

# South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 8, NO. 20

50 CENTS

JANUARY 21, 2005



Pictured are Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholarship Award winners Dawn Besser, Christina DiFrancesco, Allison DiMeglio, Jonathan Donahue, Jessica Manning, Christopher McKnight, Stephanie Miller, Kathleen Morgan, Valerie Pasquarella, Amanda Prybella, Sara Sukenik and Kelly Thomas, along with Director of Guidance William Beegle and Principal Dr. Ken May.

## SPHS Announces 2005-2006 Bloustein Distinguished Scholars

South Plainfield High School is pleased to announce the current seniors who are recipients of the Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholarship Award from the Garden State Scholarship Program.

The criteria for these high achieving students is that they rank in the top 10 percent of their class and have a minimum combined SAT score of 1260, or are ranked first, second or third in their class at the end of their junior year. In New Jersey more than

5,000 Distinguished Scholars received an award offer for the 2005-2006 collegiate academic year. Distinguished Scholars are offered an annual award of \$1,000 without regard to financial need. Students must attend an undergraduate program at a New Jersey college or university. The award is renewable for each of the four years.

The Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA), an independent agency of the State of New Jersey, administers the Garden

State Scholarship Program, which includes the Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar and Urban Scholar awards. Each year more than 7,000 students statewide receive scholarships in recognition of their high level of academic achievement. Students may use these awards to continue their education at state institutions of higher education.

For more information about HESAA's programs call (800) 792-8670 or visit [www.hesaa.org](http://www.hesaa.org).

## Former Resident Arrested For Decades Old Murder

Chief Helps Plainfield Solve 21-Year-Old Crime

By Jane Dornick

Special detailed information provided by South Plainfield Police Chief John Ferraro helped the Union County Prosecutor's Office bring a wanted man to justice in one of the county's longest open murder cases.

Domenico Anastario, 44, formerly of South Plainfield, was charged last Wednesday with first degree murder. He is being held on \$500,000 bail at the Union County Jail in the shooting death of 22 year-old Marcus Jones of Plainfield on Nov. 28, 1983.

Ferraro was just a two-year veteran of the South Plainfield Police Dept. when he was flagged down by a woman who reported a shooting several blocks away. Upon arriving



Domenico Anastario, pictured in 1978.

at Kleen Car Wash, now Quickway Car Wash on Clinton Ave. in Plainfield, Ferraro found Jones, who had been shot in the side, and his friend, who had also been wounded. These were the first shooting victims that Ferraro encountered in his short career. He immediately performed CPR, however, Jones died several hours later at Muhlenberg Hospital and his friend survived.

(Continued on page 10)



Education Foundation President Marge Reedy and Joe Papa, this year's honorary chairman, prepare for Saturday night's art auction.

## Education Foundation Art Auction Saturday

By Patricia Abbott

This Saturday the South Plainfield Education Foundation will hold their tenth annual art auction. Proceeds from the event will fund scholarships and other foundation sponsored programs. This year's honorary chairman, Joe Papa, is no stranger to South Plainfield schools. As a DARE Police officer for six years Joe befriended hundreds of students and their parents. He has been on the local police force for 16 years.

Foundation President Marge Reedy said, "Each year we discuss different people who work with the students in South Plainfield. This year Officer Papa was at the top of our list."

Papa doesn't talk much about himself. His wife Marty helped filled in some of the more important details about her husband. Papa always dreamed of becoming a police officer. When he joined the South Plainfield Police Department in 1989 it was truly a dream come true. The road to get there however, was a long one.

He spent four years as a military police officer in the U.S. Marine Corps. This was followed by a series of diversified jobs, but all the while he yearned to be a policeman. Over the years, Joe worked in auto sales, had a printing company and became a licensed hairdresser. He worked in a steel mill for nine years before applying for a position as a police officer with the borough. While at the police academy, Joe received an award from the Attorney General's Office, and his classmates voted him "the officer they'd most like to ride with." Marty explained, "I think it had to do with trust, after spending time with him at the academy they felt they trusted him to protect both the public and his partner."

When Joe quit the steel mill and accepted a position as an officer, he willingly accepted a huge pay cut, about half, to finally make his dream a reality.

Marty, who owns Carousel Salon on Oak Tree Ave., will be unable to attend the auction.

(Continued on page 5)

## Jamieson, Boley Qualify For GMC Individual Finals

Out of a field of 162 girls and 200 boys, the Tigers placed two of their own in the GMC Individual Bowling Finals to be held next Wednesday at Carolier Lanes.

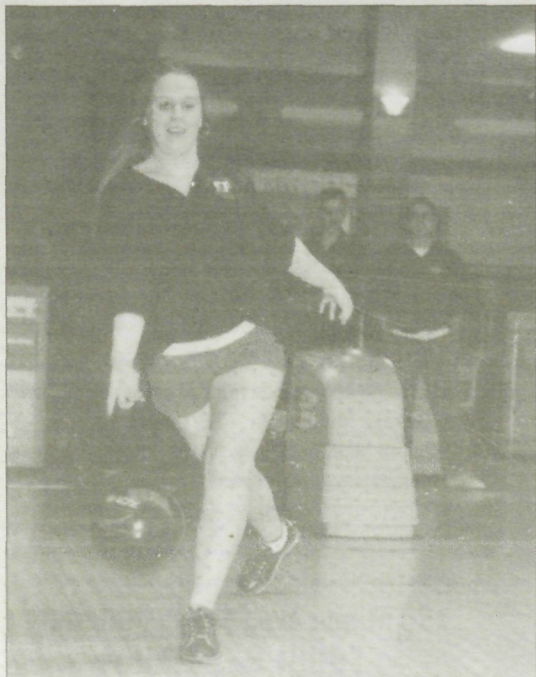
SPHS Junior Beverly Jamieson rolled games of 189-195-181 for a 565 set, which placed her in the 16<sup>th</sup>

qualifying position.

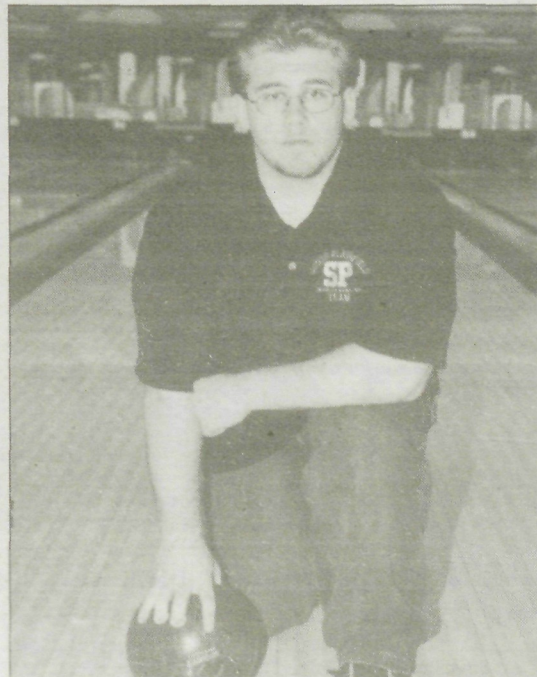
Senior Matt Boley fired games of 214-178-229 for a 621 set and 19<sup>th</sup> place. Only the top 20 girls and boys qualify for an additional three games and the top five continue on in a stepladder head-to-head round to determine the individual cham-

pionship.

Juniors Daryl Valerio and Vin Genova also turned in exceptional performances. Daryl's 235-182-202—619 set missed the cut by only two wins, and Vinnie's 232-175-200—607 set was short by just 14 pins. Nice bowling, Tigers!



SPHS Junior Beverly Jamieson



SPHS Senior Matt Boley



## Mark Your Calendars

Log on to  
southplainfieldnj.com  
for the latest meeting agenda

### council meetings

Borough Hall Council Chambers

Meets twice a month on the first and third Tuesday

Borough Hall Council Chambers • Questions? 908-226-7605

| Date        | Agenda Meeting | Public Meeting |
|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| February 1  | 7:00 p.m.      | 8:00 p.m.      |
| February 15 | 7:00 p.m.      | 8:00 p.m.      |
| March 1     | 7:00 p.m.      | 8:00 p.m.      |
| March 15    | 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, \*except where noted.

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

Jan. 25, Feb. 8, Feb. 22, March 8, March 22, April 12, April 26, May 10, May 24, June 14, June 28, July 5\*, July 19\*, Aug. 16\*, Aug. 30\*, Sept. 13, Sept. 27, Oct. 11, Oct. 25, Nov. 29\*, Dec. 13, Dec. 27.

### zoning board of adjustment

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month, \*except where noted.

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

Jan. 27, Feb. 10, Feb. 24, March 10, March 24, April 14, April 28, May 12, May 26, June 9, June 23, July 14, July 28, Aug. 11, Aug. 25, Sept. 8, Sept. 22, Oct. 13, Oct. 27, Nov. 10\*, Dec. 8, Dec. 22.

### board of education meetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted

Committee of the Whole meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Feb. 8, March 8 and April 5

Regular Board Meeting Tuesdays at 8 p.m.—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.

Feb. 15, March 15, April 19, May 17, June 21, July 19,

Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Dec. 20.

### 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

Jan. 25, Feb. 22, March 22, April 26, May 24, June 28, Sept. 27, Oct. 25, Nov. 7 and Dec. 13.

### environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)

Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7621

### 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. January 31 (No meeting February) and March 21

## SmartBoard Technology a Positive Advancement

According to high school special education teacher, Kevin Hajduk, the use of a SmartBoard in the classroom is another positive advancement of incorporating technology into all the core content standards. As we envision the future of education for all students, we accept that they will be forced to recognize their position in a technological world. What better time and place but in a classroom to expose students to such a powerful way of learning kinesthetically?

With a SmartBoard in the classroom, students are exposed to templates and webquests directly from the Internet and with this exposure, students consistently understand the importance of using the Internet in education. The interactive whiteboard provides background knowledge with its graphics and visual approach to teaching. All of the students in the classroom are engaged in learning since they must interact by touching the screen and writing their answers on the board.

In Hajduk's classroom, the SmartBoard is used to reinforce difficult concepts in mathematics and science. At times, students are able to watch online tutoring sessions which attempt to re-



Spanish teacher Shannon Sullivan, history teacher Ken Skillman and Assistant Principal Kelly Panuzzo standing in front of a SmartBoard.

inforce what is being taught for the lesson. The students enjoy review games, interactive maps and worksheets that can be saved after the lesson is finished. Saving notes and lessons on the SmartBoard is beneficial to all learners when it's time to review a concept of a branching lesson or for upcoming tests.

The opportunities of using a

SmartBoard in the classroom are endless. The use of laptops and computers in the schools has given students the opportunity to incorporate their technological awareness into their learning and using a SmartBoard is more interactive and meaningful for their future learning. The SmartBoard is a great way to assist students' learning in every classroom.

## IN YOUR OPINION

To the Editor,

One of the most difficult problems facing historic preservation in New Jersey today is the destruction of historic and archaeological sites on public lands by looters intent upon acquiring artifacts to enhance private collections or to sell on the antiquities market. Acting governor Richard Codey has recently signed into law legislation that will go a long way toward helping authorities address this problem.

This legislation, now being referred to as the Archaeological Resources Protection Act, was sponsored by Senator Barbara Buono and Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan.

I'm sure that I speak for the entire archaeological community in New Jersey in thanking these legislators for their efforts to preserve the history and heritage of the people of New Jersey.

**LARRY RANDOLPH**

Dear Editor,

On behalf of all the Lady Tigers High School Basketball Teams and their parents, we would like to say thank you to AKA Silk Screening, Inc., for donating the most creative and attractive sixth man t-shirts for all three levels of high school girls' basketball teams. Also, thank you for the three levels of high school boys' teams. There was an extra bonus of t-shirts given out to the first 300 students that attended the home boys' basketball

### Submit Letters to the Editor:

Letters may be submitted to the Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or fax 908-668-8819 or by email: spobserver@comcast.net. 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.

game. Then, last week, the same bonus was given to the students attending the girls' game, too! What an extraordinary gift! The girls received their Lady Tiger t-shirts (vibrantly silk-screened differently than the boys') on Tuesday, Jan. 12. Immediately, they decided as a team to wear them to school on Wednesday with dignity and pride. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Allow me to extend this gratitude a little further—Michael Alloco, owner of AKA, looks for no accolades or strings attached to his generous giving. If you know Mike, as big as he is...his heart is even bigger! He continuously volunteers his time and talents to several of South Plainfield's athletic teams. Mike is always looking for an opportunity to wholeheartedly support the South Plainfield High School teams and students in any way.

He truly puts kids first and makes them look their best! Thank you so very much for all that you do, for so many of us. We love you! XOXO!

**MAY GOD RICHLY BLESS YOU,  
CHARISSE MIGLIS, SOUTH  
PLAINFIELD LADY TIGER PARENT**

Dear Business Owners:

The South Plainfield Parents Ponytail Association has always appreciated your help. This year, once again your help is needed. Although the league is run by the Recreation Department, their primary responsibilities is scheduling games and providing umpires. Our association, with the help of sponsors, donations and fundraisers, attempts to take the program further. We provide scholarships, uniforms, awards and an end-of-the year party.

We can offer you a four- by eight-foot sign designed by you and displayed on the outfield fence. Your sign will reach hundreds of local families all season long. We would like to assure you that the funds go directly to benefit the girls of South Plainfield. With your support we will again have a successful and fun filled season.

If interested, please contact Mark Sutherland at (908) 754-5283 for more information. We thank you in advance.

**SINCERELY,  
THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
PARENTS PONYTAIL  
ASSOCIATION**

## South Plainfield Observer

The South Plainfield Observer is published every Friday

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

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The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

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The South Plainfield Observer (U.S.P.S. 018253) is published weekly, except Thanksgiving week, by G&G Graphics Inc. 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080-2004. Second class postage paid at South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080-9998. POSTMASTER: Forward change of address orders to G&G Graphics Inc. 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080-2004. Subscription rates \$25 per year in South Plainfield; \$30 per year out of town. To subscribe: 908-668-0010.

### 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

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**150 Maple Ave., South Plainfield  
(908) 561-8300**

Hours: Mon-Fri 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.





Rescue Squad Captain Ed Laferrera presents an award to Kim Bulla during the installation of officers dinner held recently. Bulla is the first rescue squad member to receive a Five Year Award under the First Responder program.

From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

By Chris Grippio

We are now entering the depths of winter. The forecast for the next few weeks is for below normal temperatures and maybe even some snow. So if you can't escape the weather by going south why not read some books set in warmer climates. For example Florida is the setting for Carl Hiaasen, Randy Wayne White and Edna Buchanan's books and of Barbara Parker's *Suspicion of Innocence*. Elizabeth Lowell's *Midnight in Ruby Bayou* fairly exudes the steaminess of Southern hot summer nights.

We have videos that can take you to hot spots, whether they be travel videos to such exotic locales as Egypt, the Congo, Tanzania, Greece, Florida, etc., or movies that range from India (*Gandhi*) to Africa (*Jewel of the Nile*) to the South (*Gone With the Wind*). And that's just scratching the surface.

And don't forget about music. Why not throw a Beach Party in January?

We have all types of summer music from the Beach Boys to Dick Clark's Number 1s. And you can find hints on creative cooking in our cookbook section. Just stop by the Reference Desk and we will help you plan out your party!

So the Library has a lot of ways to help you through the winter. And remember we have hundreds of movies, hundreds of music CDs and thousands of books to choose from.

Miss Linda also has her regular storytime/craft programs on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. for children three and up and her Books n' Babies program at 10:30 on Friday morning.

Finally, the Friends of the South Plainfield Public Library are raffling off a basket of goodies. The basket is on display in the Library and tickets are \$1. The winning ticket will be selected on Feb. 28 but tickets are on sale now. See you at the Library!

## Schools Collecting for Tsunami Victims

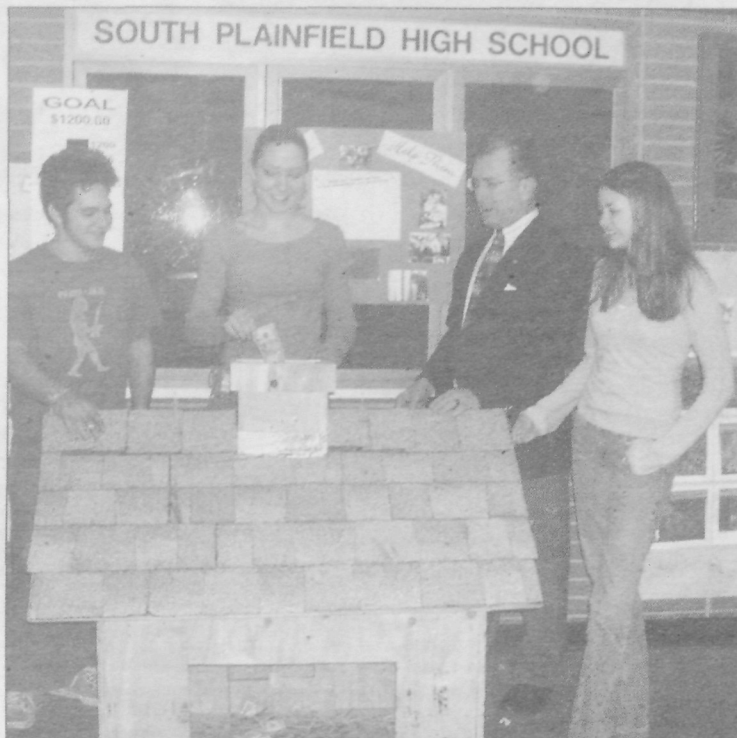
By Jane Dornick

The South Plainfield school district has collectively been seeking monetary donations for the surviving victims of the tsunami disaster which struck so many nations in Asia on December 26.

The elementary schools are conducting fundraising events, while the Middle School and Grant Central are holding "Penny Wars" between the various grades.

The high school, under the direction of the Student Leadership Group and Habitat for Humanity will receive all of the money collected throughout the school system and donate it to the Habitat for Humanity national group. The High School Student Council, the International Club, the FCCLA and the Asian Cultural Club have taken the lead by collecting funds in all home-rooms. They will also be taking donations at the basketball games and wrestling matches on Jan. 24, 25 and 27.

High school students Gerry Butrico and Joey Lammi, members of the Habitat for Humanity group, built a miniature wooden house in which all of the donations are being placed. Student Leadership Advisor Mary Ellen



Left to right SPHS students Joey Lammi, Amanda Veinott and Katie Pollock, along with Assistant Vice Principal Steve Novak, keep tabs on the amount of money raised so far for the tsunami victims.

Markto is helping to coordinate the fundraising activities at the schools

which will end around the first of February.

## School Board Candidacy Information Available

The deadline for filing nominating petitions to run for positions on the South Plainfield Board of Education is 4 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 28, Robert H. Davis, South Plainfield's business administrator, announced this week. The election is scheduled for Tuesday, April 19, 2005.

Prospective school board candidates can obtain a "School Board Candidate Kit" at the local school district office, located at 125 Jackson Ave., between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily. Published by the New Jersey School Boards Association, the School Board Candidate Kit includes information about legal qualifications for school board candidacy, campaign procedures and the role of the school board member. Information about the New Jersey School Ethics Act, important dates in the school election process and briefing sessions for school board candidates are also included in the kit.

"School board membership is a

meaningful way to make a contribution to your community and its schools," said James J. Dougherty, Jr., NJSBA president. "I urge all qualified citizens to consider board of education membership. Serving on your

local school board doesn't require a degree in education. The most important attribute a candidate can bring to office is a sincere interest in the community, its children and their education."

## Midco Residential Services Renews Metuchen Rd. Adoption

Joe Vitulli, General Manager of Midco Residential Services on Harmich Road, has signed a new contract with the South Plainfield Clean Business Association to re-adopt the stretch of road between their transfer station and the Belmont Avenue intersection with Metuchen Road. Midco has completed three years in the Adopt-A-Spot program. A crew goes out regularly to pick up any cardboard or other waste from the roadside. In addition, Midco has contracted with a street sweeper to clean the roadway

twice a month and a landscaping service to control weeds along the road during the growing season.

Midco has volunteered to dispose of all the litter they collect, as well as litter collected by any other Adopt-A-Spot participants free of charge. They donated free disposal of all the trash collected during the 2004 spring Volunteer Litter Cleanup Week.

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

### Pamper Yourself in Our Newly Redecorated Full Service Salon

#### "The Carousel Facial"

Includes skin analysis, cleansing, hot towels, steam, peel, extraction, massage of the face, decollete & mask—customized to the client's needs \$50, no hidden costs. Call for appt.

#### "The Carousel Manicure"

Choose from either the "Hot Oil" manicure, complete with hand and arm massage or a "Paraffin Dip" and regular manicure...\$16 Seniors \$15 • Paraffin Dip Only-\$7

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"The Carousel Pedi"

Call for details.

307 Oak Tree Ave.

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Stop in and see for yourself, your children & grandchildren

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- Compensatory/Supplemental Services
- Cheerleading (K-8)
- Cross Country (4-8)
- Girls' Softball (5-8)
- Basketball (3-8)
- Track (K-8)
- Physical Education
- Music Theory & Instrumental Music
- Children's Choir
- Library
- Hot Lunch Program
- Art
- DARE Program (5)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL

School: 908-756-0632 ext. 32 or 33 Convent: 908-756-0631 Parish Center: 908-756-0633 ext. 10

Sister Mary Nadine Boyle, RSM  
Principal

Rev. John Paul Alvarado  
Pastor

Academic excellence, faithful witness to Christian morals and values,  
and spiritual formation in the Catholic tradition

SINCE 1953

We can thankfully speak the Holy Name of Jesus Christ in this school, and we do!

Charles Koestner

# HAPPY 80<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY!

December 20, 2004

"You made it look so easy"

To the most understanding father,  
Love Janie (Your Favorite)  
Also Bob and Stephanie Goldstone, Sam the Squirrel  
and don't forget Diamond.  
"GO NAVY"



# Around Town

## VFW to Hold Dinner

January 21

VFW Post #6763, located at 155 Front St., will hold a dinner on Friday, Jan. 21 from 5-8 p.m. The public is welcome. For more information, please call (908) 668-9751.

## Annual Art Auction

January 22

The South Plainfield Education Foundation will be holding its annual Art Auction at the High School on Saturday, Jan. 22. Preview begins at 6:30 p.m. and the auction starts at 7:30 p.m. This year's Honorary Chairman is South Plainfield Police Officer Joe Papa, who was a DARE officer for many years.

The price is \$5 per person. Hors d'oeuvres, coffee and cake will be available and there will be a door prize. For tickets, call (908) 561-3951.

## Fire Department Annual Wine Tasting

January 22

The South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department is hosting their annual Wine Tasting, sponsored by Oak Tree Buy-Rite Liquors on Saturday, Jan. 22 from 6-11 p.m. at Embassy Suites in Piscataway. Tickets are \$40 per person and include the wine tasting reception from 6-9 p.m. and a cash bar, DJ and dancing from 9-11 p.m. Special rate hotel rooms are available.

For tickets and information, please call Mike Gallagher, (908) 755-9874; John Celentano, (908) 757-5691 or Buy-Rite Liquor, (908) 561-0051.

## SP Ponytail Parents' Monthly Meeting

January 25

The South Plainfield Ponytail Association meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the Middle School library.

Also, a reminder that Ponytail registration is ongoing at the PAL until the first week of March.

## Silver Dreams Wendy's Fundraiser

January 26-28

The SPHS Silver Dreams Winter-guard from will host a fundraising event at Wendy's, located on Oak Tree Ave., from 5-10 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, Jan. 26-28. Present this article at the time of ordering and Wendy's will donate a portion of the sales to the Silver Dreams. Thank you in advance for your participation. Feel free to call Julie at (908) 791-0294 for any additional information.

## Free Pet Dental Check-Up

January 30

The Plainfield Animal Hospital, located at 2201 Park Ave., will hold a Dental Fair on Sunday, Jan. 30 from 1-4 p.m. in celebration of National Pet

## Send Us Your Around Town Events

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

## What's happening in JANUARY

### EVENTS

Knitting/crochetting 9:30-11:30 am 24  
Yoga 10:30-11:30 am  
Drawing Class 11:30 am

March 7—Best of Branson at Hunterdon Hills

April 7—Oklahoma at NJPAC

May 19—Cactus Flower at Hunterdon Hills

Bingo 10am-2pm 25  
Ladies Social 10am  
Lunch Available

Exercise 8:30am 26  
AARP Crafts 1pm  
Computer Class 10 am  
11:30 am, 1pm

Weekly Shopping 27  
Pathmark 9am  
Practical Crafts 10am  
Computer Class  
11am & 1pm

Bingo 10am-2pm 28  
Lunch Available

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

Daily Events  
9-11 AM Coffee & Cake  
9 AM-4 PM Cards & Pool  
(908) 754-1047

## Senior Center EVENTS

The Senior Citizen's Center is open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.  
NOW OPEN SATURDAYS 9:00 AM-12:30 PM—CREATIVE PAINTING 10AM

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

Dental Health Month.

Festivities include free dental check-ups, discounts on future services, tooth brushing demonstrations, giveaways, contests, door prizes, refreshments and much more.

Join us for a fun and informative afternoon. For information, call (908) 755-2428 or logon to: [plainfieldanimalhosp.com](http://plainfieldanimalhosp.com). Please register by calling (908) 755-2428 by Jan. 22.

## Knights Sponsoring Spaghetti Dinner

February 5

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, Feb. 5 in the Sacred Heart Cafeteria from 5 until 8 p.m. The price is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and \$4 for children under 12. Dinner includes spaghetti and meatballs, salad, bread, dessert with coffee or tea. Proceeds benefit the Knights of Columbus Scholarship Fund. Please come out, have a delicious meal and support this worthy cause.

## Rainbow Academy Plans Open House

February 5

Rainbow Academy Child Care Center, located at 2177 Oak Tree Rd., will hold an open house on Saturday, Feb. 5, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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

You are also invited to visit the center during normal operating hours (7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday). For directions and information, visit their website at [www.rainbowacademy.com](http://www.rainbowacademy.com).

## Magician to Appear as Fundraiser

February 5

Magician and illusionist John Bundy and Morgan will be returning to the South Plainfield High School stage for one performance only on Saturday, Feb. 5. They will present their 90-minute show, Unbelievable! This is the second year the magical duo will help raise money for South Plainfield's Cub Scout Pack 207.

Show time is 12 noon. Advance tickets are just \$8 and \$10 at the door. Proceeds benefit Cub Scout Pack 207.

For more information or tickets, call Bill Butrico at (908) 561-8128.

## VFW Breakfast

February 6

VFW Post, located at 155 Front St., is holding a breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 6 from 8 to 11 a.m. The public is welcomed. All proceeds benefit the Lyons VA Hospital. For more information, please call (908) 668-9751.

## "George Washington Slept Here" Trip

February 10

On Thursday, Feb. 10, the South Plainfield Chapter of AARP will sponsor a bus trip to Hunterdon Hills Dinner Theater to see the comedy, *George Washington Slept Here*.

Price of \$62 per person covers all costs, including tax and gratuities. Call Lee at (732) 968-6613 for reservations. There are only a few seats available.

## Historical Society/Elks Valentine's Breakfast

February 13

The South Plainfield Historical Society and the South Plainfield Elks cordially invite you to an all-you-can eat breakfast on Sunday, February 13. Pancakes, French toast, bacon, eggs, sausage, home fries, toast, coffee, tea and juice will be served from 8:30 a.m. until noon at the Elks' Lodge located on New Market Ave. Prices are \$6 for adults, \$5 for children 5-12 and children under 4 are free.

For information or to reserve a table, call Kathy at (908) 754-7268.

## — Out of Town —

## Job Seekers Support Group

January 27

The NOVA Job Seekers Support Group is delighted to announce that many of last year's members have secured new jobs! We are extending an invitation to other unemployed professionals to come and join us every Thursday morning from 10-11:30 a.m. To reserve your place or for information, call Diane Markowitz at (732) 777-1940 or email [d.markowitz@jfs.org](mailto:d.markowitz@jfs.org).

## CHATS Adoption Support

January 24

CHATS (Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support) will be holding an adoption support, "The Who, What, Why and How of International Adoption," on Monday, Jan. 24 from 7:15-9:15 p.m. The discussion will be led by Martha Reading, seminar coordinator for Florida Home Studies and Adoption and mother of five children from Asia. The event takes place at Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church on Watchung Ave. in North Plainfield. Check out our website at [www.chatsnj.com](http://www.chatsnj.com) or call Alyce at (732) 227-0607 for information.

## Public Information on Bus Rapid Transit

January 25

On Tuesday, Jan. 25, public information meetings regarding Bus Rapid

Transit (BRT) will be held at the Plainsboro Municipal Building in Plainsboro. There will be two sessions, from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m.

The meetings will introduce attendees to BRT, outline the alternative analysis study process and answer questions.

For information, contact Cristina C. Fowler at (732) 745-4318.

## Talk on Therapy for Mood Disorders

January 26

On Wednesday, Jan. 26, the Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA Morristown Area) will feature Sandra Guerra, M.A., LCSW, who is a psychotherapist who treats adults and adolescents with all types of severity of mood disorders.

Visit their website at: [dbsanewjersey.org/morristownarea](http://dbsanewjersey.org/morristownarea). For information or in case of inclement weather, call (973) 994-1143.

## Community Nursery School Open House

January 27

The Community Nursery School of Metuchen invites parents and their young children to visit on Thursday, Jan. 27 from 9:30-11 a.m. or from 1-2:30 p.m. The school is located at 270 Woodbridge Ave. in Metuchen, next to the train station. Registration begins Feb. 7. Call (732) 549-5105 for additional information.

## Singles Social Meeting and Dinner

January 29

A singles social meeting and dinner will be held on Saturday, Jan. 29 at 8 p.m. at the Rockaway Hibernia Diner on Greenpond Rd. in Rockaway. \$10 service fee plus cost of whatever is ordered for dinner.

RSVP required by Jan. 28 to social coordinator at (732) 764-9073 or [angelicbutterfly@iwon.com](mailto:angelicbutterfly@iwon.com).

## Artist Reception at Metuchen Artworks

February 5

An artists' reception will be held at Metuchen Artworks on Saturday, Feb. 5 from 7 to 10 p.m. at 15 Station Pl. in Metuchen to showcase the paintings of Rita Herzfeld. Color and movement join to produce paintings that almost jump off the canvas with their energy.

For more information, contact Madeline Tolins-Schlitt at (732) 662-7403.

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

**IS THERE IS SOMEONE YOU KNOW WHO MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN SOUTH PLAINFIELD?** Let us know.

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**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's impossible to identify anyone. Please don't send us photocopies or laser prints. They don't reproduce well. Digital photos should be 150 dpi or higher.

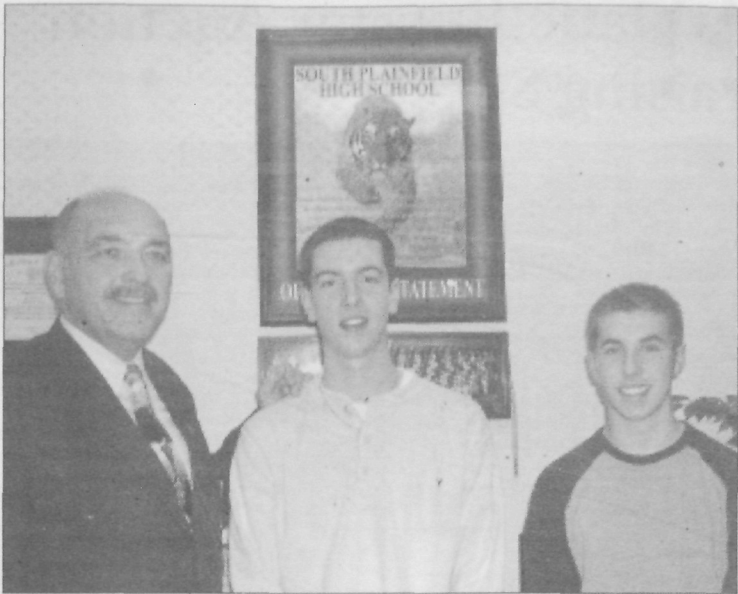
**HOW TO CONTACT US.** 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080; phone: 908-668-0010; fax: 908-668-8819 or email: [spobserver@comcast.net](mailto:spobserver@comcast.net).

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Pictured are Edison Rotary Club high school "Students of the Month" Mike Benak and Kevin Lahey, along with Principal Dr. Ken May.

## Seniors Named "Students of the Month" by Edison Rotary Club

Mike Benak and Kevin Lahey, both seniors at South Plainfield High School, were recognized by the Edison Rotary Club as "Students of the Month" at a breakfast on Jan. 12 at the Victorian Manor in Edison.

The young men were selected by the club based on their contributions to a better community. At the breakfast they were asked to read an acceptance essay discussing how they be-

gan volunteering, what they are currently involved in, who encouraged and motivated them, what they intend to do in the future and what they have learned from all of this.

The club will also hold an awards dinner in May where the students will be eligible for a scholarship award based on an essay of how volunteering has impacted them and what they will do in the future.

## Education Foundation Art Auction This Saturday

(Continued from page 1)

to attend the auction due to a prior commitment. She said, "I am proud of Joe, I love him, and wish I could be there."

His children are also very proud of their father. Daughter Annette works in Manhattan at one of the largest fabric and furniture suppliers in the country. Son Pete has followed in his father's footsteps and is a South Plainfield police officer.

Artwork for the event is provided

through Ross Galleries in Long Island. Over 150 pieces of artwork will be on display, including rare autographed items such as guitars, record albums, baseballs, photos and more.

Preview take place from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tickets, \$5, are available at the door. A wide assortment of refreshments will be served.

Why not spend an evening at the art auction and at the same time help support South Plainfield's youth!

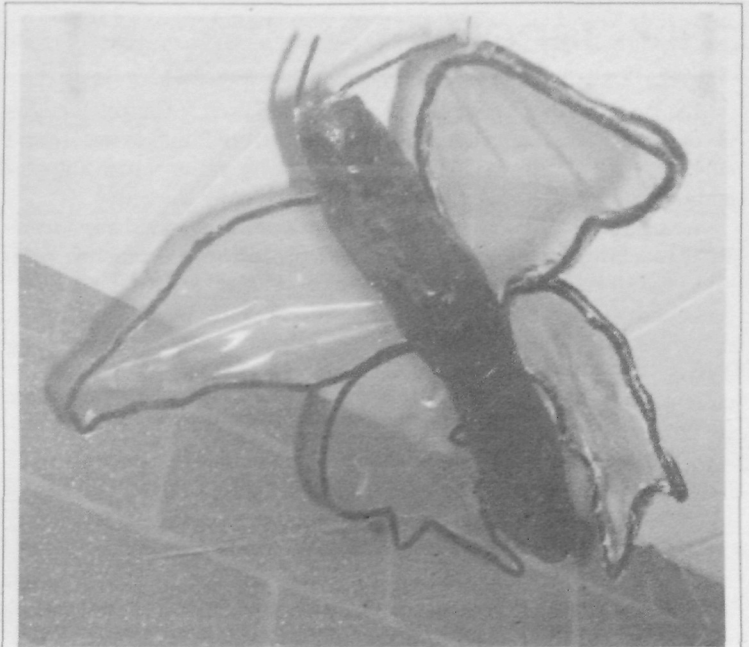
## Relive "The Pirates of Penzance"

If you missed the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop's production of "The Pirates of Penzance" last summer, or just want to relive the excellent performances of this very talented cast, you can sit back and enjoy this hit musical in your very own home.

As a fundraiser, the SPSDW is selling a DVD of the show that includes the entire show, a short feature on the program and some added extras, including their performance singing the National Anthem at Commerce Bank Ballpark for the Somerset Patriots.

The cost of the DVD is \$25 and all proceeds go toward the SPSDW.

For more information or to order a DVD, call Bill Seesselberg at (908) 756-0539.



Roosevelt School fourth grade student Gerianne Scarpitto's butterfly artwork hangs from the ceiling in the school's entranceway along with other fourth grade Language Arts Music Program (LAMP) students' artwork. Roosevelt art teacher is Glenda Posey.

## IRS Has Free Publications on Every Topic

From aardvark to zyzzyva, the IRS has a publication that covers it — free for the asking. The IRS has numerous publications on a variety of tax-related topics available by phone, fax, or the Internet at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

Are you a student seeking knowledge on the lifetime learning credit? Check out Publication 970. Are you a first-time home buyer? Information on potential deductions is housed in Publication 530.

No matter what you're looking for, you can find it by using one of these easy steps:

- Access the IRS Web site's Forms and Publications page to find what you need. Forms and publications are listed by number and then title. And there's a search feature you can use if you know the topic but not the number of

the form or publication.

- Read Publication 910, Guide to Free Tax Services, to identify the many IRS tax materials and services available to you and how, when and where to get them. Internet, telephone and fax access to tax materials, filing options, tax publications, tax education and assistance programs and tax tips are all covered in this guide.

- If you know the name or number of the form or publication you need, call the toll-free forms and publications telephone line at 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676) to place your order.

- Dial 703-368-9694 (not a toll-free call) from a fax machine to get a faxed index of frequently requested tax forms. Follow the voice prompts and key in your response. You may order up to three items in a single call. Your

order will be faxed back to you through your fax machine.

If you still can't find the information you need, call the IRS toll-free customer service line at 1-800-829-1040.

Oh, and if you plunged into the aardvark breeding business just before the bottom dropped out, or if zyzzyva weevils munched your tropical plant business into oblivion, you can read up on bankruptcy in Publication 908.

## Public Works Picking Up Christmas Trees

Employees of the Public Works Department have started picking discarded Christmas trees this week.

Residents are asked to place their Christmas trees at the curb. Pickups will continue through January.

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Woodbridge: 732-726-3646  
Coming Soon Whippany: 973-386-5520  
Coming Soon Rutherford: 201-372-0049

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\* programs and activities may vary by school

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## police report

- On Jan. 11 Arthur L. Matthews, 33, of Piscataway was arrested for numerous outstanding warrants and resisting arrest at a motor vehicle stop.
- James Ball, 35, of Somerville was arrested for driving while suspended, driving an unregistered vehicle and several outstanding warrants at a motor vehicle stop. Passenger Debra Colavito, 49, of Flemington was arrested for hindering apprehension and an outstanding warrant.
- Michelle A. Williams, 40, of Plainfield was arrested for driving while suspended and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.
- On Jan. 12 Abdul A. Rehman, 36, of Roselle was arrested for having no front license plate and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.
- John P. Healy, 44, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated and careless driving during a motor vehicle stop.
- On Jan. 14 Angel Tipan, 44, of Newark was arrested at the DMV for possession of fraudulent documents to obtain a driver's license.

- On Jan. 15 Chakei Wendell Chavies, 19, of Plainfield was arrested for speeding and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.
- Ciccio's Pizza on Maple Ave. reported receiving a counterfeit \$100 bill.
- On Jan. 17 Acsani Odior Jr., 21, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.
- Marlon J. Moorman, 34, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.
- Cheryl M. Bizer, 36, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving an unregistered vehicle and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.
- Ahjahnia Hall, 27, of Plainfield was arrested for driving while suspended and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.
- Golden West Paper Converting on Helen St. reported that there were tire tracks on the front lawn of their business and a large portion of the lawn was torn up.

## South Plainfield Historical Society Offering Scholarship

The South Plainfield Historical Society is offering an annual scholarship to college bound seniors who have exhibited an interest in state or local history.

Applicants must be South Plainfield residents. Students must describe why he/she should be considered for the scholarship and write a brief essay on any topic relating to

state or local history.

The Historical Society scholarship form is available in the Guidance Office and is due back in the office on or before Apr. 21.

Access the Historical Society web page at: <http://geocities.com/sphistorical> or e-mail the society at [SPHistoricalSoc@cs.com](mailto:SPHistoricalSoc@cs.com) for more information.

## High School Athletic Booster Auction A Huge Fundraising Success

by Patricia Abbott

On Jan. 8, the South Plainfield High School Athletic Booster Club held their Annual Sports Auction. Over 100 people attended the event which featured more than 110 prizes. Each high school sports team donated a basket. There were also donations from many area businesses and parents.

Each participant received 25 white tickets with their admission. Additional tickets ranged from three for \$5 to 10 for \$5. There were also 50-50 tickets available. After depositing tickets in the prize of choice, the auction-goers set up their tables for a fun-filled evening of wishing and waiting.

Some tables held a lone bag of chips and bottle of soda, while the more experienced attendees brought coolers of beverages and set up spreads of gourmet goodies. While newcomers to the auction fumbled with strips of tickets, the regulars had theirs organized for easy access. Throughout the night cheers and sighs rose from the crowd as prize after prize was claimed or lost.

The most sought after prizes were; a mini I-Pod, 27" TV, DVD player and two 26" sport bicycles.

Committee member Mickey Wrublewski commented, "This year's auction was very successful and the proceeds are going to benefit all South Plainfield High School athletes."

The event was organized by the Sports Auction Committee: Connie Besser, Debbie Boyle, Ginny Butrico, Chet Czaplinski, Pat Fabino, Janet George, John George, Sherry Hardy, Kathie Keller, Debbie Lykes, Kevin Lykes, Carissa Peppard, Helen Salerno, Carol Ulloa, Mary Wiczorek, Mickey Wrublewski and Nicole Wrublewski. Co-Presidents of the Booster Club are Connie Besser and her brother Chet Czaplinski.



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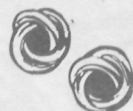
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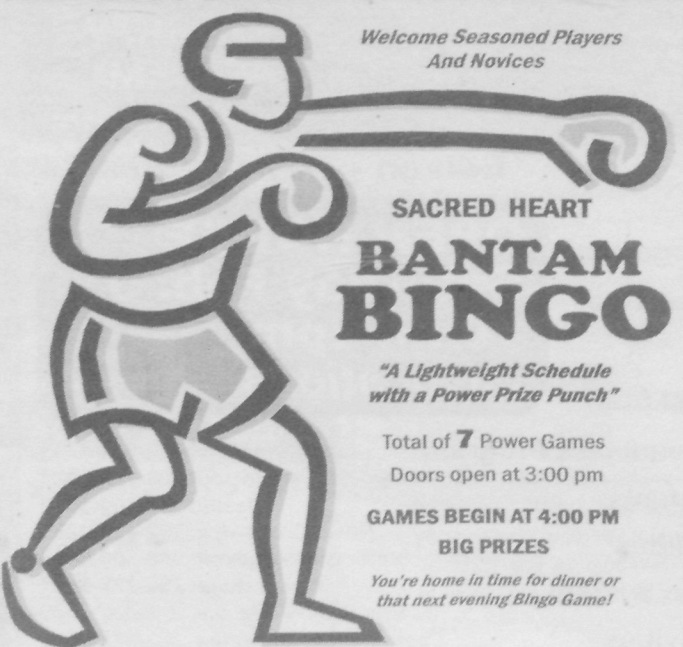
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## southplainfieldpeople Milestones



Pictured (left to right): Partner Robert M. Longo, AIA, Candice Longo, Partner Michael G. Soriano, AIA, Jacklyn Buczek, Partner Robert F. Barranger, AIA, Frank T. Delligetti, Assoc. AIA, Astrafreet, Marco Migliaro, Vito Tamborrino, AIA, Patrick J. Fucci, Assoc. AIA and Firm Associate Eric J. Giuliano, AIA.

### Cornerstone Named Firm of the Year

Cornerstone Architectural Group, LLC, has received the Architectural Firm of the Year Award from the New Jersey Society of Architects. The entire firm attended the awards gala hosted at the Newark Museum on Jan. 8. Firm partners Robert F. Barranger, AIA, Robert M. Longo, AIA and Michael G. Soriano, AIA accepted the award on behalf of the entire staff.

The award is based on professional, community and technical accomplishments. Cornerstone was recognized for the firm's major accomplishments in the field of architecture and distinguished professional service and personal community service.

Current Cornerstone design projects include the new Plainfield Animal Hospital, currently under construction, the new Springfield Police Headquarters Building and the expansion of the Scotch Plains YMCA.

Recently ranked by *NJ Biz Magazine* as one of New Jersey's top 50 architectural design firms, Cornerstone Architectural Group provides professional design services in architecture, contract interiors, land planning and construction management. The firm employs a staff of 11 at its South Plainfield office. The firm specializes in design excellence for public and commercial buildings.

### Alison Butrico Graduates from Miami University

Alison Butrico, daughter of Bill and Sue Butrico of Pershing Place, graduated from the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Fla. on Dec. 16, 2004. Alison received a Bachelor of Science degree in Communications, double majoring in Motion Pictures and Political Science. She was a 2001 graduate of South Plainfield High School.

During the past three years, Alison has been a coxswain for the women's rowing team, copy editor of the yearbook, a student orientation leader, a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma and the Cinematic Arts Commission. Three of her student films have been selected to appear in the Canes Film Festival, a showcase of the top student films at the University of Miami. She also served as a student volunteer for the first presidential debate this past



Alison Butrico

fall, where she was in charge of handling and directing the Media and undergoing interviews for the foreign press. Honors include making the Dean's List, as well as earning Provost's Honor Roll status.

During her junior year, Alison studied abroad at the University of Wollongong in Australia, where she studied international relations and politics. She traveled extensively throughout Australia and also visited the Fiji Islands, where she lived with native families. Alison will now be working in New York City with plans to continue traveling.



Park Travel Agency owner Gary Loupassakis and Karen Kenny.

### Park Travel Agency Celebrating 40 Years

Park Travel Agency, located at 2119 Park Ave., celebrated their 40th anniversary. The agency opened on Jan. 2, 1965 by owners Jeanne and George Loupassakis. In 1967, their son Gary Loupassakis joined the firm. He took ownership in 1974 and still owns Park Travel today. Park Travel currently employs 20 full and part time agents. Over the year, the combined agency volume has grown from less than \$50,000 to over \$6,500,000.

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For information, call (908) 756-3800 or visit [www.parktravel.com](http://www.parktravel.com).

### Peloquin named to Dean's High Honors List at Marietta College

Marietta College junior Matthew J. Peloquin, son of Linda and Thomas Peloquin of South Plainfield, has been named to the Dean's High Honors List for the fall semester.

Any full-time MC student completing at least 15 credit hours with a grade point average of 3.50 or higher in a given semester is recognized as a Dean's High Honors List student for that semester.

A graduate of South Plainfield High School, Peloquin is working toward a major in petroleum engineering.

Located in Marietta, Ohio, at the confluence of the Muskingum and Ohio rivers, Marietta College is a four-year liberal arts college. Tracing its roots to the Muskingum Academy begun in 1797, the College was officially chartered in 1835.



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# Sports

## Lady Tigers Continue Hot Streak, Crush New Brunswick

|                  |     |     |     |      |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| South Plainfield | 769 | 658 | 742 | 2159 |
| J.P. Stevens     | 863 | 854 | 718 | 2435 |
| Bishop Ahr       | 904 | 798 | 855 | 2557 |

Despite Beverly Jamieson's 179-185-191—555 high set, the Lady Tigers were swept by number 10 state ranked Trojans and absorbed a 3-1 setback to an experienced J.P. Stevens squad. Teammates Kim Gaub 158-169—461 set, Angelique Rualo 152 and freshman Katie Yon a 143 game also scored well for the Tigers.

|                  |     |     |     |      |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| South Plainfield | 762 | 776 | 724 | 2262 |
| New Brunswick    | 580 | 646 | 666 | 1866 |

The Lady Tigers posted their highest pin total of the season in a 4-0 blow out over the Zebras of New Brunswick. Beverly Jamieson paced the Tigers as she fired games of 169-188-205—562 set. Other high scores were Kim Gaub 175-168—461, Anna Ferrer 163 and rookie Jennifer Vasquez a 149 game.

**Jamieson, Boley Qualify**

**For GMC Individual Finals — see page 1.**

**Congratulations!**

## Tiger Bowlers Top Bishop Ahr and New Brunswick, But Fall to J.P. Stevens

|                  |     |     |     |      |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| South Plainfield | 834 | 995 | 914 | 2743 |
| Bishop Ahr       | 920 | 918 | 858 | 2696 |
| J.P. Stevens     | 963 | 904 | 964 | 2831 |

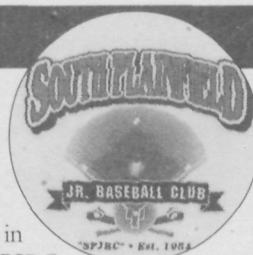
The boys' bowling team, in tri-match action, found itself trailing by approximately 100 pins after a slow state in the first game. The Tigers caught fire in the next two games to deal a 3-1 setback to the Trojans. However, the Hawks of J.P. Stevens fought off the pesky Tigers and held on for the victory. Matt Boley took scoring honors as he crossed the boards with games of 214-223-206—643 set. Vinnie Genova racked up 208-236—601 total and freshman Ryan Pauls chipped in with a 201 game.

|                  |     |     |     |      |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| South Plainfield | 942 | 851 | 937 | 2730 |
| New Brunswick    | 774 | 704 | 866 | 2344 |

On a day of low scoring conditions, the Tigers still had plenty of firepower to easily defeat the Zebras as they coasted to a 4-0 shutout victory. Matt Boley paced the Tigers with a 226 high game and a 569 hard earned set, closely followed by Vin Genova 216—557 set and Shawn Ferguson 192—548 total. Chipping in were Nick Grego 191 and George Kleinknecht's 180 games as the Tigers upped their record to 10-11-1 in the rugged White Division of the tough GMC.

By Lee Flanagan

## JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES



We just completed our sign-ups for the 2005 season. We currently have 345 kids registered, which is down 71 children from last season. Parents can still sign their kids up until Feb. 28. After that date, your child will go on a waiting list. In order to sign-up, you must call the SPJBC at (908) 754-2090 or Lee Flanagan at (732) 684-8347. The fee is \$115.

Reminder to everyone: You must have your Rutgers Certification and be a member of the club in good standing to manage and coach at the SPJBC. The Recreation Department will be sponsoring a Rutgers Certification course on Feb. 16. Please call Mike English at (908) 226-7713 for further details.

On Tuesday, Jan. 25, at 8 p.m., there will be a free coaches' clinic at the SPJBC. This clinic will feature Bill Lehman and tips on pitching. All coaches are welcome to attend. We encourage all our C-League coaches to attend this clinic.

All first and second year umpires are being asked to attend the opening training session on Thursday, Feb. 3

at 7 p.m. in the SPJBC Clubhouse. All first and second year umpires must attend this session. Call Larry Hughes, Umpire in Chief at (908) 561-9314 if you have any questions concerning umpires.

The SPJBC would like to take this time to announce the Commissioner and Lifetime Members Award winners for the 2005 season. These award winners have been selected by Commissioner Lee Flanagan and the Executive Board of the SPJBC. Lifetime Membership award winners are Tony Cassano, Dennis Kazimir and Tom Kiczula. The Commissioner's Award recipients are John Celentano, Dominic Papa and Sal Severini. Congratulations, men. You will be honored on April 9 during our opening day ceremonies.

We still have tickets for the new Mercedes. Second prize is being sponsored by First Class Travel. Tickets are now available from Nancy Salici or any executive board member. Call the SPJBC for tickets at (908) 754-2090.

## Wrestling News

By Bob Hunter

## Tiger's Rip Middlesex and Woodbridge

The High School Wrestling Team continued their winning ways by ripping Middlesex and Woodbridge in the GMC White Division action. The Tigers, coming off a big win over Hunterdon Central, had little trouble with the Blue Jays of Middlesex coasting to a 65-8 win on Tuesday night. Then on Friday night the Tigers manhandled Woodbridge 60-12.

Winning matches for the Tigers in the Middlesex match were: Patrick Hunter (103) won by tech fall over Anthony Zaccardi 16-0; Billy Ashnault (112) by a fall over Niko Kostopoulos at :28; Jimmy Conroy (119) won by major decision 13-2 over Dom Natoli; Brian Hunt (130) won by tech fall over Matt Ellery 16-0 at 4:27; Ed

McCray (135) pinned Mike Comandini at :19; Pete DeAndrea (140) pinned Yuri Shymkiv at 4:39; Nick Curcio (145) pinned Dan Lewis at 1:14; Mike Jakubik (152) won by decision 10-4 over Ryan DeNapoli; Sam Martin (171) pinned Larry Miller at 1:34; Kevin Crilley (189) pinned David Alonso at 3:06; Preston Johnson pinned Bryan Reilly at 4:31 and Rob Maistickle pinned Joe Virgillio at :18.

With the Woodbridge match starting at 145 pounds, Mike Jakubik got the Tigers going when he pinned Jerry Pohida at :45. Paul Ritchey (152) followed with a 12-6 decision over Kyle Bialick; Sam Martin pinned Wilson Kowaleski at 5:11; Kevin Crilley pinned Rick Mazolic at 4:21 and Rob Mais-

tickle (215) pinned Mike Kreisel :25. Patrick Hunter, Billy Ashnault and Jimmy Conroy all won by forfeit. Viet Vo (125) won by major decision 18-4 over Gary Griffin; Nick Dorey (130) won by tech fall 16-0 at 3:35 over Matt Buchan and Ed McCary pinned Craig Batista at 2:36. In the final match of the night Pete DeAndrea faced Joe Bubenheimer, one of the top ranked 140 pound wrestlers in New Jersey and gave him all he could handle eventually dropping a 7-4 decision.

The Tigers now 7-0 on the season will be tested this week when they face Kittatinny the number one team in New Jersey. They then travelled to Old Bridge and then to Brick Memorial.

## Middle School Wrestlers Win Three More

The Middle School wrestlers continue to both improve and win. The Tigers won all three of their matches last Saturday at a quad match held at the PAL. The Tigers defeated DelVal 44-15, North Warren 52-30 and Bridgewater 72-15.

Tyler Hunt (70) won two matches, Richie Szeliga (75) won three matches, Nick Heilmann (85) won three matches, Ryan Sacco (90) won three matches, John Wylam (95) won three matches, Corey Hay (100) won two matches, Joe Vetusch (107) won

three matches and Mike Wagner (112) won three matches. Joel Santos (119) won three matches. Nick Vallone (124), wrestling with a bad wrist, still won two matches on the day. Justin Smith (132) won three matches. JJ DeLillo (140) won two matches while Bacilio Alvarado (140) won one. Jonathan Conroy (175) also won three matches on the day. Billy Whitefleet heavyweight won one match on the day.

## Knights Free Throw Competition

All boys and girls ages 10 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2005 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship. Competition will start on Sunday, Jan. 23 at the Sacred Heart gymnasium in South Plainfield. Boys and girls ages 10 and 11 will start at 1:30 p.m. Boys and girls ages 12, 13 and 14 will start at 3 p.m.

Participants are required to furnish proof of age (birth certificate) and written parental consent form. For additional information and enrollment form, contact John LoBosco at (908) 755-4914 or show up at Sacred Heart gymnasium to register at 1 p.m.



## Ponytail Softball Batters Box

By Tom Gratta

### Ponytail Registration

Registration for the 2005 Ponytail Softball season is open to all South Plainfield resident girls ages 8-13 as of Oct. 1, 2004. All games are played at Ponytail Park. The fee is \$35 per participant and there are no refunds.

Register at the PAL until March 7. The South Plainfield Parents Ponytail Association meeting are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month @ 7:30 in the middle school library.

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2004-2005  
Youth Basketball  
D League  
Boys Teams

# Sports



The 2004-2005 Youth Basketball D League Bulls team is: William Walsh, Ryan Bythell, Raymond Jazikoff, Michael Polizzano, Anthony Eggert, Robert Eggert, Kyle Dennis, Dakota Uhl, Kevin Jacobs and Christopher Melton. They are coached by Tom Walsh.



The 2004-2005 Youth Basketball D League Hornets are: Jordan Handwerger, Paul Licato, Justin Marks, Chris Mathis, Patrick McCoid, Bryan Evans, Kyle Moroney, Michael Higgins, Arshan Singh and Stavan Purohit. They are coached by Jim Handwerger.



The 2004-2005 Youth Basketball D League 76ers team is: Wesley Bowe, Miguel Argueta, Malcolm Keith, Matt Hurst, Jocqui Neal, Antunee Adams, Jacob Alba, James Duhamel, Matthew Szeman and Robert Rudnick. They are coached by Melvin Bowe.



The 2004-2005 Youth Basketball D League Knicks team is: Anthony Santone, Kyle Dickerson, Daniel Vargas, Scott Quiroga, Marques Franco, Andrew Franco, Brian Schillaci, James Flasser, Thomas Ginda and Italo Cardoso. The coach is Chris Bakazan.



The 2004-2005 Youth Basketball D League Lakers are: Chris Cieszkiewicz, Marc Stasio, Joseph Valentino, Jordan Lackey, Grayson Lackey, James Colapietro, Austin Rivera, Glenn Hollaway, Christopher Fowles and Alzahir Rahemtulla. The coach is David Cieszkiewicz.



The 2004-2005 Youth Basketball D League Jazz team is: Thomas Olah, Jonathan Grennier, James Boettcher, Joey Hart, Brian McCarthy, Jared Samms, Shawn Bangaroo, Sean Erhardt, Michael Schroeder and Xavier Wilson. They are coached by Richard Olah.



The 2004-2005 Youth Basketball D League Pistons team is: John Caccamo, Connor Fech, Mark Butrico, Cody O'Connor, Frank Ferraro, Donte' Peeples, Xavier Deida, Aidan McDermott, Christopher Smith and Kenneth Quin. They are coached by John Caccamo.



The 2004-2005 Youth Basketball D League Timberwolves are: Tommy Heim, Jared Boyce, Christopher Graves, Jared Agee, Leonard Scarpitto, Brandon Rickert, matthew Gruver, Tommy Dunn, Jose Torres and Zaire Cone. They are coached by Thomas Heim.

## Short on Time? Catch up with the Observer.

Send your check or money order for \$25/one year subscription (out-of-town \$30) to: South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. or call 908-668-0010 and use your credit card (VISA or Mastercard).

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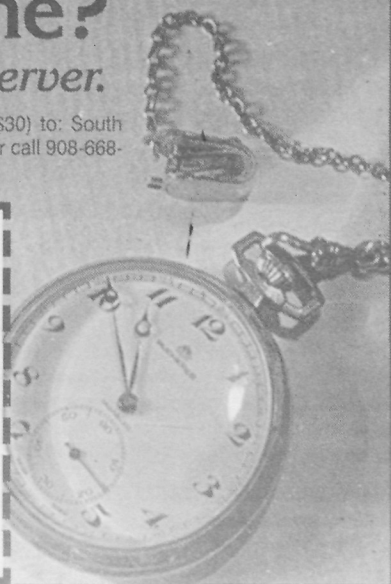
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## Junior Journalist Corner



**John Neesan, Middle School Eighth Grader, Named "Junior Journalist"**



Pictured left is Middle School Language Arts teacher Ellyn Schwartz with this week's winner, John Neesan.

John Neesan, Middle School eighth grader, is this week's winner in the *Observer*/Hometown Heros Junior Journalist Program. His poem "Red Rose Moonlight" has won him dinner for his family, courtesy of Hometown Heros.

Students are encouraged to submit their original poetry, articles, opinion pieces or essays to their

teacher, school principal, Hometown Heros located on Hamilton Blvd. or the *Observer* office.

Winners and their families will receive a catered dinner from Hometown Heros and will be invited to a year end banquet in June.

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

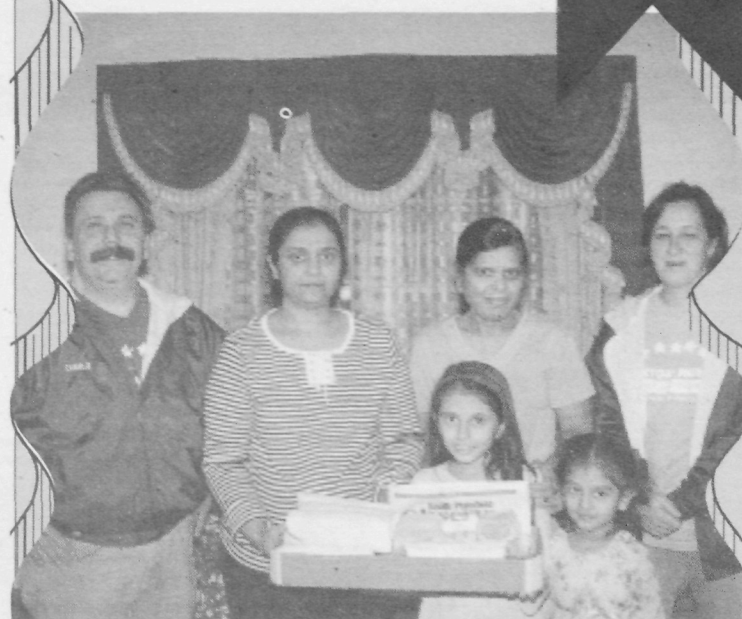
### Red Rose Moonlight

By John Neesan

Red rose moonlight is  
A poem I have to say  
Roses and flowers age  
as fast as hair turns gray.  
The red rose's shadow  
shimmers on the naked moon.  
It feels as if my heart is  
Strange like the empty box in corner of my room.  
Red rose moonlight has a shield of  
Cold air that gives my eyes a terrible scare.

**Junior Journalist entries can be submitted through your teacher or principal. You can also drop them by the *Observer* office at 1110 Hamilton Blvd. or at Hometown Heros at 340 Hamilton Blvd. If you have questions, call (908) 668-0010.**

## Junior Journalist WINNER



Charlie and Debbie Kuriand from Hometown Heros present dinner to this week's Junior Journalist contest winner Tanvi Patel, pictured here with mom Hina, sister Vishika and grandmother Joshoda Patel.

**Congratulations Tanvi!**

**Feed your  
soul...write!**



## Take Advantage of Early Bird Prices At Community Pool

It's time to sign up for the 2005 season at the Community Pool. You can take advantage of the early bird discounts if you sign up by April 18. The following are the 2005 fees:

| Resident                   | Before April 18         | After April 18         |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Family .....               | \$250 & 10 passes ..... | \$280 (no free passes) |
| Husband & Wife .....       | \$195 & 10 passes ..... | \$225 (no free passes) |
| Individual .....           | \$140 & 10 passes ..... | \$170 (no free passes) |
| Single Parent Family ..... | \$220 & 10 passes ..... | \$250 (no free passes) |
| Senior Citizen .....       | \$ 50 & 10 passes ..... | \$ 60 (no free passes) |
| Family/ Full Time          |                         |                        |
| Child Care .....           | \$310 & 10 passes ..... | \$340 (no free passes) |
| Non Resident               |                         |                        |
| Family .....               | \$470 & 10 passes ..... | \$470 (no free passes) |
| Individual .....           | \$240 & 10 passes ..... | \$240 (no free passes) |
| Senior Citizen .....       | \$100 & 10 passes ..... | \$100 (no free passes) |

Fees are nonrefundable. Daily admission passes are available.

All guest pass books containing 10 daily passes can be purchased by members for \$50. There is a limit of one book per month.

Photo identification cards are used by all members and must be presented at the front desk each time you enter the pool. Any member allowing someone else to use their cards will forfeit their membership. The fee to replace a lost ID card is \$5.

The swim and diving teams are open to South Plainfield resident pool members ages 6 to 17. (Children must pass a swimming test.) Regular meets are held Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings. For details contact the Recreation Office.

Swimming lesson are available. They run for 30 minutes and run two weeks (eight classes.) Fees: are \$10 for members, non-members first child is \$60 and second is \$50. Swim lessons are not refundable.

The pool opens June 4 on weekends and after 4 p.m. weekdays. Summer hours start June 27 and run to Sept. 5. They are: Saturdays 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sundays noon to 8 pm. and Monday through Friday noon to 8:30 p.m.

Register at PAL, located on Maple Ave. 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The office is also open the first and third Mondays of the month from 6 to 8 p.m. For additional information, call the PAL at (908) 226-7713.

## Former Resident Arrested

(Continued from page 1)

At the time, the incident was believed to be a random drive-by shooting. However, years of investigations by local and county departments in New Jersey and several other states led them to believe otherwise.

On the night in question, Plainfield Police Chief Edward Santiago claims that Anastario was involved in a drug deal gone bad. He retrieved a rifle from his father's home, and along with two other suspects in a Chevy Vega, shot Jones and his friend on their way to a bar.

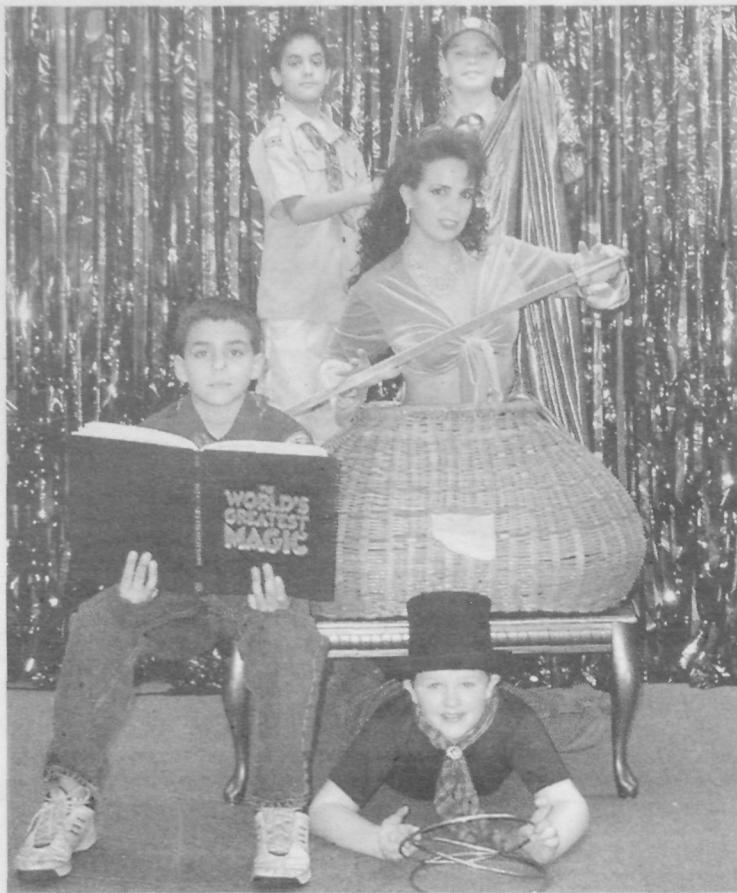
Anastario, a former resident of South Plainfield, fled the state several years after the murder, moved to Edgewater, Fla. with his wife and family and set up a new life for himself.

Plainfield Police Director Jiles Ship said the detectives learned that the

suspect and his accomplices, all childhood friends from South Plainfield who went to school together, moved away not long after the killing. Anastasio turned himself into police in Florida after recently being contacted about the case. Union County Prosecutor Theodore Romankow expects at least one more arrest to be made in the case shortly.

News of the arrest in the decades old cold case made its way to the local evening news stations, the *New York Times* and other local news publications. Ferraro was present at the press conference and was acknowledged for his role in the arrest. He said, "I was glad to assist in providing information. I admire the professionalism, dedication and determination of the Union County Prosecutor's Office and the Plainfield Police Dept."

## Magician and Illusionist Returns to SPHS



Magician and illusionist John Bundy and Morgan will be returning to the South Plainfield High School stage for one performance only on Saturday, Feb. 5. They are presenting their 90-minute show, *Unbelievable!* This is the second year the magical duo will raise money for South Plainfield's Cub Scout Pack 207. Their show, *Unbelievable!*, is much more than a magic show. It is a wonderful theatrical experience you will never forget. This year's show will be filled with cutting-edge illusions, audience participation, special effects and fun for the entire family.

John Bundy and Morgan have entertained audiences across the United States and around the world. This past summer they returned from their third trip to China where they performed for a billion people.

Experience the magic for yourself. *Unbelievable!* will appear on Saturday, Feb. 5 at the South Plainfield High School auditorium. Show time is 12 p.m. Advance tickets are just \$8 and \$10 at the door.

For more information or tickets, please call Bill Butrico at (908) 561-8128.

## Little Miss or Mr. Baseball Contest Underway

Naomi McNeill, Lindsay Celenzano, Kimberly Dornick, Kristen Brady and Angelo Salici have been named finalists for Little Miss or Mr. Baseball 2005. Voting boxes with photos are located at Ciccio's, Quick Check, Corner Deli and B & C Deli.

Voting is cast by the "penny-a-vote" system. The boxes will be collected and counted on Apr. 6. The winner will be announced at the Opening Day ceremonies on Apr. 9 at the baseball complex and will receive a \$25 mall gift certificate from the Woman's Auxiliary.

Come out and cast your vote to support Little Miss or Mr. Baseball 2005. Any questions should be directed to Stacy Lake at (908) 757-9531.



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## LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

## LEGAL NOTICE

DESIGNATE THE OBSERVER, THE COURIER-NEWS AND THE HOMENEWS TRIBUNE AS OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS FOR THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY IN 2005

WHEREAS, during the calendar year 2005, the Board of Trustees of the South Plainfield Public Library may be required to publish advertisements or notices required to be published; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees wishes to designate various newspapers as official newspaper for said purposes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the South Plainfield Public Library that the following newspapers shall be and are hereby designated as the official newspapers for the publication of public notices and advertisements required by law to be published by or on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the South Plainfield Public Library for the year 2005: The Observer, The Courier-News; and The Home News Tribune;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the use of said newspaper for publications and notices is subject to compliance with the statutes requiring the publication of official notices.

Dated: January 11, 2005  
Eric M. Aronowitz, President

\$35.00

January 21, 2005

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

January 14, 2005—Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its meeting held on January 13, 2005.

A. Case #18-04/J—JSM at South Clinton, LLC. Block 448; Lot 4.06; South Clinton Ave. The applicant's request to permit the indoor storage of vehicles was hereby GRANTED subject to conditions.

B. Case #72-04—Joseph R. Currao. Block 129; Lot 2; 329 Libourel Rd. The applicant's request for a side yard setback variance to construct an attached garage addition was hereby GRANTED subject to conditions.

ATTEST:  
Janice Muccilli  
Secretary Zoning Board of Adjustment

\$21.00

January 21, 2005

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

## LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by William Ashnault requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit a deck with (3) season room. Proposed 13' x 22'6" deck and 13' x 20' deck with (3) season room over deck lacks 20' required rear setback, 18.4' being proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 845 Delmore Avenue on Block 379, Lot 9 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, February 10, 2005 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

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

\$35.00

January 21, 2005

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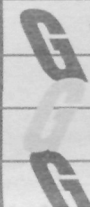
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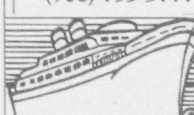
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## Red Cross Urges Families To Prepare For Disaster

American Red Cross Tri-County Chapter joins more than 1,000 American Red Cross chapters, "Together We Prepare," the campaign in Middlesex, Somerset and Union counties, helps the Blood Services regions and Armed Forces Emergency Services stations nationwide in working to make the US safer from disaster. The Tri-County Chapter is encouraging Central Jersey residents to join a grassroots effort to make sure each community is better prepared should disaster strike by doing five simple things: make a plan, build a kit, get trained, volunteer and give blood.

"With the possibility of war, terrorist attacks, natural disasters and everyday emergencies, being prepared can help save lives," says Victor Webb. "These five actions of 'Together We Prepare' will help make homes, schools, workplaces and communities safer." From a local house fire to a major regional hurricane, the American Red Cross has been there helping people prepare for and respond to disasters for more than 100 years.

"The Red Cross is in nearly every community across the country," says Victor Webb, "so we are well positioned to organize preparedness activities." Every individual has the opportunity to play an important role, when we come together; we become something bigger than us all.

More information on "Together We Prepare," including how to make a plan, build a kit, get trained, volunteer and give blood, is available by calling the Tri-County Chapter at (908) 756-6414 or visiting [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org).

## Recreation Plans Trip to Niagara Falls

Recreation is sponsoring a five-day, four-night trip to Niagara Falls, Ontario, with a side trip to Toronto, Aug. 8-12.

The package includes four nights lodging in Niagara Falls, Canada, four breakfasts, four full course dinners, all day tour of Niagara, including Niagara-on-the-Lake, all day tour of Toronto, centering on a harbor cruise and Casa Loma, IMAX theater, Maid-of-the-Mist boat ride and tour of the falls, a local winery tour with wine sampling, visits to the Welland Canal or Niagara Fallsview Casino and Rossi Glass.

Total cost is \$575 per person, plus a \$20 tip, which includes all taxes, standard gratuities, luggage handling, Motorcoach and a White Star escort for the entire trip.

You will need a raised-seal birth certificate and photo ID or passport to travel into Canada.

For reservations contact Mike Engling at the PAL, or call (908) 226-7714.

## William T. "Fuzzy" Strand, 59

William T. "Fuzzy" Strand died on Monday, Jan. 10 in the Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Fuzzy was born in Accomac, Va. In 1963, he moved to New Jersey, settling in East Orange. He has lived in South Plainfield since 1977.

During the Vietnam era, he served in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Korea.

In 1963, he began his career with the Nuway Trucking Company in Piscataway, starting as a driver and later serving as the operations manager. In 1989, he, along with his partners, bought the company and presently has served as president and CEO of the company.

Fuzzy attended the Rose of Sharon Church in Plainfield and was a member of the NJ Motor Truck Association.

Surviving are his wife of 27 years, Jean B. (Brown) Strand; two sons, Darryl and his wife, Carolyn of Roanoke, Va. and Brian of Kuwait; five sisters and brothers-in-law, Teresa and Robert Brown of Piscataway, Edith McClamy of Lawrenceville, Ga., Tryphina and Jerome Kennedy of Forest Park, Ga., Charollette of Philadelphia and Wanda of Philadelphia; five brothers, Robert Strand and his friend, Shirley of Irvington, David McClamy and his wife, Shirley of Parksley, Va., John McClamy of Norfolk, Va., Gregory Tatem of Lakewood and Vernon Tatem and his wife, Louise of Perth Amboy; by other brothers and sisters-in-law, Oliver and Carrie, Leroy and Ann, James and Bessie and Clarence and Margaret Brown, Fleming and Shirley Martin, Oveter English, Patricia and Ivan Greene, Dorothy Ware and Mary Harris and by seven grandchildren, Jaquerra, Katiana, Michael, Andy, Annissa, Arriell and Ardiana and a great grandson, Jalen Russel. Also, he is survived by a host of other relatives and friends that are too many to list.

Funeral Services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

The family has requested memorial donations be made in his memory to the American Cancer Society or to the American Diabetes Assoc. Local.

## Roberta (McCaskill) Wilson, 67

Roberta (McCaskill) Wilson died on Wednesday, Jan. 12 in the Lebanon Community Hospital in Lebanon, Oregon, while visiting her daughter.

Born and raised in Garwood, she had resided in Bound Brook and in Somerville for many years before moving to Bridgewater 18 years ago.

A former employee of Bio Tech in



William T. Strand

Somerville, she was an assembler before retiring. She was an active member for more than 30 years with AA. She was a sponsor and group leader.

She is predeceased by a daughter, Robin Lynn Wilson and a sister, Jessie A. Kanny.

Surviving are a daughter, Donna Lawrence and a son, Thomas Wilson, both of Oregon; three sisters, Julia Bataille of South Plainfield, Mary Ozimek of Flemington and Grace Hoose of West Va.; a brother, Duncan McCaskill of Plainfield and eight grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

## Mildred (Russo) Strani, 86

Mildred (Russo) Strani died Wednesday, Jan. 12 in the Haven Hospice at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born and raised in Raritan, Mildred lived in South Plainfield for the past 60 years.

For most of her life, Mildred was a homemaker, who was a loving mother that to her family.

At the age of 50, she began working for the South Plainfield Board of Education as a school bus driver, a position which she held for 28 years, retiring in 1995. In her 70's, Mildred participated in the New York City Marathon.

An avid dancer, Mildred enjoyed her walks around the Spring Lake Park and on the Pt. Pleasant boardwalk.

Mildred was also a member of Sacred Heart RC Church.

She is predeceased by her husband, Paul, who died in 1968 and by three brothers, Joseph, Leo and Anthony Russo.

Surviving are two daughters, Jeanette Lesinski and her husband Tho-

### In Loving Memory

**John Trocodeo**  
1st Anniversary  
January 26, 2004

We miss you terribly, but we will always have a lifetime of very happy memories to comfort us. Every time we want to smile, we will think of you humming or whistling a tune and remember your smiling face with those beautiful blue eyes. Now you are at home with God, a place of peace and comfort that you so deserve. For all your life you were a gentle and kind husband and father. You are always in our prayers.

Your Loving Family,  
Marge, Linda & Chris



## Obituaries

mas of Bridgewater and Laura Tuma and her husband Richard of Milltown; two sons, Paul Strani of Bridgewater and Bob and his wife, Debra of South Plainfield; six grandchildren, Tom, Laura, Richie, Jennifer, Christine and Robbie and two great grandchildren, Julia and Nicholas.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

## William A. "Willy" Kirchofer, Jr., 55

William A. "Willy" Kirchofer, Jr., died on Friday, Jan. 14 in the Haven Hospice at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born and raised in Plainfield, Willy lived in South Plainfield for more than 35 years.

He worked for Aircast in New Providence for 10 years.

An avid guitar player, Willy played in various bands throughout high school, such as the "Ascots," "Doughboys," "Act Your Rage" and "Country Cousins."

Later on in life, he started his own band called "Willy and the Wranglers" and in the mid-1990s, he recorded and produced his only album called *Back in Style*.

He is predeceased by his parents, William and Susan Kirchofer.

Surviving is his wife of 24 years, Geraldine of South Plainfield; two sisters, Patricia Wyckoff and her husband, Thomas of South Plainfield and Susan Kirchofer of Vista, Calif.; a niece, Mary Hawkins; a nephew, Robert Gaydos; two great nieces, Erica and Holly and a great nephew, Steven.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

## William W. Clarkson, Jr., 78

William W. Clarkson, Jr., died on Sunday, Jan. 16 at Muhlenberg Re-

gional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Plainfield, he resided in North Plainfield before moving to Middlesex in 1967.

Bill served as the chief financial officer for the *Courier-News* of Bridgewater. He was employed by the *Courier* for 26 years before retiring in 1976 as comptroller.

He was a 1944 graduate of Plainfield High School. He also attended La Salle University in Philadelphia and Rutgers University in New Brunswick. Bill attended the General Theological Seminary in New York and became an ordained deacon in the Episcopal church.

An Army Veteran of World War II, Bill served in the 101st Airborne Division. He was a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Anglican Church in Bound Brook and a former member of Grace Episcopal Anglican Church in Plainfield.

Most recently, he was employed as an accountant for Yashica (Kyocera) Somerset for five years.

Surviving is his wife, Marlene M. Clarkson; a daughter, Juliann Fischer and her husband, Michael; a son, Timothy Clarkson and his wife, Amy and four grandchildren, Joshua, Katherine, Sean and Emily.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in William's memory to St. Paul's Episcopal Anglican Church, 214 Church St., Bound Brook, NJ 08805.

## Lauretta Paige, 86

Lauretta Paige passed away on Friday, Jan. 14 at the Darien Health Care Center in Darien, Conn.

Born on August 18, 1918 in Columbus, Miss., she was the daughter of the late Henry and Mattie Davis Hamilton.

Lauretta was a resident of Darien, Conn. since 1989. She has resided with her niece, Marcia, in Darien for the last 17 years.

Burial will be private.

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