

# South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 8, NO. 47

50 CENTS

JULY 9, 2004

## Dry Cleaner Robbed Police Seek Witnesses

On July 2 at 2 p.m., police responded to Snow White Cleaners on Stelton Rd. on the report of a robbery.

The lone gunman entered the cleaners wearing a black baseball cap, a tee-shirt with a design on it and beige shoes.

He was carrying a shopping bag which contained assorted clothing. Under the bag, he held a black handgun and demanded the money from the register.

The 37-year-old female employee

handed the robber an undetermined amount of cash.

The robber fled on foot in a northerly direction past the Taco Bell restaurant towards the K-Mart store. There were no injuries as a result of the incident. An extensive search was conducted, but with negative results.

Anyone who may have witnessed the robbery or observed the suspect flee is asked to call the South Plainfield Detective Bureau at (908) 226-7666.

## Revolutionary War Plaque Finds Home in Borough Hall

By William Tuthill

Borough Hall is now home to one more piece of South Plainfield history. The Liberty Plaque, created in honor of the 25 area residents who served in the military during the Revolutionary War, was officially unveiled at last month's Borough Council meeting. It is now housed in Borough Hall

The plaque reads: "Erected to honor the memory of the valiant citizens of this community who served in the American Forces that won our Liberty in the War of Independence, 1775-1781. To these, and their comrades in arms, we owe the birth of liberty on these shores and we rededicate our commitment to which they struggled."



From left to right Municipal Clerk Vinnie Buttiglieri, Anthony Cotoia of the South Plainfield Historical Society, Former Postmaster John Sideck and Sarah Miele display the Liberty Plaque.

where residents can get a glimpse of this small piece of local history.

The Liberty Plaque was originally presented to the borough in recognition of our nation's Bicentennial in 1976. For years it had been hanging in the South Plainfield Post Office, but was taken down during their recent renovations and apparently never rehanging when completed.

Fortunately, it was rescued from oblivion by John Sideck, former South Plainfield Postmaster, who found it sitting in a corner. Tulio Capparelli did some restoration work on the plaque and added a Plexiglas front to protect it from any further damage.

The plaque was formally presented to the South Plainfield Historical Society in June by John Sideck, who is now retired.

Names of the 25 South Plainfield Residents who served during the Revolutionary War are inscribed at the bottom of the plaque. They are: Obidiah Ayers, David Blackford, Nathan Blackford, David Coriell, Ebenezer Tingley, Ephraim Drake, Joseph Drake, Benjamin Laing, Christianus Lupardus, Andrew Manning, David Martin, Enoch Runyon, James Martin, Sr. Nehemiah Fitz Randolph, Samuel Drake, Simeon Drake, Benjamin Sollard, William Lupardus, Benjamin Sollard, Benjamin Manning, Morris Frazee, Richard Runyon, Thomas Soper, Richard Heldom, Joseph Fitz Randolph and Clawson Dunn. Some of these Revolutionary War heroes still have relatives in South Plainfield.

The plaque is on display at Borough Hall, so make a point to check it out and see a part of our history.



SPHS graduating students assemble for the 2004 commencement exercises. For additional photos and a list of graduates, see pages 8 and 9.

## EPA Releases Cornell-Dubilier Clean Up Proposals

The EPA will hold a public meeting to announce their long-awaited Proposal Plans to clean up the Cornell-Dubilier site, located on Hamilton Blvd.

The contaminated site has been the source of several years of intensive testing and public meetings, to choose the best way to clean up the site. During the open meetings, the public was allowed to have an input in the final decision on how to clean-up the contaminated areas on the site.

Three proposed alternative plans for the building were evaluated by the EPA. The EPA has chosen alternative

plan three, which calls for demolition and off-site disposal of a portion of the buildings.

Five proposed alternatives for the contaminated soil were evaluated by the EPA and they have chosen a combination of alternatives three and five, which will remove some of the soil for off-site disposal and the installation of a soil vapor extraction (SVE) system, which will remove the contaminants from the soil on site.

Cost estimates for the clean-up will run in the millions and may take years.

A public meeting is planned for Tuesday, July 13 at Borough Hall starting at 7 p.m. Representatives from the EPA will be on hand to explain the various proposals. Community members will be allowed to comment on the proposed plans.

A final copy of the proposed alternative plans is available at the South Plainfield Library. A public comment period from July 6 through Aug. 5 will allow residents to submit written comments on the proposed plan. See the ad on page 6 of the *Observer* for more details on the proposals.

## BOROUGH NOTES

### Council Notes

- An ordinance passed last week prohibits parking on any part of Belmont Ave.

- The borough has purchased a piece of property on Plainfield Ave. between Unity Bank and Conroy Funeral Home. The property, combined with a lot already owned, will be the future site of the new library. The cost of the property was \$325,000.

- Block parties have been approved for on the following dates: Aug. 21 on Morton Ave. from Poe Place to Dumas Ave. and Sept. 4 on Monmouth St. from Walnut St. to Sussex St.

- Salina Giuliani has been hired as a part-time clerk typist in the Municipal Clerk's Office effective June 21.

- Two professional services contracts were awarded to CME Associates: to review the property acquisitions and easements associated with Hamilton Blvd., not to exceed

\$4,500, and to review conceptual plan designs associated with the proposed road improvements to New Brunswick Ave. and West Seventh St., both not to exceed \$3,500.

- The borough has reached a contract agreement with PBA 100 Superior officers covering Jan. 1, 2004 through Dec. 31, 2006. The officers will receive a 3.9 percent pay increase for each of the three years.

- A professional service contract was awarded to DMJM Harris to prepare the information needed to acquire a time extension for wetlands delineation for the Helen St. Project at a cost not exceed \$17,638.75.

- The police department will purchase new digital video recording equipment for their cell block cameras at a cost of \$6,324.

- Mary Beth Khidre was promoted to the position of Secretary Boards and Commissions.

- Interstate Paving has been award-

ed a contract for the Phase 2 upgrading and improvements on Belmont Ave. at a cost not exceed \$182,744.65. The borough received a NJDOT grant in the amount of \$15,000.

- Pinto Brothers was awarded a contract to perform bulky waste collections in the borough. The cost will not exceed \$143,400.

- The borough has renewed the crossing guard contract to DMS Systems for the school years 2004-2005.

- CME Associates has been awarded a contract to provide engineering services for the borough from July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005.

- Fleming White Appraisals has been awarded a contract with the Borough to conduct appraisals from July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005.

- Everett Byard has been hired as a part-time groundskeeper at the recycling center beginning June 28.

## To make next week's edition...

Copy and advertising must be received by Monday, July 12 at 5 p.m. to be included in the Friday, July 16 edition.

## Mark Your Calendars

### 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, July 12	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Monday, August 9	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, September 7	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 (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Avenue.

### planning board

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

July 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

July 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.—July 20, Aug. 17, 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.—July 20, Aug. 17, Sept. 21, (Monday) Oct. 18, Nov. 16, Dec. 21, Jan. 18 2005, Feb. 15, March 15 and April 12

### 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.

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

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

July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10, December 8, 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

### board of education curriculum/technology meetings

Meets once a month on Mondays, (except where noted) at 8 p.m. in the 2nd floor conference room at Roosevelt Administration Building on Jackson Ave.

July 19, August 16, September 13, (No meeting in October), November 15, December 13, January 31, 2005, (No meeting February) and March 21

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

## 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.

### To the Editor:

Although all Ponytail parents actively support their children and all other children involved in the association, I want to take this opportunity to thank a few "special people" who have gone above and beyond the normal expectations.

These people, some of whom have no children involved in the program, seem to always be there with helping hands and hearts. These particular families are the Szeligas, the Senzes, the Sutherlands, the Hardys, the Di Dolces and last, but certainly not least, Deb Boyle, who not only supportively goes the extra mile, but financially as well.

Again, I must thank all of you for a wonderful tournament weekend and it's always great to see the parents of the children who have played in the past.

**SINCERELY,  
PAT DESANTIS,  
PONYTAIL PARENT,  
SPPA TREASURER**

## Middlesex Cty. Fair Charity Challenge

For the fourth consecutive year, Bonamici, Colletti, P.C., Certified Public Accountants, will be sponsoring the Middlesex County Fair's Charity Challenge event. The Middlesex County Fair will be held this year on Aug. 2 through 8 at the fairgrounds located on Cranbury Rd. in East Brunswick. The Middlesex County Fair Association is encouraging all eligible charities to participate in this year's event.

"The Middlesex County Fair Association is very conscious of the need to serve the county and its people. We are very happy to be their partners through the Charity Challenge in helping to raise funds for those in need in our county," said Kirk Bonamici, managing partner of Bonamici, Colletti. "An eligible charity is any charity that has a federal tax exemption and operates in Middlesex County. Each participating charity receives a water jug that has their name and can contain information on the organization's purpose. The jugs are all placed in the Charity Challenge arena and during Fair week, visitors at the Fair are encouraged to stop by the arena and support the participating charities.

To enter this year's Charity Challenge, a charity should write to the Middlesex County Fair Association, PO Box 400, Milltown, NJ 08850. Include the charity's name, a representative and telephone number and a copy of the organization's IRS tax-exempt letter. The charities should send a representative to count their donations on Sunday, Aug. 8 at 6 p.m. and receive the \$500 prize if they are the winning organization.

Any charities that participated in previous years should only send a letter to the Fair Association indicating their desire to participate again this year. Entries must be received by July 31.



Police Chief Bob Merkler, Capt. John Ferraro and Sgt. James Parker of the SPPD receive \$67,000 in forfeiture money from DEA Resident Agent in Charge Paul Cronin and DEA Special Agent Richard Reck.

## Forfeiture Money Will Help Build New Police Detective Building

Last Tuesday the old PAL building, located behind Borough Hall, was demolished. (See photo below) It will be replaced with a new Detective building for use by the South Plainfield Police Department.

Monies received through forfeiture from the DEA received on Thursday will be used to house a juvenile aide bureau, a conference room and computer forensic lab.

The old building was originally a bike shop, which was located next to

the Rescue Squad building. It was picked up and moved behind the Borough Hall parking lot. The building was then used by the police department as a youth group or DARE building. It housed a meeting room and a gym for the PBA. The building hadn't been used in over five years since flooding caused it to be condemned.

Plans for the future building have already been drawn up and construction should be starting soon.



The old PAL building behind Borough Hall was demolished last week to make way for a new detective building.

## South Plainfield Observer

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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 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.

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Pictured in front of their newest quilt are quilters at the Morris Ave. Senior Residence: Jeanne McElwee, Ivonne Kyle, Mary Mitrano, Dorothy Jones, Catherine Horan and Joan Hochreiner.

## Senior Residence Members Create Unique Quilts

A group of ladies at the Senior Residence have been getting together every week to do some quilting. Some are experienced and some are novices, but all are having a great time creating beautiful quilts and meeting socially at the same time.

Their latest creation, which hangs in the meeting room, is a quilt designed just for the senior residence.

They have created quilts using themes such as babies, buttons, bows and more. All are colorful and cre-

ated by hand. The group hopes to sell some of their original works later this year.

Members of the quilting group not pictured are Loretta Lent, Lauren Crilley, Ann Emmons, Dolores Burkle, May Fash, Patricia Szalai, Helen Cataldo, Catherine Chepulis, Elvira Cary, Florence Jacobelli and Grace Neiland. The group would like to thank everyone who made contributions of material as well as donations.

## Resident Frustrated by Mortgage Company Blunder

When Robert Olsen purchased his home in South Plainfield from his father-in-law, he never anticipated the trouble he would have in paying his taxes. After all, at the time of his closing, he signed papers to have his mortgage company escrow for, and pay, his property taxes for him.

It turned out that things were not that easy. Soon after closing, his mortgage was sold to another company. Olsen still was not worried, until his father-in-law called him in the beginning of June to say he got a notice in Florida, where he now lives, saying he was delinquent in his property taxes and they would be sold at the tax auction if not paid by a certain date.

Alarmed, Olsen called his mortgage company, which claimed that no taxes were due to be paid until July. He also went to the borough tax office to explain that his mortgage company was responsible, but their records showed his father-in-law still owned the property and they couldn't help him.

It took six calls to the mortgage company, including a supervisor, before they realized their mistake and sent an overnight check to prevent the sale of his property taxes.

However, it did not prevent Olsen's name from appearing in the tax sale notice which appeared in the *Observer* for two weeks prior to the sale. This embarrassed Olsen, who is a police officer in Edison. His neighbors and co-workers saw his name in the paper and thought he was truly delinquent.

Olsen said he did get a sewer bill, was able to pay it and have the name on the bill changed with the help of those working in the tax office. He said everyone at Borough Hall was very courteous and wanted to help, but their hands were tied.

In the meantime, his taxes have been paid and he has a letter from the mortgage company apologizing and admitting their error. They have not only

paid the outstanding taxes, but all delinquent charges and he will not be responsible for the extra charges.

However, Olsen still feels he was publicly embarrassed by having his name placed in the paper and having everyone looking at him as if he didn't pay his bills. "Maybe after everyone reads this story, they will understand that this was just an error by my mortgage company, which has been corrected," said Olsen.

## Roosevelt Honors Memory of Former Janitor

By Jane Dornick

A man affectionately known to faculty and students at Roosevelt Elementary School as "Mr. Nate" passed away recently and was honored with the planting of a garden and plaque outside the school entrance.

Nathaniel "Mr. Nate" Seabrook, a custodian who worked for Sodexo at Roosevelt School for nearly 18 years, died suddenly this past April. The student council decided that the best way to remember their beloved friend was to plant a garden in his memory. They held a fundraiser during lunch times called "Nickels for Mr. Nate's Garden," and collected a total of \$730 in change between contributions from the students, teachers, staff and Sodexo. With that money they were able to purchase a plaque, bench and items to create the garden. Bolesta Landscaping generously donated the time to plant the memorial garden which is a wonderful place for



Student Council Advisors Allison Ferraro and Margaret Mosely, and Principal Jacqueline Keogh with members of the student council in Mr. Nate's Garden.

students and friends to reflect on the time they had spent with their dear friend. AKA Inc. on New Market Ave. also gave the school a discount on the plaque they had made.

A ceremony was held to formerly dedicate the sitting area with stu-

dents, faculty, members of the Board of Education and Sodexo in attendance. Principal Jacqueline Keogh spoke fondly of Mr. Nate and how he will be missed and that this will be a special place to visit and remember him.

## Monument Park Project Dedication Date Set

Construction on South Plainfield Monument Park is nearing completion. The park is dedicated to the military veterans from South Plainfield who served in a theatre of operations during a time of foreign conflict, as well as police officers, fire department and rescue squad members who served our community.

A formal dedication ceremony will be held on Saturday, July 17 at 9 a.m.

at the park. All members of the community are cordially invited to come join and participate in the official opening and dedication of the park.

Parking is available at the Senior Citizen Center (located adjacent to the

park) or behind the Library.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Police Chief Robert K. Merkler at (908) 226-7676 or OEM Coordinator Michael Zushma at (908) 753-3775.

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# Events

## Class of 2005 Holding Car Wash

July 10

The Class of 2005 will hold a car wash on Saturday, July 10 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Middle School parking lot.

Cars are \$5 and trucks are \$7. Please come out and help support our class!

## Free Craft Class

July 10

Building Blocks Preschool announces their Kids Craft Classes for children ages 5-10 Saturday mornings, starting July 10. Children will make crafts, play group games and make snacks. Join us July 10 at 10 a.m. for a free introductory class. Please call Building Blocks Preschool for information and registration at (908) 561-3278.

## American Legion Summer Fest

July 10

The American Legion Chaumont Post 243, located on Oak Tree Ave., will be holding their Annual Summer Fest on Saturday, July 10 from 2 to 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 per adult and \$5 per child under 12. Infants are free. This year's fare consists of beef and ham cooked over a spit, hot dogs and hamburgers, sausage, peppers and onions, salads and corn. Clams and shrimp will be available for a nominal extra charge. Musical entertainment will be provided by DJ. Come on out and kick off the summer fun with us!

## Office of Aging Public Hearing

July 12

The Middlesex County Office of Aging will hold a public hearing at the South Plainfield Senior Center on Monday, July 12 at 10 a.m. All concerned residents are encouraged to attend this meeting. It is an excellent opportunity to learn about programs and activities, to voice your ideas and concerns and pose questions on any senior citizen issue.

## Trip to Foxwoods And Mohegan Sun

July 14-15

The Senior Center is sponsoring an overnight trip to Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun on July 14 and 15. The cost is \$109 per person based on double occupancy and includes transportation, accommodations at the Hilltop

## What's happening in JULY

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> We are looking for volunteers to help our Labor Day Parade Committee Sign Up at the Center Trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse to see "Heat Wave" - July 29 Trip to AC Taj Mahal - Aug. 5			Weekly Shopping 8 Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10-11am Computer Class 11&1pm	Bingo 10am-2pm 9 Pizza lunch available Meditation Club 9:30am
Public Hearing 10am Crafts 9:30-11:30am Yoga 10:30am-11:30am Drawing Class 11:30am Parade Committee 1pm	Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social 10am	Exercise 8:30am Line Dancing 10am Movie Time 11:30am AARP Crafts 1pm Computer Class 11 & 1pm Foxwoods Trip Stroke Screening 9am-5pm	Weekly Shopping 15 Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11&1pm Foxwoods Trip	Bingo 10am-2pm Lunch available Meditation Class 9:30am

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

Inn, a five-hour visit to Foxwoods with a buffet dinner, a five-hour visit to Mohegan Sun including a buffet with a \$10 meal credit, breakfast at the hotel and a visit to Olyde Mystic Village, baggage handling and taxes. This trip is open to the public. You do not need to be a member of the Senior Center. Call (908) 754-1047 to reserve a seat.

## SDW Holding Pizzeria Uno Fundraiser

July 18

The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop is holding a fundraiser at Pizzeria Uno on Stelton Rd. on July 18 from 4 to 9 p.m.

Pizzeria Uno will donate 20% of each check accompanied by a coupon to the group. Coupons are available by contacting any member of the group, through email at [spsdw.com](mailto:spsdw.com), or by calling (908) 561-5255. Coupons can be used for eat-in or take-out.

## Rainbow Academy Plans Open House

July 21

Rainbow Academy Child Care Center, located at 2177 Oak Tree Rd., will hold an Open House on Wednesday, July 21, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Rainbow Academy offers a variety of programs to fit your child's needs, from ages six weeks to eight years. There is limited space available for the infant, nursery, pre-kindergarten and summer camp programs. Everyone who registers will receive a free month of

ParentWatch, an internet viewing service.

In addition to the Open House, you are invited to visit the center for a tour during normal operating hours. For directions and information, visit their website at [www.rainbowacademy.com](http://www.rainbowacademy.com).

## Charity Softball Tournament

July 24

A charity softball tournament will be held on Saturday, July 24 at 8 a.m. to benefit Gary Muccigrossi, a South Plainfield police officer in need of a lung transplant. The tournament will take place at the South Plainfield High School ball fields.

The tournament will consist of three divisions: men's slow pitch, double elimination, \$250 entry fee, \$500 first place and \$250 second place; a women's slow pitch, double elimination, \$200 entry fee, \$200 first place and co-ed slow pitch, single elimination, limited homeruns, \$200 entry fee. Deadline for registration is July 10.

Teams can register by contacting Det. Gary Cassio at (908) 226-7663 or Det. Chris Colucci at (908) 226-7662. You may also call the South Plainfield PAL at (908) 226-7714.

All other donations will be greatly appreciated to help defer all costs of the lab fees and medical costs for Muccigrossi. The rain date is July 25.

## Trip to Dover Raceway

July 29

The Polish National Home is sponsoring a trip to Dover Raceway for Sept. 26. for the Nascar race. For information on prices and to sign up for the trip, call (908) 668-9442 and speak to a bartender. The deadline is July 29.

## Trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse

July 29

A trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse is scheduled for Thursday, July 29 to see the summer musical revue "Heat Wave." The great songs, music and dances of popular music will be brought to life in a fresh theatrical format you can't find anywhere else. The cost is \$50 per person and includes transportation, a luncheon and show. This trip is open the public. You do not need to be a member of the Senior Center. For a reservation, call the Senior Center at (908) 754-1047.

## Senior Center EVENTS

## — Out of Town —

## WOWs to hold "All Welcome Dance"

July 9

Middlesex East Widows or Widowers Carteret Chapter will hold an open dance on Friday, July 9 at St. Demetrius Community Center, 681-691 Roosevelt Ave., Carteret. Members are \$8 and guests are \$9. There will be live music and refreshments served. The dance is from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. For more information, call (732) 541-2174 or (908) 757-0515.

## MCRCC Fast Track Networking

July 16

The is a monthly networking and opportunity-sharing group will hold a fast track networking from 8 to 9 a.m. at 1 Distribution Way in Monmouth Junction. The event is open to members of the Middlesex County Regional Chamber of Commerce (MCRCC).

For membership information, please call (732) 821-1700. To register, visit [www.mcrcc.org](http://www.mcrcc.org).

## Student Art Exhibit

July 10-31

A multi-media showcase of works by 19 young award-winning artists selected from the Annual Juried Student Exhibit at the duCret School of Art will be on exhibit, July 10 through 31, at Swain Galleries in Plainfield.

Regular hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Swain Galleries, a 135-year-old family business in Plainfield featuring fine art at 703 Watchung Ave. For more details, call (908) 756-1707.

## Moonrakers "Meet and Greet"

July 13

The New Jersey Moonrakers Tall Club, Inc. will hold its monthly "Meet and Greet" social at Saddle Brook Marriot hotel, located between Route 80 and the GSP in Saddle Brook on Tuesday, July 13 at 8 p.m.

For information or a schedule of social events, call our 24-hour hotline service at (973) 267-3648 or visit our website at <http://www.njtall.org> or email at [newjersey@tall.org](mailto:newjersey@tall.org).

## Free Workshop on College Costs

July 13

A free workshop is being held for the parents of collegebound high school students at Raritan Valley Community College on Tuesday, July 13 at Raritan Valley Community College. Class is from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Seating is free but limited. To reserve a seat, call toll free: (877) 656-2727.

## Benefit for Ronald McDonald House

July 14

Loews Cineplex in New Brunswick will present the film "Peter Pan" on Wednesday, July 14 to benefit the newest Ronald McDonald House. Making a special appearance will be Ronald McDonald to meet and greet all the children. Doors will open at 9:30 a.m. and the movie starts at 10 a.m. Admission is a \$5 donation per person.

The new location in New Brunswick will open its doors to families by late summer. It will be located across from Bristol Meyers-Squibb Children's Hospital, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and the Cancer Institute. There are currently 235 Ronald Houses worldwide; this will be the newest.

For information about Ronald McDonald House or the presentation of "Peter Pan," call (732) 222-8755.

## WOWs Business Meeting

July 14

The Woodbridge Area Chapter of Widows or Widowers (WOWs) will have a business meeting and social on Wednesday, July 14 at 7 p.m. in the main Public Library, George Frederick Plaza, Amboy Ave., Woodbridge. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, call (732) 297-1775.

## Classes for Children with Autism

July 20-August 25

Classes for the Parent/Child Workshops in Music/Movement and Art for Children with Autism or Autistic Behaviors will be offered on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, July 20-Aug. 25 at the Elks BPO Lodge in New Brunswick. In addition, art workshops will be offered at the College of St. Elizabeth in Morristown. These workshops are free of charge. Youngsters ages three to 17 are invited to participate. Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis.

For information and registration applications, contact Karen Singer at (732) 745-3885, 754-5935, 745-3919 (TTY), [info@vsanj.org](mailto:info@vsanj.org). Application deadline is July 11.

## 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).

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## southplainfieldpeople

# Milestones



On May 15, Jennie and Art Stasio celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary at the home of their son, Marc and his family. Longtime residents of South Plainfield, the couple enjoyed a party attended by many of their close friends and family members.

### Alison Barrett Participates in Commencement at Franklin & Marshall

Alison Barrett was among the 431 seniors at Franklin & Marshall College who participated in commencement exercises on May 16 at the college's graduation ceremony.

President of the Council on Foreign Relations, Dr. Richard N. Haass, delivered the commencement address and received an honorary doctor of laws from Franklin & Marshall President John A. Fry.

Associate Deans Fred Owens and Ann Steiner presented Bachelor of Arts diplomas to seniors before an audience of about 5,000 people.

Alison Marie Barrett, a business administration (management) major, is a 2000 graduate of South Plainfield High School. She is the daughter of Cindy and Thomas Barrett of South Plainfield. As a Dean's List student, she was an executive of the College Entertainment Committee, volunteered for America Reads and was a member of the concert committee. She was also a Mom's House volunteer, a member of the Student Athletic Advisory Committee and an All-Centennial Confer-

ence honorable mention pitcher as captain of the varsity softball team.

Founded in 1787, Franklin & Marshall College is a coeducational liberal arts institution. Approximately 1,850 students are enrolled in the college.

### Silhanek Named to Dean's List

Jennifer L. Silhanek, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Silhanek of South Plainfield, has been named to the Dean's List for the second semester at William Paterson University in

### Jacqueline Ortega Chosen as State Finalist

Jacqueline Ortega, 16, daughter of Cecilia Baita, has been named a State Finalist in the Miss New Jersey American Teen Pageant. The pageant is held for girls ages 16-17.

Miss Ortega's activities include jazz, ballet, lyrical and hip hop dancing. She also enjoys her youth group, which she is very happy to be one of the youth missionaries that will go to Arizona from July 26 to Aug. 2. Miss Ortega's sponsors include her mother.



Jacqueline Ortega

Wayne.

The university's requirements for Dean's list status is a 3.5 GPA or higher.

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From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

By Chris Grippo

We have another busy week coming up at the South Plainfield Public Library. Plans are rapidly moving forth for a new library building and we are again having a public forum on July 15 at 7 p.m. This is an important opportunity for community input concerning the new building.

Moreover, we are currently having a contest for people to show us what they would like the new library to look like. So put those ideas down on paper. There are four categories, up to age six, ages 7-12, ages 13-18 and adult in which prizes will be awarded. So have some fun and who knows some of your ideas might end up as part of the new library building.

Also on Thursday, July 15 Miss Mija's American Girls reading program starts and will run for the next few Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.

Besides the above mentioned activities, Miss Linda has her regular story/craft programs on Tuesday at 10:15 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. Also Books-n-Babies will be held on Friday at 10:30 a.m. for children up to the age of three and a Kidcraft program on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. for ages six and up.

We are also in week two of the Summer Reading Program so if you haven't joined the program yet it is not too late. Remember you earn great prizes for doing something you enjoy, **READING!**

## Hospice Volunteers Needed

Caring Hospice Services provides care and comfort to terminally ill patients and their families in New Jersey. Volunteers play an extremely important role in hospice work and are needed in Essex, Middlesex and Union counties. If you enjoy people and wish to share your gifts with others, we will

set up a personal training session for you. You will find that helping others by friendly visitation, shopping or simply assisting in the hospice office is very rewarding for everyone involved. If you are interested in learning more, call Director Loretta Spoltore or Douglas Skerbetz at (908) 624-1497.

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## Carolyn Parisi Walking for Breast Cancer Awareness

Ledden Terrace resident Carolyn Parisi is putting her best foot forward, over and over again, this summer. From Aug. 6 through 8 Parisi, along with thousands of other tri-state women and men, will walk 60 miles over three days to raise awareness and funds for Breast Cancer. The 3-Day is held in 10 major cities across the country each year to raise funds for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Parisi will be walking in the New York City 3-Day.

Every year in the United States, breast cancer claims nearly 40,000 lives. At each Breast Cancer 3-Day, thousands of women and men, including breast cancer survivors, family members, friends and supporters of the cause, gather together to walk 20 miles a day for three days to battle breast cancer one step at a time. Whatever their inspiration, all walkers have the same goal: to raise money to save lives and help put an end to breast cancer.

Besides knowing several people who have lost loved ones to breast cancer and others who are currently battling the diseases, the 3-Day has a personal meaning for Parisi. "After undergoing two biopsies in two years, I looked at my young daughter and thought, 'I never want her to have to go through this, all the pain and worry, there must be a way to stop this'. I started to realize how many daughters have lost mothers and how many mothers have lost daughters to Breast Cancer. My mother-in-law lost her mother to breast cancer and it's just so sad. No mother should have to bury their daughter and no daughter should have to bury their mother due to breast cancer. So I decided to do something about it, to try and contribute to find-

ing a cure. The 3-Day has given me the opportunity to raise more money than I could ever contribute personally and a chance to lead by example."

The Breast Cancer 3-Day in New York City will start on Friday morning, Aug. 6 and end with closing ceremonies on Sunday, Aug. 8 at Liberty State Park. The approximately 4,000 walkers will cover about 20 miles a day, traveling at their own pace. The walkers will be supported by approximately 500 volunteer crew members who will provide meals, water and snack stops, gear transport, hot showers, portable restrooms, safety on the streets and comprehensive medical services.

In order to participate, each walker must train for many months prior to the event and must commit to raising a minimum of \$2,000 (Parisi has committed to \$3,000). According to Parisi, the hardest part is not the actual three-day walk, but the months spent training beforehand. Working full time and taking care of a family does not leave a lot of time to walk four to six miles every weekday and 10 or more each Saturday and Sunday. "I've had a hard time keeping up my training" she said, "I try to be creative and run errands on foot whenever I can, walking from my house to the post office, doing laps around my neighborhood and stopping off at home to throw in the next load of laundry every few miles, etc."

To help Parisi reach her goal, you can make a donation directly to her donation page at [www.The3Day.org](http://www.The3Day.org). Just enter the website, then click on the donation button and key in her name. To learn how to participate or volunteer, visit [www.The3Day.org](http://www.The3Day.org) or call (800) 996-3DAY.

## Students Visit Franklin Institute Museum

By Jane Dornick

Franklin Elementary School students spent many hours preparing projects for their annual "Franklin Institute Museum" held last month. Youngsters spent all day displaying and visiting the many interesting and creative projects handmade by each other.

The kindergarten classes had a petting zoo come to the school with a variety of different animals to see and touch. The first grade classes presented what they called an "aquarium" with hand crafted sea creature displays. Second graders had an array of dinosaur exhibits. The theme for the third grade was pioneers and native Americans. Students were dressed in costumes and put on a brief performance for guests on settler life. They also had on display many items used by each group and had stations where you could churn butter or make a craft yourself. The topic for the fourth grade class was immigration and food dishes. Each student prepared and served a food dish native to an immigrant relative and drew a post with facts related to the country they were representing.

The entire day combined fun with a lot of hands on learning.

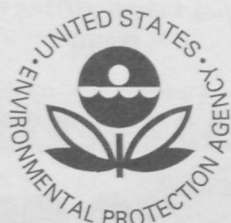


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### U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION II INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT

#### Proposed Cleanup for the Cornell-Dubilier Electronics Superfund Site South Plainfield, Middlesex County, New Jersey

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announces the opening of a 30-day public comment period on the Proposed Plan and Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS), which addresses the cleanup of contaminated facility soil and buildings at the former Cornell-Dubilier Electronics (CDE) facility in South Plainfield, Middlesex County, New Jersey. As part of the public comment period, EPA will hold a public meeting on **July 13, 2004, at 7:00 p.m.**, in the **South Plainfield Borough Hall located at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey**. The meeting, which will address the proposed cleanup plan, will allow community members to comment on the proposed plan to EPA officials. A final copy of the RI/FS for facility soils and buildings at the CDE facility and Proposed Plan may be reviewed at the South Plainfield Public Library, 2484 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey, and at the EPA Region II Records Center located at 290 Broadway, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor in New York City.

As the lead agency, EPA divided the site into three Operable Units (OUs). The first OU addressed residential, commercial, and municipal properties in the vicinity of the CDE facility. The second operable unit (OU2), the focus of this Proposed Plan, addresses the remediation of soils and buildings at the former CDE facility on Hamilton Boulevard. Additional operable units will address the contaminated groundwater and contaminated sediments at the Bound Brook.

Based upon the results of the Second Operable Unit RI/FS, EPA prepared a Proposed Plan that describes all the cleanup alternatives and provides EPA's rationale for recommending these alternatives. EPA evaluated the following three building alternatives:

- Alternative B-1: No Action**
- Alternative B-2: Decontamination and Surface Encapsulation/ Institutional Controls**
- Alternative B-3: Demolition/Off-Site Disposal**

EPA evaluated the following five soil alternatives:

- Alternative S-1: No Action**
- Alternative S-2: Excavation; Off-Site Disposal with Treatment (if necessary)/Institutional Controls**
- Alternative S-3: Principal Threat Excavation; Off-Site Disposal with Treatment (if necessary)/Multi-Layer Cap/Institutional Controls**
- Alternative S-4: Soil Vapor Extraction/Solidification/Multi-Layer Cap/Institutional Controls**
- Alternative S-5: Low Temperature Thermal Desorption/Multi-Layer Cap/Institutional Controls**

EPA recommends Alternative B-3 for the Preferred Alternative in the Proposed Plan to address the contaminated facility buildings. The Preferred Alternative for the buildings includes a contingency remedy that would allow for the decontamination and surface encapsulation of certain buildings that may not need to be demolished. Institutional Controls would also be employed for any structures that are not demolished.

EPA's Preferred Alternative for soils is a combination of Alternative S-3 (Principal Threat Excavation; Off-Site Disposal/Multi-Layer Cap/Institutional Controls), and Alternative S-5 (Low Temperature Thermal Desorption; Multi-Layer Cap/Institutional Controls), described in more detail in the Proposed Plan.

Before selecting a final remedy, EPA and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection will consider all written and oral comments on this preferred remedy. All comments must be received on or before August 5, 2004. The final decision document, or Record of Decision, will include a summary of public comments and EPA's responses.

Comments will be accepted in person at the public meeting and/or in written form through August 5, 2004. Please address all written comments to:

**Peter Mannino**  
Remedial Project Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
290 Broadway, 19<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10007-1866

# Booster Club Honors Senior Athletes at Dinner



Outgoing Athletic Booster Club president Mickey Wrublewski.

Story/photos by Patricia Abbott

The South Plainfield Athletic Booster Club (SPABC) held their Senior Letter Winners Dinner to honor the students for receiving a letter in their sport(s) of choice. One hundred and seventeen seniors were invited to the annual event, which was held at the North Plainfield Italian American Club. Each athlete received

an SPHS sports throw as a gift and their meal was paid for by the SPABC. The evening was emceed by Steve Novak. The invocation and benediction were presented by GMC scholar athletes Vicky Boley and Jonathan Bugey respectively.

Presiding over the evening was Mickey Wrublewski's last 'official' duty as SPABC president. She welcomed

the incoming officers, Co-Presidents Chet Czaplinski and Connie Besser, Vice President Holly Weakly, Secretary Maureen Noll and Treasurer John George. She gave hearty congratulations to retiring members Kevin and Sue Schweers, Michele Bataille, Kris and Tim Dziomba, Margaret Celenzano, Giriny Butrico and Life Member Mike English. She also introduced the incoming SPABC officers. Among those receiving special awards were retiring assistant athletic director Sandy Kavka for dedication and hard work in supporting the booster club over the years, and retiring Middle School teacher and coach Terry Allen. SPABC scholarships of \$750 were awarded to Jimmy Bataille and Heather Loensor.

Several members of the administration congratulated the athletes and offered encouragement and best wishes. The students were told that college was a big step, returning them



Booster Club Life Member Mike English presents a scholarship to Heather Loensor.



Student athlete carries gift.

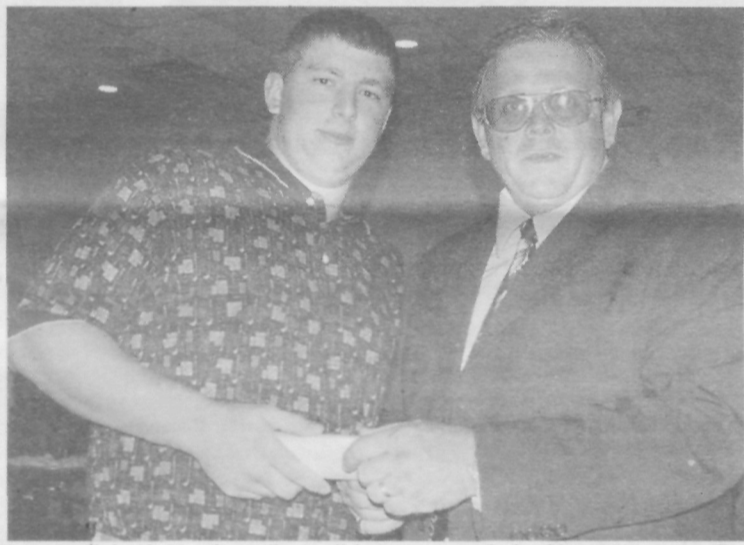
to "small fish in the sea" status and reminding them that after graduation they would always be welcome at SPHS as alumni. Guest speakers included Phil Galiano, Rutgers Football Assistant Coach and SPHS 2003 graduates Kim Dziomba and Tim Keller. The most poignant speeches came from Dziomba and Keller. Speaking from experience with humor and newfound knowledge, they offered sound advice on handling that first year of college.

Also in attendance were Superintendent of Schools Dr. Robert Rosado, Assistant Superintendent Anthony Massaro, High School Principal Dr. Ken May, Board of Ed Member Tim Morgan, Athletic Director Michael Bugey, coaches,

trainers and others.

Mickey said her good-byes amid tears and laughter. Her final words were, "Thank you so much for the last nine years. I have enjoyed working with all of you in our efforts to

help all of our student athletes at South Plainfield High School. It was fun working for the kids and I will always treasure the memories and the friendships I have made through the Booster Club."



Booster Club Life Member Mike English presents a scholarship to Jimmy Bataille.

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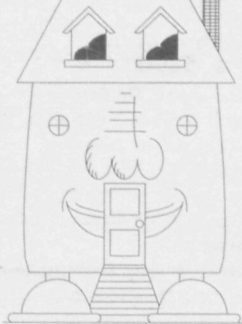
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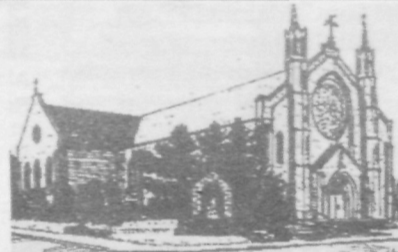
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**2004**  
South Plainfield  
High School

# Congratulations South Plainfield High School



# Class of 2004

The South Plainfield High School Graduating Class of 2004, along with their awards (in alphabetical order) are:

**A**

- Christopher Harrison**  
Parkhurst Abbott  
**Marcellus Lorenzo Abrams**  
**Dana Acevedo**  
**Davis Acevedo**  
**Brian Donald Acrin**  
**Elaine Nicole Alexander**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, English Department Award for Academic Excellence in Journalism  
**Marilyn Ann Alexander**  
**Regina Alin**  
**David John Alara**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society  
**Jamaal Eugene Harvey Allen**  
**Michael Daniel Alvarez**  
**Jonathan Paul Alves**  
**Sandra Ivette Amaya**  
National Art Honor Society  
**Arti Jyotindra Amin**  
Scholastic Honor Society  
**Almasa Amini**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, National Art Honor Society  
**David P. Amini**  
**Jacqueline Arango**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, French National Honor Society  
**Nathanael Elijah Archbold**  
**Danielle Sara Aronowitz**  
Scholastic Honor Society, Science Department Award for Academic Excellence in Environmental Science, French National Honor Society  
**Geraldine Ascencio**

- Wazir Bacchus**  
**Rebecca Ann Banghart**  
**Timothy James Barkalow**  
**Alexander Edward Barletta**  
**Robert Joseph Barone**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society  
**James Duncan Bataille**  
**Karolina Blazejowicz**  
ESL Department Award, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Yemili Nelly Boldo**  
**Victoria Lynn Boley**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, World Languages Department Award for Academic Excellence in Spanish  
**Shannon Marie Boyles**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Shawn Christopher Brown**  
**Jonathan Michael Buggey**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society  
**Kaitlin Kelly Bundy**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Kelly Marie Butrico**  
**Kristie Ann Butrico**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society

**C**

- Jorge Eduardo Henao Calle**  
**Thomas Vincent Campanella**  
**Elvis Josue Diaz Cardona**  
**Nicole Christina Carlson**  
**Tarryn Lynel Carlton**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Mary Smyllie Memorial Scholarship, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Michael Alan Carmon**  
Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society  
**Elizabeth Ann Carney**

- Walter Vladimir Welches Carrillo**  
**Vincent Salvatore Carubia**  
National Art Honor Society  
**Rocco Anthony Casiero**  
**Jonathan Michael Chiang**  
**Jeanine Michelle Christopher**  
**Jesse Jacob Colby**  
**Shade Elizabeth Coleman**  
**Zachary James Coppola**  
**Jason Michael Cosma**  
**Jose Leon Cruz II**  
**Andrew Steven Cupido**  
**Michael Robert Cupo**  
**Christopher Joseph Czaplinski**  
Scholastic Honor Society  
**Justin Paul Czarnik**

**D**

- Lucia Maria D'Addario**  
Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Kelly Anne Daley**  
**Amir S. Davis**  
**Daniel John DeAndrea**  
**Joseph Frank DeBiase, III**  
**Ryan Michael Decker**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Stephanie Joy DeGennaro**  
**Christina DelGenio**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Kevin Frank Demarest**  
**Brittany Lee DeNitzio**  
National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement, Scholastic Honor Society  
**Allison Christine DiCanto**  
**Christopher Thomas Dickerson**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society

- Frank Emil Dietzold, III**  
Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Science Department Award for Academic Excellence in Physics, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Lindsay Marie Diller**  
**Shannon Lee Dillon**  
**Dani-Jo Di Maria**  
Nicholas Vincent Doell Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Claire Fay Dolling**  
**Ryan Stuart Dolling**  
**Jenee Marie Douras**  
**Alan Justin Dummett**  
**Derek Anthony Dundi**

**E**

- Julian Marcus East**  
**Brian Robert Edwards**  
Scholastic Honor Society, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Jennifer M. Edwing**  
**Christopher Thomas Egan**  
**Ryan Craig Elliot**

**F**

- Chelsea Dallas Falato**  
Scholastic Honor Society  
**John Falzarano**  
**Jessica Farag**  
**Rahik Farhi**  
**Alexander George Ferraris**  
**Nicholas William Figler**  
**Mathew Gordon Finn**  
**Lisa Marie Flammer**  
**Catherine E. Flannery**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, French National Honor Society  
**Michael James Fry**  
**Amanda Marie Fugate**  
**Arielle Francesca Fumosa**

**G**

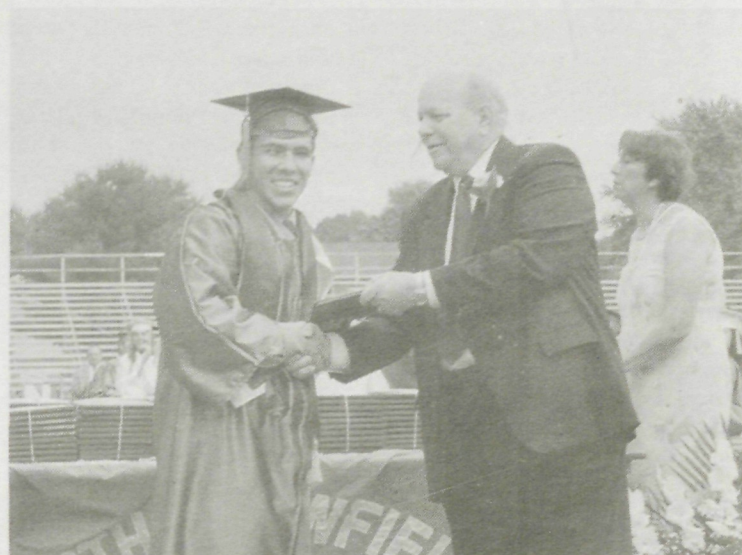
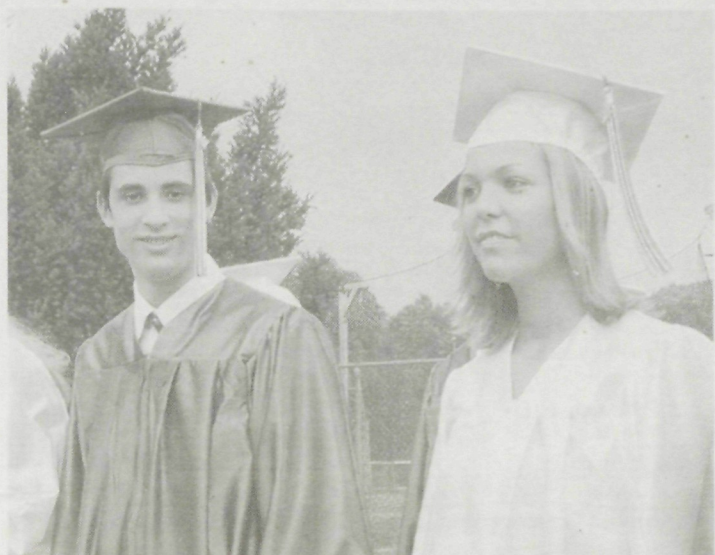
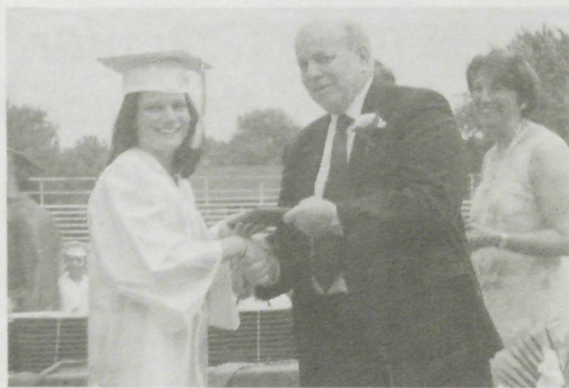
- Matina Ganiaris**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society  
**Gregory Robert Garbowsky**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society  
**Miguel Arturo Garcia**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor

- Society  
**Jaime Lynn Gaughan**  
**Randy Charles Gemenden**  
**Dana Marie Genova**  
**Samantha Grace Gentile**  
**Corey Maurice Gilmore**  
**Selina Marie Giuliano**  
**Steve C. Gopal**  
**Jacquelyn Amanda Graisser**  
**Sarah Bowen Green**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, French National Honor Society, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Tatiana Guaman**  
**Nicholas Joseph Guarraci**  
**Vincent Michael Gulino**  
**Salvatore Gullace, III**  
**Joel Guzman**

**H**

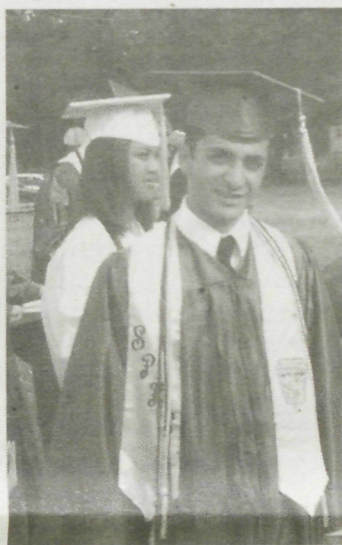
- William Francois Hamilton**  
**Jonathan T. Hammond**  
**Brittany Anne Hartman**  
**Brittany Dawn Hartman**  
**Johanna Leigh Hedler**  
Spanish National Honor Society, Physical Education Department Award for Academic Excellence in Physical Education  
**Christine Ann Helbo**  
Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Marques Hill**  
**Robert John Hoffman**  
**Thomas James Holowka**  
**Christopher Hook**  
**Christopher Edward Horn**  
Scholastic Honor Society  
**Gary Michael Houston**  
**Janice Hussain**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, French National Honor Society, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Jamie Lee Irber**  
Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Tara Rimom Israel**  
Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Social Studies Department Award for Academic Excellence in Social Studies, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement

*Into the future with confidence...*



# 04

rain held off until the ceremonies concluded. Principal of Education attended the ceremonies. Drawing applause, Salutatorian Pauline Mithae Lee and Valedictorian Ravi Lee DeNitzio, Student Council President Amanda Rastelli and of the Education awarded diplomas. Listed here below s of 2004!



**Joshua Daniel Jackson**  
**Droptie Jelall**  
**Terrance Jemerson**  
**Galen Alexander Johnson**  
**Tanyika Johnson**  
**Austin Michael Johnston**  
**Christopher Jones**  
**Jessa Jade Jones**  
**Marissa Lynn Judd**

## K

**Katherine Lea Kaczka**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society  
**Wajdi William Kanj**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society  
**James Katsiaficus**  
**Heather Leigh Kaufman**  
**Kyle Dennis Kazimir**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society  
**Angelica Eva Keller**  
**Christopher Brian Kelly**  
Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Bryan Christopher King**  
**Reynold Kissoon**  
**Wendy Michelle Kollarik**  
Scholastic Honor Society, French National Honor Society, World Languages Department Award for Academic Excellence in French  
**Courtney Michelle Krajcik**  
**Gregory Michael Krylowski**  
**Kristen Nicole Kunie**  
**Lauren Marie Laferrera**  
**Daniel Joseph Lammi**  
Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Kristina Josephine Latonio**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Daniel Ryan LaVerne**  
**Margaret Lay**  
**Brittany Erin Lee**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, National Art Honor Society  
**Pauline Mithae Lee**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Science Department Award for Academic

*Excellence in Biology*  
**Courtney Ann Leporino**  
**Gary Michael Levendusky**  
**Ian Michael Levine**  
**Heather Nicole Loenser**  
National Honor Society  
**Alexander Paul Lowrie**  
**Jordan Richard Lynch**  
Scholastic Honor Society

## M

**Kerry Ann Mackey**  
**Alonzo Omar Madinah, Jr.**  
**Charlyn Magat**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Amy Lynn Magner**  
**Michael Ryan Maher**  
**Alisha Marie Makoski**  
**Steven A. Mandes**  
**Earl Joseph Marcelo**  
**Darleen Marin**  
**Jennifer Elaine Martinez**  
Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Ashley Ann Mazellan**  
**Andrew J. McGill**  
**Omari Justin McKnight**  
**Antonio Melendez**  
**Dave Justin Micabalo**  
**David Thomas Miglis, Jr.**  
Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Eileen Kay Milcarek**  
**Steven Joseph Mincevich**  
**Tristan Alexander More**

## N

**Anthony Nazario**  
**Christopher Duc Nguyen**  
**Danielle Ann Nobile**  
Spanish National Honor Society

## O

**Ngozi Nennaya Okparaek**  
**John Robert Okuski**  
Scholastic Honor Society  
**Jasen Samuel Ortiz**

## P

**Laura Anne Papp**  
**Eric Matthew Paprcka**  
**Francesca Christine Pasquale**  
National Art Honor Society  
**Ankit P. Patel**  
Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society  
**Anuj Narendrakumar Patel**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society  
**Hardik Patel**  
**Julie Patel**  
Scholastic Honor Society, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Krushit Chandravadan Patel**  
**Nikesh S. Patel**  
**Ravi Arvind Patel**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Physical Education Department Award for Academic Excellence in Physical Education, Science Department Award for Academic Excellence in Chemistry, Mathematics Department Award  
**Oscar Roberto Perez**  
**Natalie Ann Picciottoli**  
**Davis Israel Silva Plaza**  
**Bonnie Marie Pornovets**  
**Shontel Sharee Price**  
**Jaclene Prongay**  
**Gregory Louis Publik**

## R

**Yorka Aneika Ralwins**  
Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Joshua Ramagado**  
**Amanda Nicole Rastelli**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, French National Honor Society  
**Ashley Kathryn Ritchey**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, English Department Award for Academic Excellence in English, Social Studies Department Award for Academic Excellence in Social Studies  
**Ian Tekel James Robinson**  
**Jessica Lyn Rodger**  
Spanish National Honor Society, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Jonathan David Rodger**  
Scholastic Honor Society, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement

**Josef Raoul Paras Rodriguez**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, French National Honor Society

## S

**Amiyrah Sadiq**  
**Michael Joseph Salerno**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society  
**Edmond Samayoa**  
**Shari-Liane Alicia Sangster**  
Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Matthew Carl Santone**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society  
**Rachael Ann Schwartz**  
**Katie Ann Scialabba**  
**Andre David Scott**  
Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Calvin Ponce Seay**  
**Joseph Michael Servedio**  
**Guy Joseph Severini**  
**Ali Shafqat**  
**Daniel Wayne Sierzega**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society  
**Susan Elizabeth Smela**  
Scholastic Honor Society, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Derek Ray Smith**  
**Jenna Frances Smith**  
Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Lauren Marie Smithline**  
**Lisa Marie Sniscak**  
**Christopher Albert Soto**  
**Ryan Thomas Spillane**  
**Deana Marii Spisso**  
**Wayne Robert Sporman**  
**Carly Elizabeth Stoeckel**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society  
**Renee Marie Stopherd**  
**Vernal Sundalangi**

## T

**Rachael Marie Rose Tambone**  
**Adam Tsay Tamzoke**  
**Jermaine Thomas**  
**Alexander Todd Tierney**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Presidential Award for Educational

*Achievement*  
**Charles Arthur Tinana**  
Presidential Award for Educational Achievement

**Chiara Rose Tomei**  
**Adam Ryan Toth**  
National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society  
**Stephen Peter Turrisse**

## U

**Christopher James Uffer**

## V

**Chris Diane Valencia**  
**Gerber R. Vasquez-Barrios**  
**Christine Volpe**

## W

**Kenneth Justin Wakefield, II**  
Spanish National Honor Society, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Erin Walsh**  
**George Michael Watkins**  
**William Ashby Weaver, Jr.**  
**Shawn Garrett Welch**  
**Jessaka Patricia Whitsitt**  
**Audrey Rose Wilhelm**  
Presidential Award for Educational Achievement  
**Tia MiShay Williamson**  
**Meagan Leigh Wilson**

## Y

**Mina S. Youssef**

## Z

**Michael Zeno**  
**Chrisann Janet Zushma**  
Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society  
**Robin Lee Zushma**  
Scholastic Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Presidential Award for Educational Achievement

## Celebrations Committee Seeks Nominations for Grand Marshal

The Borough of South Plainfield Public Celebrations Committee is proud to announce the 47<sup>th</sup> annual Labor Day Parade to be held Monday Sept. 6, at 10 a.m.

This year's theme is "Youth of Today, Our Leaders of Tomorrow."

Novelty, comedy, musical, civic and patriotic entries by area individuals and organizations are welcome.

The committee is seeking nominations for honorary grand marshal. To nominate an individual who has contributed outstanding service to the Borough of South Plainfield, send a

letter stating why this person should be considered, along with the name, address, telephone number and accomplishments to: The Public Celebrations Committee, John Sorrentino—chair, 225 Hopkinson St., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

To apply for a place in the parade, entries must be submitted by Aug. 15. Later entries will be placed at the end of the parade.

Applications may be picked up at South Plainfield Borough Hall, visit [www.southplainfieldnj.com](http://www.southplainfieldnj.com) or call Kim Gallagher at (908) 755-9874.

## Fun in the Summer for Girls!

Still looking for a fun and safe place at a day camp for an affordable price?

Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Council registration is still open. Camps are offered at Elizabeth, Hillside and Plainfield. They will run from July 12 through Aug. 6, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and cost only \$65 per week. The camps are open to all girls entering grades one through eight.

The Elizabeth Camp has daily swimming. There is also a Science

Camp being offered for \$150 to be held the week of July 19 through 23, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Summer Day Camp provides girls with fun, physical activities, new experiences and choices that help to build girls' self-confidence while providing a quality experience and having fun!

For registration and further information, please contact Barbara at (908) 232-3236 ext. 1202.



## Kindergartners Get a Visit from "That Butterfly Guy"

By Jane Dornick

For over 20 years Rick Mikula has been delighting audiences of all ages with his humorous and offbeat way of looking at butterflies, and in June he paid a special visit to the Kennedy School kindergarten classes.

Mikula, also known as "That Butterfly Guy," is an award winning author, photographer, habitat consultant and atrium and garden designer. He has appeared on many TV shows

and has been featured in magazines and newspapers around the world.

Mikula showed the children how to raise butterflies and moths by using simple recyclable household items, and presented a slide show on identifying the varieties and brought in numerous samples. The highlight of his presentation were the live butterflies he brought in. Each child was allowed to touch the creatures and most couldn't wait to get home to catch some of their own.



On June 19 American Legion Chaumont Post 243 held their installation of officers ceremony. Pictured (l to r) are Finance Officer Joe McConville, Vice Commander Matt Boyle, Vice Commander Dick Frank, Commander John Blanchard, Vice Commander Dave Piscitelli, Vice Commander Lou Dauber, Sons of the Legion Joe Penyak, Jr., Sons of the Legion David Guoth and Joe Penyak Sr., who installed the new officers. Not pictured are Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Aiken, Adjutant Rick Magri and Chaplain Fred Bladon, Jr.

## SDW Announces "Pirates of Penzance" Cast

The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop has announced the cast for their 2004 production of "The Pirates of Penzance." They are:

Major-General-David John Garatino, Pirate King—Christopher Abbott, Frederick—Christopher Baron, Samuel—Vincent Carubia, Sergeant of Police—Adam Tamzoke, Mabel—Kate Mott, Isabel—Cassandra Krajcik, Kate—Jessica Lynn Vasquez, Ruth—Natalia Tamzoke, Police—Erica Linick, Lauren O'Day, Nora Stasio, Susan Mott, Ashlen Udell, Marianne McBride, Jenna Zielinski, Sarah Brooks, Kendall Green and Faryn Evans.

The Daughters are Ashlen Udell, Susan Mott, Jenna Zielinski, Marianne

McBride, Lauren O'Day, Erica Linick, Jessica Musolino, Chrisann Zushma, Olivia Smith, Diana Naser, Julia Zappi, Amanda Alemezohu, Katie Fasolo, Marissa Kline, Davanna Approvato, Katie Nuber, Jennifer Marie Vasquez, Rosanna Mootoo, Sarah Brooks, Kathryn Paterek, Allyson Paterek, Shannen Rivers, Nicole Aguilar, Noelle Aguilar, Sara Grillo, Kendall Green, Faryn Evans, Kirsten Nuber and Nicole Rann.

Pirates are Adam Tamzoke, Rocco Severini, Darren Kaczowski, Philip Jon Campos, Eric Nuber, Ryan Flanagan, Chris Sesselberg, Chris Duquette, Stanley Stellakis, Pat Cantarella, John Horvath, Joel Cortese, Shawn Fergu-

son, Tristan More, Jeff Seesselberg, Timmy Ratti, Jesse Nietzer, Eric Rhode, Nate Udell, Michael Kenneth McBride and Nora Stasio.

In an effort to give the youth maximum stage time, all of the boys, with the exception of the Major General, will play pirates. All of the girls are daughters, except a select handful who will portray police in the second act.

Performance dates are July 29, 30, 31 at 7:30 p.m. and Aug. 1 with a matinee at 2 p.m. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults and \$8 for senior citizens.

Watch the *Observer* in coming weeks for more information and updates on Summer Drama Workshop's "Pirates of Penzance."

## AARP Chapter 4144 Elects New Officers

The South Plainfield Chapter of AARP recently held an installation luncheon at The Willows Restaurant in Green Brook.

Officers installed for 2004-2005 are President Virginia Atkinson, Secretary Anne North and Treasurer Jerry Mendel. Board of Directors are Angelo Caggiano, Barbara White, Diane Plasse and Mary Stevens. The Nominating Committee is Eleanor Haines and Bill McAllister. George Vasiliades, Area District Chairman, AARP, performed the installation ceremony.

Guests included Senator Barbara Buono and Assemblyman Peter Barnes; guest speaker was Police Officer Louis Sgro of Philadelphia, who talked about the newest scams being perpetrated on the public today.

After a summer recess, meetings will resume Sept. 20, 12:30 p.m. at the South Plainfield Senior Center.



Outgoing AARP President Mary Stevens passes the torch to Virginia Atkinson, president for 2004-2005, while AARP Area District Chairman George Vasiliades looks on.

# ob•serve

(v.t.): 1. to

celebrate ceremonially // 2. to notice (something), to pay special attention to // 3. (a) to look at with attention // 4. to perceive, notice, come to know by seeing // 5. to comment, to note attentively

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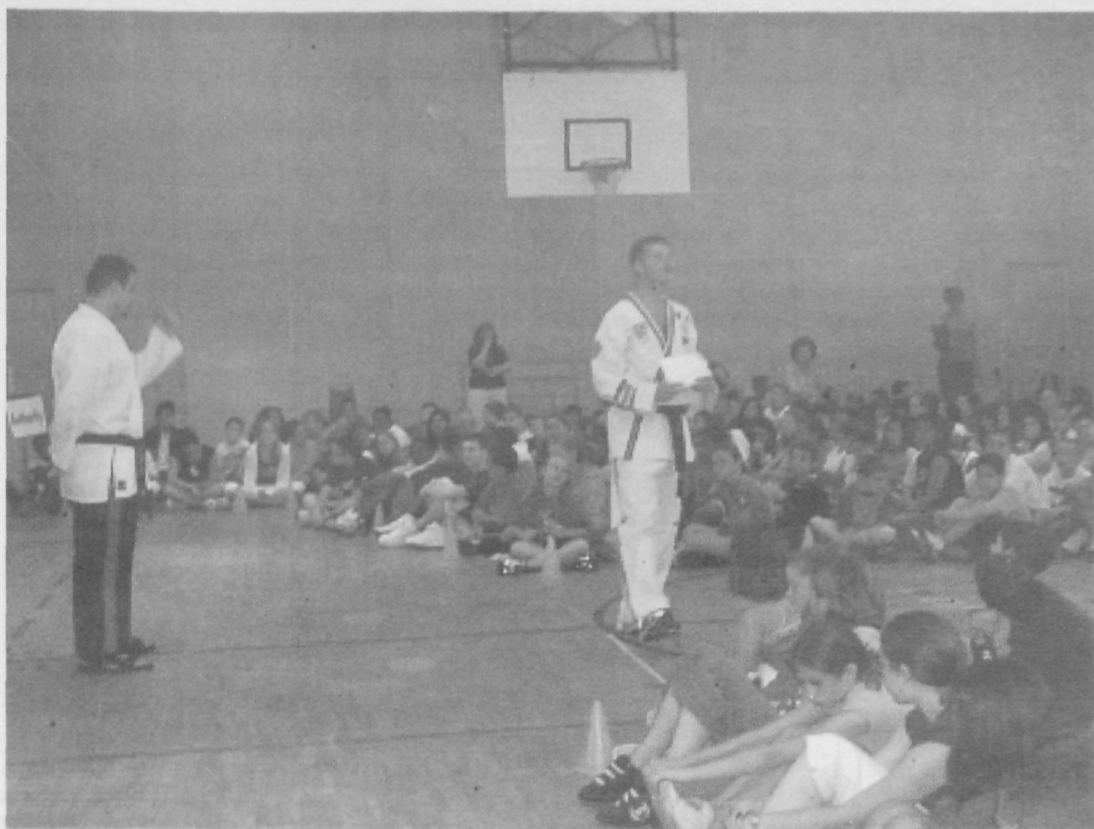
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It's a Secret!**

On September 3, the *Observer* will be mailed to every household in South Plainfield...



## Grant Students Learn Defense Against Bullying

By Jane Dornick

The Family Martial Arts Academy teamed up with South Plainfield ATA Black Belt Academy owner Tom Guerin to present a school assembly called Bully Education Theater.

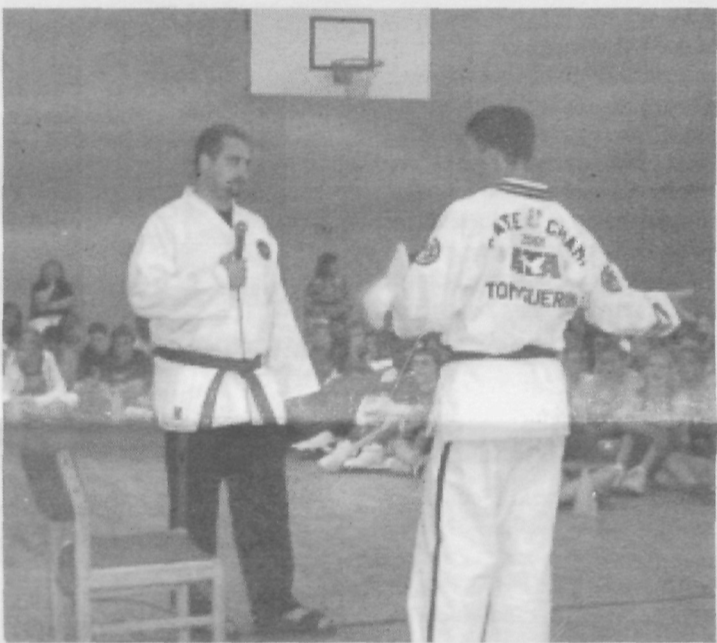
Guerin, along with Sempai Ron Shuali from Family Martial Arts, spent an hour with students demonstrating situations and strategies to end bullying peacefully before it turns into a fight. Schools have programs to mediate conflicts after they happen, however this was unique in that it teaches children proven ways to use during a conflict.

Students were called on to role play both sides of a bullying situation. They learned that most bullies were bullied themselves in order to regain a lost sense of control.

Students were asked to select from the different categories of bullies, such as a jock or druggie, then learned

ways to deal with the bully, such as yelling or changing the subject. Through acting out these roles the

students had a better understanding of how to be proactive by using the prevention strategies.



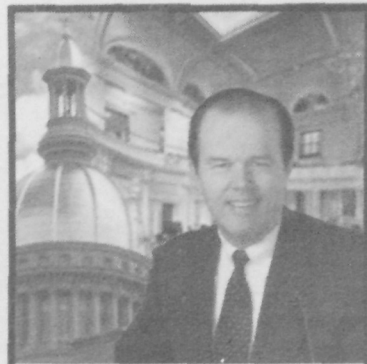
## Progress in Trenton

I'm happy to report on the conclusion of a very successful six months in Trenton. Last week Governor McGreevey signed the budget, which was approved by the Assembly and State Senate early in the morning on Friday, June 25. In my opinion this budget addresses many of the needs that have been facing residents of New Jersey for decades. It provides for real property tax relief by increasing the homestead rebate to \$1,200 per year for seniors and up to \$800 per year for most other homeowners. South Plainfield's property taxes average about \$4,300 per year. Therefore, our average taxpayer will receive an approximate 20 percent rebate and our seniors will get about 30 percent. The checks will be in the mail by the end of the summer. In addition, the "Senior Freeze" property tax relief program, which keeps property taxes flat for seniors making less than \$50,000 per year, is fully restored in this budget. For the first time ever local, county and board of education expenses have been capped. Therefore, both property tax relief and spending controls have been put in place to benefit our taxpayers in both the short term and the long term. In addition, aid to county colleges and state universities has been increased by \$170 million and local state aid to municipalities and boards of education has gone up almost \$800 million. In the three years since I was first elected, working together with Senator Buono, Assemblyman Barnes and the Governor, South Plainfield will receive a half million dollars in extraordinary aid. We received zero for the prior five years under Governor Whitman.

I am really proud of the legislation that I have been able to sponsor in the first part of this session. I am the prime sponsor of 115 bills and co-sponsor of another 96. These bills cover many diverse areas from enhancing education to caring for children and the elderly to providing assistance to our veterans and fire and rescue squad volunteers to taking down the tolls on the Garden State Parkway and preserving the time honored tradition of "Ladies Night" in bars and restaurants. Please go on the legislative website, [www.njleg.state.nj.us](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us), and put in my name under "Bill Search, Sponsor." I welcome your input on pending legislation along with any ideas you may have for new legislation.

I want to mention three bills which are about to become law because of the efforts of our borough residents. As you may know, several members of the Board of Education asked me to sponsor legislation to save our Future Stars Program. I'm happy to report that bill number A2170, co-sponsored by my friends Assemblyman Peter Barnes, Senator Barbara Buono and I, passed both houses and is ready to be signed by Governor McGreevey. Future Stars is safe! In addition, a bill directing funds to upgrade computer technology in municipal courts passed handily due to a large extent on the testimony of our Municipal Court Administrator Pat Vargo. A bill protecting archeological sites has passed the Assembly and will be before the Senate soon because of the leadership of local advocate Larry Randolph. Whenever you think you can't make a difference in how your state is run, give my office a call and I'll be happy to work with you to make things happen.

I'll be reporting back on how things are going in Trenton. Have a great summer and remember to look in your mailboxes for those rebate checks.



### News

From The State House

Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan

## Willow Grove Offers Free Tuesday Stretching Course

Free and open to everyone, a new course of stretching exercises is being offered in Alexander Hall at Willow Grove Presbyterian Church in Scotch Plains on Tuesday mornings, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Connie DiDario, certified yoga instructor, will teach participants many different techniques and aspects of exercise, all of which are done while sitting in chairs. Although DiDario's main thrust has been to help seniors get and stay in shape, this class is suitable to anyone interested in maintaining and improving their health.

When asked what motivated her to offer this new course, DiDario stated that the enthusiastic responses she had received during her 30 years

of teaching yoga compelled her to make available the same kinds of invigorating and enjoyable exercises to people in her own church, Willow Grove and in the surrounding communities. Most recently she has been teaching yoga at the South Plainfield Senior Citizen Center.

For more information, call the church office during morning hours, Monday through Friday at (908) 232-5678 or email [wilgrv@netzero.com](mailto:wilgrv@netzero.com) or check the website at [www.scotchplains.com/wgpc](http://www.scotchplains.com/wgpc). Attend anytime, in comfortable clothes, at Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, 1961 Raritan Rd., across the street from Scotch Plains Southside Firehouse and near the corner of South Martine Ave.

## Paul Collier Photos Added to Historical Society Archives

Twenty-six photos by renowned Plainfield photographer Paul Collier have been added to the South Plainfield Historical Society archives recently. The images of old South Plainfield were reproduced through the co-operation of Plainfield Library. The Collier collection of glass and film negatives are housed in the library's state-of-the-art facilities.

Collier, who died in the early 1950s, took thousands of photographs of the Plainfields—from society matrons and

stately mansions, to pastoral scenes and local community events in the suburbs. The 26 photos will complement other Collier-produced images already in the South Plainfield Historical Society's collection.

Funding in part was provided by the Middlesex County Cultural Heritage Commission/Board of Chosen Freeholders and the New Jersey Historical Commission, a Division of Cultural Affairs in the Department of State. The Historical Society was awarded a \$500 mini-grant last year from MCCHC specifically to purchase the Collier photos.



## Hey there, wake up!

Yes, we love to cover and publicize local events. But let's face it, whether or not, we like it, we work in a business of rotating deadlines. And in order for us to meet our printing deadlines, we must receive your copy or ad by 5 p.m. on Monday\* for your event to be included in the following Friday's paper.

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## police report

- On June 29 a Hamilton Blvd. resident reported two females had knocked on her door and asked for a drink. The victim let the females inside and realized it wasn't the right thing to do and asked them to leave. Nothing was taken.
- A Commerce Bank customer reported that a check she mistakenly put in for deposit that was endorsed to another bank had been cashed.
- On June 30 an O'Donohue Ave. resident reported that their 2002 Chrysler PT Cruiser had been keyed while parked in his driveway.
- On July 1 a Clinton Ave. resident reported the theft of his locked 1998 Acura Integra from his driveway.
- A Rauer Ct. resident reported the theft of his locked electric scooter from the PAL.

- Eckerd Drugs reported that a man walked out of the store with the theft alarm sounding and got into his car and left. No one is sure what was taken.
- Eckerd Drugs reported receiving a call from a female pretending to be from a doctor's office and wanted to refill a prescription.
- On July 2 two South Plainfield residents, as well as Shaun P. Weber, 21, of Iselin were arrested on Front St. for possession of a controlled substance. Laferrera also received summonses for having an unregistered vehicle and an open container of alcohol in the vehicle.
- On July 3 Mario Garcia, 39, of Plainfield was arrested on Cherry St. for driving while intoxicated at a motor vehicle stop.

## Sacred Heart Honor Roll

### Principal's List

Grade 5—Caresse Simmonds; 6A—Alexandra Fee, Nicole McDonough, Patrick Ruiz; 6B—Alfonse Muglia, Kaitlin Muglia, Aaron Pinkard; 7A—Ashley Forbes, Alexandra Grant, Ryan Hohner; 8A—Kadeem Gilbert and 8B—Elix Colon.

### Honor Roll

Grade 5—Edward Bandrowski, Allyson Ricarte; 6A—Katelyn Christie, Taurien Buffaloe, Jilleanne Gulotta, Nicholas Montuori, Jessica

Napolitano, Richard Ortegón, Crystal Williams; 6B—Lily Altamirano, Edward Amirault, Victoria Gaydos, Michael McHugh, Adrienne Novak, Gerianna Pinto, Alexandria Santos, Jaclyn Thomas, Zachary Sikanowicz and Ashley Venino.  
7A—Khaliah Douglas; 7B—Aedan Bayona, Amaral Joseph-Dullon, Kaitlyn Salvatore; 8A—Danielle Johnson, Camille Romano, Davonna Approvato, Jennifer Napolitano and 8B—Megan McHugh and Allison Whitefleet.

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## Stanley P. Malecki, 93

Stanley P. Malecki, a former resident of South Plainfield, East Brunswick and Lake Winola, Pa. died on Monday, June 28 at the Community Medical Center in Scranton, Pa.

Stanley was born in Old Forge, Pa. and was the son of the late John and Mary Mol Malecki. He was educated in Old Forge Public schools.

Prior to his retirement 28 years ago, he had been employed by Mack Truck formerly of Plainfield and continued with Mack Truck after the company relocated to Hagerstown, Md. He was with the company for over 30 years.

He was a member of the Polish National Home and a former member of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church, both in South Plainfield.

His wife, the former Catherine Stepien, died in April of 1973. He was also predeceased by his infant son, John; five brothers, Joseph, John, Bruno, Frank and Anthony and two sisters, Josephine Malecki and Florence Pavol.

Stanley was a loving father, grandfather and great-grandfather who will be deeply missed.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Stanley A. and Marlene Malecki of Lake Winola, Pa. and formerly of East Brunswick and South Plainfield; four grandchildren, Janet Kaj, Stan J. Malecki, Eric Malecki and Christine Malecki; three great grandchildren, Breanna, Ryan and Sean Malecki and by his nieces, nephews and cousins.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Memorial donations may be made to the Lower Wyoming County Food Pantry, RR 1, Box 1282, Factoryville, Pa. 18419.

## Sophie Spock Mazza, 85

Sophie Spock Mazza of South Plainfield died on Tuesday, June 29 at the Hartwyck Nursing Home in Plainfield.

Sophie was born in Carbondale, Pa. and resided in South Plainfield for the past 72 years.

Sophie was an assembler for the former Cornell-Dublier in South Plainfield for 10 years. She then worked as a sales assistant for Steinback Department Store and Sterns until her retirement.

Sophie loved sports and in her youth was an excellent softball player, golfer and an above average bowler.

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

She was predeceased by a daughter, Margaret Berry, who died in 2001.

She is survived by her husband of 63 years, Mario (Marty) Mazza; a daughter, Susan and her husband, Gary Romeri of South Plainfield.

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

## Ronald A. Dumarest, 60

Ronald A. Dumarest died on Friday, July 2 at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia.

Born and raised in Brooklyn, he had resided in Staten Island before moving to East Windsor 15 years ago.

Ron earned his Bachelor of Science Degree, as well as his Master's Degree in Social Work from Columbia Uni-

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## Obituaries

versity. For many years he worked as a Clinical Director for Social Services throughout the New York area and for the past five years, Ron had been employed as a sales manager for Hot Headz and Natures Way of American.

He is predeceased by his parents, Albert and Hazel.

Surviving is his wife, Christine (Kiernan).

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

## Leonard J. LaRocco, 74

Leonard J. LaRocco of Franklin Park died on Friday, July 2 at the Ocean Medical Center in Brick.

Len was born and raised in South Plainfield and has resided in Franklin Park for the past 50 years.

Len was the owner and operator of LaRocco Trucking in Franklin Park for 40 years before retiring in 1990.

Len served his country during WWII, serving in the United States Army.

He was predeceased by his beloved wife, Josephine Shead LaRocco, who died in 1989.

He is survived by three sons, Robert of Franklin Park, David of North Brunswick and Kenneth of Bradenton, Fla.; two daughters, Sandra Jones of Arlington, Ill. and Tammy Jarosz of Howell; a brother, Carmen LaRocco of Edison; 14 grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

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

## Margaret A. Conley (Campanelli), 72

Margaret A. Conley (Campanelli) died on Saturday, July 3 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born and raised in Millburn, Margaret moved to South Plainfield in 1974 and resided there before moving to Edison in March.

A devoted member of Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield, Margaret enjoyed decorating her home and having and going to garage sales. She loved her dog, Daisy and most of all, she loved spending time with her grandchildren and friends.

Margaret is predeceased by her husband, Robert J., who died in 1998.

Surviving are two daughters, Kathleen Pieper of Maplewood and Lisa Olsen and her husband, Mark of South

Plainfield; three sisters, Angie Scocia of Millburn, Connie DelGallo of Basking Ridge and Theresa Pollock of Millburn; two brothers, Vito Campanelli and his wife, Dot and Alofonso Campanelli and his wife, Lunez of Toms River; seven grandchildren, Michael, Keith, Joseph, Corinna, Robert, Nicholas and Anthony and three great grandchildren, Christopher, Kyle and Kayla.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

## Jacqueline Brenda Dorch (Cooper), 48

Jacqueline Brenda Dorch (Cooper), affectionately known to family and friends as "Jackie," was born on Feb. 5, 1956 in Newark to Mattie and Gary B. Cooper, died on Sunday, July 4 at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Jackie graduated from Clifford Scott High School in E. Orange and attended Union County College. She was employed with Saint-Gobain Containers in Carteret for almost 29 years. She always enjoyed attending church, but because of her job it was sometime difficult. Jackie was a faithful member of Greater Works Holiness Ministries, Inc.

She was always know to have a smile on her face, loved to keep everyone laughing and loved gatherings with family and friends. One of her favorite sayings was "Get a Life."

In August of 1983, Jackie met Johnnie Edwin Dorch and they married in 1988. They shared a warm and loving relationship and loved to travel.

She is pre-deceased by her brother, Michael Gary Cooper, who died in 1955.

She is survived by her husband, Johnnie Edwin Dorch of Plainfield, two daughters, Stephanie Cooper of Newark and Robin Salters of Irvington, her parents, Mattie and Gary B. Cooper; three sisters, Patricia Prime and husband Rahway, Judith Cooper-Benjamin and husband John and Marissa Cooper-Stanley both of Plainfield; a brother, Alan Lynn Cooper and his wife Helen of Haddonfield, her grandmother, Gertrude Sturdivant of East Orange, two grandchildren, Robert and Shon Cooper-Lucas, two aunts, Judy Jones and Gecoulia McGree both of East Orange and an uncle, Arthur Jones of Orange. Also surviving are a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Funeral services were held at McCriskins Home For Funerals.

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## SWIMMING

# Tiger Sharks Win One, Lose One at Start of Season

The South Plainfield Tiger Sharks swim team started its season with one win and one loss. The team, which represents the South Plainfield Recreation Community Pool, lost their first meet against East Brunswick by a score of 119 to EB's 141, but rallied with a win of 174 to 100 four days later against the Nob Valley Swim Team.

Against East Brunswick, Girls Individual Medley first place winners were in the 10-and-under group Maggie Valentino, 11/12 Emily Piekarski and 13-18 Katie Kaczka. Chelsea Cullen took third place for the 11-12 year olds.

In the Boys Freestyle Dylan McDermott placed first in the 11/12 year olds and CalvinJohn Smiley took first in the 13-18 group, with Philip Luzny in second place.

In the Girls Freestyle: Tiger Sharks took first, second and third place in the eight-and-under category, with Katie McLaughlin, Kelly O'Brien and Annie Pezzola scoring respectively. First place was taken by Sara Konops in the 9/10 group and by Emily Piekarski in the 11/12 and Joanna Luzny scored a third place finish in the 13/14 category. Katie Kaczka took a first place win in the 15-18 year olds.

Several boys scored well in the backstroke. Sean Cullen placed second in the eight-and-under and Aidan McDermott won third place. Alan Kasmer placed third in the 13/14 year old and CalvinJohn Smiley took a first place for the 15-18 year olds.

Aidan McDermott placed second in the eight-and-under breaststroke while his brother Dylan took a first place ribbon for the 9/10 year olds. Caleb Tou placed third in the 13/14 group.

In the butterfly, the Tiger Sharks scored one first place win by Katie McLaughlin for the eight-and-under set. Maggie Valentino took second in the 9/10; Chelsea Cullen placed second in the 11/12, followed by Theresa Gustafson in third. For the 13/14, Joanna Luzny placed third and in the girls 15-18, Nina Byard took second place.

In the relays, the team of Sean Cullen, Joey Valentino, Aidan McDermott and Charlie Butrico took first place in the eight-and-under freestyle relay. The girls team of Kelly O'Brien, Christina Kasmer, Katie McLaughlin and Kaitlin Faustina took first place in the eight-

and-under medley relay, while Chelsea Cullen, Emily Piekarski, Katie O'Brien and Maggie Valentino took first place in the 9-12 relay.

The Tiger Sharks scored much higher in their Nob Valley meet against Nob Valley.

In the Individual Medley, three first place ribbons were won. Liam McDermott took first place for the 10-and-under; his brother Dylan took first in the 11/12 group; and CalvinJohn Smiley took first in the 13-18, followed by Caleb Tou in third place.

The girls also took three first place ribbons in the freestyle. Maggie Valentino won in the 10-and-under, Emily Piekarski in the 11/12 and Katie Kaczka in the 13-18 group. Sara Konops took third place in the 11/12's.

Boys Freestyle scorers were Aidan McDermott who took first place and Joey Valentino third. For eight-and-under K. Jan took first and Liam McDermott placed second. In the 9/10 group, Michael Boyle was third, in the 13/14 CalvinJohn Smiley placed first and Philip Luzny was second in the 15-18 older boys.

Tiger Sharks picked up a lot of

points in the girls backstroke. For the eight-and-under set: Katie McLaughlin was first, with Taylor Aljian second, Maggie Valentino took first in the 9/10's with Katie O'Brien second. For the 11/12, Emily Piekarski won first, with Chelsea Cullen second. Amanda Ray took a second place in the 13/14 group and Nina Byard was second in the 15-18 with Katie Kaczka in third.

Katie McLaughlin broke a team record with her time in the eight-and-under breaststroke taking first place, with Taylor Aljian second. Katie O'Brien placed first in the 9/10, followed by Kelly McLaughlin in third.

For the 11/12 group, Chelsea Cullen took first place and Sarah Konops placed second. Joanna Luzny took second for the 13/14's and in the older girls, Nina Byard took first place, followed by Christine Dabrio in second.

Two boys broke records in the butterfly event. Dylan McDermott broke the record set at the Community Pool with his time in the 9/10 group butterfly, taking first place, while Philip Luzny broke the team record, taking first place in the 15-18 year old race. McDermott's brother, Aidan, placed

second in the younger eight-and-under category. K. Jan took a second place finish in the race, with Dylan and Chris Reed placing third in the race with Luzny. Michael Boyle placed second in the 13/14 category.

In the relay events, the girls teams took first place ribbons in each age group for the free relay, with the team of Kelly O'Brien, Annie Pezzola, Katie McLaughlin. Taylor Aljian took first for the eight-and-under, Maggie Valentino, Chelsea Cullen, Emily Piekarski and Gracie Piekarski for the 9-12 group and Katie Kaczka, Joanna Luzny, Amanda Ray and Nina Byard for the 13-18 group.

The boys scored in two of the three medley relays. The team of Joey Valentino, Aidan McDermott, Charlie Butrico and Enzo Butrico took first place for the eight-and-under. The team of CalvinJohn Smiley, Philip Luzny, Dylan McDermott and Caleb Tou placed first for the 13-18 group.

The Tiger Sharks are coached by Laurie Post and Robin Cone, assisted by Jen Otlowski and other alumni swimmers.

Submitted by Donna Egan

## Tiger Sharks Dive Team

The Tiger Sharks Dive Team competed in their first dive meet against Cedar Hill in Somerset and did an EXCELLENT job!

In the eight-and-under group, taking second place was Eddie Kobilis and Anna Caruso, in second place was Jamie Bohn and in third place was Janet Kelly.

In the girls 9/10 age group, first place went to Kimmy Petronko, second to Jena Cianfrocca, third to Laura Biggs and fourth Nicole Phillips. First place winner was George Graves in the boys 11/12 age group.

In the 13/14 age group, boys' category, first place went to Stephen Kelly, second to Michael Boyle, third to Stephen Wagner, and fourth to Ian Collins. Taking first place in the girls was Clare Kelly and third Michelle Kobilis.

In the 15 and older, Kayleigh McGovern took third place.

All in all, the Tiger Sharks Dive Team is off to an awesome start! Keep up the good work!

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## LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Paul and Leonor Fessock requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit a 13 x 21 garage. Proposed garage lacks 30' required front setback, 20' being proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 128 W. Fairview Avenue on Block 212, Lot 8 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, July 22, 2004 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

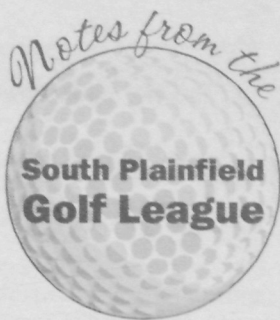
The maps and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Building Inspector's Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

\$35.00 July 9, 2004

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KC's Korner got three solid rounds from Mark Dugan, Rich Steele and Dan Conti to score a convincing 15-5 win over league-leading Aiello Chiropractic to move into a tie for first place in the American Division. Mr. Reliable Mark Dugan had a 38 and Rich Steele and Dan Conti had 39's for KC's Korner, while Fred "Catfish" Kirchofer's fine 36 and Ed Banach's 38 were just not enough for Aiello.

After a terrible 0-3-1 start, Masters won its fourth match in a row, downing Hank's Hackers, 12-8. Danny Griffin turned in a beautiful ever-par round of 33 to lead Masters and teammates Adam Thomas, with a 37 and Al Szumski, with a 39, where just too much for Hank's Hackers. John Cacciatore continued his excellent play for Hank's with a 35 and Kevin Boyce had a 39 in a losing cause.

Plainfield Animal Hospital showed off some of the firepower that led to

their league championship last season in overwhelming Witty's 16-4. Captain Mike Cortese and the very consistent Mark Chichvar both shot 39's to spark the PAH victory. Howard Adler again earned medallist honors for Witty's with a 39.

In the National League, Sport & Social beat up on a VFW team that played like Civil War veterans, 17-3. Chad Hibbard was low-man for Sport & Social with a 39; Bob Nilan's 43 was the best for the VFW. Sport & Social with its six wins and two losses now has the best record in the league and is beginning to show its strength and balance that led to their championship season two years ago.

Patti's Construction maintained its second place standing by upending Twin City, 14-6. Iron Mike Behr kept looking to the far right and kept hitting them dead straight on his way to a fine round of 37 for Patti's and Frank Ferraro came through with a 39. Charlie Hasselgran again played well for Twin City and posted a 38 and recent SPSHS grad Guy Severini had a 39 in a losing effort.

The South Plainfield Elks finally broke into the win column with a 13-7 victory over the up-and-down, now we hate it, now we don't have a clue, Pornovets team. Captain Dale Dube was the medallist for the Elks with his

30; Marty Van de Vaart and Jim Pornovets both had 38's for Pornovets who remain tied with Twin City in third place.

Despite their team loss, two members of the Pornovets team gained individual honors for the night: Marty Van de Vaart won the closest-to-the-pin competition on the third hole and Jim Pornovets earned the luncheon-for-two prize at KC's Korner with the best tee shot on the seventh hole.

Low scores for the night: Dan Griffin-33; John Cacciatore-35; Fred Kirchofer-36; Chad Hibbard-37; Mike Behr-37; Adam Thomas-37; Jim Pornovets-38; Marty Van de Vaart- 38; Charlie Hasselgran-38; Mark Dugan-38 and Kevin Boyce-38.

#### LEAGUE STANDINGS:

American Division	W	L	T
Aiello	5	3	0
KC's Korner	5	3	0
Masters	4	3	1
PAH	4	4	0
Hank's	3	4	1
Witty's	2	6	0
National Division	W	L	T
Sport & Social	6	2	0
Patti's	5	2	1
Twin City	4	4	0
Pornovets	4	4	0
VFW	2	5	1
Elks	1	5	2

# Sports



B League Mets-In front is Stephen Petriello; kneeling left to right: Vinny DaPonte, Jeffrey Conroy, Kenny Kaczka, Ryan Hughes and Mike Tangorra; standing: Kishan Patel, Corey Limone, Billy Waldrop, Dany Sticco and Eric LaVerne. Missing from photo are coaches John Petriello, Kenny LaVerne, Assistant Coaches Mike Sticco, Joe Kaczka and Steve Tangorra.

## B League Mets are Champs!

The "B" League season is officially over for the 10 and 11 year old baseball players of the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club. The "Mets" went on a 10 game winning streak to clinch the 2004 "B" League Championship. They ended their season 16-3.

Congratulations to all the boys for coming together to create an awesome season! Thanks for all the coaches for helping make a great team!

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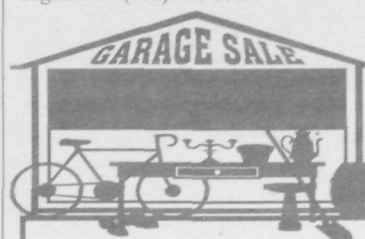
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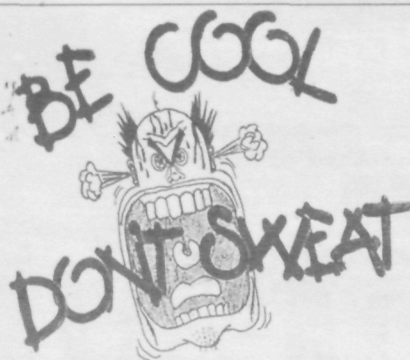
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# Grant Elementary School Proudly Announces 4th Marking Period Honor Roll

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## Updated Brochure Makes Traveling in New Brunswick Easy

Keep Middlesex Moving, Inc. (KMM), Middlesex County's non-profit Transportation Management Association, is happy to announce that additional copies of the *Middlesex County Transit Guides* are now available. Over the course of one year, commuters and residents from across Central New Jersey have requested copies resulting in a depleted supply. Because of this high demand, a second reprint was needed.

The brochure is popular because it depicts the numerous alternatives available throughout the city. *Middlesex*

*County Transit Guide* has been designed to help people identify how they can get around the New Brunswick area using local buses. The brochure details routes and stops showing how NJ Transit's "8" route, Suburban Transit/Coach USA and the Hub City Local buses can get passengers from stop to stop, day or night.

For more information about the newly updated *Middlesex County Transit Guide* transit brochure, please contact KMM at (732) 745-4465 or sent an email to [kmm@kmm.org](mailto:kmm@kmm.org) or visit us on the web at [www.kmm.org](http://www.kmm.org).

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