H. Burr, Jr., died in 1994. She was also predeceased by four brothers, Bill Thomas, Henry Thomas, Robert Thomas and William Quinn.

Surviving are two children and their spouses, Peggy and David Koury of South Plainfield and William H., III and Mary Burr of Spartanburg, SC; a sister, Ethel McDermott of Boynton Beach, Fla. and by five grandchildren, William H. Burr, IV, Amy Burr, Colleen Burr, Kelly Koury and Katie Koury.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Donations may be made in Ollie's memory to the American Cancer Society New Jersey Division, 846 Main St., Fords, NJ 08818.

### Anne H. Lloyd, 82

Anne H. Lloyd (nee Firstbrook) died Saturday, April 10, at the home of her son Jack in South Plainfield.

Born in Gloucester City, Anne was raised in Plainfield and had lived in South Plainfield for the past 54 years.

She was a former sales clerk for Teppers in Plainfield before her marriage.

She is predeceased by her husband Roland, who died in 1996 and by her brother-in-law, Robert Hummer.

Surviving are her two sons, Jack of South Plainfield and Edward and his wife, Denise, of Union; a sister, Betty Hummer of Bridgewater; a brother, Joseph Harvey of Collingswood and a granddaughter Jennifer.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

## LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey on APRIL 27, 2004 at \*\*\*10:00AM\*\*\* prevailing time in the Council Chambers of the municipal building 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at which time and place bids will be opened and read in public for:

### EMERGENCY STANDBY GENERATOR - FIRE DEPARTMENT

Specifications and other bid information may be obtained at the Municipal Clerk's office in the municipal building at the above address during regular business hours 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Only bidders who have picked up specifications will be allowed to submit bids. All bids must be submitted on the Proposal Forms furnished by the Borough. A bid bond in the form of a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond payable to the BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD in the amount equal to 10% of the highest bid amount, including alternates, if any, but not to exceed \$20,000 and a duly executed Consent of Surety. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c.127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27 et seq.) the New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act, N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.25, Employment on Public Works N.J.S.A. 10:2 EOE, ADA

ATTEST:  
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk  
\$38.50

April 16, 2004

Search Public Notices  
Online at  
[www.publicnotices.com](http://www.publicnotices.com)

Call Us &  
Plan Ahead  
Hillside Cemetery  
Scotch Plains  
908.756.1729

non-profit, non-sectarian  
[www.hillsidecemetery.com](http://www.hillsidecemetery.com)

## Business & Professional Services

### AUTOBODY

**SULLIVAN'S**  
**AUTO BODY**

BodyShop Lic. #02313A

Hours  
Mon-Fri  
8am-5pm

2210 Hamilton Blvd.  
South Plainfield  
New Jersey 07080

908-757-5100  
Fax: 908-757-3105

### AUTO REPAIR/MAINTENANCE

Mon-Fri 8-5  
Bill & Tom  
**C&R Auto**

Complete Foreign & Domestic

Auto & Truck Repair • Tune Ups  
Oil Changes • Shocks & Suspension  
Air Conditioning • Exhaust Systems  
Brakes & Front End

235 Hamilton Blvd. South Plainfield  
908-754-8313  
Fleet Service

### CARPET/FLOORING

Sam the Carpet Man  
**MY WAY**  
**CARPET**

ALL TYPES OF FLOORING

119 Hamilton Blvd. South Plainfield

CALL FOR FREE  
ESTIMATE

(908) 757-3470

### COMPUTERS

Concerned About Computer  
Virus Protection? Home Security?

For advice and installation,  
call Stan Wilkinson at

**ST Computers**

908-769-0709

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

Cell: 732-423-3504

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

### FITNESS CENTERS

**SLIM AND TONE**  
SOUTH PLAINFIELD

30 Minute Workout for Women

**SLIM**  
**AND**  
**TONE**  
30-Minute Workout  
for Women

\$39 Monthly with  
No Initiation Fee!  
Open all day

2601 Hamilton Blvd.  
(between Home Depot  
& Durham Ave.)  
(908) 769-0009

### FURNITURE REPAIRS

**FURNITURE MEDIC**  
"the prescription for damaged furniture"

**Precision**  
**Furniture Repairs**  
**On-Site**

Scratches • Gouges • Pet Damage  
Water Marks • Burns  
Structural Repairs • Broken Joints  
Antique Restoration  
Kitchen Cabinets Refinished  
And MUCH MORE!  
(908) 755-8440

### HEALTH & WELLNESS



**Hua Kang Health Center**

Massage, Acupressure, Reflexology  
Acupuncture • Chinese Herbs • Facial

Licensed Chinese massage therapists and acupuncturists provide experienced Chinese-style services using traditional Chinese medicine methods.

Effective in treatment of various pains, symptoms and body needs.  
Appointments/walk-ins welcome. Open 7 days/week, 9:30am-9pm  
Gift Certificates and Bonus Program available.

We accept credit cards and health insurance.  
1763 Lincoln Highway (Rt. 27) Edison • 732-819-0058  
126 Plainfield Ave. Edison • 732-572-5599  
275 Rt. 18 South, East Brunswick • 732-967-1300

Treat yourself  
at our three  
locations.  
Your satisfaction  
guaranteed.

### MASONRY

**Luigi**  
**BOTTONE**  
**MASONRY**

ALL TYPES OF MASONRY

CALL FOR FREE ESTIMATE  
**732-558-4754**

- Steps/Porches
- Sidewalks
- Brickwork
- Brickpavers
- Patios
- Belgian Block Curbing
- Foundations
- Driveways
- French drains
- Chimneys

### MORTGAGES

FAST APPROVALS...

GREAT RATES...

PERSONALIZED SERVICE...

APPROVAL

Colony Mike Dixon,  
President

Mortgage

Licensed Mortgage Broker - NJ Dept. of Banking

**908-822-0090**

2325 Plainfield Ave. Suite 2E  
South Plainfield, NJ  
Se Habla Espanol

### MORTGAGES

1st 2nd  
MORTGAGE  
BANKER - DIRECT  
LENDER

**1st 2nd**  
**Mortgage Co.**

of N.J. Inc.

Nationwide since 1982

Low Rates, Low Closing Cost,  
Fast Approval

Residential and Commercial Loans,  
Call for Free Loan Review

(908) 756-0200

MIDDLESEX COUNTY BRANCH:  
300 Maple Ave. • South Plainfield, NJ 07080

### REAL ESTATE



**Prudential**

Rose REALTORS®

Rose Marie Pelton  
REALTOR-ASSOCIATE

South Plainfield Resident  
For Over 39 Years

908-753-4450 X302

Toll Free 800 370-2424

Fax 908-753-0136

RosePelton@att.net



Rose Marie Pelton

Prudential Rose REALTORS®

659 Mountain Boulevard, Watchung, NJ 07069



**Century 21**

Main Street Realty Inc.



**Robert Publik**

Realtor-Associate

Business:

(732) 549-9000 x 358

Evenings:

(908) 755-2709

E-Mail: [bbpb@comcast.net](mailto:bbpb@comcast.net)

OFFICES IN N. EDISON, WOODBRIDGE, COLONIA

2077 Oak Tree Road, Edison, NJ 08820

South Plainfield  
resident for over  
30 years

Business:

(908) 755-5300 x 416

Fax:

(908) 755-5052

Email: [diollob@moriettirealty.com](mailto:diollob@moriettirealty.com)

Web site: [www.moriettirealty.com](http://www.moriettirealty.com)



Bertrand (Bert) DiLollo  
Realtor-Associate

**Century 21**  
**Morietti Realty**

225 Maple Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080



**McCriskin**

**HOME FOR FUNERALS**

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

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

(908) 561-8000



# Classifieds

Deadline to submit classified advertising is Monday, 5 pm  
908-668-0010

Rates: \$11 for 3 lines (min.) \$1 ea. add. line (10% disc. for 4 consecutive insertions).

## HELP WANTED

**NANNY HELP-BABYSITTER HELP** needed for 1-2 days/wk. between 6pm-9pm. References & experience necessary. Call (732) 985-1278.

## HOUSE FOR SALE

**CUSTOM-BUILT RANCH HOUSE** IN South Plainfield for sale by owner. For more information, photos and to contact owner, log onto [www.privateforsale.com](http://www.privateforsale.com). Click onto For Sale by Owner. Click onto Find a Home. In the section View by Ad #, enter 5333 for the listing number and Click View by Ad #.

**EXPANDED RANCH-5 BEDROOMS**, 2½ baths. For information, go to [Foxtons.com](http://Foxtons.com), see #C6456.

## AUTO FOR SALE

**97 DODGE CARAVAN-7 PASSENGER** Auto/AC, PS, PB, cruise control, good cond., Michelin tires. 79,000 miles. Make offer. Call Marilyn (908) 757-8032.

## FOR SALE

**MUST SELL-SNAPPER LAWMOWER** with rear bag, runs great. \$125. Vacuum chipper with bag \$200. GE air conditioner 5,000 BTUs \$75. (732) 463-3929.

## MERCHANSIDE FOR SALE

**WAREHOUSE SUPER SALE-TRUCK** loads of brass animals & giftware. Men's Bill Blass & Brooks Bros. designer suits & sports coats & ladies wool coats. 2 for \$100. Coleman tools & lights, pots & pans, office furniture, pallet jacks & shopping carts. Exit 4 off Rt. 287 No. Right at Quick Chek, 161 Helen St. 10 to 7.

## HOME FURNISHINGS FOR SALE

**7 PC. BEDROOM SET-BED, CHEST** dresser & mirror and night stand. New in box. Value \$2600. Sell \$975. (732) 259-6690.

**MATTRESS SET, FULL, NEW IN** plastic. \$100. (732) 259-6690.

## HOME FURNISHINGS FOR SALE

**MATTRESS AND BOX QUEEN DOU-**ble pillow top. New in bags \$149. Can deliver. (732) 259-6690.

**5 PC. BDR SET-NEW IN BOX. LIST** \$1299. Sacrifice \$565. (732) 259-6690.

**BED-KING MATTRESS SET, NEW** in plastic. Sell \$225. (732) 259-6690.

**DINING ROOM SET-CHERRY W/1** pc. hutch, table and chairs, new in boxes. Sell \$825. Can deliver. (732) 259-6690.

## APARTMENT FOR RENT

**3 ROOMS, QUIET & PRIVATE. \$850/**mo. inc. heat, HW, disposal & parking. Req. security & references. Avail. May 1. Call (908) 756-5165. No pets.

## BUSINESS PARTNER WANTED

**ESTABLISHED BEAUTY SHOP** looking for experienced hairdresser as a business partner in South Plainfield. Call (908) 561-2226.

## ENTERTAINMENT

### HAVING A PARTY?

Disc Jockey-So. Plainfield area only. Call Mike, (908) 757-6690

## HOUSEKEEPING

**FOR A HOUSE TO LOOK ITS BEST** put Clean Solutions to the test! \$10/room. Call Terri (908) 222-1441.

## JETS TICKETS FOR SALE

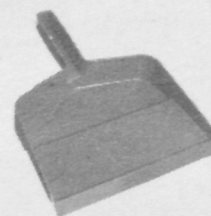
**2 SEASON TICKETS, SEC 321, ROW** 20. \$60 each. Must buy season. Call (908) 754-3420.

## MORTGAGES

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

**Sell Your Used Items Every Friday in the Classifieds**

## Need More Room?



**Get Rid of It All!**

Advertise your garage sale in the Observer.

**908-668-0010**

# Business & Professional Services

To advertise your business here, call 908-668-0010.

## CHIROPRACTOR

### ARE YOU IN PAIN?

Or just looking for a way to maintain overall wellness? We can help!! Give us a call!!

### Advanced Chiropractic and Wellness Center

904 Oak Tree Ave., Suite O, South Plainfield, NJ 07080  
**908-561-1777**

Open six days a week!! Flexible office hours!!  
Consultations are always FREE!!  
We Accept Many Major Health Insurance Plans!

## CONTRACTORS

### BUILDER & GENERAL CONTRACTOR

NJ DCA LIC #019771  
Since 1981

### Lordina Builders

**908-753-3850**

ADDITIONS • KITCHENS  
BATHROOMS  
Office Renovations

FREE ESTIMATES

**FREE ESTIMATES**  
**AFFORDABLE MAINTENANCE**

Kitchens  
Bathrooms  
Ceramic Tile  
Masonry  
Carpentry

**REMODELING, RENOVATIONS**  
(908)  
**246-1837**

**ALL HOME REPAIRS**  
NJ STATE CERTIFICATION

## DRIVEWAYS

### WELL DONE DRIVEWAYS

**30% Off Spring Special**

"Paving the Way for the Future"

Free Estimates  
**908-379-4405**  
Cell: (732) 939-9033

Senior Discounts Available

## DRIVEWAY SEALING



**KleenSeal**  
DRIVEWAY SEALING  
**732-321-3699**

## JEWELERS

### CINDY MICHAELS

Jewelers & Gemologists

176 Front Street  
South Plainfield  
908-769-4264

EDWARD J. COLUCCI GEMOLOGIST

Fine Jewelry & Expert Repairs

## CONTRACTORS

Hire a handyman to conquer that "Honey Do" list.

### J.D.L. IMPROVEMENTS

Specializing in small jobs for the home & office.

RELIABLE, FULLY INSURED  
RENOVATIONS-REMODELING  
REPAIRING  
Also specializing in Gas Grill installations  
**908-754-4689**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
South Plainfield J & J Senior Discounts  
Landscaping

- Lawn Maintenance
- Yard Clean Ups
- Mulching • Spring Clean Ups

**908-757-5098**  
Ask for Joe De Biase

## LANDSCAPING

### Silver Creek Landscaping

SOUTH PLAINFIELD

### COMPLETE LAWN MAINTENANCE

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

**908-756-7272**

### Lalaria Landscaping

### SPRING CLEANUP

Leslie Chambers  
Telephone: (908) 917-1668  
Fax: (908) 757-5175

- Fully Insured •
- Affordable and Reliable! •

Lawn Maintenance

## MULCH/TOP SOIL/STONE

Call  **KLK Trucking** for:  
Top Soil, Mulch, Sand, Infield Mix, Decorative & Crushed Stone  
Sanding • Salting • Snowplowing  
Pick up or Deliv., Mon. thru Sat.  
**908-757-4434**  
265 Ryan Street  
South Plainfield

## PAVING/MASONRY

### MARK L. DiFRANCESCO

### PAVING • MASONRY

Driveways • Parking Lots  
Steps • Walkways • Patios  
Pavers • Concrete  
Drainage • Water Proofing

3RD GENERATION  
**908-668-8434**

## PEST CONTROL

**Pest Control**  
Repair Services  
Residential • Commercial

- Inspections
- Monitoring
- Baiting - Trapping
- Damage Repair
- Rodent Proofing Work

(908) 755-3669  
Victor Troiano  
Specializing in Rodent Control

## PRINTING/TYPESSETTING

 **Graphic Design**

- Logos
- Resumes
- Menus

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

## WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

**ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE FOR AS LITTLE AS \$15 PER WEEK.**  
**908-668-0010**

## REAL ESTATE

### Century 21 Moretti Realty



"Nobody knows South Plainfield like Joe Diegnan."

Business: (908) 755-5300 x 315  
Evening: (908) 756-9123  
Email: [DiegnanJ@moretti21realty.com](mailto:DiegnanJ@moretti21realty.com)

Joseph Diegnan REALTOR-ASSOCIATE & LIFETIME So. PLAINFIELD RESIDENT  
225 Maple Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080

## ROOFING

### J.T. PENYAK ROOFING CO.

COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL  
RESIDENTIAL

**908-753-4222**

FAX 908-753-4763

124 CAMDEN AVE.  
SO. PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080

## SHEETROCK/SPACKLE

### FITZ DRYWALL

908-226-0814

### Sheetrock & Spackle

Repairs to New Construction

**Quality Work at Great Prices**

Call Sean at 908-226-0814

## SALON

Let us put you in a new trendy look...  
Specializing in Color, Foils, Haircuts, Wedding Parties

### South Side Salon

Featuring:  
Facials, Massage, Waxing & Nails  
2201 South Clinton Ave.  
South Plainfield **908-753-5115**

## SPIRITS

### Sal's Spirit Shoppe

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

Cavit (1.5 liter)  
Pinot Grigio ..... \$9.99 Mon.-Sat. 9am-1am  
Estate Cellars ..... Sundays  
White Zinfandel (750ml) ..... \$3.49 1am-7pm  
(1.5 liter) ..... \$5.49

Bring in this ad for 10% off on wines



# ***NOW OPEN !!!***

# SAMM'S

grille®

*Try our grilled dishes marinated and cooked to tender perfection.*



*Feel and taste the difference!*



*Sam's Grille, a new restaurant with Philippine cuisine, opened two weeks ago in the space formally occupied by the Goodwill Store in the Golden Acres Shopping Center. Chefs are Karole Yballe and John Aquino (not pictured); waiters/waitresses are Kristen, Stephanie, Marjorie, Jay, John, Rhea, Grace, Paul and Adrienne. Also pictured are the owner's son and daughter, Ralph and Samantha.*

**GOLDEN ACRES SHOPPING CENTER  
3600A PARK AVE.  
SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080**

***Business Hours:***

**Monday to Friday 10 AM to 9 PM**

**Saturday 10 AM to 10 PM**

**Sunday 10 AM to 8 PM**

**TEL (908) 756-9191 FAX 756-7929**