

# South Plainfield Observer

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VOL. 8, NO. 50

50 CENTS

AUGUST 20, 2004



John Mocharski, honorary grand marshal of this year's Labor Day parade.

## John Mocharski Named Labor Day Honorary Grand Marshal

By Patricia Abbott

The Public Celebrations Committee has announced that they have chosen John Mocharski as Honorary Grand Marshal of the 47th Annual South Plainfield Labor Day Parade.

A 1976 graduate of SPHS and lifelong resident of South Plainfield, John has been a member of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department for 28 years. He became a Junior Firefighter in 1973 and in 1976 he joined the ranks of Senior Firefighters.

John said he was surprised to be nominated. "I thought that there were other people who were more worthy of the position. After a few days I decided that evidently I had helped someone somewhere along the way

who felt I should be nominated and I accepted the position."

From 1994 to 1997, John rose through the fire department officers' ranks, serving as lieutenant, captain, deputy chief and chief, and is presently serving as deputy chief. John is a Life Member of the Exempt Firefighters Association and currently serves as president. He is also a member of the NJ State Fireman's Association, the NJ State Fire Chief's Association, and the NJ Volunteer Fire Chief's Association, where he is currently a trustee. In 1982 he was a part-time fire inspector for the Borough of South Plainfield.

John and his wife, Pam, have two sons, Michael, 11 and John Jr., 15, who is also a member of the South Plainfield Junior Firefighters. In

2003, John Jr. nominated his father for *The Home News'* Unsung Heroes. His letter was chosen and appeared in March of 2003. Excerpts from the heartfelt letter reads, "My dad is concerned about people. He treats the people he is saving as friends and after a emergency he finds out how they are doing. He even treats the people he works with as though they were his own family too."

John is active with his sons' Boy Scouts troops and often assists in many scouting events. He is also active in his sons' school and sports activities. In the spring he worked alongside his father and other family preparing food at the Sacred Heart fair and participated in other church functions.

(Continued on page 12)

## Prostitution Operation Uncovered

After a two week investigation by detectives from the South Plainfield Police Department, five individuals were arrested and charged with acts of prostitution last Thursday.

The police received tips of prostitution taking place at both Oriental Wellness Center located at 2201 South Clinton Ave. and at Personal Best Day Spa at 4475 South Clinton

Ave. Undercover detectives made appointments for massages at both locations and were subsequently propositioned by employees.

Victoria Z. Rivera, 25, and Karol J. Morel, 22, both of Perth Amboy, were arrested at Personal Best Day Spa and charged with prostitution. Both were released on bail.

Arrested at Oriental Wellness

Center were Lian Ying Ji, 40, and Xian Shixiu, 43, both of Flushing, who were charged with obstruction of justice, failing to comply with officers' orders during the arrest of Zhao Cixia, 26, of Flushing. Cixia was subsequently charged with prostitution. All were released on bail. Several hundred dollars were also seized at the time of their arrests.

## Summer Recreation Program Winds Down with Field Day

By Jane Dornick

The South Plainfield Recreation Department's Summer Parks Program ended the season with a field day at Veterans Park. The Parks Program was held for six weeks at the four different elementary schools.

Camp counselors entertained children from kindergarten age and up with various indoor and outdoor

activities throughout the day during the six weeks.

The field day events were coordinated by counselor Michael Jeremia, along with head counselors

tournaments were held, with winners from each school earning medals. There were also running relays and wheelbarrow and sack races for fun. The final challenge of the day



Summer Rec kids enjoy a checkers tournament at a field day celebrating the end of this year's program. For additional photos, see page 6.

from each school—Patty Reach from Franklin, Matt Cleary from Riley, Chris DeCosta from Kennedy and Dana Curcio from Roosevelt.

The morning began with teams from each school battling against each other in kickball; Roosevelt School came out on top. Checkers

was a tug-o-war between the counselors and kids from each school. In one match, the kids stunned the counselors by pulling them over the line to win the game.

Pizza and soda were served for lunch, which wrapped up another fun summer season for "The Rec."

## Sacred Heart School Welcomes New Principal

Sacred Heart Parish is very happy to welcome Sister Mary Nadine Boyle, RSM as their new school principal.

Sister Nadine is a Religious Sister of Mercy whose motherhouse is located in Watchung. Sister taught at Sacred Heart School from 1980 to 1983. She has been a Sister of Mercy since 1957, serving in both the Trenton and Metuchen Diocese as a teacher and administrator.

Sister has a long association with

the Sisters of Mercy; as she was educated by them while a student at Sts. Philip and James School in Phillipsburg, her hometown. Her education continued at Georgian Court College (now University), as well as Rutgers and the College of New Jersey (formerly Trenton State).

Her love of children and their educational journey has encouraged her to continue in this ministry and gives her the energy to fulfill her daily responsibilities.



Members of American Gymnastics Academy held a Cartwheel-A-Thon to benefit Children's Miracle Network and ailing five-year-old Lexi Kranz. The USAG team (left to right, top) are Melissa Rofrano, Shannon Bell, Brianna Ross, Laura Lsyj, Jacob Bauer, Courtney Glori Smith, Kristy Ray, and Brielle Massei (bottom left to right) Heather Ray, Alexis Gabel, Lizzy Nand, Casey Sabino, Megan McHale, Kelly Walsh and Stephanie Bevan. For story, see page 3.



## The South Plainfield Observer Office Will be Closed on Thursday and Friday

If you need to contact us, call and leave a message (908) 668-001

## 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
Tuesday, September 7	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Monday, September 20	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. 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. 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.—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.—Sept. 21, (Monday) Oct. 18, Nov. 16, Dec. 21, Jan. 18 2005, Feb. 15, March 15 and April 12

### taxpayers advisory group

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

### site plan sub-committee

Meets once a month on the third Tuesday of the month, 8 p.m.  
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  
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  
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 (No Meeting in August)

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

## South Plainfield Observer

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NANCY GRENNIER  
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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

### To the Editor,

On my way to Vacation Bible School with two young girls, my car lost power right in front of Borough Hall. I am writing this letter to thank all of the people whose acts of kindness lessened the danger and stress of the situation. This letter thanks everyone according to his or her appearance in this scenario.

First of all, a big hug goes to Gracie and Sarah for their quick thinking. They knew I couldn't leave the car stalled in the middle of the road, so they bravely ran into the place where they knew help awaited—the police station.

While they were seeking assistance, out of apparently nowhere came a young man who directed me to put my car in neutral so that he could push it out of harm's way. Mission accomplished; he disappeared as quickly as he appeared. I don't even remember thanking him. I can only hope he is reading this letter.

Next, I saw Gracie and Sarah with two men in tow. One was a stranger, who had followed the girls because he knew cars and thought he could help. The other was someone Gracie knew, a man who took time out of his evening to try to calm very upset little girls (and their mom) and to see how he could help. I'm sure that Gracie will always see Andy Reed as a hero. Following close behind came the policeman the girls had sought. No sooner had this group assembled, than Glen Cullen, driving home from the store with his wife, noticed I was in trouble, had his wife drop him off and came to my rescue.

Sarah's mom had also arrived after my call of distress not only to support me, but also to drive the girls to their activity—just another example of what a good friend-and-mom-she is. While she cared for the girls, the rest of the ensemble pushed my car to the back of the lot to await a tow truck. After making sure the girls and I were okay, everyone went about their evening—except the Cullens. Glen stayed with me to secure my car, gather what I needed from it and then arranged to have his wife, Lori, drive back to pick us up and take me to church to join Gracie and Sarah.

These special friends even offered me the use of their car for the next day! I am so touched by how far they reached out to provide me with that kind of comfort and support. I hope they realize what wonderful people they are and how much they mean to me.

Now you have a chronology of good deeds, from both friends and strangers. I applaud everyone mentioned in this letter for being such tremendous human beings and for showing me what caring for one another is all about.

MARY PIEKARSKI

### To the Editor,

Ted Zychlinski's letter of Aug. 5, was so filled with misconceptions and outrageous oversimplifications that it is difficult to know where to begin. Rather than disputing point by point his rather selective (and woefully misinformed) view of history let me address what appears to be his main point; that the Supreme Court was wrong to declare school prayer unconstitutional and that this interpretation of the Constitution prevents Mr. Zychlinski's "children and millions of other children their rights, as American citizens, to open their school days in asking almighty God to guide them and learn their day's assignment."

Mr. Zychlinski is, I believe, being disingenuous. His children may pray silently, to themselves, at the beginning of the school day, the end of the school day and any time in between.

### 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.

No one is trying to stop them. He could take them out of the public schools and put them in a religious school if he feels that group prayer is so vitally important. But for the people that want to force prayer back into the public schools their own children are not the issue. Their goal is to impose their piety on my children and the children of other parents who do not share their beliefs.

Mr. Zychlinski and those who share his beliefs are free to teach their children whatever they like. They can have them up at the crack of dawn to pray before school and then have them pray all day long until the time they go to bed. What they are not permitted to do is to force their religion on others and, make no mistake about it, that is their ultimate goal.

RANDALL MCCANN

### Dear Editor:

At a recent legislative forum, numerous inquiries were made by constituents concerning the monetary contribution that the New Jersey Lottery makes to educational programs here in the State. Additionally, my legislative office has received a significant number of questions on the same issue.

In short, proceeds from the New Jersey Lottery are primarily used to help fund education in New Jersey — and it is a lot of money. In fact, it is one of the most cost-efficient lot-

teries in the United States.

Just how much money does the Lottery contribute? Last year alone, it raised \$765 million. Better yet, the amount raised since 1970, the inception of the New Jersey Lottery, until present day is a staggering \$13.1 billion. This generous sum of money is widely used to help educate millions of New Jerseyans.

For example, if you are a college student, a senior citizen, a disabled soldier, or a developmentally disabled person (to name a few), chances are the Lottery has assisted your educational needs. Perhaps most notable is that the Lottery is among the largest revenue producers in the State, which means that it helps to reduce the financial obligation faced by other New Jersey taxpayers in funding educational pursuits.

The main point is that it takes a lot of money to educate our citizens, yet education is by far the greatest investment we can make in our citizen's lives. In fact, it is the greatest investment that the State can make to ensure that all New Jersey residents are given the necessary tools to lead productive and successful lives.

So when you consider your family's individual burden in funding public educational programs, consider the positive financial impact that the monies from the New Jersey Lottery have on the educational advancement of millions of New Jersey residents.

Truth be told, we need the Lottery to help reduce the tax burden faced by all New Jersey homeowners, but at the same time, the Lottery cannot be the only way to make sure our citizens receive the best education possible.

For more detailed information as to the exact distribution of Lottery funds, including individual educational organizations that receive money, visit [www.njlottery.net](http://www.njlottery.net).

ASSEMBLYMAN PETER J. BARNES, JR.

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## Keystone Community Adopts Front St.

Mary Ann Williams, Vocational Supervisor for the Keystone Community Residence, has signed a new contract with the South Plainfield Clean Business Association to readopt Front Street. The Keystone Vocational Crew has been keeping Front Street clean since 1997. Their weekly cleanups include picking up litter, sweeping the sidewalk, and pulling weeds out of the curb. Six to nine residents and two supervisors do this work. The Vocational Program also has a separate agreement with the Borough to pick up litter in the parks and around the municipal buildings.

This Adopt-A-Spot is important to the downtown area. The CBA is looking for other businesses or groups interested in adopting spots in the commercial districts. Hamilton Blvd., Church St., South Plainfield Ave. and Oak Tree Ave. are all subject to littering. Plainfield Ave. between the middle school and the intersection with Sampton is also in need of maintenance.

For more information about the Adopt-A-Spot program, contact the Clean Communities Coordinator at (908) 226-7621.

### Correction

In last week's picture caption entitled "Kennedy Buddies," the names of Mark and Wendy Tomei were omitted.



Lexi Kranz and friend Chris Nand.

## Local Gymnasts Perform Cartwheels for Charity

By Jane Dornick

Inspired by National Gymnastics Day on Aug. 7, American Gymnastics Academy LLC. (AGA) located on So. Clinton Ave., held a Cartwheel-A-Thon to benefit the Children's Miracle Network and a little girl with a genetic disorder.

The girls USAG team of AGA asked family and friends to donate a specified amount of money based on how many cartwheels they were able to do. On hand were members of the Children's Miracle Network selling food and necklaces with gymnasts and cheerleaders.

Also present was Lexi Kranz, a five-year-old Millington girl with Neurofibromatosis Type 1. This illness is a genetic disorder which causes tumors to form on nerve endings anywhere in the body at anytime. She has over 300 tumors and there is no medicine and no cure.

The Academy became aware of Lexi through a friend of the family, who's son Chris Nand is in an occupational therapy program at the academy and included them in the charitable event.

The event was a success. The girl's gymnastic team was able to raise a total of \$2,000 for both of these worthy causes.

### Locker Camp, Schedules at Grant

Come visit our facilities at Grant School, meet staff members, purchase book socks and practice opening your locker on Aug. 26 from 6 to 8:00 p.m.

Students will receive a preliminary copy of their schedule when they arrive, so they can practice their travels throughout the school building.

If you have any questions, please call (908) 754-4620 Ext. 401

From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

It's hard to believe but summer is coming to an end. In three weeks we will be celebrating Labor Day and school will be opening soon after that. But there is still a lot going on at the Library. While the Library's Summer Reading Program has ended we still have the books that students are required to read before school begins. It is advisable to come in now and see what is available and not wait till just before school starts as there usually are very few left on the shelf.

Also Miss Linda is taking a well deserved break for the next few weeks. Therefore all storytimes are cancelled and Miss Linda will not be in the building. However, there will still be reference librarians here to answer your questions.

On Wednesday, Sept. 1, a "Street Smart Safety Class" will be presented

at the Library at 6:30 p.m. by the ATA Black Belt Academy. Registration is required for this program and can be done either in person or by calling the Library at (908) 754-7885.

The contest for designing a new South Plainfield Public Library has been extended till the end of August. So you still have time to put your ideas on paper and bring them to the Library where we will put them on the wall for all to see.

Finally set aside Saturday, Sept. 18 for our next big Book Sale. We have received a large number of donations including books, audiobooks, and videocassettes all of which will be in this sale. So mark your calendar.

Have a great rest of summer and remember that the Library is open our regular hours six days a week.

## \$60,000 Grant Received for Preschool Program

The South Plainfield Board of Education has received a \$60,000 grant to fund the "Early Launch to Learning Initiative." The grant money will be used to fund a preschool program for four-year-olds who meet certain income requirements.

The program runs five afternoons a week and will be held in conjunction with the Future Start Pre-School Program at Roosevelt Administrations Building, located on Jackson Ave.

The board is looking for all eligible four-year-olds who would like to participate this year. There are only 20 slots available and because the grant was just announced, they have not had an opportunity to get the word out to residents.

To be eligible, families must meet certain income requirements, depending on a families income and household size. For example a family of four

making under \$34,873 would qualify for this program.

To find out if you are eligible, contact the Adult School or stop by and pick up an application. Salary eligibilities are listed on each application form. If interested, fill out the form immediately since there is a limited amount of slots available for the program.

School is less than a month away, so it is important to contact the Adult School as soon as possible to sign up. If you know of anyone who may be eligible, pass the word on to them.

For more information, call the Adult School at (908) 754-4620, ext. 215.

## PUBLIC HEARING

Please be advised that the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield will be holding a Public Hearing on Monday, August 30 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 2480 Plainfield Avenue for the purpose of discussing the Application for Renewal of Municipal Consent to Construct and Operate a Cable Television System in the Borough of South Plainfield which has been filed by Comcast of Plainfield, LLC.

Anyone interested in reviewing the application can do so at the Municipal Clerk's Office which is located at the above noted address between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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# Around Town

## SPHS Field Hockey Team Car Wash

August 21

As a fundraising event, the SPHS Field Hockey team will be holding a car wash on Saturday, Aug. 21 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the South Plainfield Middle School parking lot. The cost is \$5 for cars and \$7 for vans and SUV's.

Please come out and support our team. Rain date is Sunday, Aug. 22 same place and time.

## Continental Breakfast At Sacred Heart

August 22

On Sunday, August 22, from 9 to 11 a.m., everyone is invited to attend a parish breakfast, continental style, in the newly renovated cafeteria. The breakfast is free and open to the public. No tickets or reservations required.

Also between the 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. mass, Father John Paul Alvarado will lead a procession carrying the painting of Father Michael McQuire from the church to the cafeteria and officially rename the cafeteria McQuire Hall.

## Field Hockey Parents' Meeting

August 25

There will be a parent's meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 25 at 7 p.m. in the SPHS cafeteria (gym side). Information provided will include fundraising, preseason pool party, pasta parties, end of year dinner, scrimmage workshop, parent volunteer sign-up sheets, etc. Since important information regarding the season will be provided. We are asking that each player have a parent attend this meeting.

## Children Safety Class

September 1

ATA Black Belt Academy will be holding their Children's Street Smart Safety Class at the library on Wednesday, Sept. 1 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The program is geared to help keep children safe during the upcoming school year. Teacher for the class is Master Tom Guerin of the ATA Black Belt Academy.

For more information, contact the library or call (908) 755-5440.

## 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.

## Pig Roast at VFW

September 11

The VFW will be holding a Pig Roast/Picnic on Saturday, Sept. 11 from noon until 5 p.m. at the VFW Post, 155 Front St. Tickets are \$13 in advance and \$15 at the gate. Children six to 12 are \$7. Children under five are free. For tickets or information, call (908) 668-9751. The event will be held rain or shine.

## Recreation Going to Italy

March 2005

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

## What's happening in AUGUST

### MONDAY



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

### TUESDAY

Bingo 10am-2pm  
Ladies Social 10am

### 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**

### WEDNESDAY

Exercise 8:30am  
Movie Time 11:30am  
AARP Crafts 1pm  
Computer Class 11 & 1pm

### THURSDAY

Weekly Shopping Pathmark 9am  
Practical Crafts 10-11am  
Computer Class 11 & 1pm  
Summer Picnic 12Noon

Weekly Shopping Pathmark 9am  
Practical Crafting 10am  
Computer Class 11&1pm

### FRIDAY

Bingo 10am-2pm  
Pizza lunch available  
Men's Forum Com.

Bingo 10am-2pm  
Lunch available

**We are looking for volunteers to help our Labor Day Parade Committee Sign Up at the Center Fire Prevention Program August 26**

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

## Senior Center EVENTS

## Pierogi Sale at Nativity of Blessed Virgin

September 16

There will be a pierogi sale on Thursday, Sept. 16 at the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Orthodox Church, 400 Delmore Ave. (corner of Belmont and Delmore). The pierogies are \$4 a dozen and are handmade and freshly cooked to order by Sisterhood and Brotherhood members. You have a choice of potato with cheese or sauerkraut.

Order by 4 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 13 for pickup on Thursday, Sept. 16. To order, or for information, call (908) 561-6366 and leave your name, phone number and order. For more information or questions, contact Dorothy at (908) 756-7223.

## VFW Post 6763 Holding Dinner

September 18

The VFW will be holding a dinner on Sunday, Sept. 18 from 5 to 8 p.m. The VFW is located at 155 Front St.

Tickets are \$5. For information call 668-9751.

## Rescue Squad Auxiliary Fundraiser

September 18

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad Auxiliary is presenting "Joey and Mary's Irish/Italian Comedy Wedding" on Saturday, Sept. 18. This fundraiser will be at the Holiday Inn in South Plainfield at 7 p.m.

Enjoy the fun of a "traditional" wedding with the wackiest bridal party and the craziest two families you will ever meet. This hilarious show is run with all the trimmings of a real wedding and the audience plays the role of wedding guests as the characters mingle throughout the tables and treat everyone as "part of the family."

Evening includes a four-course dinner. Advance purchase only.

Tickets are \$60. For more information, contact Denise at (732) 261-8942 or Tracy at (732) 841-4844.

## AARP Chapter #4144 Meeting

September 20

The South Plainfield Chapter of AARP will resume their meetings at the Senior Center on Monday, Sept. 20 at 13:30 p.m. Michael Lopes and Bonnie Testa from the Public Relations Dept. of Vitalize will speak about the many resources open to retired persons.

Our trip to Lancaster to see "Noah the Musical" is open to all. We leave on Tuesday, Sept. 14 at 8 a.m. from the PAL building on Maple Ave. Included in the \$110 pp cost are: round trip motor transportation, visit to Rockvale Outlet, tickets to Millennium Theater for the performance, a full Amish style dinner at Miller's Smorgasbord, all taxes and gratuities. Call Lee at (732) 968-6613 or Mary at (732) 752-3764.

## — Out of Town —

## Pro Wrestling Benefit for Cub Scouts

August 21

After nearly four and a half months of no National Wrestling Superstars at the local VFW Hall, Manville will get their wrestling fix on Saturday, Aug. 21 at the Hall, located at 600 Washington Ave. in Manville at 7:35 p.m.

Former WWF Superstars, Intercontinental and tag team champion Tito Santana will appear. Also, Gavin Quest

and Big Shot Bryan Sexton will pair off against Kevin Knight and Manville's own WWE dark match specialist Roman.

This event is to raise funds for scout troop 193. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for kids/seniors. Call (908) 722-3717 for information or tickets.

## CHATS Adoption Support Meeting

August 23

CHATS (Connected Hearts Adoptions Triad Support), will meet on Monday, Aug. 23 from 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. at the Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church, 170 Watchung Ave. in North Plainfield.

"Two Moms, One Family: An Open Adoption" will be led by adoptive mom, Danielle and birth mom, Michelle. Open sharing of adoption-related stores. Light refreshments.

Check our new web site at: [www.chatsnj.com](http://www.chatsnj.com) or call Alyce at (732) 227-0607 for information.

## MCRCC Patriots Game/50's Night

August 28

Join us for a nighttime Patriots game at Commerce Bank Ballpark at 6 p.m. in Bridgewater and all-you-can-eat buffet with special performance by Jim Barone as Elvis, sponsored by Miller Lite. Friends and family are welcome. \$30 MCRCC Members. \$40 Non-Members. Seating is limited.

Tickets must be purchased prior to event date: [www.mcrcc.org](http://www.mcrcc.org) (Web) or (732) 821-1700.

## Depression and Bipolar Support

August 25

The Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA) will present its monthly educational meeting on Wednesday, August 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship, 21 Normandy Heights Rd. in Morristown.

For information call (973) 994-1143 or visit their website at: [dbsanewjersey.org/dbsamorristownarea](http://dbsanewjersey.org/dbsamorristownarea).

## B'nai B'rith Married Couples Meeting

August 29

The B'nai B'rith Ketubah Married Couples Unit (40+) will be meeting for dinner at Sir John's, 230 Washington Place in North Brunswick on Sunday, Aug. 29 at 6 p.m. Non-members are welcome to join the group for dinner.

Please R.S.V.P. to Elaine at (908) 232-0062 by Aug. 27.

## Sisters of Mercy 10th Annual Golf Classic

September 9

The Sisters of Mercy of New Jersey invite all their friends to participate in the 10th Annual Golf Classic at the Navesink Country Club in Middletown on Thursday, Sept. 9.

The fee per person is \$350 each or \$1,400 for a foursome. Individuals and businesses are invited to support this event that will benefit the infirmed and retired Mercy Sisters who have touched many lives and gave such excellent service to the people of New Jersey.

You can participate by golfing or sponsoring the lunch, dinner reception, driving range, practice green, tee or green and carts. A beautiful sign will be displayed at the location of sponsorship. A Program Journal with ads from supporting individuals and companies will be distributed at registration on the event day.

The schedule begins with registration, a gourmet luncheon, shotgun start and a delicious dinner with something for everyone. The dinner reception is \$100 for those who may want to come and visit with the sisters.

Registrations should be in immediately for play, program ads and sponsorships.

Call Linda Cavallo, Development Director at (908) 756-0994 ext. 4006 for a brochure or additional information.

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

**ENCOURAGE YOUR ORGANIZATION TO SEND US THEIR UPCOMING EVENTS.** Make your event more successful by publicizing it in AROUND TOWN. Mail, fax or e-mail.

**SEND US YOUR MILESTONES.** Share your good news with the community, i.e. promotions, births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, graduations. Include photos if you like.

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

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Plainfield, share it with your neighbors through the newspaper.

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

**SEND US YOUR PHOTOS.** If you have an event, take a photo, write a caption identifying the event and people and send it to us. The best photos record action and don't include so many people that it is impossible to identify anyone. Please don't send us photocopies or laser prints. They don't reproduce well. Electronic photos should be 150 dpi or higher

**HOW TO CONTACT US.** By mail: 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080; By phone: 908-668-0010; By fax: 908-668-8819; By email: [spobserver@comcast.net](mailto:spobserver@comcast.net).

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## BOROUGHNOTES

### Council

• The Council approved block parties for Gareth Farmer on Sept. 6, the entire length of Page Ct.; Mary Cameron for Sept. 1 on Mahar Ave. between Tompkins and Putnam avenues; Grace and Bob Lyons for Sept. 5 on Revere Rd. between May and Putnam avenues; Harry Krause for Sept. 18 on Greenwich St. between Franklin Ave. and Geary Dr. and Toni Lanza for Sept. 6 on the entire length of Fay St.

• The Council authorized the extension of payment of third quarter property taxes until Aug. 31.

• All application fees were waived for the demolition of the building on Plainfield Ave. which is the future site of the new library.

• Robert Tumulo was hired to fill in for the Borough's plumbing inspector Aug. 17 through Aug. 27.

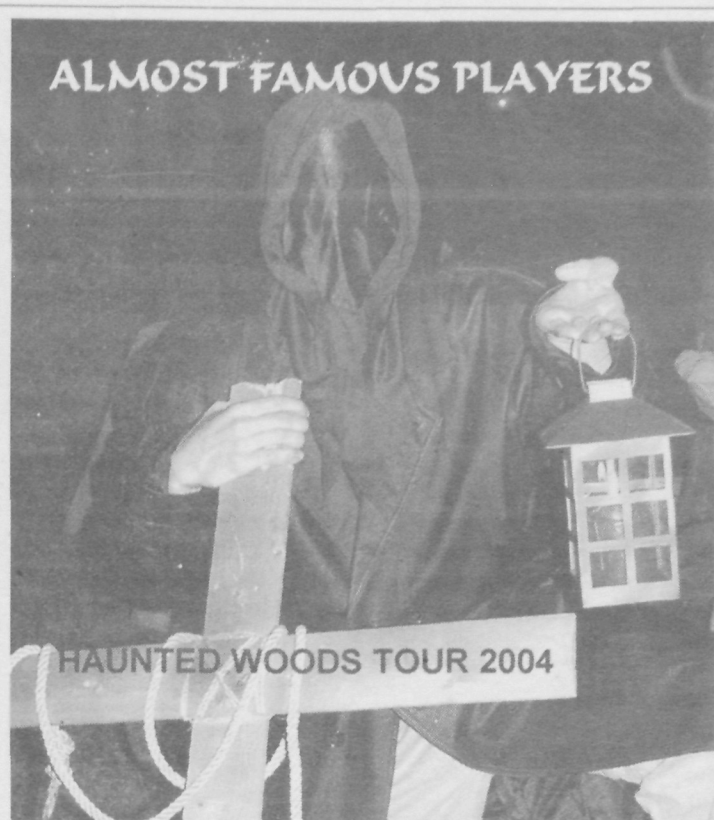
• Professional services contracts were awarded to PMK Group to perform quarterly groundwater monitoring tests as required by NJDEP. Contract will not exceed \$24,500, to Wilentz Goldman & Spitzer to review the solid waste transfer station application that was submitted to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and to CME Associates to prepare the FY 2005 NJ Dept. of Transportation Grant applications.

• The Borough authorized the purchase of a bucket truck for the DPW from Timmerman Equipment Co. at a cost not to exceed \$135,000. Funds were secured through the 2004 MICA Lease Program.

• The police will purchase a laptop computer for a police patrol vehicle from Triangle Communications at a cost of no more than \$4,808.

• A limousine license was approved for Roseway Limousine Service to operate at 3381 South Clinton Ave.

## ALMOST FAMOUS PLAYERS



**HAUNTED WOODS TOUR 2004**

If you missed the auditions for Almost Famous Players Haunted Woods tour and would still like to participate, please call (908) 346-2290 or email [almstfamousplyrs@aol.com](mailto:almstfamousplyrs@aol.com). Running crew and security people are still needed.

## Watch Out for the Asian Longhorned Beetle

On Aug. 2, a Carteret resident discovered an Asian Longhorned Beetle on a tree in his backyard. This beetle is a recent invader that has caused a lot of damage already. If not controlled, it could devastate our Eastern forests and parks, because its preferred host trees are many of our favorite shade trees: maples, elms, horse chestnut, poplars and willows.

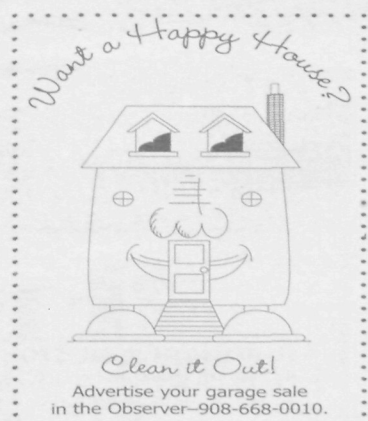
The female lays eggs under the bark. When the larvae hatch out, they bore into the tree. After feeding on the cambium (the layer of actively-growing tissue under the bark) for several weeks, they bore into the woody part of the tree. They feed and grow to maturity deep inside the tree, where they cannot easily be reached by pesticides. The only way to destroy the pest is to cut the tree down and chip or burn it. When mature, the adult beetle chews its way out of the tree, leaving a large, round exit hole.

The NJ Department of Agriculture, the US Department of Agriculture and the NJ Department of Environmental Protection are working with Carteret officials to contain the beetle. They have restricted the movement of firewood, tree trimmings and nursery products in a one-mile radius around the property where the beetle was found. Tree climbers are inspecting trees in the area for signs of damage.

We do not yet know the extent of the infestation. The beetle has caused widespread damage to maple and other hardwood trees in Chicago and New York. Over 450 trees were removed in Jersey City in 2002 to contain it.

The Asian Longhorned Beetle is 1 to 1.5 inches long, shiny black with white spots. The antennae have black and white bands, and are as long as the body. Signs of infestation include:

- shallow, chewed oval or round wounds in the bark
- large, round exit holes 3/8" or more
- piles of sawdust around the base



## Architect Eric J. Giuliano Promoted To Firm Associate

Eric J. Giuliano, AIA has been promoted to Associate at the architectural design firm of Cornerstone Architectural Group, LLC, South Plainfield. He is now responsible for staff scheduling and work assignments, in addition to his responsibilities as Project Architect. "On behalf of the firm, I am very pleased to announce this promotion," said firm partner Michael G. Soriano, AIA.

Giuliano is a licensed architect in New Jersey and an active member of the New Jersey Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, the architects state professional association. He received a Bachelor of Architecture Degree from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pa.

As project architect with the firm, Giuliano has designed and managed several significant building projects in central New Jersey. Projects that he is responsible for include; the new Plainfield Animal Hospital and the expansion of the North Plainfield Municipal Building.

After joining the firm as an intern, during school summer break in 1996,



Eric J. Giuliano

Giuliano has steadily assumed additional project responsibilities. Eric and his wife live in Flemington.

## SAT Prep Classes Offered

The school district will be offering two opportunities to take a preparation course for the SATs which will be offered in South Plainfield on Oct. 9.

Classes will be held on Mondays and Wednesday as follows for the Oct. SAT test:

Class #1-Sept. 15, 20, 22, 27, 29; Oct. 4 and 6 from 3:15 to 6 p.m.

Class #2-Sept. 15, 20, 22, 27, 29, Oct. 4 and 6, from 6:15 to 9:15 p.m.

Tuition is \$50 and may be paid by check, MasterCard, Visa or cash. Make checks payable to the South Plainfield Adult School. There will also be a \$20 book charge payable by either cash or check, which should be brought to the first class and will be refunded if the students completes all classes. Call the Adult School for information at (908) 754-4620, ext. 213.

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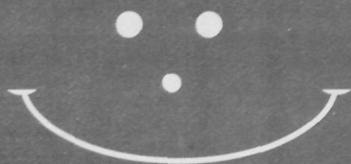
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## Summer Drama Workshop "Pirates" Wrap Up

By Patricia Abbott

Summer Drama Workshop's (SDW) *Pirates of Penzance* sailed out of town on a tidal wave of success after a recent four day run at SPHS. An operetta, the show is one of the most challenging shows that SDW has staged in their 33 seasons. The show received kudos from all across town. Director Eric Hafen said, "The SPSPDW students have tackled many difficult shows. With *Pirates Of Penzance* they have once again proven that they are capable of learning, rehearsing and performing all styles of musicals."

Producer Bill Mott said, "I can only say that this year's cast, crew, orchestra, staff and volunteers were truly amazing. The cooperation exhibited this year, the hard work of all involved, was seen at any and all of the performances. The children involved proved that given the challenge, they could perform with amazing results. Many felt this play might be too difficult for an amateur group such as ours, however all had to admit in the end that the children involved were more than capable of such a difficult play. These children are a talented bunch of hard working young people!"

This year marked several 'firsts' for the youth theater group. Grants helped fund sign language interpreters allowing approximately 40 deaf and hearing impaired patrons to enjoy the performance. Another first was the introduction of 'workshops.' Students explored the basics of stage lighting and set construction, how a show is costumed, makeup, dance and more. Sunday's audience of over



The stage crew of the 2004 SDW production of "Pirates of Penzance."

500 set a record high for SDW.

Returning for her fourth year with SDW was choreographer Patti O'Brien. She said, "The students gave more than 100% from the very start of the rehearsal process. Through the process, the students were met with vocal and acting challenges that they

have never seen before. With their dedication and drive to succeed, the show was a wonderful accomplishment for all."

The group's 60+ cast and crew began work on the production in late June. The youths are already looking forward to the 2005 production.



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## Barnes Proposes New Homeland Security Measure

In response to recent FBI warnings about the possibility of terror attacks in New Jersey, Assemblyman Peter J. Barnes, Jr., a retired FBI Special Agent, announced today that he has drafted legislation requiring manufacturers and distributors of commercial fertilizers to create a tracking system for the sale of this material, which contains ammonium nitrate, the main ingredient used in a series of deadly terrorist bombs in recent years.

This legislation comes on the heels of a recent federal Department of Homeland Security bulletin that warned terrorists might use ammonium nitrate bombs to strike the country's public transportation system this summer.

Under this legislation, anyone purchasing ammonium nitrate fertilizer would be required to provide a photo identification to a licensed seller.

The licensed seller would be required to keep a detailed record of all sales of ammonium nitrate fertilizer. The record would include (1) the date of the sale or delivery (2) the purchaser's name and address (3) and the amount of fertilizer sold.

This bill also gives licensed sellers the authority to deny sales to

buyers who they believe are attempting to purchase ammonium nitrate out of season, in unusual quantities or under suspect purchase patterns. Any manufacturer or distributor who fails to comply with these regulations will not have their license renewed by the State Board of Agriculture.

Despite security warnings in connection with the use of ammonium nitrate bombs, efforts to regulate the retail sale of this material in the U.S. has come in direct conflict with the desire of farmers to have easy access to cheap fertilizer for their fields.

The use of fertilizer bombs has become the explosive of choice for terrorists around the world in the past few years. Most recently, a series of fertilizer bombs in November killed 62 people in Istanbul, Turkey. Ammonium nitrate bombs were also used in the deadly bombings in Bali, Indonesia at a nightclub in 2002, the World Trade Center attack in 1993, and the Oklahoma City bombing.

If enacted, New Jersey would be only the third state in the U.S. to address this issue, joining Nevada and South Carolina, who have passed similar legislation.

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# Sports

## 13-Year-Old All Stars Branchburg Champions



Congratulations to the 13-Year-Old SPJBC All Star Team who took first place in the Branchburg Tournament with a 4-1 record, defeating Montgomery Gold 3-2 for the championship. Top row left to right: Michael Muglia, Jeff Pryor, Garrett Kelly, Taylor Curtis, A.J. Kunie, Steven Wiecek. Bottom row left to right: Vincent Fazio, Michael Maiorino, Josh Rivera and Dominic Papa. Not pictured is Nick Levendusky. Coaches are Tom Pryor, Dominic Papa, Pat Muglia and Pat Kelly.

## Post 243 Senior American Legion 2004 Results

The South Plainfield Predators finished the 2004 season with nine wins and 12 losses. The Predators competed in the Middlesex County American Legion Baseball League, which is regarded as one of the most competitive leagues in the state. It includes teams like Edison, Milltown, Carteret, JFK, St. Joe's and Clara Barton, to name a few. Many of the teams in the Middlesex League continued to the District finals. Carteret and Milltown both advanced to the State finals.

South Plainfield's roster consisted of one college player, seven graduating seniors, five senior varsity players, one sophomore and two freshmen. All of South Plainfield's players are current or former South Plainfield High School students. By the current rules, only three of these players will be ineligible to return next year because of their age.

Steve Turrise led the team with a .386 batting average, five home runs, 19 runs batted in and 24 runs scored. Chris Bakazan followed with a .354 batting average, one home run, 17

runs batted in and 18 runs scored. Chris Bakazan also led the team in pitching with four wins and two losses. Turrise and Bakazan had grand slam home runs in the same game to highlight their seasons. Mike Downes was close behind with a .351 batting average, four home runs (including a grand slam), 16 runs batted in and 11 runs scored. Mike Downes also provided the team with the best ERA as a pitcher while collecting two wins.

Other players batting over .300 included Jon Bugey, David Spayder, Dan Piwowar and Kyle Kazimir. Kazimir had a home run and drove in 10 runs while scoring 12 runs. Jon Bugey compiled eight runs and batted in and crossed the plate 12 times. Chris Czaplinski provided additional pitching, picking up one of the teams wins. He also provided a steady bat. Sophomore Zach Gray and freshmen Chris Stallone and Matt Stallone did very well in their first year. Matt Stallone also provided some much needed pitching and had one win. Rob Barone drove in eight runs and led the

team in stolen bases. Matt Santone, Andrew Miller, Jason Cosma, Billy Moates and Mike Benak made valuable contributions. Mike Benak also collected one win in relief.

South Plainfield compiled a team batting average of .293. In only their second year of Senior Legion, South Plainfield barely missed the playoffs. Many of the teams losses were by very close scores. We expected to improve steadily over the next two or three years and look forward to working with new incoming players. For next year we have a solid nucleus of players who remain eligible to return from both high school and college.

We would like to acknowledge the generosity and support of the American Legion Post 243. From the entire team, the parents and coaches, we thank you. Special thanks to Joe McConville for all his hard work and support of the team.

*Submitted by Manager Tony Bakazan, Head Coach Dennis Kazimir and coaches Chet Czaplinski and Mike Bugey.*

## JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

By Lee Flanagan



We still need all equipment bags turned in. You can do this on Monday, Aug. 30 from 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., prior to the Executive Board Meeting. The following teams still have their equipment bags out: Small Fry C-Athletics and Devil Rays, Small Fry B-Mets, Small Fry A-Mets and Red Sox and Pony B-Blue Jays. Failure to surrender equipment in a timely manner may result in the manager and/or assistant manager from that team being denied the right to receive a team in the following season. We have to know what equipment we have and what needs to be repaired, so that we can order accordingly for the 2005 season.

Sept. 11 is our annual end of the year picnic. The picnic will start at 12 p.m. at the SPJBC Complex and end at 5 p.m. All preparing and/or cooking of food will stop at 4 p.m. Trophies and awards will be presented at 3 p.m. The Executive Board is currently

finalizing the details of this event.

The day of our annual picnic we will be accepting registrations for the 2005 baseball season. Board members will be available from 12 to 5 p.m. to accept these player registrations. The fee for the 2005 season will be \$95. Come on out and get your child registered for our new and exciting season. Opening Day for 2005 is April 9.

This fall we will be revisiting the SPJBC Rules and Bylaws. Any recommended changes must be submitted by Nov. 1.

If you have a recommendation to the Rules and Bylaws committee please visit our website [www.spjbc.com](http://www.spjbc.com). Charlie Huber is the Chairperson of the committee. He is looking for two other individuals to serve on the committee.

## Golf Outing Planned by Sons of American Legion

The Sons of the American Legion Chaumont Squadron 243, located at 243 Oak Tree Ave. are hosting their Second Annual Golf Outing at Bunkerhill Golf Course in Princeton on Wednesday, Sept. 29.

The cost of golfing is \$85 per person. This price includes green fees, cart, prizes, breakfast (coffee and bagels), lunch (hot dogs and burgers), drinks (beer, soda, water) and buffet dinner at Chaumont Post 243.

Tee time starts at 9 a.m. Hole-in-

one on the 13<sup>th</sup> hole wins a trip for two to Hawaii.

If you would like to participate in the tournament or be a sponsor, please see/call Mark Zeff at (908) 755-5914.

Also, we are looking for sponsors at \$50/tee or \$100/hole. Proceeds will go to the various charities supported by the Sons of the American Legion.

Make all checks payable to the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 243.

## Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.  
South Plainfield, NJ

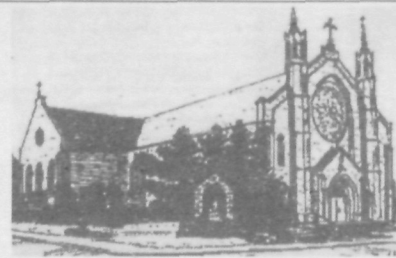
Rev. John Paul Alvarado, Pastor

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

### Mass Schedule:

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# Sports

## Varsity Boys' Cross Country Preview



By Tim Morgan

Tim Morgan, Jr.

The South Plainfield High School Boys' Cross Country team went undefeated for the first time ever last year, posting a 9-0 record to capture the White Division title for the second straight year. They placed fourth in the GMC, tying their best ever finish from the year before and were able to advance to the State Group meet for the first time in four years by placing fifth in the State Sectionals. On top of that, the team set no less than three school records: Galen Johnson ran 16:20 to break the senior record 5K (3.1 mile) time, which had been standing for fifteen years; Jeremy Rodas ran 16:50 to break the twelve year junior record; and a record nine runners ran "Green Lightning" times, which is anything under 18:00.

Back in 1998, after suffering a five year slump of sub .500 records, the Tigers managed to bounce back a little bit, posting a respectable 7-5 record. The following year though, they shocked everyone by capturing the Blue Division with a 9-1 record, beating out long-dominant Metuchen for the title. In 2000 and 2001, the Blue Division title eluded them by literally

a few places in the crucial race against Metuchen. Finally in 2002, the Tigers made the long-awaited switch to the White Division and went 8-1 to win it. Then last year turned out to be the highest part of the upswing yet, with the Tigers turning in their most successful year ever.

The biggest challenge the harriers will face this upcoming season will be keeping pace with 2003's unprecedented results. Having lost an unsurpassed fourteen seniors, there is an especially big burden on the team to uphold the resurgence the program experienced six years ago. A new tradition was started and this year's team will be expected to continue it, and with the loss of so many of the Tigers' top runners, the pressure has certainly been mounted.

With two Green Lightning runners returning and three more runners in 18:00 territory though, the Tigers will still have their sights set on being White Division Champions for the third year and going undefeated again. Right now, Bishop Ahr appears to be their only real threat to the title, so from that standpoint, the Tigers appear to be in a very feasible position to retain their current White Division status. A Top Five finish in the GMC is also quite attainable.

Senior Jeremy Rodas will be the top returner and junior Jimmy Conroy, who ran 17:06 last year, will also be a forceful runner.

Senior Mike Williams (18:13) and sophomores Tim Williams (18:41)

and Steve Richard (18:43) will also be in the front of the pack.

This will be Mike Capizola's 24th year as Head Coach and in that time he has had teams of abilities ranging from winless to, just recently, unbeaten. In regard to last year, he said that he was "extremely happy," but that every team he has ever coached has had good things to take away from their seasons and he is sure that this year will be no different.

"We want to continue building on the success we've had for the past five years," said Capizola. "I'm looking to being happy with everyone's results and effort." Capizola himself has been running for thirty-three years and believes in leading by example," he said.

While the Tigers may not be able to retain the entire caliber of last year's outstanding season, "It's a team where you will definitely see improvement" for the kids personally, according to Capizola.

Capizola currently has 28 names on his roster. Once the dust settles, he will likely have between 20 and 25, roughly a dozen fewer than last year but still significant for a cross country team and significant enough to counterweigh the Tigers' loss of depth this year. No small part of the program's resurgence is due to the growth in numbers the team has experienced in past six years, so as long as this popularity continues, the strength of the program should remain intact.

## Resident Participates in Ironman Competition

South Plainfield resident Ramon Bermo, an avid runner and triathlete, participated in the Ironman competition in Lake Placid on July 25.

The Ironman competition consisted of a 2.4 mile swim, a 112 mile bike race and a 26.2 mile run. Bermo placed in the top four percent of the field, qualifying for the Ironman World Championship, which takes place in October in Kona, Hawaii. This was Bermo's fifth Ironman competition.

Bermo, who has lived in South Plainfield since 2001, is the proud father of two beautiful daughters, ages 2½. He says he will never forget the moment during the Lake Placid Ironman competition when he saw his wife and daughters on the sidelines cheering for him. His biggest challenge as a triathlete/runner is finding the time to train, since he is a husband, father and has four jobs. He works in New York City as an IT analyst. He is also head marathon coach for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Team in training, a non-profit organization that fundraises for cancer research. He has helped more than 1,000 people complete their first marathon, coaches NYU's Running Club, Nike runs in NYC and does some one-on-one coaching, when times allows.

Qualifying for the Ironman World Championships was Bermo's biggest athletic accomplishment. However, his joy didn't last too long, when his racing bicycle and other equipment, worth \$5,000, was stolen from a

friends car in New York. At first he was devastated, but decided he won't let it ruin his Hawaii experience. Not long after, he received hundreds of e-mails offering support and help and thanks to Aegis bicycle, especially their president Keith Baum, he will be going to Hawaii with a new bicycle.

Other recent accomplishments include placing in the top 10 in the Tupper Lake ½ Ironman, 2003 Blue Marsh Marathon Champion, fourth overall in the 2004 NYC Corporate Challenge.

Ironman training requires hours of training. Bermo leaves between 6 and 7 a.m. and returns around 10:30-11 p.m. Some days he gets up at 4:45 a.m., ride the bike, then runs or bikes to Metuchen, where he catches the train for work. Lunch is spent swimming or running. Saturdays he runs early in the morning before coaching, then bikes or swims afterward. Sundays consist of 4-6 hours of bike riding to Somerville, Hackensack and beyond.

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## Obituaries

### Paul DeFillipo, 82

Paul DeFillipo died on Friday, Aug. 13 in Pierre, Fla.

Paul was born and raised in South Plainfield and attended the former Grant School.

He was employed as a trucker when he lived here. After moving to Florida, he delivered milk for a living.

Surviving is his wife, Muriel; three brothers, Louis of Columbus, Miss., Eugene of Hamilton, NJ and Edward of Plainfield; three sisters, Barbara Bartlett of South Plainfield, Virginia Bianculi of Pottstown, Pa. and Jeanette Modola of Stuart, Fla. Also surviving are 13 nieces and nephews.

Funeral services have not yet been announced.

### Agnes Campbell Dunn Mackenzie, 88

Agnes Campbell Dunn Mackenzie passed away Saturday, Aug. 7 of age-related causes.

She was born on Oct. 2, 1915 in Yonkers, to George and Agnes Dunn. A graduate of Skidmore College

Class of '37, she married her high school sweetheart, Malcolm Mackenzie on Aug. 31, 1940. They were a lifelong match and his death in 1962 never separated them. She moved to Cranford in 1955 and lived there until 2002, when she moved to Ogden to live with her daughter, Laurie.

Agnes taught high school after graduating college and worked as a dental assistant during WWII. After starting their family, she defined the term "domestic engineer" and her home was always her pride and joy and a welcome haven for all.

She was very active in community affairs in Cranford for over 40 years. A member of the Cranford Historical Society, College Women's Club, a lifetime member #100 of the 7th Armored Division Assn. and the Skidmore Alumni Assn. She loved to travel, attend reunions and visit with friends and family. Aggie never lost contact with a friend and remembered every event with a card for all.

She is survived by a son, Glenn M. (Linda) Mackenzie of South Plainfield; a daughter, Laurie Mackenzie Hope of Ogden, Ut.; six grandchildren, Joseph Mackenzie of Clinton, Kathy

(Joe) Marketta of Cranford, Michael (Meghan) Mackenzie and J.R. Mackenzie, both of South Plainfield and Kristin Mackenzie Hope and Colin C. Hope, both of Ogden and two great grandchildren, Michael and Lauren Marketta. Also surviving is a brother, George A. (Joy) Dunn, Wyckoff, NJ.

Funeral services were held in Cranford.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Skidmore College at 815 N. Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866.

### Josephine T Burke, 78

Josephine T. Burke (Lechowicz) died on Sunday, Aug. 15 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born and raised in Carteret, Josephine lived in Elizabeth before moving to Plainfield in 1980.

Josephine had worked for United Counties Trust Bank for 33 years before retiring in 1978.

She is predeceased by all of her brothers and sisters.

Surviving is her husband, Carl, two daughters, Carol Christian and her husband Brian of North Plainfield and

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## Obituaries

Jeanne Boucher and her husband Ray of New Hampshire and six grandchildren. Also surviving are many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

### James J. Cannizzaro, 81

James J. Cannizzaro died on Wednesday, Aug. 11 in Robert Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick.

Born in Woodbridge, he resided in Perth Amboy before moving to South Plainfield in 1960.

James was employed as a chemical operator for Chevron Oil Co. in Perth Amboy for 20 years. Most recently, he was employed in the maintenance department of PMS Consolidated of Somerset before he fully retired in 1992.

He was a member of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield. James served in the United States Navy during WWII aboard the USS Baltimore, serving in the Pacific Theater. He was the recipient of the 9 Star Asiatic Pacific Ribbon and the 1 Star Philippine Liberation Ribbon.

He was a member of the U.S. Navy Cruisers Association and the USS Baltimore Association. James was a past member of the South Plainfield VFW and the Woodbridge K of C.

James was an avid stamp and coin collector and enjoyed his trips to Atlantic City.

He was a loving father and grandfather and will be missed dearly by his family and friends.

Most importantly, he was a devoted husband to his late wife, Irene T. Cannizzaro, who died in 2001.

Surviving are his daughter, Joan M. Stuart and her husband Skip of Clinton; two sons, James J. Jr. of Union and John and his wife Elizabeth of Flemington; two sisters, Eleanor Manyk of Texas and Lucille Bonomolo of Pa. Also surviving are two grandchildren, Shannon and Michael Cannizzaro.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

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## LEGAL NOTICES

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

August 11, 2004

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Planning Board at its meeting held on August 10, 2004

- Case #670-Klein Outdoor Advertising, Block 535; Lot 1.01; 2291 Hamilton Blvd. The applicant's request for conditional use & preliminary site plan approval was hereby GRANTED.
- Case #683-Texas Eastern Terminal Co. Block 388; Lots 1 & 26; Woodbrook Road. The applicant's request for preliminary & final site plan approval was hereby GRANTED w/conditions.
- Case #684-Northeastern Products Co. Block 467.02; Lot 2; 3500 S. Clinton Ave. The applicant's request for preliminary & final site plan approval was hereby GRANTED w/conditions.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary Beth Khidre, Recording Secretary/Planning Board

\$24.50

August 20, 2004

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

August 13, 2004

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its meeting held on August 12, 2004

- Case #39-03/I-AMI, L.L.C. Block 254; Lot 2.01; 318 Durham Avenue. The applicant's request for a variance application for a proposed billboard was hereby DENIED.
- Case #20-04/TU-Seagrave Sales & Service, Block 541; Lot 13; 150 Durham Ave. The applicant's request for temporary use permit for period of (6) months was hereby APPROVED w/voluntary conditions.
- Case #50-04-Patrick & Donna Riccardi, Block 219; Lot 11; 319 Clinton Pl. The applicant's request for a 4.81 ft. northerly side yard setback to construct a (1) story addition measuring 8.85 ft. by 12.55 ft. was hereby APPROVED w/(1) voluntary conditions.
- Case #51-04—Paul & Leonor Fessock, Block 212; Lot 8; 128 W. Fairview Ave. The applicant's request to construct a (1) story garage measuring 21 ft. by 13 ft. and w/a 21.03 ft. front yard setback was hereby APPROVED w/(1) voluntary condition.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary Beth Khidre, Secretary-Zoning Board of Adjustment

\$28.75

August 20, 2004

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

August 13, 2004

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its meeting held on June 24, 2004

- Case #35-04/Willard Dunham Construction, Block 467.01; Lot 33; 85 Tyler Avenue. The applicant's request for a use variance application APPROVED w/ conditions.
- Case #39-04/Bruce Singleterry, Block 201; Lot 30; 249 Oakland Ave. The applicant's request for a front yard setback variance from Minford Ave. in order to cantilever a second story addition measuring 40 ft. by 28 ft. & w/ a 28'9" setback & to erect a (1) story addition measuring 12 ft. by 24 ft. to the rear of the existing single family home w/ a 24.8 ft. front yard setback was hereby APPROVED w/ (1) voluntary condition.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary Beth Khidre  
Secretary-Zoning Board of Adjustment

\$25.50

August 20, 2004

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

August 13, 2004

An appeal has been filed by Adrian Richard requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit a porch. 1. Proposed 7 x 32 porch lacks 30' required front setback, 19.07' being proposed, and 2. proposed porch with roof lacks 8' side setback, 6.56' proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 448 Carmine Avenue on Block 313, Lot 18 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, September 23, 2004 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

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

\$35.00

August 20, 2004

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## policereport

- On Aug. 10 the Community Pool reported that a window had been left unlocked in the manager's room where someone entered and ransacked the room and took a brown bank bag with \$780.
- A Dey St. resident reported that she tried to open a charge account at Macy's and was told that one was already open under her social security number with a different name. The card was cancelled.
- Bravo Supermarket on W. 7th St. reported that a man attempted to leave the store with approximately 30 pounds of bacon in bags without paying. The bags were taken from the suspect before he exited the store and he then fled on foot.
- Jersey Oil on Park Ave. reported that a male customer fled the station without paying for \$20.85 worth of gas.
- On Aug. 11 Maria Jesus Hernandez, 38, of Somerset was arrested at the DMV for possession of fraudulent identification documents.
- Wachovia Bank on Plainfield Ave. reported that two men had tried to cash a fraudulent check at the drive-up window and drove off when questioned.
- On Aug. 12 Marcus Glendale Walker, 30, of Newark was arrested on an outstanding warrant, driving while suspended and no drivers license in his possession at a motor vehicle stop.
- Our Lady of Czestochowa on Kosciusko Ave. reported that their outside railings had been damaged.
- On Aug. 13 A&P reported that a man approached the pharmacy counter and stated that he wanted specific narcotics and that he had a gun in his possession. The pharmacist turned over five bottles of Percocet and Vicodin to the suspect, who fled on foot out the entrance.
- A So. 10th St. resident reported that the screen from her rear kitchen window had been removed and assorted jewelry and a gas powered leaf blower was taken.
- On Aug. 14 a Plainfield Ave. resident reported that a stone had been thrown threw their porch window.
- Lemmo's Liquors on So. Clinton Ave. reported that a \$36 bottle of Hennessy Cognac had been shoplifted from the store.
- On Aug. 15 Leopoldo Geronimo, 20, of Plainfield was arrested for receiving a stolen bicycle.
- A Franklin Ave. resident reported that a rear window of the house had been shot with a BB gun.
- On Aug. 16 Jeffrey A. Thrasybule, 21, of Piscataway was arrested for possession of a controlled substance, an outstanding warrant and driving while suspended at a motor vehicle stop.
- Gregory Lloyd Peterson, 18, of Plainfield was arrested for an outstanding warrant, a loud muffler and no inspection sticker at a motor vehicle stop.
- Tingley Rubber on South Ave. reported finding an unlocked vehicle with the ignition punched out in their rear lot. The rental car had been stolen from a parking lot on Corporate Blvd.
- Skoda Contracting reported that an air compressor, two jackhammers

and two 50 ft. air hoses worth \$12,860 were taken from their truck that was doing repairs on the Clinton Ave. Ext.

- Sacred Heart Church on So. Plainfield Ave. reported that a window had been broken on the south side of the school.

- A Burger King employee reported that her wallet had been taken from her purse which was in the manager's office.

- A Hamilton Blvd. resident reported that a neighbor's dog was loose and had bitten him in the leg and stomach. He received 10 stitches in his leg.

- On Aug. 17 Exxon on Park Ave. reported that a male customer had driven away from the pump without paying for \$25 worth of gas.

- A Park Ave. resident had his Dodge van taken from a lot next to his home. The vehicle was recovered in Edison.

- A Somerset Ave. resident reported that a rock had been thrown through the back window of their 2004 Acura.

## Mocharski Named Honorary Grand Marshal



John Mocharski

*Continued from page 1*

He is presently employed at Odd Jobs in South Plainfield as a maintenance and safety supervisor. He was employed at Rickel's Home Center for twenty two years, before the store closed in 1997.

Fire Chief Larry Del Negro said, "John is an excellent choice for Grand Marshal. For as long as anyone in the fire department can recall, John is always there for assistance with any function or to lend a helping hand. He has set an example for many members, along with his son, John Jr., who is following in his father's footsteps by

joining the fire department juniors. We congratulate Deputy Chief John Mocharski on his accomplishments."

The Labor Day Parade is held on Monday, Sept. 6. Events are planned all day long starting with the 5K run in the morning, followed by the parade, games and contests at the PAL, live entertainment and the day concludes with a huge fireworks display at Spring Lake Park.

## German Beauty Pageant Aug. 22

Contestants are being sought to participate in the Little Miss Schuetzen Park Beauty Pageant, to be held on Sunday, Aug. 22 at Schuetzen Park North Bergen.

The pageant is open to girls ages seven through 12 of part or all German extraction. Interviews and registration will be held on the day of the beauty contest, but the application must be received prior to 3 p.m. on the day of the contest.

For further information contact John R. Lawroraat (201) 553-9171 or email: [pageant@volksfest.org](mailto:pageant@volksfest.org).

## People For Animals Cat Adoption

People for Animals, a non-profit animal welfare organization, will sponsor a cat and kitten adoption on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 21 and 22 from noon until 4 p.m. The event will be held at the PETSMART stores in the Bridgewater Mall Rt. 28 and Rt. 287 and in the Watchung Square Mall, 1515 Rt. 22 Watchung.

Among the many pets for adoption will be Suki, a two year-old seal point Snowshoe Siamese mix. Suki is

spayed, current with her vaccinations and tested negative to FIV and feline leukemia. She is shy of other pets, but loves people. Suki would do best as an only pet in an adult household. People for Animals is over committed with the number of pets in its care. We are seeking foster homes, as well as adopters to help care for these pets.

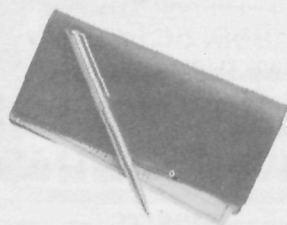
For information call (908) 964-6887 ext. 306 for dog adoption and ext. 307 for cat adoption.

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