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# South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 8, NO. 50

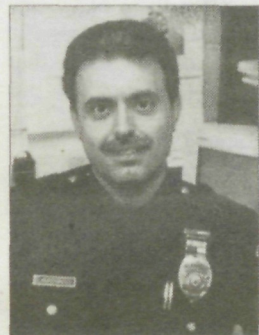
50 CENTS

JULY 23, 2004

## Charity Softball Tourney Saturday For Muccigrossi

By Jane Dornick

The South Plainfield Police PBA Local 100 will hold their annual charity softball tournament at the High School baseball fields this Saturday starting at 8 a.m. Proceeds will go



Gary Muccigrossi

towards medical expenses for South Plainfield Police Det. Gary Muccigrossi (ret.), who was diagnosed

two years ago with Pulmonary Fibrosis, a lung disease. On Monday night the 41-year-old retired detective was taken by helicopter to a NY hospital and underwent an eight-hour, double lung transplant. As of presstime he is reported to be doing well.

Many South Plainfield businesses and organizations have assembled teams for the occasion, including members of the Borough Council, the Republican Party, the fire and police departments, the Rescue Squad, Hometown Heros, Sal's Spirit Shoppe, Twin City Pharmacy, Flanagan's, ProCare, KC's Korner, Bolesta Landscaping, Mongello & Sciallabba, LLC, and the SPJBC "C" league coaches.

There will be plenty of hot dogs, hamburgers and assorted food available throughout the day courtesy

(Continued on page 16)

## Recruits Learn the Ropes at Jr. Academy



A Junior Academy recruit demonstrates one of the techniques utilized by police at a motor vehicle stop.

### 50 Recruits Graduate From Premier Program

This year the South Plainfield Recreation Department, in conjunction with the Police Department, offered its first Junior Police Academy program for young people in grades six through nine.

Heading up the unique program were South Plainfield DARE Police Officers David Franchak and Allen LaMonda who spent two, one-week sessions with two different age groups offering the youth a glimpse into the training police officers undergo in order to graduate from the police academy.

Many Borough police officers participated in teaching different classes. Officer Vincent Campagna explained DWI testing. The recruits then donned sight impairing goggles which simulate the vision of a drunken driver and drove around an obstacle course in golf carts.

Lt. Michael Lane instructed a class (Continued on page 8)



Wayne Mallette, vocal director, leads the cast of "The Pirates of Penzance" before Tuesday's Somerset Patriots game at Commerce Bank Ballpark. The Summer Drama Workshop production opens Thursday night, July 29. See page 6 for related story.

## EPA Recommends Cleanup Remedies for Hamilton Blvd. Site

Last Tuesday evening Borough Hall was filled with South Plainfield residents, some of whom lived near and not so near the Superfund Site at Cornell-Dubilier. They wanted to hear what recommendations the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) were going to propose to clean up the site and make it environmen-

tally acceptable for the workers and the surrounding neighbors.

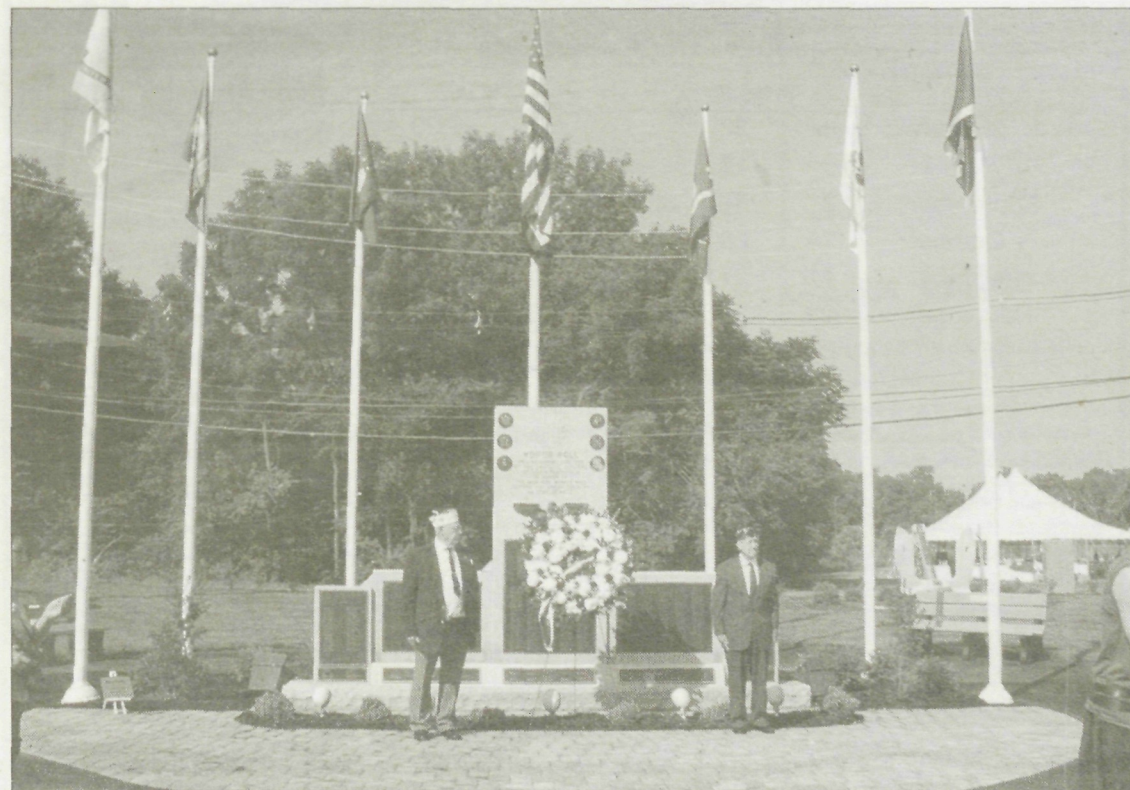
Speaking on behalf of the EPA was Remedial Project Manager Peter Mannino, who has been working on the Hamilton Blvd. Site since testing began. Mannino presented a short history on the current studies and tests, explained each alternative plan and its related costs and why each one was chosen.

The EPA divided the cleanup into two categories: cleanup of the building and cleanup of the soil. The recommendations were made after years of study and numerous tests of the air and soil on the site and the extensive testing of surrounding areas, including lakes, brooks and streams.

The EPA chose both Alternative Plan S-3 and S-5 to clean up and remove the contaminated soil. S-3 calls for excavating soil containing PCBs at concentrations greater than 500ppm and any contaminated soil that exceed New Jersey's Impact to Groundwater Soil Cleanup Criteria (IGWSCC). This would mean that 114,500 cubic yards of contaminated soil would be excavated and transported off-site for disposal. This includes 7,500 cubic yards of contaminated soil and debris from the capacitor disposal areas which would be excavated and transported off-site. S-5 would require the construction and operation of a Low Temperature Thermal Desorption (LTTD) unit at the site. LTTD is a physical separation process, whereby contaminants are

(Continued on page 16)

## Park Provides Lasting Tribute and Place for Reflection



A formal ceremony dedicating the recently completed Monument Park was held last Saturday.

Last Saturday morning, the culmination of what was once just a dream became a reality. Through the efforts of a determined group of South Plainfield residents and businesses, Monument Park was formally dedicated with all of the fanfare the park deserves.

The park setting is nothing less than spectacular. It is located across the street from Spring Lake Park between the rescue squad building and the senior center.

Those in attendance at the dedication included Mayor Gallagher and the Borough Council, Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan, VFW Commander Jules Peterson, American Legion Commander Joe Penyak, Rescue Squad Captain Ed Laferrera and Fire Chief Larry DeNegro, honor guards from the Police Department, VFW and the American Legion, veterans representing all branches of service and more than 150 residents of South Plainfield.

Memorial Park is dedicated to

(Continued on page 5)



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

Copy and advertising must be received by Monday,  
July 26 at 5 p.m. to be included in the Friday, July 30 edition.

## Mark Your Calendars

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

### council meetings

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

	Agenda Meeting	Public Meeting
Monday, 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 (NJSA 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  
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  
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. – 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. – Aug. 17\*, Sept. 21, (Monday) Oct. 18, Nov. 16,  
Dec. 21, Jan. 18 2005, Feb. 15, March 15 and April 12  
\*Meetings will be held in Roosevelt Elementary School Gym)

### taxpayers advisory group

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

### site plans sub-committee

Meets once a month on the third Tuesday of the month, 8 p.m.  
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  
August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10, December 8 and January 12, 2005

### business advisory group

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

### traffic safety advisory commission

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

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

## South Plainfield Observer

The South Plainfield Observer is published every Friday

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

(908) 668-0010 • FAX (908) 668-8819

NANCY GRENNIER  
Publisher/Editor

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### 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., fax us at (908) 668-8819 or e-mail us at spobserver@comcast.net. 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: spobserver@comcast.net or fax 908-668-8819. Letters should not exceed 400 words. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. It is the editor's discretion to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject. The opinions expressed in "Letters" do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Observer. All letters must be submitted with name and phone number, for verification.

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# IN YOUR OPINION

Dear Editor,

I would like to congratulate the Edison 8/9 year-old All-Star coaches on their fine display of sportsmanship at the South Plainfield 8/9 year-old game on Sunday, July 18. The coaches called all the players together in front of my car and told them, "Scream as loud as you can so that the South Plainfield All-Star team will know that you beat them in their own complex." Shame on you and your extremely poor sportsmanship! What were you teaching these little boys? What did you win?

**SINCERELY,  
A PROUD MOM OF A  
SOUTH PLAINFIELD ALL-STAR  
8/9 YEAR-OLD, DEBBIE BOYLE**

### Open letter to the South Plainfield Board of Education:

During the Board of Education meeting on June 14, I asked the Board what is being done to improve the quality of education in South Plainfield. The answer came from the superintendent Dr. Rosado in the form of listing all remedial courses South Plainfield offers.

I have asked "What about setting standards for hiring qualified teachers?" and have explained that the average SAT score of students entering teacher colleges is an atrocious 964. As a reference, the average SAT score of South Plainfield students is a dismal 978 and the average SAT score of New Jersey students is 1018. The majority of alumni of teachers' colleges pass state licensing examinations, which in most states is set at about a tenth grade level, and become certified teachers. Hiring one of the certified teachers whose SAT score was around 964 when he or she was a high school student is akin to having William Hung ("She Bangs") of "American Idol" fame as a voice coach.

On the other hand, for one elementary school teacher position in South Plainfield, every year there are about 300 applicants; even for so-called difficult-to-fill positions, for which there supposedly is a teacher shortage like high school mathematics teachers,

there are about 30 applicants every year.

It is likely that in this group there are candidates with higher aptitude. Setting requirements for new hires to have SAT scores of 1,100 or maybe 1,200 (about the average score of Rutgers freshmen) seems to me quite reasonable.

Dr. Rosado responded to the above proposition stating: "there is no correlation between teachers' SAT scores and the SAT scores of their pupils."

That answer was rather stunning, especially considering that in the beginning of the Board meeting Dr. Rosado spoke proudly about South Plainfield students' improving proficiency in mathematics.

My response to Dr. Rosado's statement was cut short by Board president Mr. Pennisi telling me that I have one minute to finish.

This is a reason for an open letter.

Dr. Rosado, do you know something that the Ivy League knuckleheads do not? They still use SAT scores as a criterion for admission – and so do most Wall Street firms!

S. P. Corcoran (Assistant Professor of Economics at California State University) et al. for a 2004 research paper titled "Woman, the Labor Market, and the Declining Relative Quality of Teachers," studied data from five longitudinal surveys of high school graduates spanning the classes of 1957 to 1992. The authors of the research stated, "The frustration over the quality of the teaching force comes amidst a growing body of evidence that shows that certain measures of teacher quality – in particular, their verbal and mathematical skills – are strongly related to student outcomes. ... In fact, there is growing literature that finds measures of cognitive ability – particularly teachers' verbal ability scores – are among the most important measurable determinants of student achievement. For example, Ehrenberg and Brewer (1995) find that the one standard deviation increase of verbal aptitude score of teachers would have raised scores of students by 4 to 8 percent."

### Submit Letters to the Editor:

Letters may be submitted to the Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, by email: spobserver@comcast.net, 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.

Other research papers on this subject can be found at the National Bureau of Economic Research (<http://www.nber.org>) and on the websites of Economic Departments of Harvard (by Caroline M. Hoxby and Andrew Leigh) and the University of Maryland.

The practice of only hiring teachers with reasonable aptitudes would have two beneficial effects on South Plainfield. Firstly, it would prevent (to some extent) the hiring as teachers, people whose main qualification is that they have friends (family members) on the Board. Secondly, approximately 35 years from now, when the current staff is replaced by new hires, South Plainfield schools will have not only certified teachers, but mostly qualified teachers in the system.

### BOGDAN FRYSZCZYN

*P.S. The above quoted data are the product of the research of mostly tenured staff of Economic departments of major universities who do not have any pre-conceived agenda and no axes to grind.*



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Residents may place all of these except motor oil at the curb for collection every other week by the Middlesex County Improvement Authority

JULY – DECEMBER 2004					
	THURSDAY		FRIDAY		
July	8	22	9	23	
August	5	19	6	20	
September	2	16	30	3	17
October	14	28	1	15	29
November	11	27*	12	26	
December	9	23	10	24	

\*Holiday change to Saturday pickup

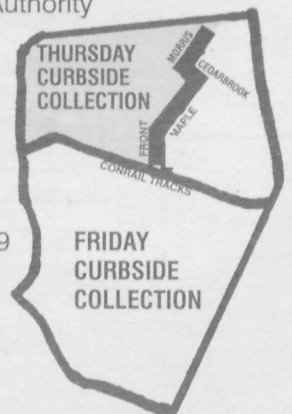
Call MCIA at (800) 488-6242 for information.

The Borough's RECYCLING CENTER on Kenneth Avenue - Open Year-Round Tuesday noon-7 pm, Friday 8 am-3 pm, Saturday 8 am-3 pm - accepts all the above recyclables from residents and businesses, except that motor oil is from residents only. Other materials accepted from residents only: metal appliances, paint and batteries. Used Paint Drop-off: 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month, 8 am-2 pm  
Household Batteries: bring to Recycling Center or Public Library

The Borough's YARD WASTE SITE at the end of Kenneth Avenue  
Open Spring/Summer (March 16 – September 30): Tuesday noon-7 pm, Saturday 8 am-3 pm  
Open Fall/Winter (October 1 – March 15): Saturday 8 am-3 pm  
Open to Borough residents only for leaves and brush. The Road Department collects leaves at the curb in the fall. (Residents may also bring grass clippings to the drop-off. Grass is not a mandatory recyclable. We suggest Cut-It-And-Leave-It instead of bagging.)

Holiday Closings (closed on Borough holidays and any Tuesday following a Monday holiday):  
7/6, 9/7, 10/12, 11/2, 11/25-26

**Call the Recycling Hotline at (908) 226-7620 for more information.**





## County May Eliminate Some Extended Hours

Citing lack of use and scheduling difficulties, Middlesex County Freeholder Director David B. Crabel is asking the Board of Chosen Freeholders to eliminate extended office hours for the majority of the county departments.

If the Freeholders vote to stop the extended hours, residents having to conduct business with county offices may do so between 8:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Six department heads have said there is demand for their services during the extended hours, 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays. Crabel suggested the following county offices maintain extended hours on Tuesdays: Adjuster, Board of Elections, Clerk, Surrogate and the Department of Highways and Bridges and Public Health.

"A review of all County departments has indicated that the public makes very little use of extended work hours," Crabel said. "Conversely, many offices, especially following recent reductions in the County workforce, have found it difficult to provide alternative time off, during the regular work week, for the employees who work the extended work hours schedule."

If a resident cannot conduct business with the county during regular working hours, they can contact the department head and make an appointment in advance.

"The department head will make arrangements for an appropriate employee to assist the resident, at a time when the resident is available," Crabel said.

He added that if there is need in the future for extended work hours, the Freeholders could re-institute the program then.



Paul Moat accepts the South Plainfield Clean Business Association's Glitter Award from Joe Diegnan.

## The Fitzpatrick Company Wins Glitter Award

Paul Moat, technical support engineer at The Fitzpatrick Company, accepted the South Plainfield Clean Business Association's Glitter Award recently. CBA President Joe Diegnan presented the award to Moat at the company's South Plainfield sales center located at 4219 South Clinton Ave. The Fitzpatrick Company is a worldwide manufacturer of process technology such as milling machines for the pharmaceuticals industry. The award was presented in recognition of the company's attractive appearance and excellent long-term maintenance of the property.

The Fitzpatrick Company, based in Illinois, built the South Plainfield facility in 1964, in the same style as their headquarters in Elmhurst. The building is neat and clean inside and out. It is hard to believe it is 40 years old. It is set in the middle of an expanse of lawn, with neatly trimmed

shrubbery along the frontage. The landscaping is beautifully maintained by Admiral Landscaping, which is also responsible for picking up any litter that blows onto the property. However, Moat, who is in charge of building maintenance, said they do not have much of a litter problem. The four employees at the location police the grounds when necessary. He said that the main office was very happy to hear about winning the Glitter Award.

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

## County Seeks Input on Open Space, Recreation Needs

The Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders once again is enlisting input from municipalities in developing priorities for Open Space acquisition and recreation improvements.

Freeholder Director David B. Crabel and Freeholder Camille Fernicola, liaison to the county Open Space Advisory Committee, have sent letters to officials in the county's 25 municipalities asking them to identify parcels of land to be bought for the preservation program. The municipalities also are being asked to identify priorities for the development of recreational facilities under their jurisdiction.

"Allowing the towns to set the priorities helps them best serve their residents and helps us determine where funds would be most effective," Crabel said. "Our Open Space program has been extremely successful in protecting lands and placing a priority on the quality of life of all our residents."

Beginning in 2003, municipal officials were able to receive development grants from the county's Open Space, Recreation and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund to improve or construct active recreation facilities, such as ball fields, public pools, walkways and municipal parks.

This year, the County also is seeking Open Space acquisition priorities to update a list originally drawn up at the start of the Open Space Program in 1995.

Towns are being asked to list open lands they deem as high priorities and are currently available for acquisition to be purchased for preservation by the county or by the town itself (with help from the County Trust Fund).

Since the inception of the Trust Fund, more than 6,000 acres have been purchased or placed under con-

tract to be preserved.

"Open land is being developed very rapidly and opportunities to preserve them are becoming harder to find," Crabel said. "We need to prioritize and organize quickly to be able to protect as much open space as we can."

Fourteen municipalities took advantage of development grants from the county's Trust Fund in 2003 to construct or improve recreation facilities. Funds helped build and improve ball fields, borough parks, a municipal pool and waterfront walkways that municipalities deemed as priorities.

"Many municipalities in the county don't have open lands to save but they have recreational facilities that need to be expanded or built or improved to give their residents placed to spend some leisure time," Fernicola said. "With this program we can help all our municipalities fill their passive and active recreational needs."

More than \$6.7 million in development grants have been committed to 14 towns: Carteret, Cranbury, Dunellen, Edison, Jamesburg, Metuchen, Middlesex, Milltown, North Brunswick, Sayreville, South Amboy, South Plainfield, South River and Woodbridge.

## Openings for Elderday Care

Elderday Care is a Social Day Care Program for folks with memory loss and various degrees of dementia. Transportation can be provided and there are sliding scale fees. This interesting program includes meals, snacks, activities—all are easy to participate in. Elderday Care is a great safe way to socialize your loved one. For more information, call (732) 777-1940.

## Volunteers, Donations Needed for Vietnam Memorial Exhibit

"The Wall that Heals," an exact, half-scale replica of the original Vietnam Veterans Memorial, will be displayed in Roosevelt Park in Edison from Oct. 14 through 17. This is one of only three sites in that state that the replica will be displayed.

Volunteers are needed around-the-clock to help adult and student visi-

tors locate names and answer questions, direct foot traffic and collect memorabilia left at the wall. Psychologists also are being sought to help those who may be emotionally affected by their visit to the wall. Volunteers are being asked to sign up by early Sept.

Donations are being sought to help

finance the exhibit, which includes the more than 58,000 names inscribed on the Washington-based memorial.

Sponsored by the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Middlesex County Veterans Advisory Council, the traveling exhibit offers onlookers a chance to experience the power of touching "The Wall," much as visitors to Washington have done since the memorial's dedication in 1982.

"We are proud to be able to offer the people of Middlesex County the chance to experience the feeling of touching The Wall close to home," said Freeholder Director David B. Crabel.

"Visiting the memorial is a profound experience that we now can bring here," said Freeholder Jane Z. Brady. "It's educational and cathartic all at once."

To volunteer, contact Ken Holman, director of volunteers at (732) 247-3727 or via email [kholman@uwvcj.org](mailto:kholman@uwvcj.org). For information, donating or volunteering, contact Veterans Services Coordinator Cary Asszony at (732) 745-4051 or email: [cary.asszony@co.middlesex.nj.us](mailto:cary.asszony@co.middlesex.nj.us).

## Tax Bill Mailing is Delayed

The South Plainfield tax bills have not yet been mailed to residents due to the fact that the county has not yet determined a county tax rate.

The grace period will be extended for paying your property taxes, but it has not yet been determined. Look for an update in next week's *Observer*.

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**SUBS-SANDWICHES-SALADS-CATERING**

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# Around Town

## Police 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 SPSHS ball fields.

For more information, call (908) 226-7663, (908) 226-7662, or call the 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 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 of \$50 includes transportation, a luncheon and show. This trip is open the public. For a reservation, call the Senior Center at (908) 754-1047.

## SDW Presents Pirates of Penzance

July 29, 30, 31 and Aug. 1

The 2004 South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop will present Gilbert and Sullivan's, *The Pirates of Penzance* at the SPSHS on July 29, 30, 31 at 7:30 p.m. and Aug. 1 matinee at 2 p.m. The auditorium is air conditioned. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for senior citizens and students. Four adult tickets purchased together in an advance are only \$30. Sign language interpreted shows will be July 30 and Aug. 1 performances.

For information call (908) 561-5255 or email [contactus@spsdw.com](mailto:contactus@spsdw.com).

## SP Golf Association Golf Tournament

August 4

The South Plainfield Golf Association Tournament will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 4, at Gambler Ridge Golf Club. The tournament benefits the South Plainfield High School Golf Team.

The entry fee of \$85 includes greens fee, golf cart, prizes, food and beverages. Shotgun start at 1 p.m. and dinner and awards from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Food and beverages will be provided throughout the tournament.

Registration and payment due by July 19. Players can register on-line at [www.spga.org](http://www.spga.org).

## Send Your Events to:

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South Plainfield, NJ 07080  
or fax (908) 668-8819  
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## What's happening in JULY

### EVENTS

Knitting/Crocheting 9:30-11:30am 26  
Yoga 10:30am-11:30am  
Drawing Class 11:30am  
Parade Committee 1pm

Bingo 10am-2pm 27  
Ladies Social 10am

Exercise 8:30am 28  
Line Dancing 10am  
Movie Time 11:30am  
AARP Crafts 1pm  
Computer Class 11 & 1pm

Weekly Shopping 29  
Pathmark 9am  
Practical Crafts 10am  
Computer Class 11&1pm  
Hunterdon Hills Playhouse musical "Heatwave" 10am

Bingo 10am-2pm 30  
Lunch available  
Mediation 9:30 am

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

For information, contact Dick DeAndrea (908) 755-1700 or Mike Kavka (908) 753-6578.

## Hypnosis Seminars

August 7

On Aug. 7, hypnosis experts will present nine seminars to make the public aware of the uses. An exciting day filled with such topics as Stress Reduction, Health & Hypnosis, Past Life Regression, Weight Management, Meridian Energy, Golf Enhancement, Psychic Discoveries, Anger Management and questions and answers about hypnosis.

The seminars will be held on Saturday, Aug. 7 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn on Stelton Rd. This presentation is a public service and there is absolutely no charge.

For more information, call (908) 964-4467 or visit their website at [www.gattohypnoacademy.com](http://www.gattohypnoacademy.com).

## Wesley Vacation Bible School

August 9-13

Wesley Church, located on Plainfield Ave. will hold a Hero Quest Vacation Bible School from Aug. 9 through 13, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The Hero Quest program is designed to lead children through four power-booster phases. Children will meet biblical heroes of faith. They will experience the power of faith in God through stories, games, crafts and music. Our students come to know Jesus as the "Ultimate Hero" and discover the faith hero inside themselves. Hero Quest finds the extraordinary in the ordinary. For registration, contact Pastor Thompson at (908) 757-2838.

## First Baptist Vacation Bible Schools

August 9-13

The First Baptist Church of South Plainfield, located at 201 Hamilton Blvd., will be hosting a Vacation Bible School Aug. 9 - 13, at 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Children ages five through entering the fifth grade are invited for a week of exciting games, crafts, songs and Bible stories. This year's theme is "Camp Creation." Explore God's great creation this summer at Davey and Goliath's Camp Creation VBS!

Registrations are being accepted through Aug. 1.

For information or to register call the church office at (908) 753-2382, contact Karen Flanagan at (908) 561-

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

## Senior Center EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
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 22 Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10-11am Computer Class 11&1pm	Bingo 10am-2pm 23 Pizza lunch available Meditation 9:30am
Knitting/Crocheting 9:30-11:30am 26 Yoga 10:30am-11:30am Drawing Class 11:30am Parade Committee 1pm	Bingo 10am-2pm 27 Ladies Social 10am	Exercise 8:30am 28 Line Dancing 10am Movie Time 11:30am AARP Crafts 1pm Computer Class 11 & 1pm	Weekly Shopping 29 Pathmark 9am Practical Crafting 10am Computer Class 11&1pm Hunterdon Hills Playhouse musical "Heatwave" 10am	Bingo 10am-2pm 30 Lunch available Mediation 9:30 am

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

6348 or you can register at the church after Sunday Services. Come and join us for a Super Gospel Celebration.

## VFW Breakfast

September 5

The VFW will be holding a breakfast to benefit veterans at the VA Hospital at Lyons on Sunday, Sept. 5 from 8 to 11 a.m. Tickets are \$5 and children get in for a reduced rate. This is an all-you-can-eat breakfast. The VFW is located at 155 Front St.

## Rec Going to Fiddler on the Roof

October 10

The South Plainfield Recreation Department is sponsoring a trip to Broadway to see the musical revival "Fiddler on the Roof" on Sunday, Oct. 10. The bus will be leaving the PAL at 11 a.m. The performance starts at 3 p.m. and we will arrive back at the PAL at 6:30 p.m. The price is \$95 a person. You can purchase tickets at the PAL.

## SPHS Class of 1979 Reunion

November 13

A gala reunion is currently being organized for the South Plainfield High School Class of 1979 for Nov. 13. If you are a member of this class, please write to Reunions Unlimited, Inc., P.O. Box 150, Englishtown, NJ 07726 or call (732) 617-1000.

## — Out of Town —

## Student Art Exhibit

Through July 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 now through July 31 at Swain Galleries in Plainfield, 703 Watchung Ave.

Hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more details, call (908) 756-1707.

## Resource Allocation Meeting

July 22

Join us for our annual Priority Setting and Resource Allocation meeting on Thursday, July 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in room 151 at the Center

for Children and Families, 100 Joyce Kilmer Ave. in Piscataway. The purpose of the meeting is to allocate funding for HIV care and treatment in the Middlesex-Somerset-Hunterdon area. The meeting is open to the public and community members are encouraged to participate. Transportation is available to clients through the Middlesex County Division of Transportation at (800) 221-3520.

For more information, call Alicia Bunker at (732) 445-0512 or visit our website at [www.mshema.org](http://www.mshema.org).

## One-Act Festival

July 23 & 24

Circle Players, the community theater of Piscataway, will present its Second Annual One-Act Festival on Friday and Saturday, July 23-24 at 8 p.m. The event jam-packs nine one-act plays from eight different directors into one evening for only \$5 a ticket. Performances are July 23 and 24, 8 p.m. Circle Players is located at 416 Victoria Ave., Piscataway. For tickets, call (732) 968-7555.

## B'nai B'rith Ketubah BBQ

July 25

The B'nai B'rith Ketubah Married Couples Unit (40+) will hold their Annual BBQ on Sunday, July 25 at 1 p.m. at a member's home in Scotch Plains. The food will be Kosher. Cost is \$25 per member couple; \$28 per non-member. If a non-member joins Ketubah Unit at the BBQ, they can attend the event for free. RSVP to Elaine by July 23 at (908) 232-0062.

## CHATS Adoption Support

July 26

CHATS (Connected Hearts Adop-

tion Triad Support) will meet for adoption support on Monday, July 26 from 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. at Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church, 170 Watchung Ave. in North Plainfield. Open sharing of adoption-related stories are welcome and light refreshments will be served. Check our new website at [www.chatsnj.com](http://www.chatsnj.com) or call Alyce at (732) 227-0607 for information.

## Depression & Bipolar Support Meeting

July 28

The monthly meeting of the Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA) will be held on Wednesday, July 28 at 7:30 p.m. at the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship, 21 Normandy Heights in Morristown. For further information, call (973) 994-1143.

## Middlesex County Fair

August 2-8

The Middlesex County Fair Association is looking for non-food vendors. The fair will be held Aug. 2-8 at the fairgrounds on Cranbury Rd. in East Brunswick.

For information, contact Mary Lou Conover at (732) 416-1929.

## USS Isle Royale Reunion

August 5

The USS Isle Royale AD is having its first reunion on Aug. 5-8, at the President's Casino in Biloxi, MS. Contact the reunion coordinator through the web page at [www.ussisleroyale.com](http://www.ussisleroyale.com) or mail to George Lowell, Box 307, Hatfield, AR 71945.

## Moonrakers Meeting

August 10

The New Jersey Moonrakers Tall Club, Inc., serving people of "taller-than-average" stature in the NJ/NY metropolitan area, will hold its monthly "Meet and Greet" social at Saddle Brook Marriott hotel, located between Route 80 and the GSP in Saddle Brook on Tuesday, Aug. 10 at 8 p.m.

For a schedule of our social events, call (973) 267-3648 or visit our website at [www.njrtall.org](http://www.njrtall.org).

## Free Workshop About College Costs

August 10

A workshop, presented by Mark J. Mauro, CPA, is being held for the parents of college bound high school students at Raritan Valley Community College on Aug. 10.

The workshop class is from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Seating is free but limited. To reserve a seat, call toll free: 1-877-656-2727.

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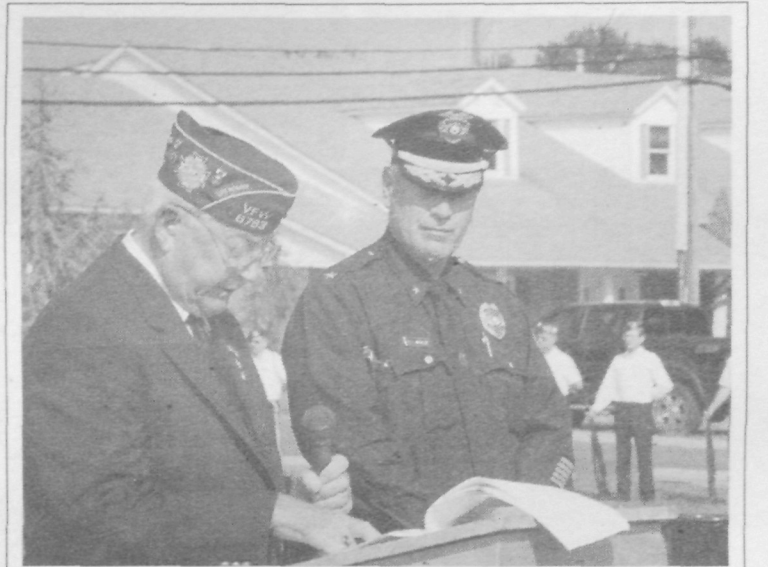
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**"All residents, especially military veterans should give special thanks to Phil Cortese. He is a loyal and proud Marine and if it were not for his commitment, this project may never have become a reality."**

— POLICE CHIEF ROBERT MERKLER —

## Memorial Park — A Lasting Tribute to Those Who Serve

(Continued from page 1)

Monument Park is dedicated to all those who have served their country or their community, including members of the military from each branch of service, as well as local police officers and rescue squad personnel.

Last year a committee was formed to update the existing Veterans Memorial formerly located in front of the Borough Hall after it was discovered that some veterans names were missing from the monument.

The committee soon came to the realization that there wasn't enough room to expand the memorial and they started to look for a more appropriate setting.

The committee estimated they would need about \$100,000 in donations to complete the park. They started planning what the park should include and then initiated fundraising efforts. Monument Park is funded entirely through donations from residents and businesses, which was quite an accomplishment in itself.

The committee noticed that some towns had installed a town clock and thought that the placement of a Verdin clock would enhance the park's entrance.

The first large donation was realized when Commerce Bank offered to pay for the town clock, which was valued at \$25,000. The names of donors are engraved on four sides of the base of the clock. After the clock was put into place at the entrance of the park, the property was cleared and excavated and the veterans and police Department memorials were carefully moved. Soon after, a Navy ship's anchor and anti-aircraft gun donated by

Cap and Tad Dabrowski, arrived. These events took place over several months and residents who passed by the park were witnesses to the park's evolution.

Everyone in town really took notice of the park when the U.S. Army Cobra helicopter, which was purchased from the Federal Government,



was placed on a pedestal looking down on the park. It was quite an impressive site and soon people from all over town began to visit the park and the memorials. During the past month numerous shrubs and grass seed were planted. Paths were created between the monuments, and memorial benches were installed. After Canada Geese

moved in to eat the grass seed, a local business came forward, donated and installed sod on the property. The result is a beautiful park that everyone in town can take pride in and a monument that truly shows South Plainfield's respect for all who have served, for their country or in their communities.

In his dedication speech, Master of Ceremonies Police Chief Robert Merkler commented that the purpose of the park is not to glorify war, but to honor those who served, and to serve as a place for reflection.

Merkler singled out a members of the committee, Phil Cortese, who was instrumental in spearheading the project and who worked tirelessly during the planning and construction. Even though he was on-hand as each aspect of the park evolved, Cortese, who served in combat during the Korean Conflict, was not eligible to have his name included. The criteria to have a name placed on the monument is that the person must have been a resident of South Plainfield at the time he or she served.

Despite that fact, Cortese devoted his heart and soul to the project. "All residents, especially military veterans, should give special thanks to Cortese. He is a loyal and proud Marine, and if it were not for his commitment, this project may never have become a reality," added Merkler.

Monument Park committee mem-

bers who all deserve our thanks for a job well done are Phil Cortese, Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan, Councilman Ed Kubala, Bob Longo, Bill McCrisky, Steven Merkler, Bob Stilo, Stan Werchinski, Mike Zushma and Police Chief Robert Merkler. We can't begin to count the many times we witnessed these members at the park, cleaning it up or working on some portion of it, making it look just a little bit better. They deserve our gratitude for all they have done to make Monument Park the showplace it is.

The list of people and businesses who contributed money, time and material to the park is too long to publish. But Merkler mentioned a few whose contributions were more than anyone expected. They are Commerce Bank, Stilo Paving, Cornerstone Architectural Group, Caz and Tad Dabrowski, Al Colantoni, VFW Post 6763, Marino-Ware, Dominic Papa of HBC Electric, Peter Bittonti, the Grasso brothers, Greg Pinho of Greenbrook Memorials, Barton's Nursery, Armando Amin, Panzarella Contracting, Trans-American Trucking, Ron Desclafani, Tom Walsh, Jeffrey Bey and Robert Baker.

Residents are invited to visit the park and to bring the entire family, read the names of those who served and become frequent visitors. Parking is available at the senior center or in Spring Lake Park.

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**MASS SCHEDULE**

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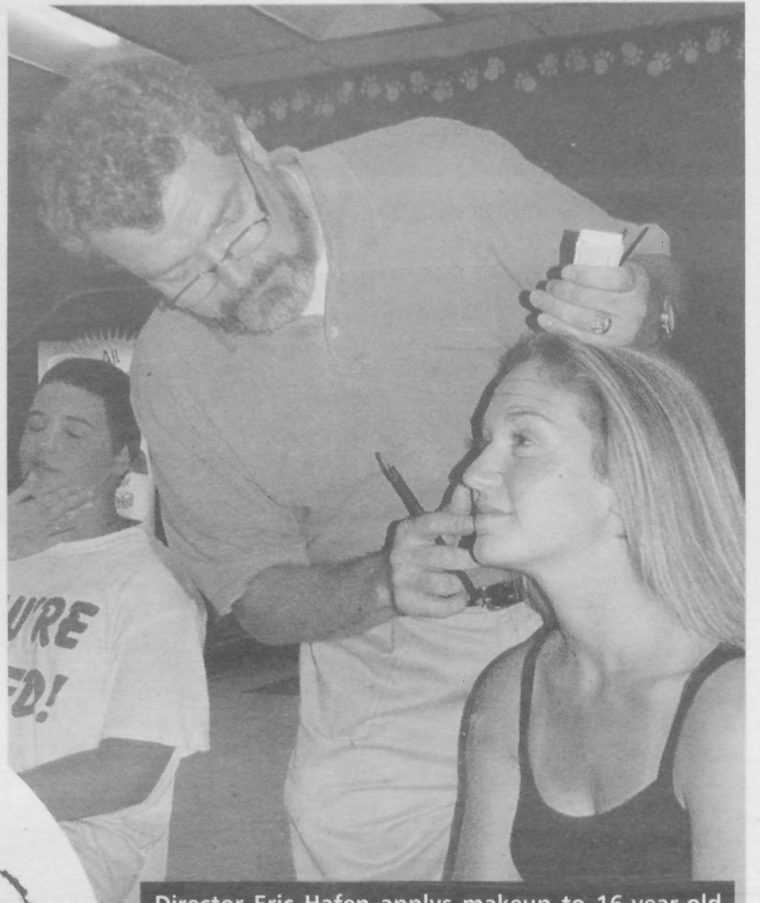
Regular Weekend Schedule:  
Saturday evenings 5:30pm  
Sunday mornings 8am and 11am



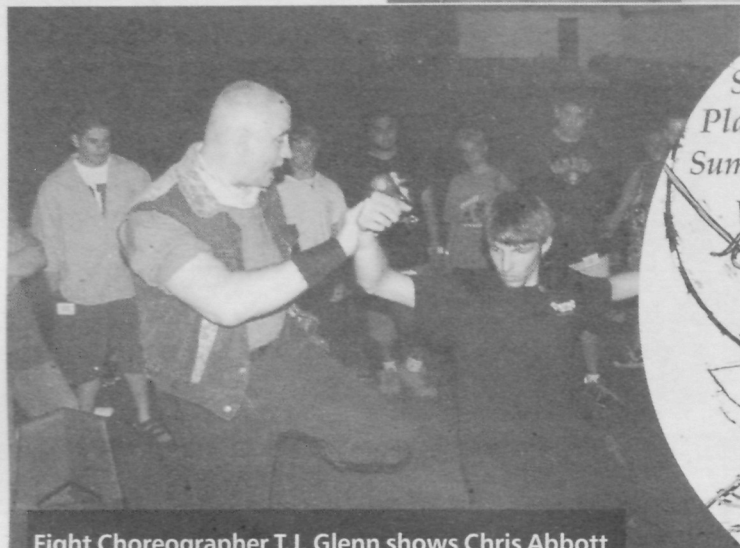
## Crew & Cast Gear Up for Next Week's Summer Drama Production of "Pirates of Penzance"



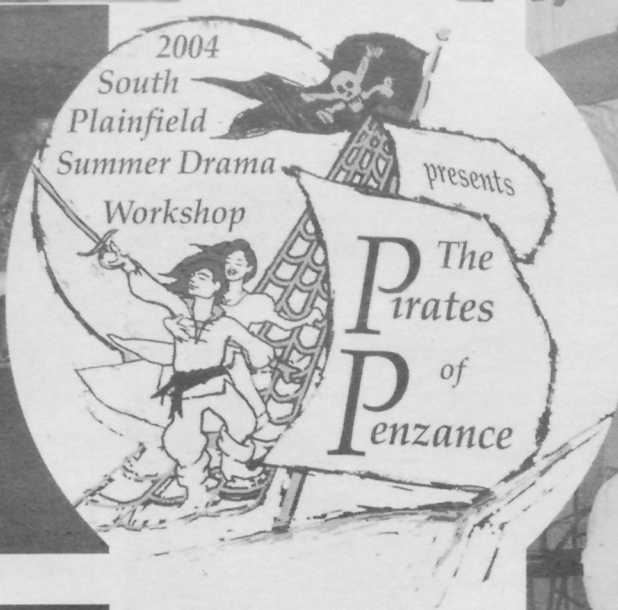
Kendall Green (right) partners with CJ Seesselberg for the dance workshop.



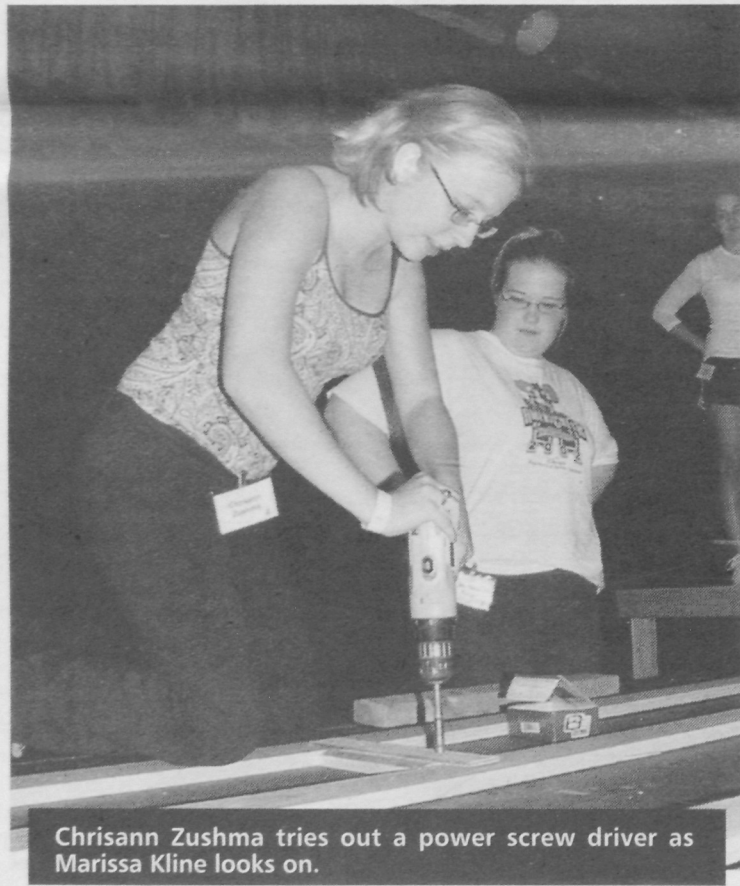
Director Eric Hafen applies makeup to 16-year-old Marianne McBride making her appear closer to 70. Her brother Mike (on left) is also being 'aged'.



Fight Choreographer T.J. Glenn shows Chris Abbott a move during the combat workshop.



Rocco Severini, Faryn Evans, Jenna Zielinski and Tristan More show off the results of the costume workshop.



Chrisann Zushma tries out a power screw driver as Marissa Kline looks on.

### Photos & Story by Patricia Abbott

The cast and crew of the Summer Drama Workshop's upcoming "Pirates of Penzance" have been hard at work rehearsing and building sets. Working on a large musical is always a learning experience but this year the students are definitely learning new skills.


A series of workshops are giving the youth the chance to experience aspects of theater that they might otherwise not. The performers don't usually help build sets, the stage crew normally doesn't participate in theater games or learn to do stage makeup.

The weekly workshops give everyone a chance to try their hand at something new. Over the past few weeks the youths have learned about costuming in a workshop run by Janis Nietzer and Dianne Seesselberg. They learned to dance with a partner with assistant choreographer Emma Fulton. Technical Director Jak Prince explained how to use a circular saw and several of the girls had the opportunity to try it out. A makeup session

run by director Eric Hafen taught them to apply stage makeup. Students watched as some of the cast were 'aged' right before their eyes. Stage lighting is one area that cast members are seldom involved in. Lighting Director/Stage Manager Mark Reilly taught students some of the basics of stage lighting. One of the favorite workshops is run by Fight

choreographer T.J. Glenn. Students learned how to stage a mock fight that will appear quite real to an observer. They also learned how to handle swords and other 'weapons' that will be used in "Pirates of Penzance."

Thanks to the hard work of the staff and the workshops, the cast will leave the 33rd season of Summer Drama with far greater knowledge of theater.



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## southplainfieldpeople Milestones

### Brittany Frazer Attends National Student Leadership Conference

Brittany Frazer, an SPHS junior, accepted the invitation from the National Student Leadership Conference and was one of hundreds of students attending the Medicine and Health Care program at the University of Maryland, College Park campus.

The National Student Leadership Conference is for career-focused students with demonstrated academic and leadership qualities and targets students from across the United States and more than 45 countries. The conference is by invitation only and provides programs, not only in Medicine, but also in Policy and Politics, National Security, Law and Advocacy, as well as others. Some of the programs,

also offer a college credit option.

Brittany described the program as an awesome opportunity that every student should seize if presented. Not only did she have an inside look at a career path that interests her, she made some great friends and experience what it's like to live away from home in a dormitory setting for a couple of weeks. Since college is only a couple of years away, Brittany felt the timing of this program was perfect.

Brittany is a South Plainfield Honor Roll student and a member of the tennis and track team. She is also a Junior Volunteer at Robert Wood Johnson at Rahway Hospital for the second year in a row.



### E. Crescent Pkwy. Celebrates 4th with Annual Block Party

Friends and neighbors on East Crescent Parkway celebrate the Fourth of July in style each year with an annual block party. This year, everyone pitched in with a food dish. Hamburgers and hot dogs were always cooking on the grill. Children and adults were decked out in red, white and blue garb in keeping with the spirit of the holiday. As nightfall approached, the party continued by everyone grabbing a chair and watching the fireworks display put on by the Plainfield Country Club.

### SPHS Student Recognized for Poetry

Annette Guzmah, a junior at South Plainfield High School, recently had one of poems published at teenink.com. Annette wrote a few poems last year as a school assignment and has written a song which was also published by *Teen Scene*. To Annette, writing to her is a way of getting her emotions out in the open. The published poem, "Famished," is about being hungry. Here we feature another, "Annoying People."

Annette says she enjoys writing, but like most teenagers she is still not sure what the future holds for her. When she was younger, she wanted to become a writer, but now she isn't

sure if it will become part of her future. "If it happens, it happens, I don't mind that either," says Annette. Annette likes acting and dancing and movies, especially Hindi movies. She would like to learn to speak Hindi.

#### Annoying People

Annoying people don't know the word stop,  
They make their gum go CRACK then POP,  
They laugh at folks when they get hurt,  
They walk on rugs, when their shoes have dirt,  
The Aunts who squeeze and pinch your cheeks,  
Voices too high, too soft, or SQUEAK,  
Children playing who SCREAM too loud,  
People who stop in the middle of the crowd,  
They rap their pencils on the desk,  
Siblings who bother while studying for tests,  
They have something to say but then say forget it,  
They cheat on their mates, but they regret it,  
Girls who act fake while flirting with a boy,  
These are the people that get me annoyed.

-Amanda Marie Guzman

### Rotary Club Elects Mulligan

Trish Mulligan, executive director of the Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross, was elected president of the Rotary Club of Plainfield/North Plainfield at their annual meeting. Mulligan succeeds Linda Hawkins-Todman of PNC Bank in Plainfield, who completed a successful year as club president and chaired the annual meeting.

The Plainfield/North Plainfield Rotary Club, founded in 1921, has served the community for over 82 years. Call Michael Townley at (908) 822-1441 for information about the Rotary Club and its activities.

#### AIDA SANTOS

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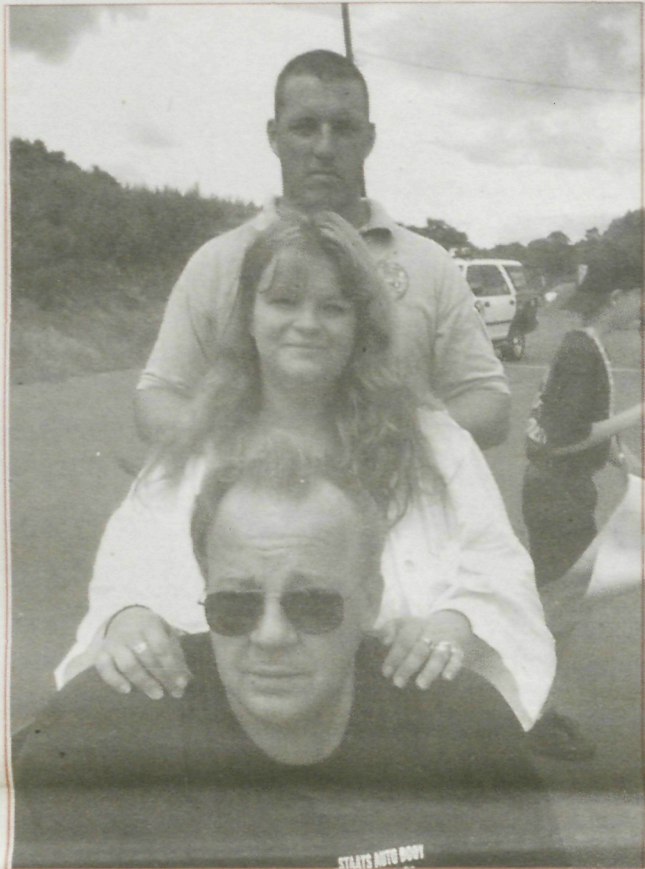
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## Student Recruits Learn the

### 50 Graduate from Premier Program

(Continued from page 1)

on laws and the "trainees" paid a visit to Borough Hall when the municipal court was in session.

Det. Gene Bataille taught a class on forensics and set up a crime scene for students to investigate. Engel Galarza from the Middlesex County Prosecutors Office spoke about recognizing gangs. The students also received instruction on narcotics and unarmed tactics, or defensive training.

During one afternoon, Officers LaMonda and Franchak pretended to be "bad" guys during a course on making car stops. Students learned the proper procedure for dealing with unruly and potentially dangerous people who may be encountered on the road.

A trip was made to the police firing range behind the recycling area. The recruits were shown various guns and shot paint balls at paper targets.

The week culminated with the aerial arrival of a NJ State Police medic helicopter, the Northstar, which operates out of Newark's UMDNJ. On board were Sergeants Al Lugo and Clint Pryor and Trooper 1 Benny Matos, along with paramedic Carl Corriere and nurse Bill O'Brien.

After landing behind the PAL building, the Northstar crew held the students in awe as they spoke about the actual mechanics of the chopper and how they are called in to transport trauma patients from all over North Jersey to various medical centers.

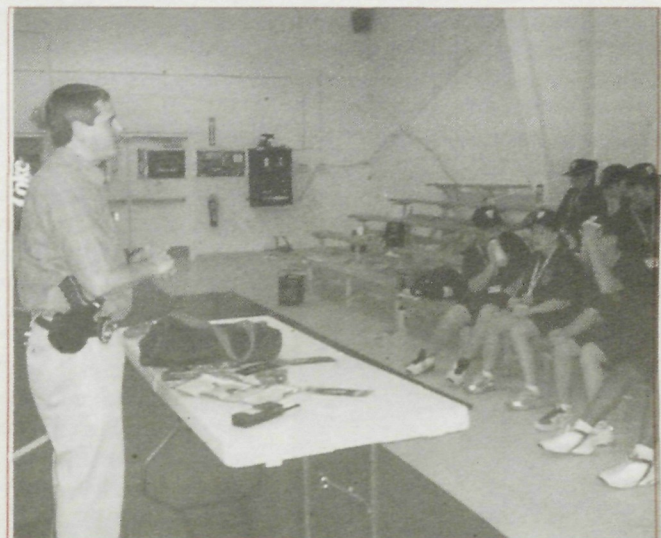
Thanks to Police Chief Robert Merkler who arranged the visit.

The recruits were also instructed on the role the police department plays in conjunction with members of the fire department, rescue squad and emergency management organizations.

The most grueling part of the week, at least for the students, was the physical training aspect of preparing to join the police force. Moans and groans echoed when it was time to do push-ups. The youth were also taught how to march.







## Ropes at Junior Police Academy

and to salute properly.

Both sessions culminated in graduation ceremonies with parents and relatives in attendance. Police Chief Merkler commented on how a career in law enforcement is often a family tradition, especially in South Plainfield, and mentioned those graduates who had relatives in the field. Officer Franchak remarked on the success of the program and his hopes to improve it for next year and years to come.

All graduates received certificates and both ceremonies ended with a slide show of the students during their week of training.

Plaques were presented to resident Debbie Esposito, who volunteered her time helping the officers and students during the two weeks, and to John Kormendy, one of the original members of the South Plainfield Elks Lodge 2298, for the generous donations made by them to the program.

Special thanks was also given to Mike English from the South Plainfield Recreation Dept., Police Chief Robert Merkler, Bill



Hartmann, the many South Plainfield police officers who spent time training students and to the Aimone family who donated a large assortment of fresh fruit everyday for snacks.

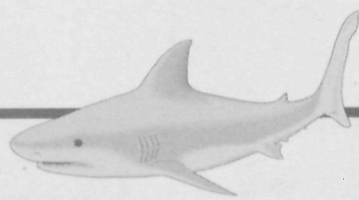
The Week 1 graduates are Brian Babinetz, Mark Benak, Zachary Bishara, Matthew Cesare, Jason Christilles, Deanna Dean, Bianca DiDolce, Elizabeth Fasullo, Kaitlyn Graziano, William Hartmann Jr., Jorgen Erik Holtermann, Kyle Kaczka, Harrison Lee, Matthew Little, Amelia Lyte, Sean McDede, Amber McKee, Matthew Miceli, Felicia Mulhearn, Shane O'Connor, Dylan Papa, Robert Pasternak Jr., Jeff Praul, Mark Roseman, Nicholas Smith, Eddie Sullivan and Ryan Szumski.

The Week 2 graduates are Damien Akins, Jorge Alvarez, Jonathan Caruso, Jonathan Ditmars, Justin Ditmars, Louis Esposito, Peter Hlavka, Samantha Hogan, James Howard, Shane Howard, Nicholas Jankoski, Kyle Junge, Sheryl Lipuma, Matthew Praul, Michael Romano, Nicholas Ross, Ashley Sacks, Bobby Sacks, Michael Simone, Taheem Smith, Christopher Spayder, Anthony Troiano and Kaleigh White.





# Sports



## Tiger Sharks Win against the Frogs in the Hollow

South Plainfield Tiger Sharks swimmers bested the swimmers of the Frog Hollow Swim and Tennis Club with a win of 169 to 100 in a meet held July 3 at the Hollow in South Amboy. The Tiger Sharks represent the South Plainfield Recreation Community Pool.

Girls in the Individual Medley races who scored for the Tiger Sharks included Maggie Valentino, first place; Kate O'Brien, second and Kaitlyn Kenny, third in the 10 and under event. Emily Piekarski took second place for the 11/12-year-olds and Katie Kaczka placed second for the 13-18 year olds.

In boys' Freestyle, Tiger Sharks took first place honors in all age groups, as well as scoring other points. For the 10 and under set, Kevin Jan took first place with Anthony Gurrieri in third. Dylan McDermott claimed first place

for the 11/12 year olds and CalvinJohn Smiley took first for the 13-18 group with Philip Luzny coming in second.

First, second and third places were awarded to girl Tiger Sharks in the Freestyle in both eight-and-under and the 9/10 categories. For the eight-and-unders, Taylor Aljian took first place, followed by Kate McLaughlin in second and Kelly O'Brien in third. In the 9/10 group, Gracie Piekarski took first place, followed by Katie O'Brien in second and Kelly McLaughlin in third. Second and third places were claimed by Emily Piekarski and Sarah Konops in the 11/12 year old event and Joanna Luzny took third place in the 13/14 year old race. Katie Kaczka and Leah Konops claimed first and third places, respectively, in the 15-18 year old race.

In boys' Backstroke, Aidan McDermott took first place in the eight-and-under, with Joey Valentino, second and Charlie Butrico, third. In the 9/10 division, Kevin Jan placed first, followed by Anthony Gurrieri in third place. Michael Boyle took second place in the 13/14 race with Alan Kasmer behind him in third. All three places were claimed in the older boys' 15-18 event with CalvinJohn Smiley, first; Chris Reed, second and Ryan Egan in third place.

Breaststroke scorers were Aidan McDermott, first place and Charlie Butrico, second; in the 8 and under;

Dylan McDermott, first and his brother Liam in second place in the 9/10 race; Alan Kasmer in second place for the 13/14 year olds and Philip Luzny taking first place, with Chris Reed, second, in the 15-18 category.

Tiger girls did well in the Butterfly events, taking nearly all the points in each age group. First place in the eight-and-under was Kate McLaughlin, followed by Taylor Aljian, second and Kelly O'Brien, third.

Maggie Valentino placed first in the 9/10 group, with Kelly McLaughlin, second and Kaitlyn Kenny, third. In the 11/12 year old race, Chelsea Cullen took second and Sarah Konops, third; for the 13/14 year olds, it was Joanna Luzny, second and Abby Petritsch, third; with Leah Konops placing second for the 15-18 group and Kristen Dabrio, third.

In the relay races, the boys' team of Charlie Butrico, Joey Valentino, Enzo Butrico and Aidan McDermott took first place for the eight-and-under free relay; first place teammates for the 13-18 relay were Michael Boyle, Dylan McDermott, Philip Luzny and CalvinJohn Smiley.

First place winners for the girls' medley relay races were teammates

Kelly Faustini, Taylor Aljian, Kelly O'Brien and Katie McLaughlin for the eight-and-unders; for the 9/10 group, teammates Emily Piekarski, Maggie Valentino, Chelsea Cullen and Katie O'Brien took first place.

The Tiger Sharks are coached by

Laurie Post, assisted by Robin Cone and Jenn Otlowski. Any South Plainfield resident, ages four to 18, interested in joining the swim team should contact the recreation department or visit the pool for further information.

Submitted by Donna Egan



Kelly O'Brien demonstrates her diving prowess against Nob Valley.



Tiger Shark Rocketmen Calvin JohnSmiley, Philip Luzny and Dylan McDermott relax after vanquishing Frog Hollow's boys 13-18 relay team. Calvin and Philip are members of the 2003/2004 St. Joes New Jersey State Champion swim team, and Dylan was the 2004 New Jersey Junior Olympic 10 year-old high point champion.



Grace Piekarski, Emily Piekarski, Amanda Ray and Michelle Gustafson pose for the camera after Tiger Shark victory against Frog Hollow.

## Tigers Compete Against Sandpipers

The South Plainfield Tiger Sharks swim team competed against the Sandpipers of East Brunswick on July 15, but fought a losing battle, missing out on team points in the Medley Relays and finishing with a score of 123 to 151.

South Plainfield swimmers who scored for the Tiger Sharks included Kevin Jan, Dylan McDermott and CalvinJohn Smiley, each of whom took a first place ribbon in their age group in the Individual Medley, swimming in the 10-and-under, 11/12 year olds and 13-18 year old groups, respectively.

In Freestyle, Emily Piekarski took first place in the 11/12 year old division, with Chelsea Cullen in third place. For the 10-and-under group, Maggie Valentino came in second and Gracie Piekarski took third.

Katie Kaczka claimed third place for the 13-18 year old girls. Boys' freestyle scorers included Aidan McDermott in

second place for the eight and under division, with his brother Dylan claiming first place in the 9/10 age group, followed by Anthony Gurrieri in second. For the older boys, CalvinJohn Smiley took second place in the 15-18 year old race, with Philip Luzny in third.

Tiger Shark girls did well in Backstroke with Taylor Aljian taking first place in the eight-and-under race, followed by Kate McLaughlin in second and Kelly O'Brien in third and Maggie Valentino took second place in the 9/10 division. For the 11- and 12-year-olds, Emily Piekarski claimed first place and Teresa Gustafson took second, while in the older girls' race, Katie Kaczka placed first for the 15-18 group, with Nina Byard in second.

Breaststroke results included points for first, second and third place in the eight and under race going to Kate McLaughlin, Taylor Aljian and Kelly O'Brien, respectively. Older sister Katie O'Brien took first place in the 9/10 division and Sarah Konops placed first in the 11-12 year old group, followed by Chelsea Cullen in third place. Nina Byard took third place for the 15-18 year olds.

Kevin Jan and Anthony Gurrieri claimed ribbons in the 9/10 Butterfly race, finishing first and second, respectively. Michael Boyle took a second place ribbon for the 13-14 age group while Philip Luzny nabbed first place in the 15-18 race, followed by Chris Reed in third.

Tiger Shark girls swam well in the Free Relay with eight and under teammates Kelly O'Brien, Taylor Aljian, Kate McLaughlin and Annie Pezzolo taking first place in their race and 9-12 teammates Maggie Valentino, Emily Piekarski, Gracie Piekarski and Chelsea Cullen claiming first place points in their division.

Unfortunately for the Tigers, they were unable to win any of the Medley Relay races and therefore could not match the Sandpipers total score at the end of the meet. Both teams worked hard to make the most points in each event and swam well, challenging the other to be competitive each time.

The Tiger Sharks represent the South Plainfield Recreation Community Pool and are coached by Laurie Post, head coach; assisted by Robin Cone and Jennifer Otlowski.

Submitted by Donna Egan

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# Sports

## 11-Year-Old All Stars Win SPJBC Tournament

The South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club 11-Year-Old traveling All Star Baseball Team defeated Middlesex 8-3 in the finals, to win the South Plainfield 11-Year-Old Invitational Baseball Tournament here in South Plainfield.

The 11-Year-Old All-Stars took their second tournament in one week by defeating Middlesex 8-3, in the final held Saturday, July 10 in South Plainfield. Although the game started out close, the combined pitching efforts of starter Gerry Pinto and closer Ryan Harrington, combined in allowing only four hits and three runs for Middlesex. The offense was led by Brandon Downes, who hit for the cycle with a homer, triple, double and a single while scoring three runs and collecting three RBIs. Danny Hansen went four-for-four and scored all four times to cinch the win.

The team piled up some more impressive statistics during this tournament. They outscored their opponents 74-16. Ryan Harrington and Brandon Downes clobbered two home runs apiece. Ryan Harrington compiled 11 RBIs and scored 11 runs while Richie Szeliga, Danny Hansen and Brandon Downes scored 10 runs each.

The SPJBC 11-year-olds pitching again dominated the tournament. Ryan Harrington, Riley Hubner, Matt Miceli, Dylan Papa, Gerry Pinto, Danny Hansen and Brandon Downes all pitched superbly, collectively allow-

ing only 16 runs in six games while striking out 34.

Team members showing great improvement with key contributions are Kyle Pompilio with a .353 batting average and a .609 on base percentage, Eric Niemeyer with a .360 batting average, Zach Sikanowicz with a .407 on base percentage and Vinnie DaPonte with a .368 on base percentage.

### JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

By Lee Flanagan

Our Summer Camp Started on Monday, July 19 at the SPJBC. Michael Benak, Nick Cesare, Andrew Miller and Andy Cupido of the South Plainfield High School Boy's team were the instructors with SPJBC Club members Lee Flanagan, Frank Benak and Anthony Celentano supervising the clinic. We will have pictures of the summer camp in next week's *Observer*. Forty kids were signed up for this four day camp.

Equipment will be collected from all teams through July 26. Please do not hold onto your equipment bag; it must be turned in immediately. There will be someone at the fields every night and weekend mornings, so turn your equipment bag in now. Please put your team name on a piece of paper and put it inside the bag. Failure to turn the equipment in a timely man-

The team has compiled an 11 and 1 record, so far, for the summer season. With two tournament titles under their belt they are now competing in the Bridgewater Invitational and will soon start competition in the District Cal Ripkin Tournament for 11-year-old teams.

Good luck guys!



ner may result in the manager and/or assistant manager from that team being denied the right to receive a team in the following season.

Our next monthly meeting is Monday, Aug. 2, starting at 7:30 p.m. We will be looking for volunteers to assist the club in committee assignments for the 2005 season. So come on out and get involved for the kids of South Plainfield. Just sitting back and talking about is not the answer. GET INVOLVED!

A decision has been made not to have Fall Baseball at the SPJBC. This decision was based on the fact that our complex needs to be worked on with projects like the completion of the snack stand renovation, painting, field maintenance, and new lighting being installed on Fields #1 and #4.

Finally, our Summer Invitational Tournament is almost over at the SPJBC. We have completed three age brackets. The eight-year-old champions were Metuchen. They went 6-0 in the tournament. The 10-year-old championship was our team from South Plainfield; they went 5-1 in the tournament, upsetting the team from Monroe Township in the finals. Our team from South Plainfield won the 11-year-old championship, defeating Middlesex in the finals. They were undefeated in the tournament with a 6-0 record. We will be completing the 9, 12, 13 and 14/15 year old tournaments this weekend.

Submitted By Bob Nilan

### Notes from the South Plainfield Golf League

The best twosome in the league, Ed Banach and Fred "Catfish" Kirchofer, had rounds of 35 and 36 respectively to lead Aiello Chiropractic to a narrow 11-9 win over Sport & Social to regain sole possession of first place in the tight American Division race. After being on a nice run, Sport & Social has cooled off, dropping its second match in a row. Frank Mathews turned in the best score for Sport & Social with a 43.

Captain Mike Cortese of Plainfield Animal Hospital seems to be challenging John Cotone for the title of "Mr. Woodland Avenue" by blasting two shots OB on the first hole. Fortunately, teammate Mike Sikanowicz shot a 37 and Mark "Mr. Steady" Chichvar had a 39 to enable PAH to gain a 10-10 tie with Twin City. Joe Dillar and Charlie Hasselgran both had 39's for Twin City.

In other cross-division action, Patti's Construction of the National Division cruised to any easy 17-3 victory over Masters of the American Division who played with one-man short. "Mongo" Mike Behr crushed some 250 yd. three-irons on his way to a 38 to lead Patti's back into first place in the National Division. Danny Griffin of Masters also fired a 38 in a losing cause.

Marty Van de Vaart, one of the hottest players in the league, came through with a marvelous one-over par 34 to spark Pornovets to a 13-7 win over KC's Korner. Mark Dugan was once again the medalist for KC's Korner with another round of 38.

Kevin "Boom Boom" Bickunas of Witty's matched Van de Vaart's 34 for the low-round of the night in leading Witty's to a 14-6 victory over the VFW. Teammate Howard Adler boomed some towering drives on his way to an impressive 36 that easily could have been a few strokes better. Bob Nilan and Jack Ford of VFW both had 41's.

Hank's Hackers totally overwhelmed the South Plainfield Elks, 19-1, as Todd Sherman fired a 37 and John Cacciatore came through with a 39. Jim Gashi turned in the low score

for the Elks with a 40.

Charlie Hasselgren earned the weekly prize for the closest-to-the-pin on the third hole and Dale Dube of the Elks won luncheon for-two at KC's Korner on the seventh hole.

With just three weeks left to play in the regular season, there are wide-open races for first-place honors in both the American and National Divisions, with nine out of 12 teams still having a solid chance to win the titles in their divisions. Any team that can put together a three-game winning streak could cap championship honors.

Low scores for the night: Mary Van de Vaart- 34; Kevin Bickunas- 34; Ed Banach- 35; Howard Adler- 36; Fred Kirchofer- 36; Mike Sikanowicz- 37; Todd Sherman- 37; Danny Griffin- 38; Mark Dugan- 38 and Mike Behr- 38.

#### League Standings:

American Division	W	L	T
Aiello	6	4	0
PAH	5	4	1
Hank's Hackers	5	4	1
Masters	5	4	1
KC's Korner	5	5	0
Witty's	3	7	0
National Division	W	L	T
Patti's	6	3	1
Sport & Social	6	4	0
Twin City	6	4	0
Pornovets	6	4	0
Elks	2	6	2
VFW	2	7	1

### Ed Niemczyk Basketball Sign-Ups

South Plainfield Recreation will be holding registration for the 2004 Ed Niemczyk Youth Basketball League from Sept. 20 to Oct. 18.

Registration is open to all South Plainfield children ages seven to 14 (as of Oct. 1, 2004). The fee is \$35 per participant and there are no refunds. A parent must accompany their child to registration. A birth certificate is needed for first time sign-ups, as well as proof of residency. Register at the PAL Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Joanne and Jim Muglia show off the handmade calligraphy dedication to Art Muglia done by Dennis Purpura at the first annual golf outing in Art's memory. (From left below, Joe Celantano, John Cotone (committee member and winner of Senior Longest drive), Chuck Villa (committee member) and Dave King. Proceeds from the outing went to the Matheny School.



## policereport

- On June 14 Allan J. Grimes, 34, of Plainfield was arrested for an outstanding warrant and driving while suspended at a motor vehicle stop.
- On June 16 Raymond William Dryja, 40, of Sayerville and Elyse M. Paduano, 24, of Marlboro were arrested for possession of a controlled substance at a motor vehicle stop.
- On June 17 residents on Wooden, Hillside and Montrose avenues reported that two occupants riding in a car had damaged the driver's side mirrors or their vehicles with a baseball bat.
- On June 17 a Florida resident reported that the driver's side door of

- his rented vehicle was damaged and there was a hole and pry mark under the door lock while it was parked in the Holiday Inn parking lot.
- A So. Clinton Ave. resident reported the theft of a Honda lawn mower from his back yard.
- On June 18 a So. Central Ave. resident reported the theft of their address sign that was on the front lawn.
- A Park Ave. resident reported the theft of her son's motorcycle from the apartment's rear parking lot.
- On June 19 Donald S. Roberts, 23, of Piscataway was arrested for an outstanding warrant and driving while suspended at a motor vehicle stop.

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## Obituaries

### 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 resided in Staten Island before moving to East Windsor 15 years ago.

Ron earned his Bachelor of Science Degree, as well as his Masters Degree in Social Work from Columbia University. For many years he worked as a Clinical Director for Social Services throughout the New York City area and for the past five years, Ron had been employed as a sales manager for Hot Headz and Natures Way of America.

He is predeceased by his parents, Albert and Hazel.

Surviving is his wife, Christine (nee Kiernan).

Memorial services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

### Eileen M. Titone, 45

Eileen M. Titone died on Sunday, July 18 at Hackensack University Medical Center in Hackensack.

Born and raised in Brooklyn, she moved to Plainfield in 1991 and settled in Westfield in 2001.

A graduate of St. Francis College in Brooklyn, she earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Business. Eileen began a career in banking with Anchor Saving Bank in Brooklyn and Staten Island as an officer and branch manager. She remained with them through various name changes brought on by mergers and acquisitions for more than 20 years.

A communicant of Holy Trinity RC Church in Westfield, she was active with the Holy Trinity Home School Association and served as their treasurer. In addition, she was a sales consultant of Party Lite Candles.

She is predeceased by her father, George, who died in February of this year; her mother, Loretta, who died in 2001; a sister, Gabrielle Vardy, who died in 1995 and a brother, George Jr., who died in 1961.

She is survived by her husband, Michael Titone; a daughter, Gabrielle at home; two sisters, Lori Vardy and her husband Barry Herrmann of Manassas, Va. and Ann Vardy-Newman of Plainfield; a brother and his wife, Stephen and Chellaugh Vardy of Guilford, Ct.; five nieces and four nephews.

Funeral mass will be held on Friday, July 23 at 10:30 a.m. in Holy Trinity RC Church in Westfield.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA, 1340 South Martine Ave., Scotch Plains, NJ 07060.

### Monique Juliette Cooper-Benjamin, 14

Monique Juliette Cooper-Benjamin, lovingly called "Mo," was born on Aug. 12, 1989 and died on July 14 at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center in Paterson. She was a precious gem to her loving parents John and Judith Cooper-Benjamin.

Born in Newark, Monique lived in Plainfield. She graduated from Hubbard Middle School in Plainfield with a GPA of 3.0 and was ranked 28<sup>th</sup> in the class of more than 180. She was a very warm, loving and outgoing child who loved Black History and learned a great deal about it. She had a passion for music and was a connoisseur of fine dining.

In 2001, she won first place in the state's first "Laws of Life" essay contest sponsored by her school where she won a computer. In 2002, she entered

the NJ State co-ed pageant and became one of the top 21 finalists, winning seven trophies. In 2003, she reentered the pageant, winning the state title and as a winner, Monique and her parents were invited, along with the other winners, to Trenton to meet Gov. James McGreevey. While in Trenton, Monique and her family were photographed with the Governor and met Secretary of State Renee Thomas.

Monique's ambition was to become a photographer and peacemaker. She envisioned someday living in a world of peace and photographing scenes depicting a world of peace.

She is predeceased by her paternal grandparents, Willie May and Robert Benjamin; an aunt, Jacqueline Brenda Dorch, who died on July 4 and by an uncle, Michael Gary Cooper.

She leaves to mourn loving parents, John and Judith Cooper-Benjamin of Plainfield; a brother, Steven Cooper; a stepsister, Seantel Benjamin; a stepbrother, Jermaine Benjamin and adoring grandparents, Mattie and Gary Cooper, all of Plainfield. A loving great-grandmother, Gertrude Sturdivant of East Orange; four aunts, Patricia Prime and her husband, Willie of Rahway, Marissa Cooper-Stanley and Annette Benjamin of Plainfield and Faye Mbazomo of Sacramento, California; three uncles, Alan Cooper and his wife, Helen of Haddonfield, Dennis Porter and Johnnie Dorch, both of Plainfield; two great aunts, Judy Jones and her husband, Arthur of Orange and Gecoulia McGee of East Orange; godfather Bishop William T. Cahoon and caregivers Yvette DeMaya and Diane Vanterpool. Also surviving are a host of relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held in the House of Prayer Church of God in Christ, Plainfield.

### Peter K.E. Huebner, 69

Peter K.E. Huebner of South Plainfield died on Tuesday, July 20 at the Overlook Hospital in Summit.

Pete was born in Newark on Aug. 1, 1934 to Christian and Hildegard Huebner. He was raised in Union and was a former resident of Des Plaines, Ill. and New Providence before mov-

ing to South Plainfield 12 years ago.

Pete received his BSME from the Newark College of Engineering and his MBA from the University of Denver. Pete's professional career spanned all aspects of custom machinery development and designs, sales and installations worldwide. He was a mechanical engineer for the H.J. Ruesch Machine Company in Springfield and retired from Degussa-Huls in South Plainfield after 14 years of service.

Pete served his country as a captain in the United States Air Force and was stationed at Lowery Air Force Base in Colorado.

He was an avid traveler and adventurer through this continent in various motor homes. He was a national director of the Family Motor Coach Association and a member of the Wandering Winnies, Good Sam, Mountain Laurel Travelers and the 20th Century Wagon Trainers. Another passion of Pete's was piloting small aircraft and he was a member of the Experimental Aircraft Association. Pete had a lifelong interest in astronomy, a topic he enjoyed discussing with family and friends.

He was predeceased by his first wife, Barbara Ann Toyne Huebner, who died in 1995.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Charlotte Gelfand; a daughter, Linda Huebner of West Halifax, Vermont; a son, Neil and his wife Michelle Huebner of Boulder, Colorado; three step daughters, Elisha and her husband Dave Monzella of Fanwood, Jacqueline and her husband Jonathon Bass of Westfield and Andrea Cohen of Santa Cruz, Calif.; a brother, Tom and his wife Ileana of Fairfield, Conn.; six step grandchildren, Adam, Solomon, Hannah, Jacob, Benjamin and Sophie.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday at 10 a.m. at Conroy Funeral Home on Plainfield Ave. Burial will follow at the Hollywood Memorial Park in Union. Relatives and friends may call at the funeral home on Friday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory can be made to the Citizens for Global Solutions, 418 7th St. SE, Washington, DC 20003-2796 or the International Dark-Sky Association, 3225 No. First Ave., Tucson, AZ 85719-2103.

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From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

By Sunnie Randolph

You may have heard that there is going to be a new library building for the South Plainfield Library. The library is holding a contest to design a new library building. The contest is open to children and adults of all ages. If you could design the new library, what would it look like?—A castle, a spaceship, lots of big windows, elevator, escalator, one floor, two floors, three floors, etc. Draw a picture so we can see what you see! All entries will be displayed in the library and must be submitted by July 31. Include your name, age, telephone number on the back of your picture. Prizes will be awarded for the different age ranges: up to 6 years old, 7-12 years old, 13-18 years old, and adult. Be creative and have fun!

The Middlesex County Health De-

partment will hold a babysitting class on Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 9 and 10, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Municipal Building. The class is limited to 25 young people ages 11 and up. Registration is required. Sign up at the library.

The Summer Reading program is continuing. Read, read, read and stop in and pick up your weekly prize.

The library also has shelves full of new books for adults—both fiction and nonfiction. There are also many new fiction paperbacks to read. If you don't want to read, the library has many new videos and DVDs to watch. Stop by and see what is available.

**Reminder:** The Public Library is open all day Saturday during the summer. The hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The library is closed on Sunday during the summer, but will reopen on Sunday in September.

## Senior Citizen Fire Safety Seminars a Popular Demand

Senior citizen groups from throughout the county are showing a keen interest in the fire safety seminars now being offered by Middlesex County Fire Academy instructors.

"We're getting calls nearly every day from senior groups looking to have our instructors come out for an hour and offer tips on fire safety and prevention," said Freeholder Christopher D. Rafano, chairman of the county's Law and Public Safety Committee. "These seminars deal with the specific needs of our senior citizens and will prove to be informative and effective."

About 150 members of the American Association for Retired People's Local 3869, Woodbridge Chapter, will attend a 1 p.m. Aug. 4 seminar at the Cameo restaurant.

Seminars in South Plainfield and South River and a number of other

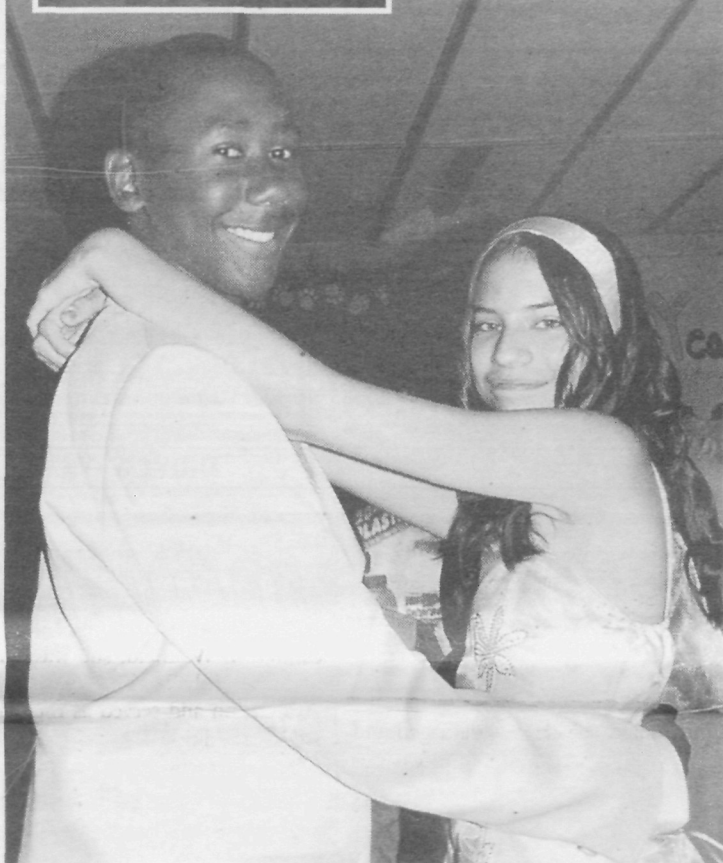
communities also are being planned. Dates and times are to be determined.

"We believe that everyone who attends a seminar will get something out of it. Just going by the numbers, our senior residents seem to agree," Rafano said. "Participants will be refreshed on things they've learned and be educated on new techniques and equipment that keeps us all safe."

The free classes, written by the Middlesex County Fire Academy, will touch on electrical and cooking safety, escape strategies from single-family or multi-unit complexes in the event of a fire and the use and maintenance of smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.

Interested individuals or groups should call county Fire Marshal Michael Gallagher at (732) 316-7171 to schedule a talk.

The seminars are the latest in a number of programs the county has designed to teach fire safety to county residents of all ages. Programs to teach pre-school and school-age children and adults are available. Call for information.



Story/photos by Patricia Abbott

The Middle School Eighth Grade Dinner Dance gave the soon to be South Plainfield High School freshman their first glimpse of their home for the next four years — SPHS. The annual event was held in the school cafeteria which was decorated for the event. Ladies' apparel ranged from elegant evening gowns and comfortable summer dresses to stark gothic clothing, and for the gentlemen, tuxedos and top hats to chinos and converse sneakers. The evening included a buffet dinner and lively night club style dance deejayed by Kevin Murtagh.

## Eighth Graders Shake it Up at Annual Middle School Dance



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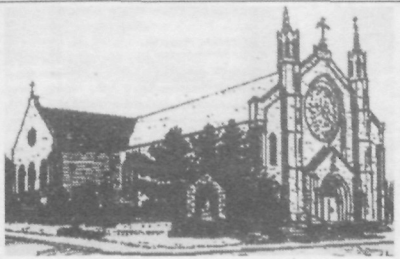
Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 p.m.

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

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# SPHS Varsity Girls' Track Review

By Tim Morgan

The South Plainfield High School Girls' Spring Track team has been on the upswing lately. This past season, they rose to 7-1 from last year's .500 record, which itself was a major improvement from the 1-6 record they posted in 2002.

Thirty-six year Head Coach Bill Milone said that the girls had "an exceptional and fantastic season." He was very pleased that they took second in the White Division and placed among the top five overall teams in the GMC.

The Lady Tigers' only loss was to Monroe in their opening meet by only a few places. The girls were simply unprepared for the meet and unaware of their full abilities at the time, according to Milone. He said that the opening meet served as a true gauge of the talent that he really had on hand, because he witnessed them in competition and knew that the potential to perform better was there. While it was certainly disappointing losing their first meet, the girls were shortly able to more fully realize this potential, winning every meet afterward.

"I was pessimistic before the season started, but upon the first day of practice I saw lots of potential and I changed my mind," Milone said. After experiencing unexpected success, he was able to put forward, "I'm looking forward to next season."

Entering the season with only four seniors and an astounding 29 freshmen, Milone was understandably uneasy about whether or not the girls would be able to improve upon last year's numerically average results. However, his fears were eased when he saw the "young, raw talent" he really had on hand that would eventually make an unforeseen impact on both the county and state levels.

Junior Latoya Johnson was runner-up in the GMC and fifth in the State Sectionals in the shot put, sophomore Krystal Williams placed third in the GMC and Sectionals for the 100, freshman Asia Hollis took fourth in the GMC and fifth in the Sectionals for the 400 and freshman Nicole Miglis took sixth in the 800 in the GMC.

In the GMC Relays, the Lady Tigers took second in the shot put relay, fourth in the 4x400 and fifth in the 4x800. In the GMC Coaches' Relays at the beginning of the season, the shot put relay team took second and the novice runners turned in some good performances.

Juniors Dawn Besser and Kathleen Morgan and freshmen Asia Hollis, Brittany Hollis and Nicole Miglis all

rotated positions on the 4x400 squad. Besser also contributed as a hurdler and a 400 runner and Morgan ran consistently in the 400, 800 and 1600. They were assisted by senior Danielle Nobile in the hurdles and freshman Jessica Hill in the 1600 and 3200. Asia, Kathleen and Crystal Williams also lent their support as long jumpers and high jumpers.

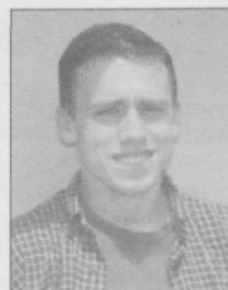
Senior Sarah Green was a fourth year shot putter and did well in the javelin this year as well. Freshman Samantha Granski managed to throw nearly 30 feet in the shot put, senior Heather Loenser threw discus for her fourth consecutive year while freshman

Becky Keller stepped into the same role nicely. The SPHS Varsity Girls' Track program also saw its first ever pole vaulter this year in freshman Jennifer Okuski, who was able to hit seven feet and give the girls extra points they had never had before. Besser, Loenser, Morgan and Nobile were the team captains.

Milone had a level of depth he has not seen in a long time this year with nearly 50 athletes on his roster, which should provide the team with a sense of continuity to ensure the program's future. Besides that though, Milone said, "They all pulled for each other and complimented each other and

that's something I haven't had in the past."

Despite all of this, Milone willingly propounds that his objective in coaching is not simply to win. What he saw this season was "a hard working, dedicated great bunch of kids." He looks for enthusiasm, determination and above all else enjoyment from his athletes. To him, "Just seeing the expressions on their faces when they do a great job is priceless."



Tim Morgan, Jr.

## Spots Available for SHOTMAN Camp

Spots are still available for the 13th Annual Shotman Summer Basketball Camp held at SPHS July 26-30. The camp is open to both boys and girls from ages 10 to 18 years old. Hours for this day camp will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the afternoon.

There will be all kinds of drills, contests and games as well as lectures on proper ball handling and shooting technique. In addition, Shotman plans to have a guest speaker appear at the camp and talk with the kids. Price for the week of camp is \$150.

For information about camp, contact Mike Lanza at either (908) 754-2692, or at: [mlanza@shotman.net](mailto:mlanza@shotman.net)

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Membership in the men's auxiliary is limited to husbands, widowers, fathers, grandfathers, sons, grandsons and brothers of persons who were or are eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Members must not be less than 16 years old. Only six more men are needed for this auxiliary to become a reality.

Men interested in joining this auxiliary may pick up an application at the VFW Post Home, located at 155 Front Street. The post is open 3 p.m. daily and 12 noon on weekends. For more information phone (908) 668-9751 during the hours listed.

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# Middle School Fourth Marking Period Honor Roll

## High Honor Roll

**8th Grade**—Francis Alfano, Christopher Delaney, Brooke Denitzio, Karen Desai, Christopher Duquette, Taylor Harris, Przemyslaw Lasota, Raymond Lee, Jonathan Marcoux, Robert Moreira, Christina Nieves, Kristen Partesi, Ashley Peterson, Daniel Pompilio, Mitul Rana, Kelly Remsing, Anthony Simone and Ginarose Siringo.

**7th Grade**—Audrey Cupo, Rebecca Deffler, Stephanie Dicindio, Quynhhu Doan, Lindsay Fredericks, Jessica Handwerger, Caitlin Herriott, Catherine Krawiec, Lyndsey Murtagh, Michael Pachytel, Allyson Paterek, Kathryn Paterek, Timothy Ratti,

Rachel Smith, Heather Stoloff, Victoria Tran, Isabel Vordzorgebe and Erik White.

## Honor Roll

**Grade 8**—Amanda Alemezohu, Dana Alexa, April Ayers, Scott Barton, Taryn Billich, Lillian Blanco, Rebecca Bosse, Erica Bowden, Nicole Brooks, Paolo Cantarella, Vanessa Casteblanco, Grey Coppi, Jonathan Cursi, Joseph Dacchille, Kyle Darr, Joseph Del Genio, Elizabeth Diamant, Kaitlin Egan, Andres Erazo, Daniel Espin, Brian Fabino, Sydney Gentile, Tara Goitiandia, Danny Gomez, Jessica Gray, Robert Harrington, Matthew Helgesen, Kelsey Hoffman, Theresa

Huber, Subanie Jaikaran, Christian Johansen, Mantesh Kaur, Timothy Keane, Stephanie Kelly, Gina Lampasona, Rachel Milliron, William Morrison, Diana Naser, Katie Nuber, Lauren O'Day, Sarah Oglesby, Jamie Okoszko, Michael Oprysk, Vincent Padula, Anjani Patel, Vinal Patel, Christopher Pennisi, Stephanie Penny, Phillip Perrette, Alexandra Petronko, John Polizzano, Russell Pornovets, Hosnia Qayum, David Quiroga, William Rickert, William Ritchey, Ashley Sacks, Leslie Samayoa, Sarah Schulte, Rachel Senz, Jasmine Silas, Alison Smith, Olivia Smith, Chelsea Soisson, Christopher Spayder, Kathleen Sullivan, Stephanie Szeliga, Amanda

Thorn, Anh-Phuong Trinh, Brandon Ullom, David Vasquez, Gregory Watts, Courtney Wilhelm, Katie Jean Zacek and Julia Zappi.

**Grade 7**—Daphne Aguinaldo, Jorge Alvarez, Francesca Bayak, Cori Black, Kyle Buck, Michael Bumback, Maxwell Butler, Ashley Cardinale, Kurt Carlson, Alex Cihanowycz, Allison Clawans, Sean Coffey, Ian Collins, Jared Czech, Ann Thao Dang, Jeannine DeAndrea, Michael Dezmin, Tina Foscolo, Kelliann Friday, Christopher Fulton, Stephen Garry, Jaime Giannakis, Maricela Gonzalez, Keri Gould, Nicholas Jeglinski, Garrett Kelly, Stephen Kelly, Joseph Lacerda, Phon Lai, Stephanie Lanza, Jacqueline

Laverne, Zane Lesky, Christopher Lesniak, Sheryl Lipuma, Anthony Louise, Kenneth Luckey, Jeremiah Magpile, Daniel Maistickle, Kelly McCormack, Joseph Mennuti, Jessica Murtagh, Joanna Nastarowicz, Alex Nieradka, Patrick Nolty and Eric Nuber.

Nosavoen Ogbevoen, Timothy Oppelt, Emily Orlandini, Parth Patel, Priya Patel, Sandra Pleeter, Douglas Porzio, Matthew Praul, Alexa Sambat, Saira Sheikh, Richard Sierzega, Sagar Sindha, Taheem Smith, Christine Snogans, Andrew Staynings, Scott Suleski, Kara Thomas, Elizabeth Tran, Loan Tran, Anthony Usuriello, Andrea Vedutis and Kristen Yorkanis.

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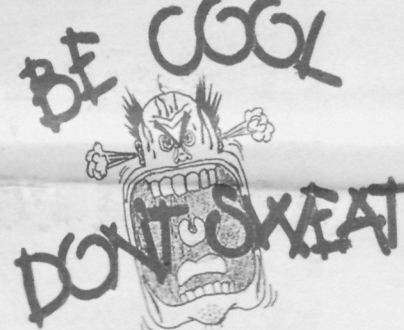
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## EPA Recommends Cleanup Remedies for Hamilton Boulevard Superfund Site

(Continued from page 1)

destroyed in a combustion chamber and the off-gas is treated. The cost for S-3 is \$72,000,000 and S-5 is \$52,000,000.

The EPA chose B-3 for cleaning the buildings. This calls for demolition of the buildings and removal from the site. There are 18 buildings presently on-site, but Mannino explained some buildings may not have to be demolished. Which buildings will be destroyed and which will be cleaned were not defined at this time. The cost of B-3 is \$7,000,000.

Many residents questioned the health hazards the contaminated site has caused in the past and is still causing to our residents through contamination of the soil and dust. Everyone seemed to know someone who had died of cancer in the area. Mannino

said the EPA referred all health issues to the State of New Jersey, who has been investigating the hazards during the past years. Residents were told that all of the reports, tests and studies were available at the South Plainfield Library for their inspection.

### History of Testing

Testing by the Department of Environmental Protection dates back to 1996, which found PCBs and other chemicals. In 1997, after testing by the EPA, the property owner of the facility was ordered to the pave driveways and parking areas, install a security fence and implement drainage controls to mitigate risks associated with the contaminated soil.

The EPA conducted a preliminary investigation of the Bound Brook to evaluate the impact of contamination

on human health and the environment. As a result of the investigation, the NJDEP issued a fish consumption advisory for the Bound Brook and its tributaries, including nearby New Market Pond and Spring Lake. They collected surface soil and interior dust samples from residential and commercial properties near the site, which resulted in removal of contaminated soil from 15 residential properties. In 2000 the EPA expanded their investigation and collected soil samples from properties further from the CDE facility and found three additional properties that were contaminated and ordered them cleaned up.

In 2001, the Borough Council passed a resolution designating the Hamilton Industrial Park as a "Redevelopment Area" and formed a committee to oversee the project.

Before considering a final remedy, the EPA and the NJDEP will consider all written comments on their preferred remedies, which must be received by Aug. 5. Please address all written comments to Peter Mannino, Remedial Project Manager, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 290 Broadway, 19th Floor, New York, New York 10007-1866.

## County Schedules College Campus Safety Seminar

The Middlesex County Public Health Department's Rape Crisis Intervention Center will sponsor a free seminar for students, parents, teachers and guidance counselors on ways to evaluate the safety of a college campus to reduce the risk of sexual assault.

Male and female college and high school students, parents, guardians, teachers and counselors are invited to attend the seminar to be held from 7 to 9 p.m. on Aug. 5 at the Middlesex County Fire Academy in Sayreville. The program will also offer tips on personal safety and information on student rights.

"This is an incredibly important topic for our students and everyone who cares for and guides them," said Freeholder John Pulomena, chairman of the county's Public Health and Education Committee. "Our counselors have a wealth of information they can share, information that could really have an impact on the decisions students make."

Pulomena remarked the seminar is timed perfectly to coincide with the beginning of the fall semester at many colleges and universities. "Thousands

of students will be heading back to college or going for the first time within a month after this talk."

Reservations are required. Please call (732) 452-5900 by July 23 for reservations or for more information.

## Charity Softball Tourney Saturday

(Continued from page 1)

Spirit Shoppe, Pepsi, Freihofer's Bakery, Hall's Fast Motor Freight, Bett-A-Way, Roma Foods and Twin City Pharmacy.

So stop down during the day and see your friends and neighbors compete against each other for a trophy and bragging rights and also enjoy Sal's grilling and other delicious food. In case of rain the tournament will be held on Sunday, July 25.

For more information on the tournament or making a donation to this worthy cause, please call Det. Gary Cassio at (908) 226-7663, Det. Chris Colucci at (908) 226-7662 or the PAL at (908) 226-7714.



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**Deadline to submit classified advertising is Monday, 5 p.m. Call 908-668-0010**

**INTRODUCING A NEW WAY TO SAVE IN SOUTH PLAINFIELD**

# SUPER

# Savings!



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**USE OUR EASY LAY-A-WAY PLAN!**

# SAVE UP TO 80% EVERY DAY!

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- CLOTHING, LINENS, HOUSEWARES, HOME FURNISHINGS & MORE!

**4pc. LUGGAGE SET**

*Get Ready For Vacation!*



\$12<sup>49</sup>

**CHICKEN FRYER**



\$16<sup>99</sup>

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\$16<sup>99</sup>

**MENS' CARGO SHORTS**

*Camo Pattern*



\$8

**BODY PILLOW**



\$8

**ASSORTED CLOCKS**

*Your Choice*



\$4<sup>59</sup>



**IN THE FORMER BRADLEE'S LOCATION**



**GOLDEN ACRES SHOPPING CENTER • SOUTH PLAINFIELD • M-S 10-9 SUNDAY 11-6**

Pictures for illustration only. No rain checks. Limited quantities on some items.