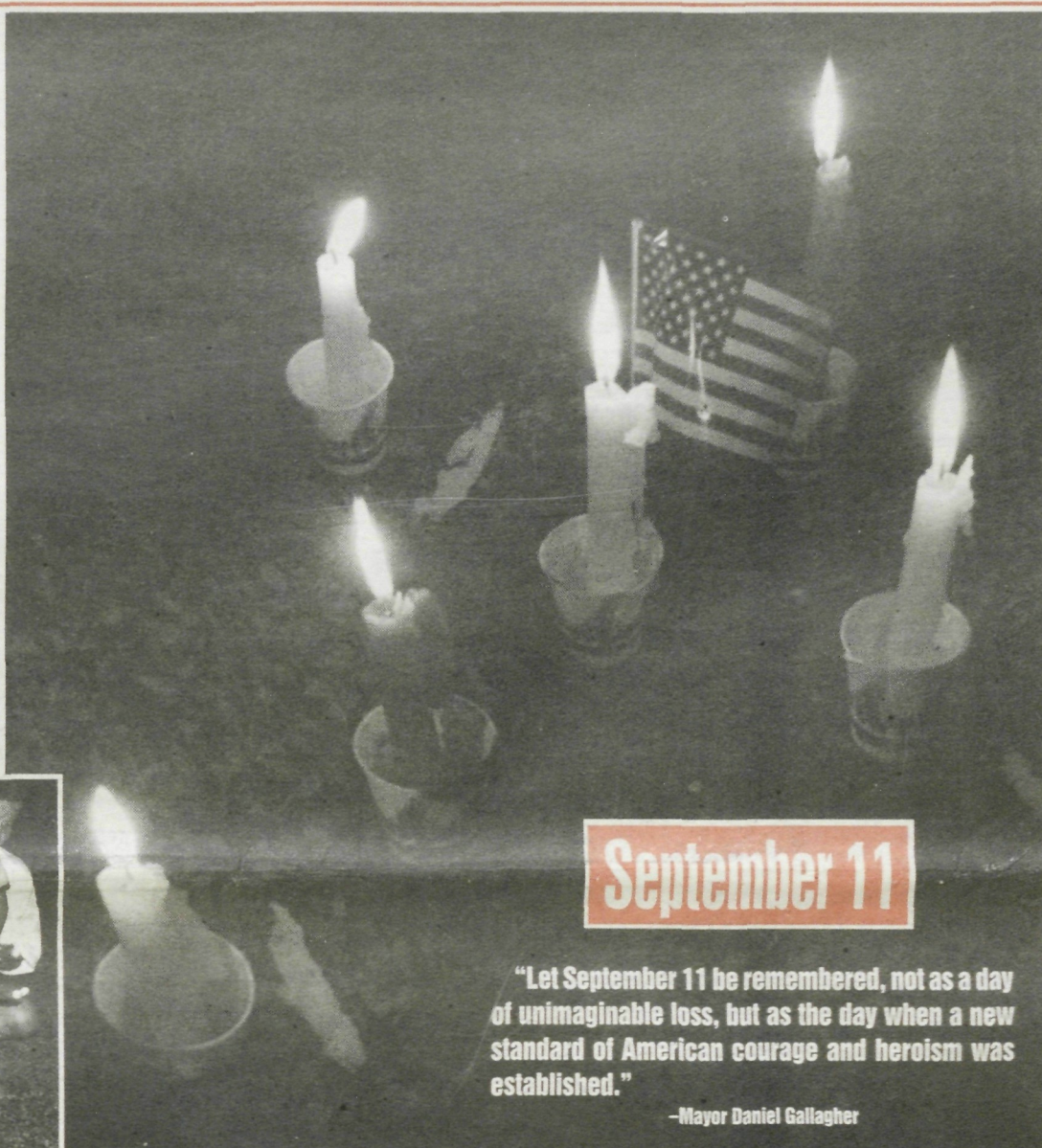


South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 8, NO. 3

50 CENTS

SEPTEMBER 17, 2004



"Let September 11 be remembered, not as a day of unimaginable loss, but as the day when a new standard of American courage and heroism was established."

—Mayor Daniel Gallagher

WE WILL NOT FORGET 2001

A steady resolve burns in flickering lights, and faith rises from the ashes....
South Plainfield gathers strength in remembering lives lost, but not forgotten.

Excessive Line Item Transfers Questioned

During the past year, former Board member Frank Mikorski has repeatedly asked why there are so many line item transfers taking place each month and he has received many different answers, but each month the line item transfers continue and, in some instances, increase.

For example, at the June board meeting a list of 247 line item transfers were made, the second highest number in recent months.

The lack of funds to make needed

repairs and improvements was also the topic at discussion as last month's meeting.

The *Observer* has also been asking questions of board members and administrators about the numerous transfers, especially the transferring of monies from the capital outlay budget to the current expense budget and how much money is actually in the surplus account.

According to sources, many ques-

Got Questions?
BOE general meeting
Sept. 21, 8 p.m.

tions and other relevant information will be addressed at next Tuesday's Board of Education meeting.

Next week's *Observer* will report on what occurs during the meeting. The Board of Education meeting is held in the gym in the Roosevelt Administration Building at 8 p.m. The public is invited to attend and there will be a question and answer portion for residents to speak.

Tigers Trounce Rival Bishop Ahr in Season Opener

By Michael Duquette

The SPHS Varsity Football season got off to an amazing start last Friday at Jost Field. The team crushed Bishop Ahr, 20-6, thanks to incredible offensive and defensive maneuvers.

Junior Jamar Beverly, a running back, scored a one-yard touchdown for South Plainfield in the second quarter. The score was upped to 7-0 when junior Charlie Leon kicked

the extra point. Despite an impressive touchdown by Bishop Ahr late in the quarter, the Tigers lengthened their lead when senior Peter DeAndrea caught a six-yard touchdown pass from Andrew Miller. DeAndrea also had two interceptions during the course of the game.

The game continued with no scoring by either side through the third quarter.

In the fourth quarter Beverly

scored on a 25-yard touchdown run and an extra point kick by Leon to push South Plainfield into a win for the first game of the season.

SPHS Tigers were thrilled with the results—DeAndrea called it "one of the best games we've played in awhile"—and will undoubtedly continue to succeed throughout the rest of the season.

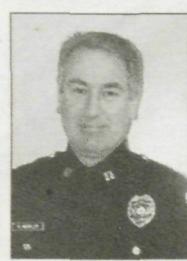
The Tigers will play at Carteret High School tonight at 7 p.m. in Carteret. Show your support!

Police Chief To Retire

Merkler's departure effective January 21

Robert Merkler, named police chief in March of 2001, replaced his brother Steven, who was retiring. Although it is unusual to have brothers serve as police chiefs, it is even more unusual to have one brother succeed the other. South Plainfield is proud of the fact that the police department has officers who are brothers, as well as fathers and sons.

Chief Robert Merkler joined the South Plainfield Police Department in 1983 as a patrolman after serving as a police officer in North Plainfield for four years and Coral Springs, Fla. for two years. In 1986, he was awarded the honor of "Policeman of the Year." He also received a special commendation in 1985 for rescuing a resident from a house fire. In 1989 he was promoted to sergeant, to lieutenant in 1993 and to captain in 2000. His activities in the community include manager, coach and member



Police Chief Robert Merkler

of the executive board of the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club, and coached both soccer and basketball. He was also a Special Olympics volunteer in 1999.

Chief Merkler was one of many individuals who were instrumental in the construction of Monument Park, which opened in July across from Spring Lake Park. Together with others who served on the Monument Park Committee, he assisted with the park's design, funding, acquisition of the helicopter and other war memorabilia, and was on hand when the Veterans Monument was moved. He was present when additional plaques were put in place, the shrubs and grass were planted, and assisted the landscapers. He was also master of ceremonies during the dedication ceremonies.

Merkler's retirement will be effective January 21, 2005. His successor has not yet been named.

**Deadline for September 24 issue
is Monday, September 20 at 5 p.m.**

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 21 (new date)	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Monday, October 4,	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
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
Sept. 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.—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
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
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.
(No meeting in October), November 15, December 13,
January 31, 2005, (No meeting February) and March 21

South Plainfield Observer

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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
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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.

Letter to the editor:

The South Plainfield Education
Foundation has been planning our
Annual Emil Leporino golf outing for
Sept. 27, at the Heron's Glen Golf
Course in Ringoes. However, we are
in need of golfers and donations in the
form of tee flags, tee signs and corpo-
rate banners as well as donations for
our raffle at the end of the evening.

At this time, we are in jeopardy of
not being able to have the outing, due
to lack of participation with golfers.

The Education Foundation raises
funds throughout the year not only for
scholarships for graduating seniors, but
for incentive programs throughout the
district. One that we are very proud of
is the gold card program at the high
school. This program is for all students
at the high school. It rewards students
that make the honor roll and that are
involved with at least two extra cur-
ricular activities. The card provides dis-
counts to them throughout the town at
participating businesses (such as the
movie theaters, pizza parlors, etc).

Please consider joining us for a fun
day of golf, lunch and dinner on the
Sept. 27.

Please contact Bob Hunter at (908)
756-5225 (work) or home (908) 769-
0439 if you can attend.

We hope to continue this fundraiser
to keep a scholarship going yearly in
Emil Leporino's name for a deserving
senior student.

Thank you.

**SINCERELY,
MARJORIE M. REEDY, PRES.
SO. PLFD. ED. FOUNDATION**

Dear Editor:

I must respond to what are obvi-
ously orchestrated letters to the Editor
in the last few week's newspapers by
various local Republican officials.

The local Republican organization
cannot bring itself to congratulate
Mayor Gallagher and the Democratic
members of the council for the remark-
able job of once again having no mun-
icipal tax increase in South Plainfield,
the fifth time in the last seven years.
The Republicans are embarrassed to
admit that no other town in the State
of New Jersey can compare with our
record of stable taxes, reduced debt and
'pay as you go' government. Instead,
they have chosen to try to confuse the
facts by misstating how sanitary sewer
rates are calculated.

Dennis Cerami, Kathy Thomas and
I welcome a discussion on South
Plainfield's sewer rates, because it is
another example of how we have
cleaned up the fiscal chaos left behind
by the prior Republican administration
of which the present Republican chair-
man and council candidate was an in-
tegral part.

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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.

When the Republicans were voted
out of office 11 years ago, they were
about to pass a 30 million dollar bond
ordinance to build a new sewer system
to, believe it or not, encourage devel-
opment in the borough. The first thing
the new Democratic majority did was
throw that irresponsible plan out the
window. Our sewer taxes would be
double or triple what they are today if
the Republicans had their way.

In fact, our sewer fee is one of the
lowest of any town in the area. We have
a flat charge as compared with other
towns like Edison that charge on wa-
ter usage.

The Republicans have said that the
sewer tax is being used to offset prop-
erty taxes. Shame on them! The Re-
publican Chairman and council candi-
date, who is a lawyer, should know that
South Plainfield has an independent
sewer utility. It is against the law for an
independent utility to use fees to off-
set taxes.

We manage the sewer utility the
same way we manage the borough
budget.... "Pay as You Go." Last year
the treatment costs went up and we
adjusted the rates to cover them.

I encourage the Republican slate to
stop trying to confuse things. Just ad-
mit the Democrats have a great record
on controlling municipal taxes in South
Plainfield and move on to another
topic.

CHARLIE BUTRICO, COUNCILMAN

Dear Editor,

As many of you know, I am running
for Borough Council with Marge
Reedy and Bob Jones. Since the cam-
paign is starting to kick into gear, I
thought this would be a good time to
talk about our priorities if elected.

A big priority is controlling growth.
When walking door-to-door, this is the
most frequent comment we receive.
One thing we need to do is reexamine
the zoning ordinance and get a handle
on runaway building. Also, the gov-
erning body should not be contribut-
ing to the problem by selling borough-
owned land to builders like Jack Mor-
ris. We should also be extra careful
about changing zoning and giving out
variances that would allow overuse of
land.

Senior housing is another priority.
Morris's Tingley Rubber tract, which
is in an industrial zone, is the wrong
place. We should be working with the
seniors on selecting an appropriate lo-
cation rather than dictating to them
where senior housing should go. The

residents, not the builders who con-
tribute to the Democratic Party, should
establish the zoning plan in our town.

Another priority is making services
more convenient to residents. Our op-
ponents ridiculed this idea last year, but
things like opening the compost area
for a few hours on Sundays would
make things easier for people, and it
would be inexpensive. People shouldn't
spend their precious weekends running
around to meet the Borough's sched-
ule.

Of course, there are lots of other
things we want to accomplish if elected.
To see more of our ideas, just go to
www.spgop.com. We've limited our
plans to those that are fiscally respon-
sible. We don't want to over-promise
and not deliver. Our opponents are
years behind on their promises, for
example, to build the Helen Street ex-
tension (eight years behind schedule)
and to reconstruct Hamilton Boulevard
(more than four years behind sched-
ule). We'd rather under-promise and
over-deliver.

It's time to Take Back South
Plainfield. There's so much we can ac-
complish if we do. I look forward to
sharing more of our thoughts and ideas
with you as the campaign progresses.
South Plainfield's future is bright. Let's
work together to make it even brighter.

**RAY RUSNAK, CANDIDATE FOR
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Dear Editor,

Like others who've written, I too
can't believe the Democrats are adver-
tising "no tax increase." The sewer tax
went up 25% this year alone.

I have one thing to say to the people
running for Borough Council. Please
take down your deceptive signs.

GEOFF CHAMPION

Dear Editor,

Everyday I've noticed an unhitched
trailer parked on Garden Dr. I learned
that it is illegal to park an unhitched
trailer on the road. Also, I discovered
that the trailer belongs to a South
Plainfield police officer. How come he
is above the law and can do this?

I also found out that the violator's
neighbor is also a South Plainfield po-
lice officer. Why doesn't this cop do
something about the violation? I don't
mean to complain, but I know if I
parked my trailer unhitched in the road
I would receive a ticket. How come he
gets away with it? I thought that South
Plainfield police officer's were sup-
posed to be a good example and en-
force the law, not be above the law.

JOE CITIZEN

Letter to the Editor:

I was actually a Republican until I
first ran for council in South Plainfield.
You see, the local Democratic Party
embodies what I always thought were
Republican ideals...fiscal responsibil-
ity, listening to the people and most
importantly, personal integrity. Our
Democratic team has always adhered
to the policy that we shouldn't dignify

Continued on page 9



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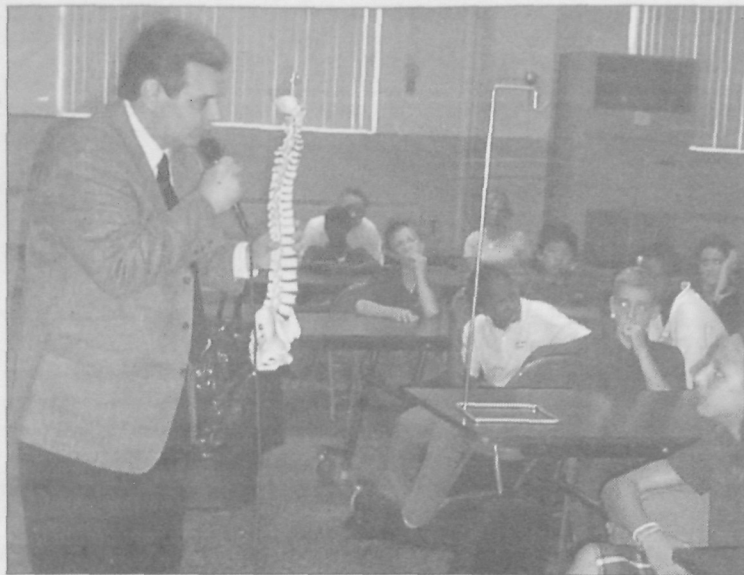


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Dr. Anthony DeCosta explains to Sacred Heart School students how the weight of a backpack can harm your spine.

Improper Backpack Use Can Be Hazardous to Your Health

By Jane Dornick

Chiropractor Dr. Anthony DeCosta recently gave an eye opening lesson to the sixth, seventh and eighth grade classes at Sacred Heart School about backpack safety. He stressed that improper backpack use can cause serious injury to a growing child's spine. The students watched a video on how to choose, pack, lift and wear their backpack and then he had them repack their own backpacks.

According to Dr. DeCosta, the effect of excess loads in backpacks can

cause the spine to bend from its normal position. Not many people are aware that when choosing a backpack for their child that it needs to fit properly. If the pack is more than 75 percent of the size of the back it is too big! To protect the back and shoulders, padded shoulder straps and a waist strap takes stress off the spine.

How the contents are put into the backpack is also important. A loaded backpack should not exceed 15 percent of the child's body weight. Heavy items should be placed inside the pack close to the body and then the weight should be distributed evenly.

When lifting a backpack bend at the knees and lift with your legs, not back. Carefully put one shoulder strap on at a time and never sling it onto one shoulder. Shoulder straps should be tightened so that the weight of the pack is high on the back.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission reported that last year there were 7,860 visits to hospital emergency rooms for backpack related injuries. It's not the backpack that presents the potential danger it is using it incorrectly that can cause damage to a growing child's spine.

Dr. DeCosta's chiropractic practice is located at 129 South Plainfield Ave. For more information on backpack safety or spinal check-ups call (908) 755-1117 or www.drdecosta.com on the Web.

South Plainfield Holds 9-11 Memorial Services

Last Saturday evening the residents of South Plainfield gathered at Spring Lake Park to pay tribute to the victims and heroes of the September 11, 2001 attacks.

The evening began with the South Plainfield High School Marching Band and Color Guard marching into the park and leading everyone in the *Star Spangled Banner*.

Prayers and scripture were read by Rev. Charles Mingle, the Chaplain of the South Plainfield Police and Fire Department; Rev. Richard Kiesling of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church; Rev. Irene Campbell of the Rescue House of Prayer; Rev. Nehemia Thompson of Wesley Methodist Church and Rev. Gordon Brown of the First Baptist Church.

In addition to the South Plainfield Marching Band, bagpiper Ken O'Brien played *Coming Home* and



South Plainfield Fire and Police departments remember September 11, 2001 at the memorial service held at Spring Lake Park.

Amazing Grace.

Mayor Dan Gallagher, the master of ceremonies, gave a short speech, saying that South Plainfield will never forget this day. "Let September 11 be remembered, not as a day of unimaginable loss, but as the day when a new standard of American courage and heroism was established," he said.

The evening ended with everyone singing

God Bless America as they moved down to the lake and placed candles along the edge.

Marion Gallagher, who was instrumental in arranging the memorial services, would like to extend thanks to all who helped make the evening possible.

They are: Michael Zushma, Chief Robert Merkler, Mark Tweed, Michael Gallagher, Michael English, Anita Diegnan, Richard D'Urso, Father John Paul Alvarado, Pat Vargo, Kim Gallagher, Lt. Paul Brembt and John Celentano.

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the 9/11 memorial on Saturday in Spring Lake Park. A special thank you to the South Plainfield High School Marching Band and Color Guard. Again, South Plainfield residents showed we are a small town with a big heart.

—Marion Gallagher

Regular Curbside Pickups Announced

Councilman Bob Cusick announced that South Plainfield residents will be getting curbside pickups twice a year. In the past, residents were required to call for a curbside pickup and then sometimes wait weeks for the scheduled pickup. Cusick said this program will provide more pickups for residents and prove to be more cost effective in the long run.

A new program which begins next month, automatically schedules two pickups a year one in October and one in April to all neighborhoods in town. Every resident should have received a flyer in the mail recently, listing the scheduled pickup and a map of five districts.

The first pickup will start the first week of October in district 1 and continue each week during the month.

Any large household items except concrete, recyclable items, yard debris and automotive items are acceptable.

Debris should be placed at the curb in front of their residence on the Sunday night prior to the week in which the collection is to occur. When possible, items should be either tied or boxed and be neatly placed at the curb. The amount of waste cannot exceed 12 ft. x 3 ft by 3 ft.

The curbside pickup program is separate from the leaf pickup program which begins Nov. 15. That schedule

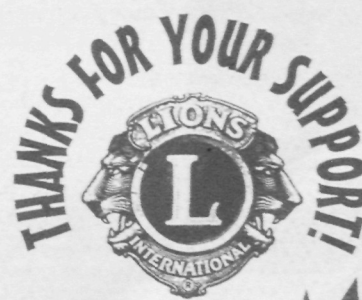
also was included in the mailed flyer, along with coupons for leaf bags. Bags can be picked up at the Department of Public Works, Monday through Friday beginning Oct. 25 and ending Nov. 24. Public Works will also be open for your convenience on Saturday, Nov. 6 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Apartments and condominium/townhouse complexes are not in-

cluded in the curbside pickup program.

The existing compactor and yard waste facilities will remain available for residential use. Compactor coupons and yard waste decals are available at the Municipal Clerks officer during the following times: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday between 1 and 5 p.m. and Tuesday and Fridays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

The South Plainfield Lions Club would like to extend thanks to all those who supported them on Labor Day at the PAL field after the parade.



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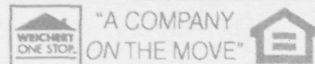
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Events

VFW Holding Meat Loaf Dinner

September 17

The VFW will hold a meat loaf dinner on Friday, Sept. 17 from 5 to 8 p.m. at 155 Front St.

Tickets are \$7. For information, call (908) 668-9751.

SPHS Football Parents Holding Yard Sale

September 18

The South Plainfield High School football parents will holding a yard sale on Saturday, Sept. 18 from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (rain or shine).

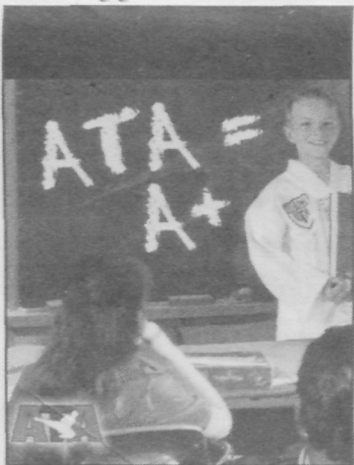
Donations will be accepted between 6 to 7 a.m. The fundraiser will be held at the South Plainfield Middle School, located on Plainfield Ave.

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.



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What's happening in SEPTEMBER

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
EVENTS Computer Class Begins, <i>Wednesday, Sept. 15 at 11 a.m.</i> Nutrition Program, <i>September 16</i>			Weekly Shopping 16 Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10-11am Computer Class 11 & 1pm Speaker Program 1pm Topic: Nutrition	Bingo 10am-2pm 17 Pizza lunch available Men's Forum Steering Committee Meeting
Knitting/Crocheting 20 9:30-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Drawing Class 11:30am AARP Meeting 12:30pm	Bingo 10am-2pm 21 Ladies Social 10am	Exercise 8:30am 22 Line Dancing 10am Movie Time 11:30am AARP Crafts 1pm Computer Class 11 & 1pm	Weekly Shopping 23 Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11&1pm	Bingo 10am-2pm 24 Lunch available
TO SIGN UP FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER, VISIT THE CENTER.				

Evening includes a four-course dinner. Advance purchase only. Tickets are \$60. For information, contact Denise at (732) 261-8942 or Tracy at (732) 841-4844.

SP Republicans Plan Comedy Night

September 18

The South Plainfield Republicans will hold their first-ever comedy night on Sept. 18 at 8 p.m. The event will feature professional comics and be held at the Ramada Limited on Hamilton Blvd. Proceeds will go toward the Reedy, Rusnak, Jones campaign for Borough Council. Tickets are \$50.

For tickets or information, contact Dawn Jefferys at (908) 755-3986.

Traveling Soccer Club Family Picnic

September 18

Every Soccer Club family is welcome to join in the fun at a picnic to be held on Saturday, Sept. 18, (rain date is Sept. 25) at Veterans Memorial Park from 3 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$10 per family.

There will be plenty of great food, beer/wine, soda, hamburgers, hot dogs, crab cakes, sausage, chicken, good friends, tons of fun and games.

For more information or to volunteer call Ann Marie Ferrante-Seyffart at (908) 756-7543.

Free Fall Program Kick-Off Picnic

September 18

On Saturday, Sept. 18, from 4-8 p.m., Cedarcroft Bible Chapel is sponsoring a picnic to kick-off its fall programs. There will be no charge; everything is free. "Everything" includes activities for all ages, including volleyball, round robin ping pong, horseshoes, crumbling pyramids, portrait contest, a strength contest, a straw contest, caught in the rain, human pipe organ, etc. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Cedarcroft Bible Chapel is located at 1715 Kenyon Ave. For information, call Kingsley Baehr at (908) 757-7598 or email him at kbaehr@crols.com.

AARP Chapter #4144 Meeting

September 20

The South Plainfield Chapter of AARP resumes their meetings at the Senior Center on Monday, Sept. 20 at 12:30 p.m. Michael Lopes and Bonnie Testa from the Public Relations Dept.

of Vitalize will speak about the many resources open to retired persons.

Christian Martial Arts Open House

September 20

Looking for something good to get your children involved in this Fall? Come attend our Open House on Monday, Sept. 20 at 7:30 p.m.

Learn about our program of Christian Martial Arts for Kids. By the way, the Open House and the Martial Arts classes are free!

The Open House will take place at St. Stephen Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3145 Park Ave. For more information, call (908) 757-4474.

Spaghetti Supper at OLC

September 25

Our Lady of Czestochowa Rosary Society will be holding a spaghetti supper on September 25 from 4 to 8 p.m. in the parish hall.

Cost for adults is \$7, seniors are \$6, children 5-12 are \$3.50 and children under five are free.

Open House Spaghetti Dinner

September 25

Wesley United Methodist Church, at 1500 Plainfield Ave., is holding a community Spaghetti Dinner Open House on Saturday, Sept. 25 from 5-7 p.m. The price per person is \$7 for adults and children (12 years and under) are \$3.

Great food, great music and great company! Come see what Wesley United Methodist Church is all about. Come on in...We love visitors!

Installation of Pastor at First Baptist Church

September 26

First Baptist Church of South Plainfield, 201 Hamilton Blvd., will install as its new pastor, the Rev. D. Gordon Braun, Jr., on Sunday, Sept. 26 at 3 p.m., followed by a dinner reception. He comes to us from his most recent pastorate at Demarest Baptist Church and a prior pastorate in Pedricktown. We joyously welcome Rev. Braun and his wife, Claire and their young daughter. For more information regarding the installation service or general information, call us at (908) 753-2382 or visit our website at www.fbssouthplainfield.com.

— Out of Town —

Fast Track Networking Rescheduled

September 17

The Fast Track Networking event originally scheduled for Aug. 20 has been postponed. The A.M. Connection will launch on Sept. 17 from 8 to 9 a.m.

Singles Get Together

September 18

A singles get together for ages 38 and older will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 18 at the Fontainebleau Diner, located at 1050 Stelton Rd., Piscataway. This is a nice way for many to meet new people and also make new friends. It will only cost you the price of your meal. Reservations are necessary. Contact Dennis at (908) 757-5697 for more information.

WOWs to Hold Dance

September 19

The Woodbridge Area of Widows or Widowers (WOWs) will hold a fundraiser dance/social on Sunday, Sept. 19 from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. The cost is \$8 per person and all are welcome. There will be refreshments and live music by Steve Berger on the keyboard. The dance will be held at the Elk's Hall, 665 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. For more information, call (732) 297-1775.

CHATS Adoption Support Meeting

September 27

CHATS (Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support) will hold an adoption support on Monday, Sept. 27 from 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. at Watchung Ave. Presbyterian Church, 170 Watchung Ave., North Plainfield. There will be open sharing of adoption-related stories and light refreshments will be served. For more information, call Alyce at (732) 227-0607.

Ninth Annual MCIA Charity Golf Classic

September 29

The Ninth Annual MCIA Charity Golf Classic will be taking place on Sept. 29 at Tamarack Golf Course in E. Brunswick. The event, sponsored by 1st Constitution Bank, benefits the Cerebral Palsy Association of Middlesex County and Roosevelt Care Center.

A few golfing spots remain for the 2004 outing. A \$175 donation pays for golf, continental breakfast, cocktail reception, buffet dinner and door prizes. Tickets for the buffet dinner only are \$75.

Prizes will be given for the longest drive, team low score and closest to the pin, plus two automobile prizes, courtesy of Audi of Mendham for one hole-in-one opportunity on each 18-hole course.

For more information or to play or donate, call Jennifer Apostol, MCIA Project Manager, at (609) 655-5141.

Depression/Bipolar Disorders Seminar

September 29

The Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA) will present its monthly educational meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 29. The public is cordially invited. It will feature David Chowes, professor in the Department of Psychology at Baruch College of the City University of New York.

The organization's educational meetings take place on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship, 21 Normandy Heights Rd. (about one block east of the Morris Museum) in Morristown. Meetings are open to the public; a nominal donation is requested from non-members. Free literature is available to all attendees and there is an extensive lending library of educational audiotapes and videotapes.

For further local information, call (973) 994-1143 or the New Jersey Self-Help Clearing House at (800) 367-6274.

Barbara Harley Benefit Concert

October 1

A concert featuring country artist and songwriter Barbara Harley to benefit the Somerset Home for Temporarily Displaced Children will be held at the Watchung Arts Center, 18 Stirling Rd., on the Circle in Watchung on Friday, Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are: Adults-\$17, children-\$7. Tickets at the door are an additional \$3 per person. For tickets call Tierney O'Donnell: (908) 526-6605. Cash, check, credit cards accepted.

Send Your Events to:

South Plainfield Observer, 1110
Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
or fax (908) 668-8819
email: spobserver@comcast.net

Women Aware Fundraiser

October 9

Women Aware is holding a fundraiser, an Amazing Acappella Amalgamation Concert at the Crossroads Theatre in New Brunswick. The date of the event is Oct. 9 at 8 p.m.

Performing will be Key of Sher, Pieces of 8, Vox Bob, Harmontryx and Mystery Group.

Adults are \$20 and seniors are \$15. Ticket cost and donations are tax deductible.

To purchase tickets call (732) 249-4242 or Crossroads box office at (732) 246-7469. Mail donations to: Women Aware, P.O. Box 7565, North Brunswick, NJ 08902.

From the Democrats

Democrats Tout New Curb Restoration Program

Council members Charlie Butrico, Dennis Cerami and Kathy Thomas have announced yet another enhancement of Borough services. This week Councilmember Thomas discussed the new curb restoration program, which will start next spring. "As residents of South Plainfield already know, we were the first town in New Jersey to adopt 'pay as you go' government. One of the most impressive examples of that policy is our road reconstruction program. The prior Republican administration repaved one road during its last year in office and borrowed over a million dollars to pay for it. When the new Democratic majority took over they said there must be a better way. At that time Vinnie Buttiglieri was the liaison to public works and he suggested that we partner with Middlesex County to repave our roads. The results speak for themselves. At last count, over 130 roads have been repaved without borrowing one penny to do them. We now think its time to address deteriorating curbs on roads throughout the borough."

Council President Dennis Cerami agreed with his running mate. "There's more to our approach to government than just keeping taxes under control. Charlie, Kathy and I are committed to doing whatever we can to improve the quality of life in South Plainfield. Enhancing our infrastructure is important. Last year we totally re-fitted the community pool and we are in the process of expanding the PAL once again to include lockers and a snack area. New bathroom facilities will soon be installed at Putnam Park and of course every park and ball field have been upgraded, with lights installed at our sports complex. In just a couple of weeks, the new curbside bulk pickup program will be in full swing. Curb restoration is just another example of your Mayor and Council working hard to see that your tax dollars are spent wisely."

Council member Charlie Butrico summed up the Democrats philosophy of government. "We never lose track of the fact that we are public servants. The curb restoration program is just one of a series of improvements that we will be discussing during this campaign to make South Plainfield even nicer than it already is. Next spring, new curbs and sidewalks will be installed for the full length of Maple Avenue all the way from Lakeview Avenue to Woodland Avenue. This will be paid for with a state grant that our local Assemblyman, Patrick Diegnan, worked for. The curbs and culvert will be replaced on Church Street all the way from Veterans Park to the First Baptist Church on Hamilton Boulevard with a grant from Middlesex County arranged by our hometown Freeholder, John Pulomena, and the curbs on South Plainfield Avenue will be replaced all the way from Park Avenue to the center of town with local funding. This is a great example of how Dennis, Kathy and I along with Mayor Gallagher and all of the members of the council approach our jobs. That's why there has been no municipal tax increase in five of the last seven years while great things continue to happen in South Plainfield."

From the Republicans

Reedy, Rusnak, Jones: Senior Housing a Priority

Calling the need for additional senior housing an unfulfilled priority, Borough Council candidates Marge Reedy, Ray Rusnak and Bob Jones are calling upon the mayor and council to go on record about its plans for creating additional senior housing in South Plainfield. According to the three, this is an important issue that deserves discussion. "We've been talking to seniors and they've repeatedly told us they want more housing," said Rusnak. "This should be a priority."

Jones agreed: "We need more housing for seniors. Initially the mayor and council planned to relegate senior housing to an abandoned industrial site by the highway (the Tingley Rubber tract). That's where big-time Democratic contributor Jack Morris wants to build more than 300 units. When seniors opposed that plan the council temporarily shelved it. Now we don't know what the plan is. It appears they're trying to keep everything hush-hush until after the election."

2004 VOTE

"The people in South Plainfield, not Jack Morris, should decide where senior housing should go," added Reedy. "The Tingley Rubber site is not suitable—even the town's Zoning Officer is quoted as saying so. There's already too much traffic near Route 287, and the area around the proposed site is light industrial. We shouldn't banish our seniors to an area like that."

"The site's also too far from the services our seniors need," Rusnak added. "I'd prefer a site, like the current site for senior housing, that's close to Muhlenberg Hospital and the medical providers along Park Avenue."

"There are some good alternatives to putting senior housing in an industrial area," Jones explained. "For example, a local developer is working on a plan to put a small number of senior apartments near the center of town, but unfortunately, the town is fighting him every step of the way. Similarly, another builder would like to add housing near the current senior building. We should be examining these plans, but apparently the council is wed to doing business with Jack Morris instead."

"Rather than make this a political issue, we suggest a bipartisan approach," said Reedy. "Our seniors should be part of the process, not be told where senior housing will go. It's our town, not the builders."

According to the three candidates, ensuring adequate senior housing is just one of the things they want to do if elected. Their "Blueprint for South Plainfield" contains additional information and ideas for taking back the town from one-party control. To view it voters can go www.spgop.com.

Sacred Heart Church Sponsoring Night of Cooking



A Chef's Night is planned for Monday, Oct. 11 featuring Chef David Martone, CCP from Classic Thyme Cooking School in Westfield.

This is just one of the many events which are being held by Sacred Heart Church in celebration of their 100th Anniversary. The Chef's Night promises to be fun for all attending who will have the opportunity to enjoy great food. The cost for the evening is \$35 per person.

Chef Martone will guide the audience through the preparation of a fabulous menu that everyone will want to repeat for their own cocktail

party. He will be making such tempting treats as Chicken Satay with Peanut sauce, handmade egg rolls, baked shrimp wontons, Gruyere cheese fondue served with green apples and French bread, smoked salmon quesadilla, seasoned ground beef on Italian bread rounds (a take off of an Arthur Schwartz recipe, "Manly Meatballs," basic sushi-rolls, spicy tuna, California and vegetable bacon wrapped apricots.

At a very young age Chef Martone had an interest in food. Learning to cook came easy as David had influence from his entire family. David's dad always told him that his mother taught him to do all the basics at a young age—cooking, sewing and cleaning.

After graduating in 1989 from The French Culinary Institute, under the direction of Jacques Pepin, he went to work at Chez Catherine in

Westfield, where he spent the next 18 months.

David started teaching in 1991 and pursued a higher level of education, earning the designation of C.C.P. (Certified Culinary Professional) through the International Association of Culinary Professionals. He is currently a board member of The New York Association of Cooking Teachers (NYACT).

In September of 1995 he opened a cooking school and retail store, which was met with extraordinary interest and support. The cooking school recognized the need for educating children at a young age, and started conducting children's 'Chef For A Day' kid's birthday parties. Classic Thyme now conducts children's culinary programs in some of the local schools and at the YMCA.

The 1996 expansion brought Classic Thyme

to its present location at 161 East Broad St. in downtown Westfield. Classic Thyme is a culinary resource center offering fine retail products, full service catering, a full schedule of cooking classes, kitchen design services and a free help line for all your culinary questions.

Tickets are \$35 each and may be reserved by calling Sandy Severini at (908) 757-9358. Seating is limited to the first 70 people. Guests can BYOB if desired.

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George W. L. Page Trophy, Given to the best civic entry
J.J. Gardener Detachment Marine Corps League

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Westfield Fife & Drums

Most Outstanding Float – Best overall – Knights of Columbus

Best Youth Group Float, High School and under – American Martial Arts

Best Civic Float, Most Patriotic Float – South Plainfield Firehouse Kids

Most Outstanding Visiting Entry
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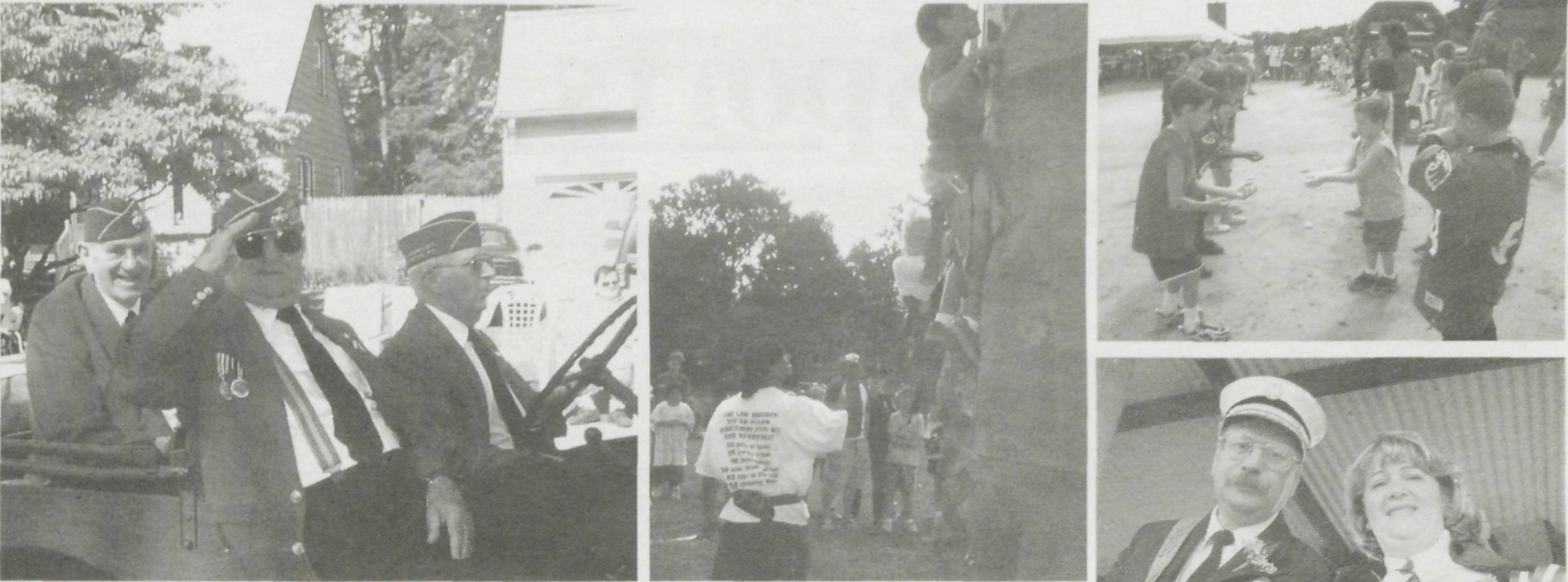
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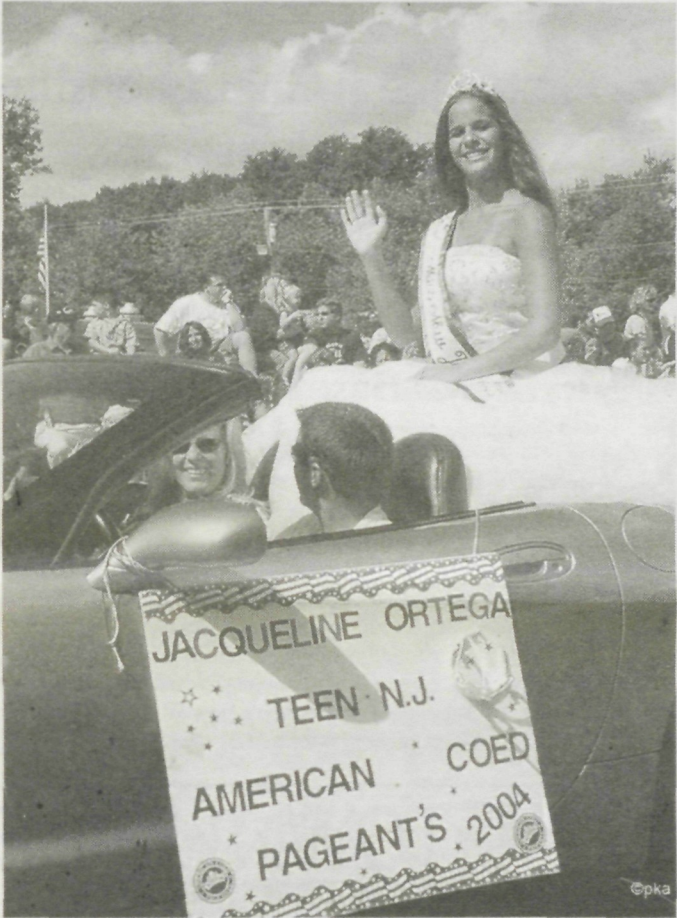
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Sports

Varsity Cheerleading Preview



By Tim Morgan

Tim Morgan, Jr.

Change is an ineluctable part of life. People, attitudes and societies all undergo change over the course of time. Along with this, methodologies mutate to adjust to time's challenges and devices. Intransigence is always eventually met with defeat.

Sometimes change happens without us even being aware of it, or at least not until afterward. When intentionally done though, change is usually intended for the betterment of something. That is the slant the South Plainfield High School Varsity Cheerleading team has this season. The Lady Tigers have revamped the cheering routine they have had for several years previously by adding new dances, stunts, sideline cheers and tumbling acts to get the crowd to become more enthusiastic and involved in the SPSHS Varsity football games.

"In the beginning, they were scared of change but came to realize that it was in their best interest and that it was time to make changes in their regimen," said 13th year Head Coach Georgian Larsen of the Lady Tigers.

Along with alteration can come skepticism, which is something the girls definitely faced but were able to overcome once they saw how effective their revamped circuit was. This runs in unison with Larsen's aim that overcoming obstacles and assuming responsibility are traits that the girls assimilate in their experience on the team.

"I enjoy watching the kids learn something," she said, adding that she aspires to coach the girls not simply for the sake of the sport but for life as well, recounting instances where past team members have personally told her

of how just that happened in their experience without them realizing it at the time.

This summer, the team brought in the United Cheerleading Association for a three-day camp so that the girls, Larsen and Assistant Coaches Amy Curcio and Jennifer Orzepowski could re-imagine the program. The main objective of this was to build a better overall cohesive effect so that they could enhance school spirit through execution of a new routine. As much as new techniques were implemented, old ones were truncated and motions were perfected, both shifting and condensing the Lady Tigers' repertoire of actions to make a significant difference in their performance as a whole.

Larsen said that the girls adapting to the change brought them closer as a team by working well with each other. The upperclassmen were able to assume more of a leadership role by helping the lowerclassmen, and the girls were collectively able to perform more smoothly and efficiently as a result.

Adjusting to change can be met with difficulty, but it can also develop a greater sense of camaraderie when a group of people faces it head-on and that is exactly what Larsen claims happened.

Larsen is hopeful and confident that the upheaval the team is undergoing can bring the program "to another level." What she is most concerned about though is that the girls enjoy themselves, because "that is what [participating in] the sport is really about."

This year's team consists of 21 members. Seniors are captains Melanie Foscolo and Eva Humber, Mallory Christ, Alissa DeCarlo, Kaitlynn Disch, Allia Ghanim, Erin Gyuris, Lisa Primavera, Erin Sikanowicz, Christina Scavone and Alisha Stasenko; juniors are Vanessa Cassano, Jenny Cheng, Brittney Dittmars, Amanda Deba, Julianne Hudak and Alyssa Kuriel; and sophomores are Dorothy Cameron, Lauren Primavera, Kyla Rouse and Leslie Quiche.



Tiger Sharks Dive Into First Place at Championships

Diving Championships were held at Cedar Hill Swim Club in Somerset and the day was hot and sunny, a perfect day for a dive meet. The dive teams started to arrive at an early 7 a.m. to warm-up for a 9 a.m. start time.

The meet started with the 15+ age group and the Tiger Sharks were hot, with Kayleigh McGovern winning second place and Brian Kelly winning fifth! The next age group was the eight-and-under and both girls and boys did an excellent job! Janet Kelly won first, Taylor Aljain took fourth, Jamie Bohn took fifth and in the boys, Jacob Alba came in third and Eddie Kobilis took fifth! Going to the 9/10 age group, winning first place was Jena Cianfrocca and taking fourth was Ali Wagner! Jack Green won first in boys and Patrick Boyle took home fifth. In the 11/12 age group, we had Michelle Kobilis win first place and Clare Kelly won second. In boys, Stephen Kelly took second, Ian Collins took third, Michael Boyle took fourth and Stephen Wagner brought home sixth.

We were all so excited as we waited for the team scores to be added and since all of our divers put in 110 percent, the whole team took home first place. As soon as the announcement was made, the team threw the coaches in the pool and

everyone had a great time!

A special thanks to Nicole and Scott, the dive coaches; the team couldn't have done it without you! Congratulations to all the divers of the 2004 Tiger Sharks Diving Team, you all worked so hard and the first place trophy says it all!

Ed Niemczyk Basketball Sign-Ups

South Plainfield Recreation will be holding registration for the 2004 Ed Niemczyk Youth Basketball League sponsored by the Recreation Department until 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, 1250 Maple Ave., Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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IN YOUR OPINION

Continued from page 2
the annual Republican negative campaigns by responding to them. We have always chosen to ignore their baseless attacks knowing that the good people of South Plainfield will see through them.

However, sometimes you just can't sit by and let honorable people get trashed in the newspaper. We are only into the first week of the campaign season and the local Republicans are already in high slash and burn mode. They are bankrupt of ideas so they resort to character assassination. Last week they went after our borough clerk/administrator Vinnie Buttiglieri. Vinnie is as fine an individual, as I have ever known. Vinnie and I became friends when we ran for office together. He comes from a traditional Italian family, who taught him the value of hard work and honesty. He worked his way through Seton Hall University, obtaining a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting. When Vinnie served on the borough council he was responsible for the public works department and came up with numerous cost savings ideas that actually led to better services for our residents. As our Borough Clerk/Administrator he is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the borough. Vinnie Buttiglieri, partnering with our department heads and employees, gives the taxpayers of South Plainfield the most efficient and cost effective team in the history of our borough. And guess what? Vinnie's salary is less than his predecessor's was when he retired five years ago. In addition, the position of Deputy Clerk was eliminated and Vinnie took on those responsibilities at a cost savings of over \$60,000 per year. Just last week Mayor Gallagher read a letter at the council meeting recognizing Vinnie Buttiglieri as one of only a handful of municipal clerks in the State of New Jersey that have obtained the designation of Certified Municipal Clerk, which requires two years of study at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers University.

Any rational person would be sending a letter to the editor congratulating him. The Republicans instead choose to attack him. Shame on you. It's no wonder I am no longer a Republican.

COUNCILMAN RAYMOND PETRONKO

Dear Editor,

The local Republican council candidates have borrowed the campaign slogan under which Jim Vokral and I first ran in 1993, "Take back South Plainfield." We chose that slogan because we wanted to take back South Plainfield from the runaway borrow, tax and spend days of the Republican Administration. In case the Republican candidates forgot, let me remind

them that they borrowed \$20 million in one year, didn't repair a road and raised taxes by six points. To make matters worse, not only didn't they preserve one inch of open space during the entire time they were in control, they actually sold hundreds of acres of land to balance their bloated budgets. This is the same group that laughed at Jim Vokral and I when we endorsed the principal of 'pay as you go' government for South Plainfield. I think the Republican slogan should actually read, "Take South Plainfield Back...back to the days of high taxes, runaway borrowing, over development and deteriorating infrastructure." Remember when Hadley Road looked like a moon crater...do you want the Republicans to take South Plainfield back to that? Remember when they said we couldn't afford a new senior center, or improved PAL? Remember when the senior housing across from Riley School couldn't get off the drawing boards? Do you really want to let the Republicans take South Plainfield back to that? I can guess what the Republican candidates will say: "We weren't the ones making those decisions, it was a different Republican team." BALONEY! The present Republican chair and council

candidate was one of the leaders of the policies that led to fiscal irresponsibility and over development. As the driving force on the land management committee for almost a decade, he sold land, which has a value of almost \$10 million, to cover their runaway expenses in the borough budget. Every time you pass the apartments on Durham Ave. think of the Republican Chair who now wants to have a second chance to mismanage the borough as a member of the borough council. Almost 400 homes were built because of his votes on land management. The first thing the new Democratic majority did was disband the land management committee. Slogans can tell a lot about a campaign. Charlie Butrico, Dennis Cerami and Kathy Thomas are proud of their slogan "No tax increase for the fifth time." The Republicans should think about whitening their slogan out of their signs.

COUNCILMAN EDWARD P. KUBALA

Dear Editor,

Back in the good old days, I went to register to vote for my first time. The man behind the desk asked, "Which party?" I looked at him and said, "I wasn't sure how I would vote at this time." He told me that I had to

declare which party I was going to vote for in order to get out of his office, I told him Democrat.

For a few years I did vote democrat, but as the years went by, I started to get into following the candidates and soon realized that both parties had good candidates. That's when I decided to vote for the candidate and not the party.

I have voted "split tickets" until last election, when I got tired of the Clinton Era Democrats.

I didn't vote for George Bush, but for the people running for other offices on the ballot.

Now, with this Bush-Kerry run, I've been going back and forth, trying to decide which one to vote for.

Due to people like the Clintons, Ed Kennedy, Tom Daschle, John Edwards and puppet John Kerry, I, as a Korean Veteran (U.S.M.C.), can see no one but George W. Bush as the only one to lead this country for the next four years. I joined the "Veterans Against Kerry."

John Edwards may have been a hero, but so was Oliver North, who was pushed aside in his bid for election for the "boo boo" he committed.

John Kerry, Jane Fonda and Bill "I had no sex with that girl" Clinton are

from the same era and a John Kerry victory would be run by the Clinton bosses, which will put the United States under U.N. Rule.

Jimmy Carter turned over the Panama Canal to Panama and the Chinese now control both ends of the canal.

Lyndon Johnson threw open our borders and terrorists are coming in to take over.

Bill Clinton almost destroyed our military and his buddy, John Kerry, voted to help him.

America has, as many "old timers" can see, many enemies within our very borders without weapons, as there are with weapons.

The most dangerous organization we have in America would most likely be the A.C.K.U. and that is not just my opinion.

The National Education Association is out to change what our children are learning in school, especially our history.

Unfortunately, too many democrats don't see this and will continue to vote for the party and not for the man.

There are good and bad Democrats and Republicans, which way will America go?

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**SHE'S FINALLY
TURNING
FORTY!!**



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
HOPE COTONE!!**
(paybacks)

police

report

• On Sept. 6 Colin Armstrong Hunter, 22, of South Plainfield was arrested at Spring Lake Park for disorderly conduct when entered the lake in a kayak and refused to exit when police ordered him.

• Angel L. Torres, 22, of Piscataway was arrested on Hamilton Blvd. for possession of a controlled substance.

• The owner of 112 Sylvania Pl. reported that a glass door and window of the building had been broken with a metal pipe. Nothing was taken.

• On Sept. 7 a Sampton Ave. resident reported that their front license plate was missing.

• A Brennan Ct. resident reported that the rear sliding window of his

pickup was broken out and some papers inside were rummaged through. Nothing was taken.

• A Yurgel Dr. resident reported that the tires of his vehicle had been slashed.

• On Sept. 8 a Middlesex resident reported that the passenger side rear window had been broken out. A two saw awls, a chop saw, angle drill, 18 volt drill and an angle finish nailer were taken.

• A 2nd Pl. resident reported that theft of mountain bike from their driveway.

• A Harvard Ave. resident reported that their wooden mailbox had been set on fire.

• On Sept. 9 Marco Venecio Balladares, 18, of Plainfield was arrested for obstruction of justice at a motor vehicle stop.

• Mellenium Research on Davis St. reported the theft of 800 two ounce tubes of Trish McEvoy dry skin normalizer and 300 one ounce jars of vitamin C cream.

• Bravo Supermarket on W. 7th St. reported receiving a counterfeit \$10 bill from a customer who said they had just gotten money out of the

ATM in the supermarket.

• On Sept. 10 Kevin E. Blackburn, 33, of North Brunswick was arrested for having a fraudulent inspection sticker, driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

• A Page Ct. resident reported that a Sony CD Walkman and car adaptor worth \$100 were taken from his vehicle. Entry was gained through the missing driver side window, which only had a piece of plastic on it.

• A Matis St. resident reported the theft of BMX bike from their open garage.

• Quizno's Subs on Oak Tree Ave. reported the theft of their sign that was on the building.

• On Sept. 13 a Pitt St. resident reported that the front hood of their vehicle was damaged and the windshield was shattered.

• An employee of Tingley Rubber on Cragwood Rd. reported the theft of a Pioneer CD car stereo and CD from his vehicle. Entry was gained through an open rear window.

• A Maple Ave. resident reported that a tire on their vehicle had been slashed.

LEGAL

NOTICES

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY**

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey on OCTOBER 7, 2004 at 10 a.m. prevailing time in the Council Chambers of the municipal building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at which time and place bids will be opened and read in public for:

CONSTRUCTION OF DETECTIVES FACILITY

Specifications and other bid information may be obtained at the Clark's office in the municipal building at the above address during regular business hours 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Said cost per set of plans/specifications for this bid will be \$75.

A mandatory bidders' conference will be held on Friday, Sept. 24 at 10 a.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1972, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27 et seq.), the New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act, N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.25, Employment on Public Works N.J.S.A. 10:2. EOE, ADA

Vincent Buttiglieri, Municipal Clerk

\$33.25 September 17, 2004

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY**

LEGAL NOTICE

September 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 September 9, 2004.

A. Case #45-03-200 Helen Street, Block 480; Lot 1. The applicant's request that the transfer of title and possession to the premier buses and coaches be permitted at this location was hereby GRANTED with voluntary conditions.

B. Case #47-04-Robert and Susan Jonas, Block 61; Lot 23; 601 E. Hendricks Blvd. The applicant's request for a front yard setback variance from Terrace Ave. to construct a garage and an in-ground pool was hereby GRANTED.

C. Case #53-04/TJ-200 Helen Street, Block 480; Lot 1. The applicant's request to withdraw this application without prejudice was hereby GRANTED.

D. Case #55-04-John Pilla, Block 529; Lot 3; 1300 Durham Ave. The applicant's request for a variance to permit a wood storage shed was hereby GRANTED with voluntary conditions.

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

\$35.00 September 17, 2004

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY**

Public Notice

RETURN OF PERFORMANCE BOND

To Northeast Developers, Inc., for public improvement at 402 Tremont Ave. Lot 8.04; Block 347.

A public meeting has been scheduled by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield to hear objections, if any, to the release of a Performance Bond posted by Northeast Developers, Inc. for public improvements at 402 Tremont Ave., known as Lot 8.04; Block 347 listed on the official tax maps of the Borough of South Plainfield. Said public hearing will be held on Oct. 4, 2004 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

Northeast Developers, Inc.
737 New Durham Road
Edison, NJ 08817

\$35.00 September 17, 2004

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY**

Public Notice

RETURN OF PERFORMANCE BOND

To Satellite Builders, L.L.C. for public improvements at 1434 Clinton Avenue in South Plainfield, Lot 15, Block 137.02.

A public meeting has been scheduled by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield to hear objections, if any, to the release of a Performance Bond posted by Satellite Builders, L.L.C. for public improvements at 1434 Clinton Avenue in South Plainfield know as Lot 15, Block 137.02 listed on the official tax maps of the Borough of South Plainfield. Said public hearing will be held October 4, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

Satellite Builders L.L.C.
192 Rt. 22 West
Green Brook, NJ 08812

\$35.00 September 17, 2004

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Obituaries

Robert V. Knight,
"Vern," 57

Robert V. Knight, "Vern," died on Tuesday, Sept. 7 at JFK Haven Hospice in Edison.

Born and raised in Kentucky, Vern entered the Navy during the Vietnam War before moving to South Plainfield.

He owned and operated his own business for 33 years in Plainfield. Vern served as an Elder of Evangelism in the Middlesex Presbyterian Church in Middlesex and he was a loving husband and father to his family.

Surviving are his wife, Lorraine Faye (nee Stocker); two daughters, Vernice and Michelle; three sons, Edward, Robert and David; five sisters, Minnie Rose, Carolyn, Phyllis Jean, Patricia and Jacqueline Louise; four brothers, Gordon, Bill, Daniel and John and two grandchildren, Kasey and Helena.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the family will be appreciated.

Julie McDonald-Gibbs, 59

Julie McDonald-Gibbs lost her brief battle with cancer on Sunday, Sept. 5 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Julie emigrated from England in 1983 and worked for Haworth International in New York City as a Graphics Designer and website editor.

Born in Chesterfield Derbyshire, England, Julie was raised in Scarborough, England, where she attended the local high school and

graduated from Scarborough Technical College.

At home she was a keen gardener and loved animals and nature. Julie was wed on June 15, 2004 on an idyllic Caribbean Island.

Surviving are her mother, Ivy Hennell; a son, James McDonald, both of England and her husband, Ellsworth "Butch" Gibbs of South Plainfield.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, New Jersey Division, 846 Main St., Fords, NJ 08818.

Florence E. (Rahn)
Raymond, 91

Florence E. (Rahn) Raymond died on Saturday, Sept. 11 in Haven Hospice at JFK Medical Center, Edison.

Born in Rochester, New York, she has been a life long resident of Jersey City. She and her husband had been the owners of the former Red & Bob's Tavern in Jersey City.

Her husband, Robert, died in 1976. She is also predeceased by her two sons, Robert and Allen; two sisters, Dorothy Kaufman and Dolores Verpeut; a brother, Clement Rahn and one grandchild.

Surviving are three daughters, Barbara Wynkoop of Creskill, Arline Reardon of South Plainfield and Jean Raymond of Long Branch and two sons, Ronald and Brian, both of South Plainfield.

In addition she is survived by 14 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Business &

<p>AUTOBODY</p> <p>SULLIVAN'S AUTO BODY</p> <p>BodyShop Lic. #02313A</p> <p>Hours Mon-Fri 8am-5pm</p> <p>2210 Hamilton Blvd. South Plainfield New Jersey 07080</p> <p>908-757-5100 Fax: 908-757-3105</p> 	<p>CARPET/FLOORING</p> <p>Quality Workmanship • 20 Years Experience</p> <p>Kelly Carpet</p> <p>Personalized Shop-at-Home Service</p> <p>Quality Carpet for your Home or Office</p> <p>Phone/Fax 908-226-1999 Mobile 908-672-9686</p> <p>Serving Somerset, Hunterdon, Middlesex & Monmouth Counties</p> <p>PETE KELLY Owner</p>
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SOUTH PLAINFIELD IS ACCEPTING applications for full-time and part-time 9-1-1 Telecommunicators. Applicants must be able to multi-task and customer service oriented. Please call (908) 226-7673.

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Sat & Sun, Sept. 25-26
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Submitted by Marcia Lubansky

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40 Days of Purpose Kicks Off Next Week

When Grace Alliance Church in Piscataway launches its "40 Days of Purpose Campaign" Sept. 25, it will join a worldwide network of thousands of churches.

At the center of the campaign is the fastest-selling hard cover nonfiction book in history. *The Purpose Driven Life* has sold more than 16 million copies since the book's release in 2002. Inspired by remarkable stories of spiritual renewal and growth, an estimated 13,000 churches from 60 denominations have experienced the purpose-driven phenomena based on this best-selling book.

During the 40 Days of Purpose Campaign at Grace Alliance Church, the truths about God's five purposes for people, which are worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry, and evangelism, will be communicated repeatedly in six ways:

1. An all-church Simulcast seminar on Saturday, Sept. 25 at 5 p.m.
 2. A weekly message by the pastor.
 3. A personal or family daily devotional reading.
 4. A weekly Scripture memory verse that everyone memorizes.
 5. A weekly small group or Sunday school lesson.
 6. A daily e-mail of encouragement.
- "People will hear about God's purposes for their lives in many different formats," Pastor Mark Kincade said. "This will allow for the truths to sink deeper into hearts, which is essential for any permanent life change. Jesus said 'If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give it up for me, you will find it.'"

All CDs circulate freely for two weeks.

A Full Fall Lineup

Children's programming starts up again on Tuesday, Oct. 5. The same program of stories and a craft is offered at 3 different times for your convenience: Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., and Thursdays at 1:15 p.m. The "Books 'n Babies" program starts on Friday, Oct. 8 at 10:30 a.m. This program meets every Friday (except the first Friday of each month), and is designed for infants and children up to three years of age. On Oct. 4, join Practical Craft instructor, Ronda Wisniewski, for another in our series of "Make-and-Take" craft programs at 10:30 a.m. A collage "memory box" is the featured project. A nominal material fee is charged and you MUST register. Check our online calendar for more future events.

Where is the town of "Nowhere" located?

The answer to this question and many other trivia questions can be found in our "Fun Facts" database. By the way, Nowhere is a town in Oklahoma!

Visit your library. Discover and grow.



Fire Damages Garfield Ave. Home

The South Plainfield Police and Fire departments responded to a fire at the Kertes residence on Garfield Ave. last Wednesday at approximately 2:30 a.m.

The unoccupied portion of the

mother/daughter home received heavy smoke, fire and water damage. The main portion of the dwelling, occupied by the owners, sustained smoke and water damage.

No one was injured in the blaze.

The occupants are currently staying at a local hotel.

The cause of the fire is under investigation by the South Plainfield Police Dept.

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<p>LADIES' & MISSES' JACKETS</p> <p>BY BOSIDENG USA</p> <p>With Faux-Fur Collars</p> <p>\$26.99</p>	<p>LADIES' ASSORTED SWEATERS</p> <p>Reg. & Plus Sizes Short Or Long-Sleeve</p> <p>STARTING AT</p> <p>\$5.99</p>	<p>MISTY HARBOUR ALL-WEATHER COATS WITH HOOD</p> <p>Plus Sizes Available</p> <p>STARTING AT</p> <p>\$13.99</p>
		<p>LADIES' RIBBED TURTLENECKS</p> <p>BY CAROLYN TAYLOR</p> <p>100% Acrylic Assorted Sizes & Colors</p> <p>\$8.99</p>



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