

# South Plainfield Observer

**VOL. 8, NO. 39**

**50 CENTS**

**MAY 14, 2004**



The installation of the Army AH-1 Cobra helicopter draws Memorial Park closer to completion.

## New Addition Lands at Memorial Park

Memorial Park is one step closer to completion with the addition of an Army AH-1 Cobra helicopter. The park will honor those who served in all four armed services, as well as for

police and rescue squad personnel. A clock, donated by Commerce Bank, stands in front of the park. Flags from all branches of the military, Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines,

Coast Guard and Merchant Marine, as well as an American flag and a POW-MIA flag sit in a semi-circle around the centerpiece of the park, and the Veterans Memorial listing the names of veterans who were Borough residents when they served.

The helicopter, which was in service during the Vietnam War, has been at Fort Drum in New York. The helicopter needed to be taken apart into about 30 pieces to be safely transported to South Plainfield.

Trans-American Trucking transported it to town free of charge. Tad and Kaz Dabrowski reassembled it at their business, Action Motors, and then put it on a flat bed and drove it to the site early Friday morning. The Dabrowski brothers have already

*(Continued on page 8)*

## "Project Check Point" This Saturday

Certified safety seat technicians will offer free child seat inspections Saturday, May 15 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the parking lot of Burlington Coat Factory at Middlesex Mall on Hadley Rd. for parents and others traveling with children.

The South Plainfield Police Department and Baby Depot at Burlington Coat Factory have partnered

to keep children safe in the car.

Fingerprinting services will be provided by the South Plainfield Police Department. Face painting and discounted pricing on child safety and booster seats will be available.

In the event of rain, the event will be held at the firehouse on Maple Ave.

For more information call Traffic Safety Dept. at (908) 226-7693.



Gail Campbell and Angelo DeAndrea take a look at a book of old photos from Grant School at the Historical Society's Reunion Sunday. See story page 6.

## CE Students Pocket Over \$139K for College

The South Plainfield Business Association sponsored their seventh annual Business Education Forum Breakfast, which was attended by more than 26 business community leaders and 80 Cooperative Education (CE) students.

The forum is held each year to allow students the opportunity to talk to business leaders and explore various careers and education. Students and business leaders spend time finding out about each other and students receive expert advice on career choices.

This year's forum was dedicated to the memory of Emil Leporino, who was an employer, mentor and business partner with the CE program for 20 years.

The program began with a welcoming speech from CE Student Chairperson, Jeanine Christopher, followed by Steven Bohn, South

Plainfield Board of Education vice president. Guest speakers included Dr. Robert Rosado, superintendent of schools, and assistant VP of Commerce Bank, William Snell.

Christopher explained that she joined the CE Program because she needed advice and help with pursuing her dream career. All of her life, Jeanine has been involved in community service projects and wanted to make it her career. CE coordinator Deidre Falato and Applied Technology Director John Lartaud helped her find the direction she needed, just as they do for all of the students in the program.

Jeanine will be attending Kean University, majoring in Public Administration with an emphasis in non-profit organizations.

Chris Dickerson spoke about choosing the right career. Chris has already

*(Continued on page 8)*



Cooperative Education (CE) student Courtney Krajcik presents a gift to Samuel Ortiz (CE), who recently enlisted in the U.S. Marines.

## Seventh Annual Bike Rodeo Offers Safety, Skills and Sport

On May 22, the South Plainfield Police Department will host a bicycle rodeo in Spring Lake Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. One of the rodeo's features will be an obstacle course, which is presented and conducted by volunteer employees of State Farm Insurance. Proper riding techniques and rules of the road will be emphasized during this phase of the program and an On Bike Skills Development course will be conducted. Helmet-wearing cyclists will negotiate a moderately challenging course of cones to improve their riding abilities.

For cyclists 14 years of age and younger who do not have bicycle helmets, a limited supply of helmets, donated by the South Plainfield Traffic Safety Advisory Commission and the Ferro Corp, will be provided to them. Those participants who wear their own helmet to the rodeo and register their bicycle with the South

Plainfield Police Department will be entered into a drawing to win a new bicycle. Ron Sward, director of Physical Therapy Center of South Plainfield has donated a bicycle for this event.

Safety-oriented literature, supplied by various sources, will be provided to all participants. Halls Fast Motor Freight and Warehouse, Haagen Dazs Ice Cream, Pepsi McCrisky's Home Funerals, Rita's Italian Ice and Freihofer's Baking Company have donated refreshments.

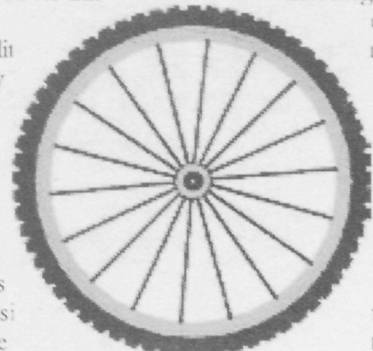
In conjunction with the bicycle safety program, a unique bicycle registration theft prevention program will be available to the public. The "Baron

Von Pedaloff" program, designed by South Plainfield Police Officer William Brink (retired), is specifically designed to reduce bicycle thefts. By encouraging bicycle owners

to register their bicycle and taking anti-theft precautions, we can reduce the amount of bicycle thefts that occur in South Plainfield. "Baron Von Pedaloff" literature will be provided in an effort to remind those

in attendance not to give anyone the opportunity to "Pedal Off" with their bicycle.

Bring your bicycle, your helmet and be ready for a fun-filled day on May 22. Any questions? Do not hesitate to contact us at (908) 226-7678.





## Mark your calendars

Log on to  
[southplainfieldnj.com](http://southplainfieldnj.com)  
for the latest  
meeting agenda

### councilmeetings

Meets twice a month on the first and third Monday.  
Borough Hall Council Chambers • Questions? 908-226-7605

	Agenda Meeting	Public Meeting
Monday, May 17	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Monday, June 7	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Monday, June 21	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 (NJSA 10:4-6 et seq) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Avenue.

### planningboard

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month  
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641  
May 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.

### zoningboardofadjustment

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month  
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641  
May 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.

### boardofeducationmeetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted  
Committee of the Whole meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m.—June 8, July 13, Aug. 10, Sept. 14, Oct. 12,  
Nov. 9, Dec. 14, Jan. 11, 2005, Feb. 8, March 8 and April 5.  
Regular Board Meeting held Tuesdays at 8 p.m.—May 18, June 15, July 20, Aug. 17, Sept. 21,  
(Monday) Oct. 18, Nov. 16, Dec. 21, Jan. 18 2005, Feb. 15, March 15 and April 12.

### taxpayersadvisorygroup

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.

### siteplansub-committee

Meets once a month on the third Tuesday of the month, 8 p.m.  
May 18, June 15, July 20, Aug. 17, Sept. 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 16 and Dec. 21.

### recreationcommission

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

### environmentalcommission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)  
Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7621  
June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10, December 8  
January 12, 2005.

### businessadvisorygroup

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

### trafficsafetyadvisorycommission

Meets once a month (fourth Wednesday) at 7 p.m.  
in the Conference Room, Borough Hall

### boardofeducationcurriculum/technology meetings

Meets once a month (last Tuesday) at 8 p.m. in the 2nd floor conference room at Roosevelt Administration Building on Jackson Ave.  
May 28, June 22, (No meeting July), August 24, September 28, October 26, November 23,  
December 28, January 25, 2005, February 22 and March 22.

## South Plainfield Observer

The South Plainfield Observer is published every Friday

G&G Graphics, Inc.  
1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B  
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(908) 668-0010 • FAX (908) 668-8819

NANCY GRENNIER  
Publisher/Editor

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### SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in the South Plainfield Observer:

1. Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.
2. Mail, fax or drop it at: South Plainfield Observer, Editorial Department, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or drop it in the box at Mohn's Flowers on Plainfield Ave. or at (908) 668-8819 or e-mail us at [ggnan@aol.com](mailto:ggnan@aol.com) or [ngrennie@ix.netcom.com](mailto:ngrennie@ix.netcom.com). Include your name, address, telephone number. You can subscribe or contact us at: [spobserver.com](http://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](mailto:ggnan@aol.com) or fax 908-668-8819. Letters should not exceed 400 words. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. It is the editor's discretion to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject. The opinions expressed in "Letters" do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Observer. All letters must be submitted with name and phone number, for verification.

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The Sacred Heart Church Rosary Society recently held their annual May Crowning ceremonies. Participating were some of the children from the 2004 First Communion class. They were Raymond Jazikoff, Kaitlyn Faustini, Adam Butrico, Juliana Degutis and Charles Butrico.

## Non-Driver Identification are Available

The decision to give up your driving privilege can be extremely difficult. But it doesn't mean that you also have to give up a critical form of identification. Residents should know that the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) issues what's known as a non-driver photo identification card. So instead of carrying around an expired driver license, or one with a hole punched in it indicating it's no longer valid. The non-driver photo ID's are ideal for airline travel, banking or other circumstances where you may be asked for a picture ID.

Non-driver photo ID cards are available at your local MVC agency, which is now open on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. There cost of the ID card is the same for a driver's license, which

is \$24. Like a driver license, it's also valid for four years. To find an agency near you, you can visit our website at [www.njmvc.gov](http://www.njmvc.gov), or call toll-free (888) 486-3339. (If outside NJ, the number is (609) 292-6500.)

In addition, as part of the Fix DMV legislation signed by Governor James E. McGreevey, these non-driver photo ID cards are also being offered through our new digital program. All motor vehicle agencies are expected to have the ability to issue digital driver's licenses and digital non-driver ID cards by June. (Some agencies already have

that ability.)

As with all business conducted at motor vehicle agencies, customers will need to demonstrate proof of identity and address under the six point ID verification program that took effect last September. For a list of the documents you will need, you can visit our website at [www.njmvc.gov](http://www.njmvc.gov) or call toll-free (888) 486-3339. (If outside NJ, the number is (609) 292-6500.)

Just because you've chosen to give up your driving privileges doesn't mean you can't have a safe and secure form of identification.

## IN YOUR OPINION

Dear Editor:

I attended the South Plainfield Middle School "Spring Instrumental Extravaganza" on Thursday, May 6 and came away so impressed I just had to commend those involved publicly.

This assembly of seventh and eighth grade musicians presented the audience with an evening of entertainment well beyond their years. The selections were lively and varied. The performances were tight and fluid. Each featured ensemble moved into place with ease and played their instruments with confidence and enthusiasm.

These students are clearly talented.

But it's their conductor/instructor that inspires them and pulls it all together. This school district is extremely fortunate to have Andrew Veiss as part of its staff. He chooses music young musicians can relate to and want to play. He makes the experience both fun and challenging at the same time. In fact, it is often unclear who is having more fun, Mr. Veiss, the students or the audience.

My sincere admiration and appreciation go out to everyone who was involved with this production. I am proud of the SPMS band and can't wait for the next performance.

DEANNA FREDERICKS

### 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](mailto: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.

## Our Lady Of Czestochowa R.C. Church

807 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield

### MASS SCHEDULE

Daily at 8am except Wednesdays

Regular Weekend Schedule:

Saturday evenings 5:30pm

Sunday mornings 8am and 11am



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Patrick and Anita Diegnan at the Education Foundation Art Auction.

## Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan Honorary Chair of Auction

Story/photos by Patricia Abbott

On May 1 the South Plainfield Education Foundation presented their Ninth Annual Art Auction entitled 'An Evening of Art.' The event, one of the Foundation's major fundraisers, was conducted by Ross Gallerie.

This year's Honorary Chairman was Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan. Prior to the start of the auction Marge Reedy, president of the Education Foundation, presented Diegnan with a plaque. Patrick noted, "I strongly believe that an appreciation of art should be an integral part of a young person's education. I commend the foundation for combining appreciation for art and a raising money for scholarships into one event."

Members of the foundation and volunteers were on hand to help keep things running smoothly. Students from the National Honor Society helped unload the truck and presented the art works. Preview of the 150 pieces began at 6:30 p.m. Those in attendance enjoyed a wide variety of refreshments including sandwiches, baked goods, snacks and beverages.



Marge Reedy, president of the Education Foundation.

Food was donated by B&C Deli, Hometown Heros, Corner Deli, Imperial Deli, Durham Deli, Roma Foods and Marriott Services. Members of the high school orchestra and Mr. Mikolon performed during the preview. The auction began at approximately 7:30 p.m. There were 29 bidders. The successful event raised about \$2,500.

The foundation's year long efforts helped fund scholarships to deserving seniors, as well as to contribute to various incentive programs throughout the district such as the Gold Card program at the High school.

## Arrest Made in Three Armed Robberies

Joseph G. Lopez, age 33, of Woodbridge was charged last week in connection with three armed robberies which occurred in the short span of three days in South Plainfield.

Lopez was charged with first degree armed robbery, weapons charges and aggravated assault in connection with two robberies which occurred on April 20 at K-Foods and Munchies Food Store, both located on on Park Ave.

He was also charged with first degree armed robbery, weapons charges, aggravated assault and criminal restraint in connection with the armed robbery at Footlocker on Oak Tree Ave. which occurred on April 22.

Detectives Gary Cassio and Christopher Colucci assisted in the arrest of the suspect. On April 23, the suspect was arrested by a Fugitive Task Force composed of members of several law enforcement agencies. Bail was set at \$150,000 for the South Plainfield charges. He is currently incarcerated at the Essex County Jail on robbery charges from other jurisdictions.

## Terra Nova Garden Club News

The Terra Nova Garden Club will hold its May monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 26 at 6:45 p.m. at the North Edison Library, 777 Grove Avenue in Edison. The program for the evening is "Chrysanthemums" presented by Frank Mastromano of the NJ Chrysanthemum Society. The presentation is free and open to the public.

The Garden Therapy committee will meet at 1 p.m. on May 19 at the Muhlenburg Adultcare Facility in Plainfield.



Oak Tree Farms on South Plainfield Ave. is under new management. Owner George Ibrahim and his sister, Maha, celebrated with a free buffet and ribbon cutting ceremonies. Cutting the ribbon are Maha Ibrahim, Councilmen Dennis Cerami and Charlie Butrico, Mayor Dan Gallagher, Councilwoman Kathy Thomas, Councilman Ed Kubala and George Ibrahim.

## Cheerleaders Used Clothing Collection

The South Plainfield High School Co-Ed Competition Cheering Squad will be holding a used clothing collection on Saturday, May 15 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. The collection will be held in the high school parking lot, near the gym entrance. Items being collected are useable clothing and outerwear for infants, children and adults, shoes, boots, handbags and backpacks. Also being collected are soft household items such as curtains, blankets, sheets, towels,

rugs and stuffed animals. Senior Citizens who need a pick-up should call Denise Blackford at (908) 222-9782.

The Competition Team is the only co-ed team in SPHS. They begin practice in the summer and continue until the end of their season in March. One of the goals of the team is to represent South Plainfield in the Nationals in Myrtle Beach, which is very costly. Please come out and support this hardworking group!

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# Carousel

## Want a New Look?

Stop in Carousel Hair Salon for an appointment.  
We're always happy to see you!

**307 Oak Tree Ave. 908-668-8397**  
Tues-Fri 8am-4 pm, Sat 6:45 am-3pm, Closed Sun & Mon

## Hot, Hot, Hot This Summer!

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**#2 MUSICAL THEATRE WORKSHOP**

*If you're a student 6 to 11 years old and you want to learn exciting musical theater skills, this workshop is for you!*

**#3 SUMMER DANCE CLASSES**

*If you're ages 3 to 93 and you want to begin new dance disciplines or improve your current skills, this program is for you!*

**Classes for all programs begin the week of June 28.**

### Jo-Ann's Dance Studio

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4475 South Clinton Avenue, S. Plainfield, NJ  
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# Events

## Troop 207 Car Wash

May 15

Boy Scout Troop 207 will be holding a car wash on Saturday, May 15 at the Middle School from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event will help sponsor an anticipated upcoming event in the summer and helps provide the scouts with needed supplies. Please come out and support the Boy Scouts. The cost will be \$5 per vehicle and if in the event of rain the car wash will be held on Sunday, May 16. Hope to see you there.

## Fun Walk Planned to Benefit Girl Scouts

May 15

A two-mile fun walk will be held on Saturday, May 15 to benefit the Girls Scouts of Washington Rock Council. Fun walk stretching begins at 9 a.m. Registration is \$18 and includes a t-shirt. For information call, (908) 232-3226.

## AARP #4144 Driving Course

May 15 & 22

On Saturdays, May 15 and 22, a defensive driving course will be held at Muhlenberg Hospital, which will allow a three-year discount on automobile insurance. You must attend both sessions! Any licensed driver can take this \$10 course, which will also remove two points, if you have them.

Call Mary for information at (732) 752-3764.

## VFW to Hold 58th Installation of Officers

May 16

The 58th Annual Installation of officers of Memorial Post #6763 will be held on Sunday, May 16 from 3 to 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served. The public is invited. For information, phone (907) 668-9751 after 3 p.m. and after 12 noon weekends.

## Sacred Heart Family Carnival

May 20-23

Ride tickets are now on sale for the Sacred Heart Family Carnival which runs May 20 through May 23. Purchasing ride tickets ahead saves you half the price. Tickets may be purchased after all masses at Sacred Heart and at the Parish Center. There will be rides, a variety of food and games. The carnival will take place on the Sacred Heart school grounds off South Plainfield Ave.

## Grant School presents "Once On This Island"

May 19 & 20

The Grant Elementary "5th/6th" School Drama Club will be performing the play "Once On This Island" on Wednesday, May 19 and Thursday, May 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the Grant School Auditorium. Cost of the tickets are \$3 and can be purchased during lunch hours at Grant School on May 13, 14, 17 and 18 or by calling Grant School at (908) 754-4620. Tickets will be available at the door.

## First Baptist Spaghetti Dinner

May 22

The First Baptist Church, located on Hamilton Blvd. at Church St., will

## What's happening in MAY

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>EVENTS</b> Adult Crafts 9:30am 17 Yoga 10:30am Drawing Class 11:30am AARP Meeting 12:30pm	<b>General Membership Meeting</b> <b>Wednesday, May 19 at 1 p.m.</b> <b>May 23: Dedication &amp; Reception honoring</b> <b>Sue Mischka, Agnes &amp; Gene Ficorilli</b> <b>May 26: Hunterdon Hills Playhouse</b> <b>"Everyone Loves Opal"</b> Bingo 10am-2pm 18 Ladies Social Grp 10am Lunch Available Computer Class 12 or 2pm	<b>Exercise 8:45-9:45 19</b> Line Dancing 10-11:30am Movie Time 11:30am AARP Crafts 1pm Computer Class 11am & 1pm	<b>Weekly Shopping 13</b> Pathmark 9am Practical Crafting 10-11am Pinochle Club 1pm	<b>Bingo 10am-2pm 14</b> Pizza lunch available Bridge Club 12:30pm
<b>Adult Crafts 9:30am 17</b> Yoga 10:30am Drawing Class 11:30am AARP Meeting 12:30pm	<b>Bingo 10am-2pm 18</b> Ladies Social Grp 10am Lunch Available Computer Class 12 or 2pm	<b>Exercise 8:45-9:45 19</b> Line Dancing 10-11:30am Movie Time 11:30am AARP Crafts 1pm Computer Class 11am & 1pm	<b>Weekly Shopping 20</b> Pathmark 9am Practical Crafting 10-11am Pinochle Club 1pm	<b>Bingo 10am-2pm 21</b> Bridge Club 12:30 Pizza Lunch available Men's Forum 1:30pm

TO SIGN UP FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER, VISIT THE CENTER.

hold a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, May 22 from 5 to 7 p.m. The dinner will include meatballs, sausage, salad and dessert. Proceeds benefit the purchase of a new piano and organ repairs.

Advance tickets are \$5 for adults and children 12 and under, \$3. Tickets at the door are \$7 and \$5.

For tickets and information, call Janis at (908) 753-8224.

## Night at the Races to Benefit Frank Foundation

May 22

A Night at the Races/Monte Carlo Benefit will be held to raise money for the Jonathan Frank Foundation on Saturday, May 22 from 7 p.m. to midnight at the American Legion Post 243 located on Oak Tree Ave. Frank has been battling lymphoma for the past few years.

The evening includes Vegas style games, black jack, roulette, craps, 10 horse races and a Chinese Auction. Ticket price of \$25 includes beer, soda, hot and cold hor d'oeuvres, food, music and door prizes. Cash bar available.

For tickets and information call Dick or Dianne or (908) 756-7549.

## Chad Cook Memorial Basketball Fundraiser

May 22

A basketball game to raise funds for a scholarship in memory of Chad Cook will be held at the South Plainfield High School gym on Saturday, May 22 beginning at 7 p.m. Chad Cook, a graduate of SPHS, was killed in an auto accident at the age of 20.

For tickets, t-shirts and information, call James Cook at (732) 309-7329 or Patrick Draper at (732) 407-3233.

## Baseball Club Chinese Auction

June 25

A Casino Royale and Chinese Auction is being sponsored by the SPJBC on Saturday, June 25 at the Italian American Club from 7 p.m. to midnight.

The cost is \$50 per person and includes an open bar and buffet. Each guest will receive \$500 in play money. Money must be redeemed for Chinese auction tickets, which can be used as chances to win one or more prizes.

For tickets contact Stacy Lake at (908) 757-9531. Tickets are limited to the first 100 people. Get your tickets early, first come first serve.

## Tryouts for All Star Cheer Program

September 1

American Gymnastics Academy, located at 4475 So. Clinton Ave. is holding tryouts for a new competitive All-Star cheer program. The program is forming for age nine as of Sept. 1, 2004 and over. Tryouts are being held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a parents' meeting at 3:15 p.m. Bring lunch. Tumbling, stunting and dance combinations are being evaluated. For registration and more information, call AGA at (908) 753-2421.

## Class of 1994 Reunion

September 4

The South Plainfield High School class of 1994 will hold its 10 year reunion on Saturday, Sept. 4 at The Westwood in Garwood from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Cost is \$50 per person. Make checks payable to SPHS Class of 2004 and mail to Jaime Johnson at 34 Gate House Lane, Edison, NJ 08820.

For information, visit [www.classmates.com](http://www.classmates.com), <http://www.geocities.com/gsig1949/Reunion.html>, or email Nicole Young at [nkuykend@indiana.edu](mailto:nkuykend@indiana.edu).

## — Out of Town —

## Middlesex WOWs Dance

May 14

Middlesex East Widows or Widowers, Carteret Chapter, will hold a dance for widows and widowers on Friday, May 14 at St. Demetrius Community Center, 681-691 Roosevelt Ave., Carteret. Admission is \$8. Guests are \$9. There will be live music and refreshments available. The dance will be held from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. For more information, call (732) 541-2174 or (908) 757-0515.

## 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

will be held on Sunday, May 16 from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. at the Elk's Hall, 665 Rahway Ave. in Woodbridge. All are welcome. Live band and refreshments. \$8. Call (732) 297-1775.

## Hyacinth AIDS Foundation Aidswalk

May 16

Walk the walk in the fight against HIV/AIDS on Sunday, May 16 with New Jersey's oldest and largest AIDS service organization, Hyacinth AIDS Foundation. The 10 kilometer Aids-walk NJ will be held at the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University on the corner of George St. and Clifton Ave. in New Brunswick. Registration is at noon with step-off at 1 p.m. For more information and to register call (888) 4NJ-WALK.

## Botanical Watercolor Classes

May 20

The Edison Arts Society is pleased to offer classes in Botanical Watercolor Techniques with artist Linda Trella at the North Edison branch library. The six-week long course will meet on Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. starting on May 20. The cost is \$140 registration, with a 15% discount available to members of Edison Arts Society and/or senior citizens. All experience level adults are welcome, students must provide their own art supplies. A list of these supplies is available upon registration.

To register or for more information, call the Edison Arts Society, at (908) 753-ARTS.

## Antique Appraisal Show Fundraiser

May 23

The Manors at Somerset, assisted living communities in Somerset, announces an upcoming Antique Appraisal Show on Sunday, May 23 from 2-4 p.m. The show, which will be hosted at The Manor at Somerset North, will be a charity event benefiting the Franklin Park Fire Department. The cost is \$5 per person.

The appraisal show will have three antique appraisers. Participants are asked to limit items to two per person.

The Manors at Somerset North is located on 473 Demott Ln. in Somerset. For more information call Robyn Siminske or Debbie Foley at (732) 873-4800.

## Edison Arts Fundraiser

May 15

The Edison Arts Society will be holding its annual fundraiser ball, "Artists by Candlelight" on Saturday, May 15 at the Sheraton Edison Hotel at Raritan Center.

This elegant evening features dinner, dancing to the Edison Arts Society Big Dance Band, a 50/50 raffle, a silent auction and an Art Gallery exhibit. Tickets cost \$150 each and can be purchased by calling the Edison Arts Society at (908) 753-ARTS.

## Step Up ARC Walk 2004

May 16

The ARC of Middlesex County is hosting their third Annual Step Up for the ARC Walk 2004. The walk will take place Sunday, May 16 in Roosevelt Park in Edison. Registration for the walk is at 9 a.m. and start time is at 10 a.m. sharp. The walk is sponsored by the Free & Accepted Masons and the M&M's Mars Co.

Walkers and volunteers are needed. There will be food, 1450 WCTC, entertainment and door prizes.

For more info, please call (732) 247-8155 x134

## Woodbridge WOWs Fundraiser Dance

May 16

The Woodbridge area Widows or Widowers (WOWs) fundraiser dance

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## Milestones



Myron Small, Middlesex County Guidance Council president, Jeanine Christopher and Shirley Camp, treasurer.

### Christopher Recognized for Volunteering

At the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Caring Award Program sponsored by the Middlesex County Guidance Council, South Plainfield High School senior Jeanine Christopher was recognized for her contribution to society.

Since elementary school, Jeanine has been involved in helping others. Her first experience was volunteering at nursing homes and working in soup kitchens. She then went to Iowa for a summer to work with underprivileged

children. She has spent a summer working in Italy, restoring buildings and performing dramas for the elderly. Her last trip overseas was to South Africa to work in an orphanage for street boys and in homeless shelters. Jeanine has never bragged about her experience, but has instead tried to use this experience to encourage others to become involved. She is currently active in a variety of programs at the high school.

### Jennifer Vedutis Graduates From Northeastern Univ.

Jennifer Vedutis, daughter of William and Deborah Vedutis of South Plainfield graduated Northeastern University on May 1 in Boston, Mass. She attended South Plainfield High School and graduated in 1999.

Jennifer majored in communications and worked part-time for CBS Channel 2 in Boston.



Jennifer Vedutis

### Reedy Graduates from Westminster Choir College

Sandra I. Reedy will be graduating on Friday, May 14 from Westminster Choir College. Sandra is the daughter of Marjorie and Michael Reedy of South Plainfield.

The graduation will take place at the Princeton University Chapel at Princeton University at 4 p.m.

Sandra will be graduating with a Bachelors Degree in Music/Music Education. Sandra is a 1999 graduate of South Plainfield High School.



Sandra I. Reedy

### Zushma Named "Excellent Teacher"

Kenneth Zushma has been named "Middle School Teacher—Excellence of the Year for the State of New Jersey" by the Technology Educators Association of New Jersey (TEANJ). In addition, he has been appointed treasurer of TEANJ. He was recognized with a plaque at a banquet dinner on May 6 in Teaneck.

At present, Mr. Zushma is a middle school teacher of technology at Heritage Middle School in Livingston. He is currently attending Kean University enrolled in the Master's Program.



Left to right are Suzanne Langenbach (7B teacher), Michelle Greene (7A teacher), Sister Cornelia Ramirez, RVM (Sacred Heart School principal), Walter Rodriguez, Ashley Forbes, Aedan Bayona, Very Rev. John Paul Alvarado (pastor of Sacred Heart Church). Not pictured is Alessandra Grant.

### SHS Students Get Seats At Bishop's Schools

A new Catholic academic program promoting scholastic excellence opens June 21-25 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Outstanding students completing the seventh grade will explore in depth specialized areas of interest. Only 95 seats are available.

The Bishop's School of Theatre will be at Bishop Ahr High School in Edison. The Bishop's School of Science will be at Immaculata High School in Somerville. The Bishop's School of Literature will be at Mt. St. Mary Academy in Watchung. The Bishop's School of Technology will be at St. Peter High School in New Brunswick.

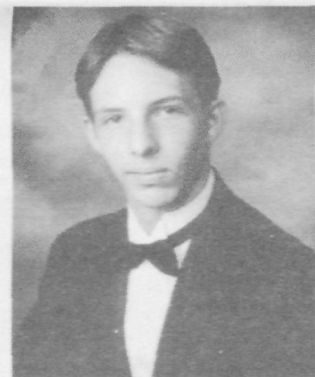
The following seventh graders from

Sacred Heart who applied were all accepted: Aedan Bayona for Technology, Ashley Forbes for Theatre, Alessandra Grant for Literature and Walter Rodriguez for Science.

Full scholarships have been awarded to these students to attend the one-week intensive academic program recognizing and promoting academic excellence. Most Rev. Paul Gregory Bootkoski, Bishop of Metuchen, sent each one of them a congratulatory letter and extended a prayerful thanks to their parents who sacrifice so much to provide them with a quality Catholic education. This is an honor well deserved after years of consistent effort to develop their talents.

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FRIDAY, MAY 14  
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BIRTHDAY!

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Uncle Ken, Aunt Kathy, Joanie, Sarah  
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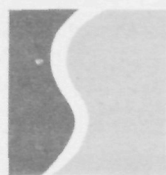
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# Residents Delve Into Local History at Reunion Sunday



Dorothy Miele and Jim Kane study old photos.

by Patricia Abbott

Over 100 people attended the Historical Society's Reunion Sunday held recently. True to its name, the event reunited residents with bits and pieces of their past, as well as offered young residents a glimpse of a developing South Plainfield.

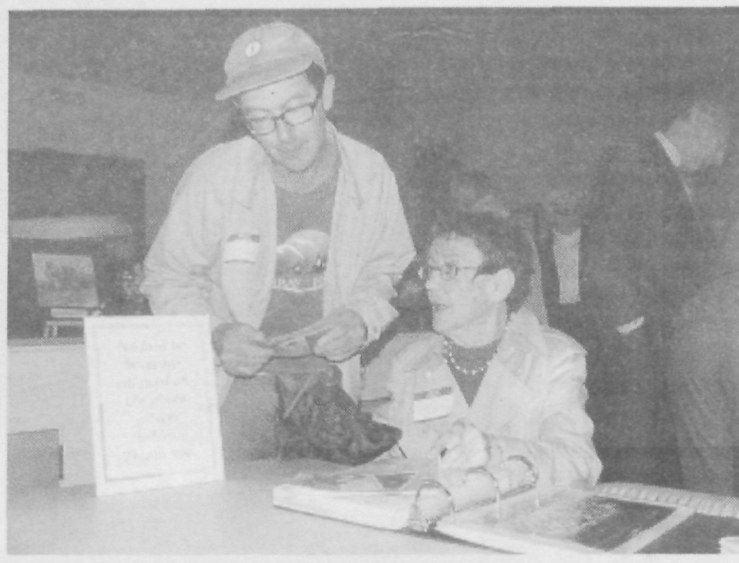
The concept of Reunion Sunday came about as a result of the society's Oral History Preservation Program, an

ongoing project that allows residents to share their memories of growing up in South Plainfield via recorded interviews.

Displays were spread throughout the room. Tables held books containing carefully preserved original photos of the town. There were over 1,400 photographs with 600 from the original Grant School. There were also three volumes of newspaper clippings from 1947 through 1952, three pan-

orama shots of 1914 South Plainfield; four framed photos of Lehigh Valley Railroad, four framed photos of Hadley Airport, four newspapers from Hadley Airport and a volume of articles written by Larry Randolph on the farm's history. The stage held a television where three videos were shown continuously; the 25th anniversary parade in 1951, 1950 Hadley Airport by John Donnelly and an interview with Mayor Henry Apgar speaking about Hadley Airport. In another room guests had the opportunity to videotape their memories of our town.

The day was more than a trip down memory lane for resident Linda Meixner. She and husband Bill came across a 1952 newspaper clipping reporting the accidental death of her father at Camp Kilmer. He had been cleaning tools left behind by someone else when a tractor trailer fell on him. He was only 28 and Linda was three at the time. Her aunt had related the story to her but she had never seen a copy of the newspaper. The Historical Society is going to



Betty Curran and son John Miele Kane.

make a copy of the clipping for her.

Historical Society President Dorothy Miele declared the day a success. She saying, "We are pleased that so many present and former residents from the early days of the Borough's incorporation attended and supported the concept of a Town Reunion. Our next event is open to everyone. Town

History Day II is scheduled for Nov. 7. It will incorporate many of the same elements that made the first Town History Day so successful in 2003. We will have a lecture on the history of the Borough by Dr. Richard Veit, antique cars, antique clothing displays, entertainment, photo and map displays, movies and new elements."



Long time South Plainfield residents Joan Abbott and Margaret Sheldon read through old newspapers and clippings.

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SPO



# Mohn's "Rose Patrol" Delivers Smiles to Moms



Donna Marie Thomas with daughter Jessica



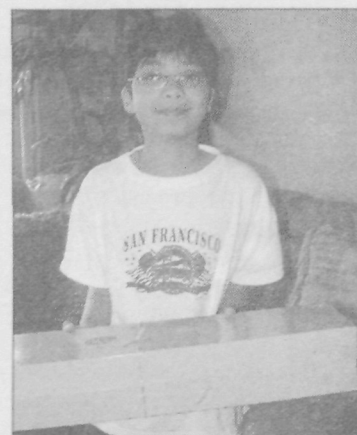
Dena Carlson with daughter Laurie Weinberger



Constance Anderson with daughter Jhordanne



Donna Hagy with daughter Taylor



Joachim, son of Rosario Condana



Sonia Mills with daughter Siebidi



Alice Eustice with daughter Rebecca



Monica and Veronica Jastrzebski



Pattie McLaughlin with daughters Kate and Kelly



Patricia Landy with son David

As they do every year, Mohn's Flowers and Fancy Foods brought huge smiles and a few tears to fourteen mothers this past Mother's Day when they delivered roses to the winners of their annual Mother's Day essay contest.

Elementary school children were asked to write either an essay or a poem about their moms and submit them to their teachers. Each elementary school chose three winners and then gave the winning names to Mohn's Flowers, who delivered a dozen roses, along with the student's winning essay, to each mom. This year four of the five elementary schools submitted winners. Roosevelt School did not participate. Winning essays were written by students from first through fourth grades. All 14 winning moms were visited last

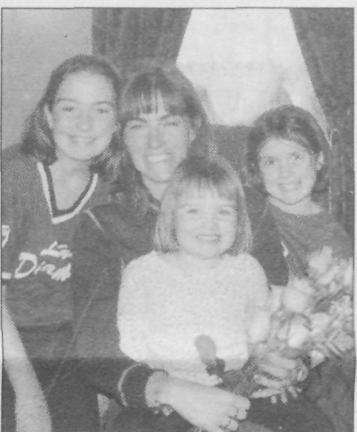


Stephanie and Caitlin Lopez

Saturday by Georgeann DeGrazi, co-owner of Mohn's, who personally presented each mom a dozen roses, courtesy of Mohn's Flowers.

As we have in past years, the *Observer* had the privilege of riding along with what we call the "Rose Patrol." This is one of the most heartwarming stories we cover each year. The joy and love we see in the eyes of the moms, along with the delight of the students who wrote the winning essays, tells the whole story at each and every stop the Rose Patrol makes.

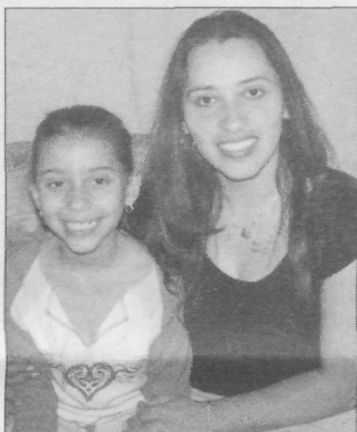
Every essay conveys the love each child has for their moms. They expressed themselves in many ways, some in essay form, some poems and a few had flowers and drawings. But the one theme in each essay is the same, the love of children for their mothers. We can think of no finer gift a mother can receive than these



Kathy O'Brien with daughters Katie, Kelly and Mackenzie

Each year Mohn's co-owners Georgeann DiGrazi and Bill Cochran are brought to tears as they read the winning essays and poems, and they are relieved they don't have to select the winners. DiGrazi and Cochran donate their time and the roses for this special Mother's Day tribute each year and they deserve recognition for sponsoring this annual contest. Mother's Day is one of the busiest days of the year at Mohn's Flowers.

Winning essays and poems were written by Michelle and John O'Sullivan, Taylor Hagy, Katie and Kelly O'Brien, Kate and Kelly McLaughlin, Laurie Weinberger, Rebecca Eustice, Stephanie and Caitlin Lopez, David Landy, Melissa Molano, Monica and Veronica Jastrzebski, Jhordanne Anderson, Jessica Thomas, Siebidi Mills and Joachim Condana.



Clara Vargas with daughter Melissa Molano



Maria O'Sullivan with children Michelle and John

## Family Fun is on the Way at Sacred Heart Carnival

The Sacred Family Carnival is only two weeks away. Advance ride tickets are now on sale. A sheet of 20 tickets is only \$10 and may be purchased after all Masses or at the Parish Center. By purchasing your tickets ahead of time, you are actually getting them at half price. Wrist band night will be Thursday, May 20 from 6 to 10 p.m. and Saturday, May 22 from 2 to 5 p.m.



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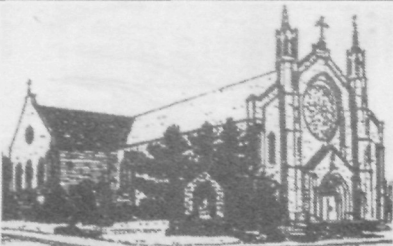
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Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.  
Weekdays 6:30 a.m. (except Monday) 9:00 a.m. (church)  
Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.  
Holy Days 7 p.m. (Vigil); 6:30 and 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m. and 7 p.m.



## 'Sock Hop' Brings Memories of the Past

Story/photos by Patricia Abbott

Seniors took a trip back to the era of poodle skirts and hoola hoops when they attended the Sock Hop recently. More than 100 South Plainfield Senior Citizens attended the event at the Senior Center. The event was organized by Girl Scout Kristin Coffey and Girl Scout Troop 117. Last year she threw a Senior Citizen Prom as a requirement for her Gold Award.

The success of the Sock Hop event prompted Kristin to begin planning



another dance for senior citizens. Kristin said, "This year I am organizing the dance just for their enjoyment."

The hop's theme was chosen to bring back memories of the 1950's. Guests were greeted by the girl scouts and a six foot replica of a juke box. The front of the gym was decorated with a balloon arch and each table was also decorated with the 1950's theme.

DJ Nate, from PrimeTime Entertainment, kept the seniors on their toes playing everything from jitterbug tunes, the stroll, the hokey pokey and slow dance numbers. In between guests enjoyed a delicious buffet by Spisso's Catering that included hot-dogs, pulled pork, salads, beverages and dessert.

Kristin had help with the big event from her parents, Troop Leader Nancy Regan, Amanda and Angela Prybella, Ellen Bradley, The Vasquez Family and Joann Graf.



## Students Pocket Over \$139K

(Continued from page 1)

laid out his dream career which is owning his own record company. He plans to attend Hampton University on a full scholarship and with the help of Ms. Falato, he has become involved with the Inroad Program, which helps minorities enter the corporate worlds. Chris will be working this summer with a New York record company and earning money for his college expenses.

Courtney Krjick presented a special gift to Jasen Samuel Ortiz, who has enlisted in the Marines and will be continuing his studies with an \$8,000 scholarship from Teterboro School of Aeronautics after he completes his service. Courtney, who is an avid horse enthusiast, will be attending Centenary College majoring in Equine Studies on a \$28,000 scholarship—another dream career that was accomplished.

Omari McKnight announced this year's CE Scholarship awards totaling \$139,425:

- Eric Paprcka and Derek Dundi—\$25,000 each from DeVry University.
- Kevin Frankie Demarest and Jasen Ortiz—\$7,600 each from Teterboro School of Aeronautics.
- Lauren Laferrara—\$2,204 and Natalie Picciottoli—\$1,500 from Somerset County Technology Institute.
- David Silva, Christopher Soto and Christine Voipe—\$2,500 each from The Chubb Institute.
- Anitza Cseko—\$3,500 from Gibbs School.
- Edmond Samoyoa and Renee Stopherd—\$8,000 from Lincoln Technical Institute.
- Eileen Milcarek and Heather Kaufman—\$6,000 from Cittone Institute.
- Yemili Boldo and Ashley Mazellan—\$1,500 from European Academy of Cosmetology.
- Elizabeth Camey—\$10,350 from

duCret School of the Arts.

• Vernal Sundalangi—\$8,250 and Michael Cupo—\$4,125 from Engine City Tech.

• Christine Helbo and Ashley Mazellan—\$1,000 from American Legion.

• Kerry Mackey, Lisa Sniscak, Jamie Irber and Shade Coleman—\$500 each from KOBO.

• Jaclene Prongay—\$500 for Outstanding Community Service to South Plainfield Business Association.

• Courtney Krajcik, Kristen Kunie, Chris Dickeerson and Jon Alves—\$200 each for outstanding achievement.

Jeanine Christopher—\$500 for being named CE Student of the Year.

## Addition Lands at Memorial Park

(Continued from page 1)

donated a Naval anchor and an anti-aircraft gun from a World War II ship which are already in place at the park.

It was an awesome site to see the helicopter as it traveled through town on it's way to the park. Waiting at the park to put it in place were Police Chief Robert Merkler and his brother Steve, former chief of police, Phil Cortese, a Korean War Veteran and several members of the Memorial Park Committee.

The helicopter was lifted onto a pedestal with a crane. It will be on display under spotlights that still need to be installed. Next for the park will be the installation of walking paths, benches, shrubs and grass. The dedication will take place on Memorial Day.

The park is the result of material, as well service, donations from many companies in South Plainfield.

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**No Early Birds**  
 Variety Of Items Including Children's Clothes and Toys



# Sports



## Ponytail Softball Batters Box

By James Bishop

The South Plainfield Parents' Ponytail Association would like to thank all the parents and players who participated in our Tag Days on May 6, 7 and 8. A special thank you to all the businesses that allowed us to tag in front of their establishments. We are grateful to the residents of South Plainfield and the surrounding communities, who gave so generously to support our young players.

A special thank you to Debbie DiDolce (snack bar Chairperson), Pat DeSantis and all the parents who volunteer their time to help in the snack bar. You are doing a wonderful job. We appreciate all your hard work.

The South Plainfield Parents' Ponytail Association meets the fourth Tuesday of every month in the Middle School library. Our next meeting is on Tuesday May 25 at 8 p.m. It would be great to see you there.

Don't forget to check out our website at [www.spponytail.com](http://www.spponytail.com) for pictures and news about upcoming events.

## South Plainfield Recreation 2004 Discount Ticket Prices

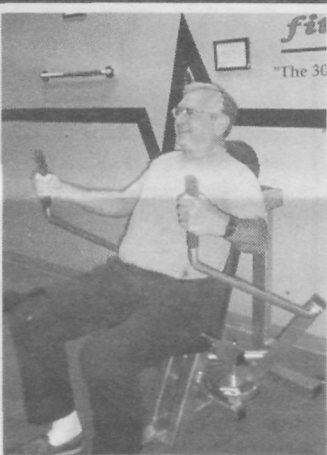
	Gate Price	Our Price
Sesame Place (All Ages)	\$42.07	\$35
Mountain Creek (Adult)	\$27.99	\$20
Hershey Park (Adult- ages 9-54)	\$37.95	\$30
Hershey Park Junior (ages 3-8)	\$21.95	\$22
Great Adventure (Adult, includes Safari)	\$45.75	\$31
Great Adventure (49" and over)	\$29.99	\$28
Dorney Park (Adult)	\$35.75	\$28
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## UNICO Plans Annual Golf Outing

The Plainfields' UNICO Chapter invites you and your foursome, to join them at its seventh annual Plainfields' UNICO Golf Outing on Monday, June 21 at Beaver Brook Golf Club, Rt. 31, Country Club Rd. in Clinton.

Registration begins at 12 noon and continues until 12:45 p.m. The shotgun start is at 1 p.m., buffet dinner is at 6 p.m. and awards are presented is at 7 p.m.

Awards will be given for the longest drive, most honest golfer and closest to pin. There will be door prizes and you can pick your own final score.

There are many sponsorships available, including a Gold Corporate Sponsor for \$1,000, which includes golf for four, locker, buffet dinner, sign and recognition and tournament golf shirts and Silver Corporate Sponsor for \$500, which includes golf for two, locker storage and buffet dinner.

There are also individual hole sponsorships flags for \$125.

Registration is \$140 which includes green fees, cart, buffet dinner and locker storage. An individual dinner is only \$45.

For more information or to register, contact Renato Biribin, president at (908) 561-9898; Frank Licato, co-chair at (908) 757-5500 or Rick McNally, co-chair at (908) 755-8686.

## Pro Wrestling Comes To Bridgewater

JCW Wrestling are expanding and bringing their brand of family-oriented pro wrestling to Bridgewater at Extreme's Of Bridgewater, 3 Chimney Rock Rd., just off of Rts. 22 and 287. Already signed to appear are Prince Nana, Mana the Polynesian Warrior, Matt Striker, Ace Darling, Damian Adams, Johnny Thundar and Fred Samson, plus two beautiful ladies of wrestling, Miss Kara Slice and Alicia. Topping the packed line-up will be the hottest tag team on the east coast, Los Geckos Loccos.

Tickets are \$10 for limited front row seats. General admission seats are two for \$10 if purchased in advance of the event. For ticket information, call Extreme's at (732) 560-0005 or JCW Wrestling at (201) 370-7891.

Defending league champions Plainfield Animal Hospital opened the 2004 season with a victory to begin the new year in first place.

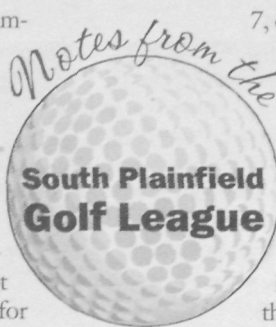
But it was a hard fought victory, as PAH barely squeaked by Witty's, 11-9, as Howard Adier shot a sparkling 1-over 34 for Witty's in a losing cause. Mike Sikanowicz and Steve Schock shared medalist honors for PAH with 41's.

Mark Dugan of KC's Korner finished the season last year with a string of outstanding scores and picked up where he left off last August by shooting a 39 to lead his team to an 11-9 win over Aiello Chiopracic. Last year's Player-of-the Year Ed Banach fired a 35 for Aiello.

In other American League action. Masters and Hank's Hackers match ended in a 10-10 tie. Danny Griffin gave evidence of being in mid-season form already with an impressive 2-over 35 for Masters while John Cacciatore's 40 led the way for Hank's.

In the National League, Marty Van de Vaart showed once again that when he's on his game he can be absolutely terrifying as he sparked Pornovets to a crushing 18-2 win over Elks. Van de Vaart's superb even-par round of 33 was the low-round of the night.

Jovial Matt Ward of Patti Construction earned medalist honors with his 41 as Patti's got by Twin City, 13-



7, despite a solid round of 36 turned in by the always reliable Jay Coppola.

Some members of Sport and Social seemed to be on safari, but Dennis Bibby was not far off his usual form with a 41 that led his team to a 13-

7 victory over VFW. Bob Nilan-s 40 earned him low-man honors for VFW. Bob Pornovets capped off a stellar night for his team by winning the closest-to-the-pin competition on the third hole.

Low scores for the night were Marty Van de Vaart 33, Danny Griffin 35, Howard Adier 34, Jay Coppola 36, Ed Banach 35 and Mark Dugan 39.

### League Standings: American Division

	W	L	T
PAH	1	0	0
KC's Korner	1	0	0
Masters	0	0	1
Hanks Hackers	0	0	1
Witty's	0	1	0
Aiello	0	1	0

### National Division

	W	L	T
Pornovets	1	0	0
Sport and Social	1	0	0
Patti's	1	0	0
Twin City	0	1	0
VFW	0	1	0
SP Elks	0	1	0

## South Plainfield Soccer Association Tryouts for Fall 2004 & Spring 2005

Boys and Girls Teams Ages 8 - 14

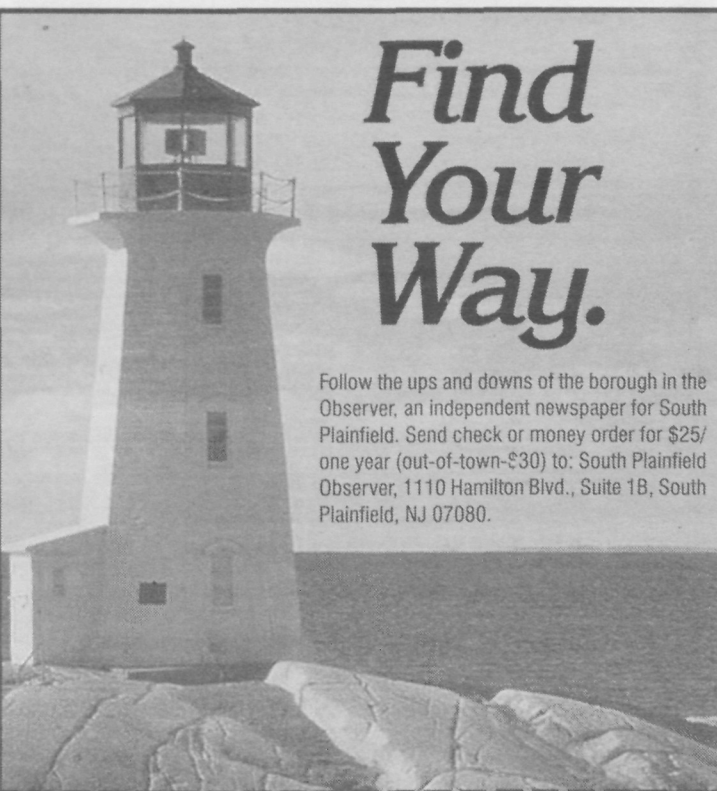
Tryout location, dates and times:

The location will be at the Kenneth Ave. Soccer Complex. It is highly recommended that your child attend both tryout dates. Tryouts begin at 6 p.m. and attendees must wear shin-guards. The teams will be announced sometime in June. For registration form and more info, please go to our website [www.sopflsoccercub.com](http://www.sopflsoccercub.com).



U-Age	Born Between	Day On
Day Two		
U-8	8/1/96 - 7/31/97	Monday, May 24 Wednesday, May 26
U-9	8/1/95 - 7/31/96	Monday, May 24 Wednesday, May 26
U-10	8/1/94 - 7/31/95	Monday, May 24 Wednesday, May 26
U-11	8/1/93 - 7/31/94	Monday, May 24 Wednesday, May 26
U-12	8/1/92 - 7/31/93	Tuesday, May 25 Thursday, May 27
U-13	8/1/91 - 7/31/92	Tuesday, May 25 Thursday, May 27
U-14	8/1/90 - 7/31/91	Tuesday, May 25 Thursday, May 27

You must tryout according to your birthday. Players must wear shine guards. Soccer cleats are optional.



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Junior Journalist Meghan Collins (center) with parents Bob and Elaine Somers receive dinner from Debbie and Charlie Kurland of Hometown Heros.

## Junior Journalist

Win a catered dinner for your family from Hometown Heros through the Observer/Hometown Heros Junior Journalist Contest! To enter, ask your language teacher at school for details.

LAST WINNER TO BE ANNOUNCED MAY 21



## Obituaries

### Stanley P. Swanicke, 81

Stanley P. Swanicke died on Friday, May 7 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Mr. Swanicke worked on highway design for the NJ Turnpike before working for the City of Plainfield as a civil engineer, a position he held for 30 years.

Stanley was born and raised in Lyndhurst. Upon graduation from high school, he entered the U.S. Army Air Corps, serving as a pilot with the 490th Bomb Squad of the 8th Air Force, flying B-17 bombers. He participated in 27 missions out of Eye, England.

He earned a BS degree in Civil Engineering at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, IN and graduated in 1950.

A member of St. Mary's RC Church in Plainfield, Stanley was an avid fisherman. Most of all, he enjoyed time with his family.

He is predeceased by a sister, Sophie Gricko and by two brothers, Joseph and Alexander.

Surviving are his wife, Agnes (Kochera) of 53 years and three sons and their spouses, Paul and Helena of Warren, Mark and Eva of Tacoma, Wash. and Russell and Jane of Yardly Pa. Also surviving are eight grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

recipient of Lion of the Year in 1964-65. He is a life member and former director of the South Plainfield Polish National Home and a past president of the Community Fund.

From 1967 until 1970, Rich served as a South Plainfield Councilman and was a former member of the South Plainfield Democratic Organization and in 1967 he received the Distinguished Service Award from the South Plainfield Jaycees.

Surviving are his wife, Barbara M. (Brown); two daughters, Vicki and her husband, Allen Crooks of Midway, Tenn. and Susan Queen of Longwood, Fla.; two sons, Alfred and his wife, Helen of Phillipsburg and Joseph of Atlanta, Ga.; two step-daughters, Elaine and her husband, George Albertocki of South Plainfield and Linda and her husband, Michael Ford of Fairmount, Md.; two sisters, Jean Stamile of Wildwood Crest and Dorothy Layte of Escondido, Calif. and a brother, Victor of Carson City, Nevada. Rich is also survived by a granddaughter, Courtney Queen and five step-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the

McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations to South Plainfield Lions Club would be appreciated.

### Anna E. (Fuetterer) Handschuh, 78

Anna E. (Fuetterer) Handschuh died on Tuesday, May 11 at her home.

Born in Irvington, Anna was raised in Newark, then moved to South Plainfield where she resided for the past 14 years.

Anna was employed by Shop-Rite Food Stores for over 19 years as a cashier and she really enjoyed her stay at home.

She was predeceased by her first husband, George Geimer; her second husband, Edward "Duffy" Handschuh and by three sisters, Gertrude Fuetterer, Bertha Rogers and Lillian Jones Beyzak.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, George and Virginia Geimer of Northeast, Pa.

Funeral services were held in McCriskin Home For Funerals.

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### Lydia A. Nering, 89

Lydia A. Nering died on Sunday, May 9 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Brooklyn, Lydia grew up in Carteret before settling in South Plainfield in 1984.

She worked for Koppers in Port Newark as the payroll clerk for 25 years. Lydia was a member of St. Stephens Lutheran Church in South Plainfield and a member of the South Plainfield Senior Citizens.

An avid gardener, she enjoyed sewing and crocheting and had made some of her own clothing.

Lydia had a special love for her four great grandnieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by a sister, Martha Dissman; a brother, William Bering and a brother-in-law, William Robertson.

Surviving are a sister, Olga Robertson of South Plainfield; a brother, Oswald and his wife, Dorothy of Myrtle Beach, SC; a brother-in-law, George Dissman of Manahawkin; eight nieces, 11 great nieces, five great nephews, two great grandnieces and two great grandnephews.

Interment will follow in the Clover Leaf Cemetery in Woodbridge.

### Richard T. Ardowski, 72

Richard T. Ardowski died on Friday, May 7 at his home in Tennessee.

Born in Plainfield, he resided in South Plainfield over 50 years and Escondido, Calif. for 15 years before moving to Mosheim, Tenn. in Dec. 2003.

Rich was a self-employed general contractor for over 50 years. While he lived in South Plainfield and Escondido, Calif., he was known by many for his woodworking.

He was a former member of the South Plainfield Lions Club, where he served as past president and was the

The theme of this year's Labor Day Parade is:

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Nominations for Grand Marshal should be submitted to: **Joe Sorrentino - Chair,**  
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## police report

• On May 8 Eugene Woods, 41, of Plainfield was arrested at Home Depot for under ringing customers for almost a year. A customer, Willie Alfred Adam, 41, also of Plainfield was arrested for shoplifting.

• Frederick Irvin, 65, of Edison was arrested on Maple Ave. for driving an unregistered vehicle, driving while suspended, driving an uninsured vehicle and seven outstanding warrants at a motor vehicle stop.

• An Oakmanor Parkway resident reported the theft of a door mat from the side of her house.

• An Iselin resident reported that while parked in the lot at 2201 South Clinton Ave. a driver pulled in next to him and opened his car door into the victims car. When confronted the suspect opened his drivers side door again into the vehicle and fled.

• On May 9 Warren J. Tomas, 30, of Piscataway was arrested on New Brunswick Ave. for careless driving, driving while intoxicated and maintenance of lamps.

• Ivo A. Trinajstic, 26, of North Plainfield was arrested at Quick Check on Sampton Ave. for an outstanding warrant after an employee accidentally

let him use a Food Stamps card to pay for food and the money could not be refunded. An argument ensued and police were called.

• An employee of Bravo Supermarket on W. 7th St. reported that a customer approached her and asked for a box of cigars. He needed to produce ID and became angry, saying he didn't have any. When told she couldn't sell him the cigars he grabbed a Sugar Babies candy bar and began to walking out of the store. After being told he had to pay for it, he pushed the employee into a glass door and hit her in the face. The man fled on foot in the direction of Plainfield.

• On May 10 Yolanda Monique Jones, 30, of East Orange was arrested on Clinton Ave. for hindering apprehension after giving false ID at a motor vehicle stop.

• Matthew's Service Center on Stelton Rd. reported that a customer left without paying for \$38 worth of gas.

• On May 11 SRI Discount Liquors on Hadley Rd. reported that the front glass door had been smashed in and a bottle of Dom Perignon and \$3,200 in cash was taken.

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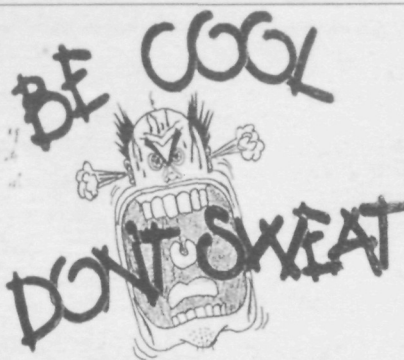
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## So. Plainfield Police Detective Injured in Car Chase

On Tuesday, May 4, Detective James Foran was involved in a motor vehicle pursuit, which started in South Plainfield.

While Det. Foran was stopped in the northbound lane of Lakeview Ave. at Maple Ave., he observed a tan Buick with a New York registration traveling north through the intersection. The driver threw a bottle out of the window, passed another motor vehicle on the right and then struck a curb and sped northbound on Plainfield Ave. in a reckless manner.

Det. Foran attempted to pull the vehicle over and the Buick pulled to the right and slowed down. Det. Foran pulled to the left of the car, showed his badge and identified himself, but

driver of the Buick swerved his vehicle to the left in an attempt to ram the detective's vehicle. In order to avoid the collision, Foran's vehicle struck the opposite curb.

The driver of the Buick then accelerated at a high rate of speed northbound on Plainfield Ave. towards Plainfield. The Buick rear-ended an SUV, which was stopped at a light at Plainfield Ave. and West 6<sup>th</sup> St. in Plainfield. Even though the car sustained heavy front-end damage and a flat tire, it continued north into the southbound lane of Plainfield Ave.

Det. Foran overtook the car and blocked the southbound traffic to prevent an accident with oncoming vehicles. The Buick then struck the

detective's vehicle, causing minor damage. Plainfield Police responded and assisted at the scene, obtaining the information regarding the motor vehicle accident, which occurred at Plainfield Ave. and West 6<sup>th</sup> St.

Det. Foran received minor injuries to his left arm and was treated and released at JFK Hospital.

The driver of the Buick was identified as Printes Jenkins, 53, of North Brunswick, aka As-Sabur Ibn Marium Mohammad-Abd. He was arrested and charged with eluding, DWI Refusal and other motor vehicle violations. His bail was set at \$25,000 and he was remanded to the Middlesex Council Adult Correction Center.

From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

By Marcia Lubansky

Love to Read Books, but Just Can't Find the Time?

We have discovered a secret for finding the time to read a good book again...and we are just itching to tell you about it. The South Plainfield Public Library has gone high-tech and now offers the latest, hottest idea for people who want desperately to read, but just can't find the time. The library delivers portions of books to you in your email. Each day, Monday through Friday, the library emails subscribers a portion of a book that takes about five minutes to read. By the end of the week, subscribers have read two to three chapters from the book and if you like it, you can then check it out of the library. New books are featured every week. There are 11 book clubs to choose from. Something for every age and taste: Fiction, Nonfiction, Mystery, Romance, Science Fiction, Good News, Horror, Business, Teen, and Audio books (that you can listen to in your email) and a special sneak preview Pre-Pub Club that lets you start reading books that aren't even published yet. You can sign up for the service at the library web site: [www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us](http://www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us). Click on "Books in Your Email" on the home page. Currently subscribers are reading *Someone to Run With* by David Grossman, *Enslaved by Ducks* by Bob Tarte, *Hardball Selling* by Robert L. Shook, *Breaking Point* by Alex Fin and others.

register before May 15. On June 7, also from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., the library sponsors another one-hour make-and-take craft: "Tag Art". June is coming...a month for weddings, graduations and more. Do you need to create a special card in a snap? Create a custom-designed "tag art" original for that special occasion. Sign up for this class and bring a pair of scissors, a pencil with eraser, and a glue stick. All other materials will be provided. Again class size is limited, so please register by Friday, June 4.

### Bestseller Express

If you have a favorite fiction author, we will automatically place a reserve for you whenever that author publishes a new hardcover, fiction book. There is a 50-cent fee per reserve. The list includes authors such as David Baldacci, Maeve Binchy, Barbara Taylor Bradford, Sandra Brown, Tom Clancy, Sue Grafton, John Grisham, Steve Martini, Fern Michaels, James Patterson and many others. Pick up a sign-up sheet at the library.

### Giant Book Sale, Saturday, June 5

Stop in and browse through another book sale, rain or shine, on Saturday, June 5 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. As always, we are accepting donations. But, we already have a large selection of quality books for adults and children, including videos. There are hundreds of titles to choose from; it will be well worth the visit!

### Make a boutique-style T-shirt!

Ever want to try making a boutique-style, hand-decorated Tee? This is your chance! The library is sponsoring a one-hour "introduction to Fabric Painting" on Monday, May 17 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Ronda Wisniewski, Practical Crafting instructor, will conduct the workshop. All students are requested to bring one washed, ironed, white T-shirt and a \$1 fee. The fee is to be paid when you register. Class size is limited, so please

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## Junior Journalist Corner



### Christina Naphor Named "Junior Journalist"



Roosevelt School teacher Mary Beth Boschen with Christina Naphor.

Roosevelt School third grader Christina Naphor is this week's winner in the *Observer*/Hometown Heros Junior Journalist Program. Her poem, "Rainbows," has won her dinner for her family, courtesy of Hometown Heros.

Winners and their parents receive a catered dinner from Hometown Heros and will be invited to a banquet on June 2.

For more information, call the *Observer* at (908) 668-0010 or Hometown Heros at (908) 755-4376.

### Rainbows

By Christina Naphor

*A beautiful rainbow up in the sky  
I wish I could climb it  
But it's just too high  
Some say a pot of gold is at its end  
But I just like gazing at it  
With a very good friend  
So, next time it rains don't feel so down  
You might find a rainbow  
Just look around*

## LEGAL NOTICES

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY**  
**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
FILE NO. 04 TPR 8  
COUNTY OF DURHAM  
IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
DISTRICT COURT DIVISION**  
**IN THE MATTER OF:  
MAKAEL DOVE**  
**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS FOR  
TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS OF  
UNKNOWN PARENT(S)**  
TO: Stanley Ralphford/Unknown Parent of a Male Child born on or about 3/9/92 in County, Mobile, Alabama, and placed in the custody of the Durham County Department of Social Services on January 19, 2001.  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a petition has been filed by the Durham County Department of Social Services (petitioner) requesting the Court to terminate any parental rights you may have to the above named child. You are required to answer the petition within forty (40) days from the date of the first publication of this notice (written below) and if you fail to do so, your

parental rights to the child will be terminated.  
NCGS 7B-1105 authorizes you to have a Court appointed lawyer to represent you in the termination action if you cannot afford to hire a lawyer. You may call the Deputy Clerk of the Juvenile Court of Durham County at (919)564-7028 for further information.  
This the 7th day of May, 2004.  
THOMAS W. JORDAN, JR.  
DEPUTY COUNTY ATTORNEY  
CATHY L. MOORE  
ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY  
P.O. Box 3508  
Durham, NC 27702  
(919) 560-0717

\$156.75 April 30, May 7 & 14, 2004

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### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by David and Cindy LaDelle requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit an above ground pool. Proposed pool lacks required 30' front setback from Sylvania Place; 5' being proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 432 Frederick Avenue on Block 308, Lot 50 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, May 27, 2004 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

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

\$35.00 May 14, 2004

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