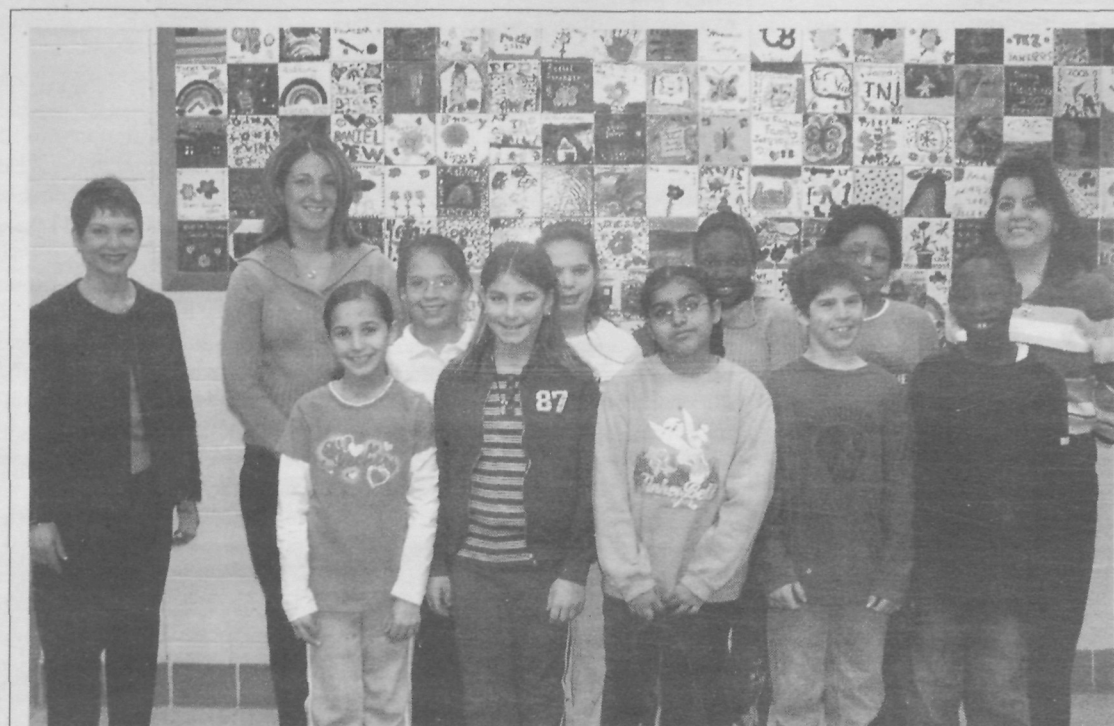


South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 8, NO. 22

50 CENTS

FEBRUARY 4, 2005



Roosevelt School Raises \$1,339 For Tsunami Victims

Members of Roosevelt School's Student Council held a fundraiser recently which raised a total of \$1,339.33 for tsunami victims. Coffee cans were placed in classrooms for students and faculty to donate change. The money will now be sent to the American Red Cross International Relief Fund. Pictured are members of the Student Council: James Agee, Eric Burnham, Troy Heilmann, Rina Bhalodi, Crystal Myles, Secretary Deirdre Macchia, Kim Walsh, Danielle Butrico and Gerianne Scarpitto along with Student Council Advisors Margaret Mosley, Allison Ferraro and Principal Jacqueline Keogh. Not pictured are Vice President Nicholas Brinks, President Jade McDonough and Zachary George.

Master of Illusion Performs Saturday

Magician and illusionist John Bundy and Morgan will be returning to the South Plainfield High School stage for one performance on Feb. 5. They will present *Unbelievable*, a 90-minute theatrical experience that they promise you will never forget. This year's show will be filled with cutting edge illusions, audience participation,

They have been recognized for their magical accomplishments with appearances at Trump Plaza, Madison Square Garden, the PNC Arts Center and at resort destinations around the country. This past summer they returned from their third tour of China where they performed on Chinese television for over a billion people.

Tickets are \$10 at the door. Proceeds will benefit South Plainfield Cub Scout pack 207.

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



Magician and illusionist John Bundy and Morgan

special effects and fun for the entire family. You will see people appear, disappear and levitate right before your eyes.

John Bundy and Morgan have entertained audiences across the United States and have appeared several times on *Late Night with David Letterman*.

This is the second year the magical duo are donating the show to raise money for Cub Scout Pack 207. Experience the magic for yourself. *Unbelievable* appears Saturday, Feb. 5, at the South Plainfield High School Auditorium, located at the end of Lane Ave. Show time is 12 noon.

Maurice "Nick" McDonald Dies

Arrested Lee Harvey Oswald

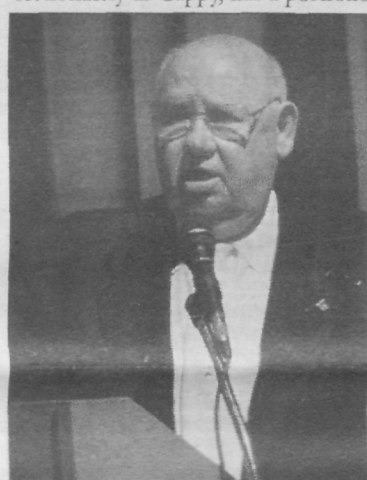
Maurice McDonald died last week in Hot Springs, Ark. He was 76. Sgt. McDonald, a retired police officer from Dallas, Texas, is one of the officers who arrested Lee Harvey Oswald, the man who allegedly fired the shots that ended the life of President John F. Kennedy.

Last May South Plainfield High School hosted a visit by McDonald and his wife, Rose, during "Pride in South Plainfield Week." The visit was organized by SPHS Principal Dr. Ken May and retired Deputy Police Chief Tulio Capparelli, who is a member of the historical society.

Sgt. McDonald spoke at SPHS on two consecutive days. On May 4 students filled the high school auditorium to watch a video detailing some of the events which occurred on Nov. 22, 1963, followed by McDonald's memories of his part in that historic day in Dallas. McDonald relived the events minute by minute while the students listened intently to his every word. They also asked many questions. On May 5, at a fundraiser spaghetti dinner, he again told his story to members of the community. He explained that at the time of Oswald's arrest, he did not realize that he had captured the alleged murderer of President Kennedy.

His visit last year started when retired South Plainfield Deputy Police Chief Tulio Capparelli spoke

to then school principal Tony Massaro relating his friendship with McDonald. He had met McDonald years earlier when corresponding with him about the purchase of a packet of information about the assassination. The retired deputy chief, known affectionately as Cappy, has a portfolio



Maurice McDonald

of items that Sgt. McDonald had sent him over the years. However Cappy and McDonald had never met face to face before his visit to South Plainfield. Massaro and Dr. May were enthusiastic about arranging for his visit to speak to the students and community. The effort was coordinated by then Police Chief Robert Merkler who contacted Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan for input. Dr. May and history teacher Tony Barca coordinated additional class instruction to familiarize students with the tragic historic event prior to his visit and then helped them prepare questions for McDonald.

McDonald and his wife Rose arrived on Sunday, May 2. During their stay, they visited the State Police Museum in Trenton, had breakfast with area judges, traveled with Chief Merkler to visit "Ground Zero," the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island and the United Nations and even threw out the first pitch at a SPHS home baseball game. Merkler's brother Steven, a former police chief, also escorted McDonald to many of the sites. Steven, who is a history buff, had also been corresponding with McDonald for ten years before his visit.

After his visit McDonald said that no one had treated him as good as the residents of South Plainfield and they would always have a special place in his heart.

McDonald died at a local hospital in Arkansas from complications from diabetes according to his wife. He was born in Arkansas and served in the Navy and was a Korean War veteran.

After the military, McDonald served 25 years with the Dallas Police, retiring in 1980.

BLIZZARD BASICS

From the Dept. of Public Works

To those residents who cooperated with the Department of Public Works "Snow Removal Program," thank you! Those who are unfamiliar with our program, here are a few procedures which will enable our department to perform our task more efficiently and effectively.

- All vehicles must be moved off the roadway. This will allow plow trucks to properly clear your street from curb to curb. Plowing curb to curb is an essential part of the process. It allows water to drain avoiding icy conditions, allows access to mail boxes and most of all, allows emergency vehicles the ability to respond. If your driveway space is limited, ask your neighbor if you can share.

- Sidewalks and driveway aprons should not be shoveled until plow trucks have made at least one pass along the curb line on your side. This reduces the number of times you will have to clear these areas.

- The Department of Public

Works would appreciate it if you would please not throw your snow back into the roadway when shoveling or snow blowing. This only causes an unsafe conditions and it is against the law. Please redirect snow onto your own property.

- Do not allow children to play near roadways while snow removal operations are taking place. Also, pets should be kept on your property at all times. During nighttime operations, please make sure that your presence is visible. We suggest some type of reflective clothing and/or a light of some source.

Our objective is to make our roads as safe as possible, as soon as possible. Your cooperation in this matter is critical in order for us to accomplish our objective.

Thank you! The South Plainfield Dept. of Public Works

NOTE: Mayor Gallagher has asked residents for help in clearing snow from around fire hydrants and sewers.

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 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

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

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 plans 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 last Tuesday of the month, except July and August
PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7716

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.
(No meeting February) and March 21

IN YOUR OPINION

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.

To the Editor,

Re: Bedlam in South Plainfield Board of Education.

Here is a list of all current South Plainfield Board of Education members: S. Bohn (7), K. LaFreniere (6), D. Smith (6), S. Peck (5), P. Pennisi (4), T. Morgan (3), M. English (2), P. Kelly (2) and T. Alexa (1). Number in parentheses indicates how many years the person has been on the Board.

The current 2004-2005 school budget was prepared and adopted by the Board almost one year ago. The \$44 million budget contained the following cuckoo positions:

1. For transportation operation and maintenance: less money than was spent by district two years earlier.
2. For capital funding: zero dollars.
3. Across the board increase in teacher's salary of 4.9%, 4.5% and 4.45%.

4. Healthcare premiums were increased by \$400K with zero personnel contributions for the increase.

5. Additional personnel were included into the health care plan with zero contribution from the insured.

The above insanity was justified in the April 2004 letter to "The Reporter" by veteran board member, D. Smith, in these immortal words: "To those

Dear Editor,

On Dec. 28, 2004, Sal (Bubby) Severini, husband, father, grandfather and friend was taken from this earth. Mere words can never express our heartfelt thanks for the generous outpouring of sympathy and compassion shown to us by our family, neighbors and friends. We wish to extend special thanks to McCrisky Home For Funerals for their support and guidance with the final arrangements; the South Plainfield and Westfield Police Departments, for providing escort services; Salernos' Restaurant; South Plainfield Pop Warner Football; Café Vivace for their catering donations and everyone who extended to us their kindness.

THE SEVERINI FAMILY

that felt more needed to be dedicated to capital funding, I would use the example of owning a home. When after you've added your addition, you've done your renovations and you've painted all your rooms, you don't keep doing improvements just to spend money, especially in our case when those are taxpayer's dollars that we're spending. I believe normal routine maintenance of our facilities could have been covered by funds in the budget. I work hard for a living and I believe they (South Plainfield Education Association members) understand that, considering the relative wealth of our community, we cannot afford what perhaps East Brunswick, Metuchen and other more affluent districts can."

Still the South Plainfield voters, unable to follow the divine logic of Mr. Smith's arguments, defeated the proposed budget at the polls. Unfortunately, the city council let the defeated budget stand, making only minor changes.

Yet in December, 2004 the Board approved an emergency contract to repair the rooftop HVAC units at the high school for \$127,250.

Recently our Board of Education, despite devising so well thought of budget, had an epiphany. They discovered a \$1.6M shortfall in the 2004-2005 school budget! The Board proposes leasing the textbooks for \$965K

and using the existing surplus to cover the hole, leaving the district without any surplus.

For 2002-2003 school year (latest available data), Metuchen's median teacher's salary was \$59,015 (after 12 years' work), while in South Plainfield the median was \$65,650 – highest in Middlesex County – after only 11 years in the system.

I don't understand why Mr. Smith does not follow his own apt and true observations, that South Plainfield cannot afford what Metuchen can and renegotiate the teacher's contract, under which the South Plainfield teachers will be as well paid as those in more affluent Metuchen.

The district is bankrupt and teachers (professionals) understand that. They chose their vocation – not to get rich but for the love of teaching. Therefore renegotiations should be a snap. There are about 320 teachers in the district. Renegotiated contract will amount to (\$65,650-\$59,012) x 320 = \$2.1M savings and no staff layoffs.

If for some mysterious reason the Board does not succeed with a renegotiated contract, it can employ Plan B and lease itself to some far away district. The lease will not bring us any money, but will at least save us, the taxpayers, from the current Board's ministrations.

BOGDAN FRYSZCZYN

New Religious Column Starting

The Observer will be starting a new column devoted to area churches, including their services and programs.

We are asking area churches to send us their religious schedules, programs and a contact. Lent is about to start and this could be a great opportunity to get your word out to the residents.

Each week we will publish the information in a column from those churches who send us their information. Please include contact information along with your schedules.

Mail your information to The South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, fax to (908) 668-08819 or email it to us at spobserver@comcast.net.

South Plainfield Observer

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

We look forward to hearing from all of you and encourage you to send in your stories and photos. The South Plainfield Observer is your paper. Please let us know what you would like to see in it.

To get an article published in the South Plainfield Observer:

1. Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.
2. Mail, fax or drop it at: South Plainfield Observer, Editorial Department, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or drop it in the box at Mohn's Flowers on Plainfield Ave., fax us at (908) 668-8819 or e-mail us at spobserver@comcast.net. Include your name, address, telephone number. You can subscribe or contact us at: spobserver.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters may be submitted by mail to South Plainfield Observer, Editorial Dept., 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, by email: spobserver@comcast.net or fax 908-668-8819. Letters should not exceed 400 words. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. It is the editor's discretion to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject. The opinions expressed in "Letters" do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Observer. All letters must be submitted with name and phone number, for verification.



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Dunellen Knights of
Columbus Building, Dunellen



VFW Says Thank You

Franklin School Principal Nancy Erickson receives a plaque from VFW Commander Metro Kopchak and Past Commanders Rudy Pozcak and Julius Peterson. The VFW wanted to show their appreciation for the marvelous Veterans Day program Franklin presents every year under her direction. Erickson broke her leg in November while preparing for the veterans program and was in the hospital when it was presented. Franklin is the only school in South Plainfield to put on a show for the veterans and each year they keep getting better and better.

Bill Enhancing Cancer Center Funding Passes

Legislation sponsored by Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan will provide an additional \$6M in state funding to the New Brunswick-based Cancer Institute of New Jersey (CINJ) was passed by the General Assembly.

"The Cancer Institute of New Jersey performs invaluable work in researching potential cures and pioneering new treatments for this insidious disease," said Diegnan. "This funding is essential to ensuring the institute continues its world-class work unabated, and that Middlesex County continues to be a global hub for cancer research."

CINJ is the only state facility designated by the National Cancer Institute as a comprehensive cancer center. As a comprehensive cancer center, CINJ offers advanced cancer treatment options, conducts research and searches for ways to turn laboratory research into clinical practices. CINJ also provides educational programs regarding cancer prevention, detection and treatment.

Diegnan's bill would appropriate an additional \$6 million to the state Department of Health and Senior Services to increase grant funding to the institute for Fiscal Year 2005. CINJ currently receives more than 60,000 patients annually, a caseload expected to grow to 140,000 patients by 2008.

"As CINJ's importance and impact continue to grow, so too must our commitment to its work and mission," said Diegnan. "In little more than 10 years, CINJ has gained an international reputation for excellence in cancer research and treatment. Now is the time for us to redouble our commitment to its work and do our part to make the dream of a cure for cancer a reality."

Morris Avenue Tenants Elect Officers

The Morris Avenue Tenants Association of New Jersey has elected new officers for 2005.

The officers are as follows: President Dominic Di Nardo, Vice President Verneter Craig, Secretary and Treasurer Marie Schoen.



Millstone Valley Chorus members prepare to delight recipients of singing valentines. Pictures left to right are South Plainfield Recycling Coordinator Alice Tempel, Carole Auletta, Joanne Diebert and Judy Aunio.

Say "I Love You" in Song

Valentine's Day will be here soon and the Millstone Valley Chorus knows just how to celebrate. Quartets or chorus members will deliver singing valentines Feb. 11-14 to people at work, at home, in restaurants, at meetings, or just about anywhere a sender wishes. A singing valentine consists of two songs, a card containing a personal message, a chocolate treat, a silk rose and an instant photo of the event. Cost of the package is \$50.

Millstone Valley Chorus is a local chapter of Sweet Adelines International, a non-profit organization of women singing four-part harmony, a cappella. The chorus performs throughout the area at public, private and community events. Members live

throughout Central New Jersey and in Eastern Pennsylvania. Singing valentines are a favorite activity of chorus members as they anticipate the smiles, giggles, or tears of surprised recipients. Future chorus plans include participation in their Regional Convention and Competition in Philadelphia in March.

The chorus rehearses Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. at Trinity Church, Mercer St. in Princeton. Visitors and prospective members are always welcome.

To order a singing valentine or for information, call (908) 874-3079. For other chorus information, see the chorus website at www.millstonevalley.org or email to millstonevc@aol.com.

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February 14th

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Events

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. Limited space available for the infant, nursery, pre-kindergarten programs.

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.

Magician to Appear at 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!

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.

SP Environmental Commission Meeting

February 9

The next meeting of the South Plainfield Environmental Commission will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 9 at 8 p.m. in Borough Hall. For questions call Dr. Tempel at (908) 226-7621.

SP Historical Society Monthly Meeting

February 8

The South Plainfield Historical Society regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 8 at 7:30 p.m.

Send Us Your Around Town Events

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

What's happening in FEBRUARY

UPCOMING EVENTS

Knitting/crocheting 9:30-11:30 am 7
Yoga 10:30-11:30 am
Drawing Class 11:30 am
Senior Board Meeting

Bingo 10am-2pm 8
Ladies Social 10am

Exercise 8:30am 9
Line Dancing 10am
AARP Crafts 1pm
Computer Class 10 am
11:30 am, 1 pm
Listening to Children 10am

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

Bingo 10am-2pm 11
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

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

at the South Plainfield Senior Center on Maple Ave. The public is invited.

Visit <http://geocities.com/sphistoricalsociety> for information and upcoming programming details.

Rotary Club Wine Tasting Event

February 8

The South Plainfield and Edison Rotary Clubs will be sponsoring a Wine Tasting Event on Tuesday, Feb. 8 from 6 to 9 p.m., hosted at the Clarion Hotel & Towers on Hwy. 27 in Edison. The event is co-sponsored by Buy Rite Liquors, located on Oak Tree Rd. Tickets cost \$25 and are available at Buy Rite Liquors.

"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.

American Legion Pancake Breakfast

February 13

The American Legion Chaumont Post 243 will hold a pancake breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 13 from 8 a.m. until noon. Cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. Children under six are free. Profits are donated to our South Plainfield Scholarship Fund. The American Legion is located on Oak Tree Ave.

Boy Scout Open House at Wesley Methodist

February 14

Boy Scout Troop 309 will be holding an open house on Monday, Feb. 14 from 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. Meetings are held at Wesley Methodist Church in the meeting room located downstairs. All boys ages 11 and up are eligible to join. Come out and see what we do!

For further information, contact Jeff Pauls at (908) 755-6133.

VFW Dinner

February 18

The VFW Post #6763, located on Front St. will hold a dinner on Friday, Feb. 18 from 5 to 8 p.m. Choice of chicken Paprika or fish dinner. Cost is \$8 for adults and children 12 and under are \$4, take-outs are .50 cents extra. For information, call (908) 668-9751 after 3 p.m. daily and 12 noon weekends.

Pilgrim Covenant Open House

February 23

Parents and their children are invited to attend an Open House on Wednesday, Feb. 23 from 9:30-11 a.m. at Pilgrim Covenant Learning Center, Inc., located at 3121 Park Ave.

The Learning Center, a state certified school with over 30 years of experience in childcare, offers a variety of programs for children ages 2 1/2 to 5 years old. Programs include both full and part time classes, Kindergarten

— Out of Town —

Job Seekers Support Group

Thursday mornings

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.

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.

Music/Movement and Art Program

February 5-April 16

Classes for the Parent/Child Workshops in Music/Movement and Art for Children with Autism or Autistic Behaviors will resume in Feb. Workshops will be held on Saturdays, Feb. 5 to Apr. 16 in New Brunswick, Morristown, Waldwick and Glassboro. These workshops are offered free of charge.

To register, contact Karen Singer at VSA arts of NJ at (732) 745-3885. 745-5935 (TTY), info@vsan.org.

Andean Music and Dance Performance

February 6

Sunday, Feb. 6, at 2 p.m., Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission and the Folklife Program for

New Jersey present a performance of Andean Music and Dance with Andina Roots at Plainsboro Middle School, 55 Grover's Mill Rd., Plainsboro.

Andean Music and Dance is offered free of charge, however registration is required. To attend this Folklife program, please contact Middlesex County Cultural Heritage Commission at (732) 745-4489. Persons with hearing impairments may call (732) 745-3888 (TTY users only) or 711, via the New Jersey Relay System.

WOWs Meeting

February 8

Middlesex East Widows or Widowers (WOWs) will conduct a business meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the Carteret Community Center located at Pershing and Cooke Avenues, Carteret. Light refreshments and socializing to follow. All widows and widowers are invited to attend. For more information, contact Dorothy at (732) 541-2174 or Lois at (908) 757-0515.

Luncheon Dinner at Willow Grove

February 8

Come, listen and sing-along to the music of show-tunes and some old-time favorites performed by Cranford's Side-by-Siders. You are invited at 12 noon on Tuesday, Feb. 8, for an entertainment program and lunch at Willow Grove Presbyterian Church in Scotch Plains. The luncheon cost is \$4.

A number of people in the community are already attending the FREE Stretches for Health exercise program held Tuesday mornings from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. If you have not yet joined the fun, Feb. 8 would be an excellent time to start and then stay for the luncheon and program.

Reserve by Feb. 6. To make a reservation or for transportation, call Barbara Couphos at (908) 322-7892.

For information, call (908) 232-5678, e-mail us at wilgrv@netzero.com or check our website at www.scotch-plains.com/wgpc. Willow Grove Presbyterian Church is located at 1961 Raritan Rd.



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Princeton Review to Award \$40,000 College Scholarship

Students have an opportunity to compete for a \$40,000 college scholarship by submitting a practice SAT or ACT essay. From Feb. 1-11, students, parents and educators will have free access to The Princeton Review's *LiveGrader* technology, a final opportunity to take advantage of this free live grading system before the new SAT and ACT are administered.

Students who submit an SAT or ACT essay will receive personalized feedback from trained, live graders. Essays will be judged according to the criteria used by the graders of the SAT and ACT and the student with the best

submission will be awarded a \$40,000 scholarship.

Students who want information or enter an essay should go to www.PrincetonReview.com/essay.

The website includes information on the differences between the SAT and ACT. The new essay section is the largest of several changes to the SAT made by the College Board. Other changes to the test include the elimination of quantitative comparison questions and the inclusion, for the first time, of Algebra II items.

More than 26,000 students have already submitted *LiveGrader* essays.

southplainfieldpeople Milestones

Danielle Aronowitz Named to Dean's List at Ramapo College

Danielle Aronowitz, daughter of Phyllis and Eric Aronowitz, was named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2004 semester at Ramapo College of New Jersey.

Danielle is a 2004 graduate of South Plainfield High School. She achieved a 3.7 GPA while taking 18 credits during the fall semester.

Danielle is majoring in Environmental Studies.

Dean's List status is based on completion of a minimum of 12 graded credits, with no incomplete grades for that semester and the attainment of a semester grade point average of at least 3.5, with a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0.

Kristen Kurilew Named to Dean's List at Monmouth University

Kristen Kurilew has been named to the Dean's list for the third consecutive semester at Monmouth University. She is a senior, majoring in Communications with a television and radio broadcasting cluster and is involved with the university radio station, 88.9

WMCX.

Kristen is currently interning for G106.3 in Eatontown and has also done some voice talent for the station.

Kristen is the daughter of Victor and Laurie Kurilew of South Plainfield.



The 2005 Rescue Squad officers were sworn in during their Installation of Officers Dinner

Rescue Squad Celebrates 60th Anniversary

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad held their Annual Installation of Officers Dinner last month.

The dinner was attended by Mayor Dan Gallagher, members of council, the fire department and Police Chief John Ferraro.

Service awards were given to: Joan Cantamessa for 35 years, Brian Anderson for 15 years, Pete Magnani and Karen Grab for 10 years and John Butrico and Jill Milstein for five years. Receiving "Stork" awards (for delivering a baby) were Edward Laferrera,

Joseph Abbruzzese, John Celentano, Bob Capparelli and Tim Kelly.

Ladies auxiliary present an award for 55 years to Elsie Webster and 35 years to Rose Penkunas.

2005 Rescue Squad officers are: President Brian Anderson, Vice President Jose Heavens, Corresponding Secretary Jessica Cerami, Treasurer Glen Ewing, Captain Edward Laferrera, 1st Lieutenant Kate Baron and 2nd Lieutenant John Butrico.

2005 Womens Auxiliary officers are: President Tracy Smizaski, Vice President Denise Neto, Corresponding Secretary Patricia Fizur, Recording Secretary Darla Woodel and Treasurer Joanne Eroglu.

Male Survivor of Assault/Abuse Group to Meet

Male survivors of sexual assault and abuse are invited to participate in a support group that is currently being organized for the Middlesex County area. All services are free and confidential. Meetings will take place at the Middlesex County Public Health Department's Rape Crisis Intervention Center in Edison. The group will begin this month.

To schedule an interview, contact the Middlesex County Public Health Department's Rape Crisis Intervention Center (877) 665-7273 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m., Monday through Friday.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

The South Plainfield Library will be hosting the yearly "Valentines for Veterans" craft session tomorrow (Saturday, Feb. 5). Children and adults are invited to drop in anytime between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to make a valentine for a veteran. These will be sent to the Lyons VA Hospital in honor of the "National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans." If you are interested in learning more about what you can do to make a difference in a hospitalized veteran's life, please visit the Department of Veterans Affairs voluntary service webpage at <http://www1.va.gov/volunteer/>.

Adult craft instructor Ronda Wisniewski will be at the library on Monday, Feb. 7 to lead a candle painting craft program. There will be two sessions offered, morning (10:30 a.m.) or evening (7 p.m.). There is a \$2 materials fee for this craft and registration is required.

The Friends of the Library are holding a raffle for a basket full of goodies! Tickets are \$1 each and may be purchased at the library. All proceeds will go towards our new library. The drawing will be held at 6 p.m. on Feb. 28. The library is also offering a free raffle in honor of "February is Romance" month. Four winners will each receive a bundle of romance books. Entry is free, so stop by the library and take a chance today!

Please note that the library will be CLOSED next Friday, Feb. 11 in honor of Lincoln's birthday. For access to online databases and helpful

homework links you can visit our website at <http://www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us> 24 hours a day 365 days a year!

Children's storytime and craft programs will follow their regular schedule this month, Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 1:15 p.m. Storytime is for ages three and up. No registration is required. Our "Books and Babies" program will be held on Friday, Feb. 18 and 25 at 10:30 a.m. This program is for ages up to three years. No registration is required.

The NJ based environmental group The Eco-Maniacs will be presenting a "Breakfast & A Book" program for children ages 6 through 10 at the library on Saturday, Feb. 26 at 10 a.m. There is a limit of 25 children and registration is required!

If you would like to register for this program, please stop by the library or call us at (908) 754-7885.

Coming Soon-February

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Silver Dreams competes in first competition of the season.

Silver Dreams Place Second

The South Plainfield High School Silver Dreams Winterguard competed in their first competition this past Sunday at Upper Darby High School, located in Upper Darby, Pa. The guard, under the direction of Mark Tweed and Kathy Petrocelli, came in second place in the Scholastic Novice Division. The Silver Dreams will be competing at Roselle Park High School on Sunday, Feb. 20.

The 2005 Silver Dreams members

are Kristen Gualoano, Nadine Yon, Dunia Galarza, Gaelle Amazon, Liz Blackford, Cassie Hoffman, Brittanie Wong, Brianne Howarth, Katie Eder, Tara O'Keefe, Nichole Aiello, Gina Butrico, Ashley Peterson, Stephanie Troia and Alyssa Woodel.

The guard would like to thank all of their friends, teachers, parents and neighbors who participated in the Wendy's fundraiser held last week. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Help SPHS Students Raise Funds for Costa Rica Trip

Students in grades 10-12 currently enrolled in Spanish 3 and higher have been fundraising year-long to help offset costs of a planned trip to Costa Rica scheduled for spring break in April. Anthony Encinas, SPHS Spanish teacher, is in charge of the trip and has been busy planning different ways to raise funds for the trip.

The trip to Costa Rica will give students the opportunity to use the skills and knowledge they have acquired during their study of the language and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. In Costa Rica, students will communicate with local students and professionals in Spanish, introducing them to a new culture and immersing them in their target language.

Students will also go on various day trips, which includes a visit to a Costa Rican high school so students can interact with students their age.

Encinas is intent on not letting the cost of the trip (approximately \$1,800 a student) prevent any child from being unable to participate in this extremely valuable experience. Since there will be no cost to the Board of Education, students have to raise all necessary funds themselves. The students have already participated in candy sales at the high school.

On Thursday, Feb. 10, the public is invited to dine at Pizzeria Uno for dinner (5 p.m.-closing) to help the students pay for their trip. Pizzeria Uno has agreed to donate a percentage of the bill to the Costa Rica trip.

TGI Fridays in Piscataway is also participating. Visit Fridays on Thursday, Feb. 24, 5-9 p.m. and mention the SPHS International Explorers. The restaurant will donate part of the meal's proceeds for the trip.

See page 4 of the *Observer* for a coupon to Pizzeria UNO's to hand in at the restaurant. The February 18 *Observer* will have a TGI Friday's coupon. Please help the students and enjoy a delicious meal at Pizzeria Uno or TGI Fridays!

For more information about the trip or the fundraiser, call Anthony Encinas at the high school at (908) 754-4620, ext. 408.



Pictured are Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office Investigator Melissa Terpanick films a student while Program Coordinator Suzanne Kowalski conducts the interview.

Students Fingerprinted for Safety

By Jane Dornick

Last week fourth grade students at the elementary schools were voluntarily fingerprinted and video taped as a part of the Middlesex County Sheriff's Dept. "Fingerprints on File" program.

South Plainfield DARE Police Officer Dave Franchak took fingerprints on Personal Identification cards that were sent home to parents to keep in

case of an emergency. New this year is the addition of a video tape of the student which was done by agents from the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office.

Children participated in a digitally taped interview asking them questions about themselves. The tapes will be kept by the South Plainfield Board of Education in the event it is necessary to view them in the future.

policereport

• On Jan. 26 Russell C. Donoho, 48, of South Plainfield was arrested for operating an unregistered and uninsured vehicle, driving while suspended, fictitious plates and outstanding warrants at a motor vehicle stop.

• Lamar D. Mackson, 35, of Plainfield was arrested for operating an unregistered and uninsured vehicle, failure to exhibit a drivers license and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

• Mary R. Frias, 31, of New Brunswick was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

• On Jan. 27 an employee at Cedar Oaks Care Center on Durham Ave. reported the theft of drivers license and cash from his jacket which was left in his office.

• On Jan. 28 Wilmer Caceres, 28, of New Brunswick was arrested for failure to exhibit a drivers license and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

• Esther A. Picherollo, 57, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

• On Jan. 29 George Radutsky, 28, of Edison was arrested for driving while intoxicated, refusal to take a breathalyzer test, reckless driving, failure to signal a turn, failure to observe a signal and speeding at a motor vehicle stop.

hicle stop.

• Shamshudd Noorani, 26, of Colonia was arrested for speeding, careless driving, driving while intoxicated and refusal to take a breathalyzer test during a motor vehicle stop.

• Richard Herman, 38, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license and outstanding warrants at a motor vehicle stop.

• An Allentown, Pa. resident reported that her car had been keyed on the rear passenger side while parked at Red Lobster on Hadley Rd.

• On Jan. 30 James Fitzgerald, 55, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated at a motor vehicle stop.

• On Jan. 30 Mario R. Garrido, 27, of South Plainfield was arrested for failure to exhibit a drivers license and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

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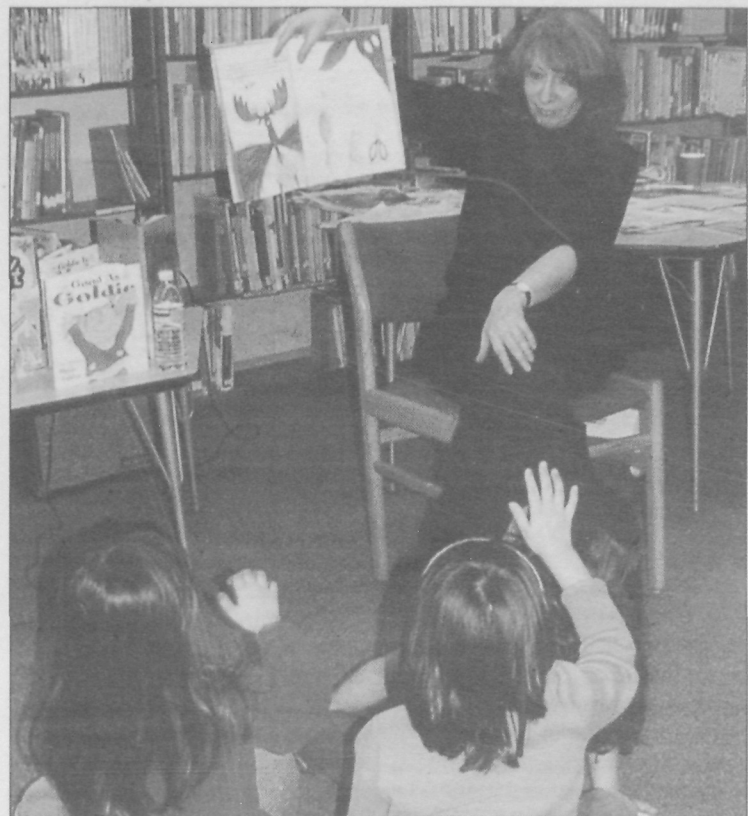
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Famous Children's Author Visits Riley Students



Margie Palatini, children's author, reads to students at Riley School.

By Patricia Abbott

Students at Riley School were recently treated to a visit from popular children's author Margie Palatini. Her credits include a long list of children's books including *Piggie Pie*, *Zoom Broom*, *Broommates*, *Beahead*, *Stinky Smelly Feet* and many others. *Piggie Pie* was her first book.

The presentation was broken down into three groups: kindergarten and first grade, second and third grade and the fourth grade. Palatini read one of her books to each group of students. She talked to the students about the many steps that go into writing a book, including story ideas, characters and the myriad of details that occur before a book appears in on a store or library shelf. The children peppered her with ques-

tions after each discussion.

School Librarian Joanne Otlowski said, "The kids really enjoyed her visit. Many of them were excited to have

the chance to meet a real live author!" She noted that they asked intelligent questions, ranging from how Margie gets her ideas to where the illustrations come from.

In addition to the presentation, a handful of students were selected to have lunch with Palatini. To qualify for selection third grade youths wrote essays on "Why I Want to Have Lunch With Margie Palatini." The fourth graders wrote their own stories after listening to their teacher read one of Palatini's books. The winners were not notified until just before lunch-time on the day of the presentation. The luncheon was held in the library. Otlowski said some of them were 'star struck' to be among a select group to have an intimate lunch with a celebrity and had a tough time trying to speak. Once they warmed up and relaxed they were fine. Many commented that the hour went too fast!

Margie grew up in Edison and currently lives in Plainfield. She has received many awards for her writing. Eleven more titles will be published over the next few years. While attending a Librarian's Conference, Otlowski learned that Palatini lived locally and suggested that the school's Cultural Arts committee contact her about a visit.



Members of the Roosevelt School Student Council presented a multi-cultural program during last week's Board of Education meeting. Students from each of the schools have been performing special programs at the start of each board meeting. The children wore costumes and explained how each grade was studying another country to prepare for their annual multi-cultural night, which was held on Tuesday evening. Second grader Kelly Simpson (left) concluded the program by performing several Irish dances.

See next week's *Observer* for pictures and story on Roosevelt's multi-cultural night.

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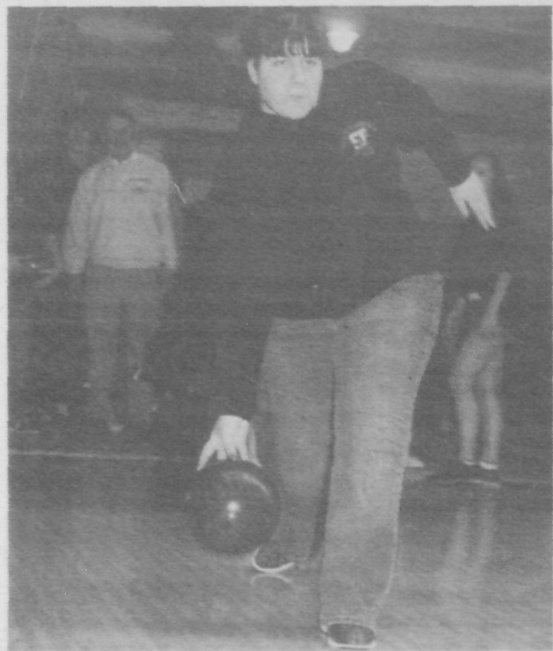
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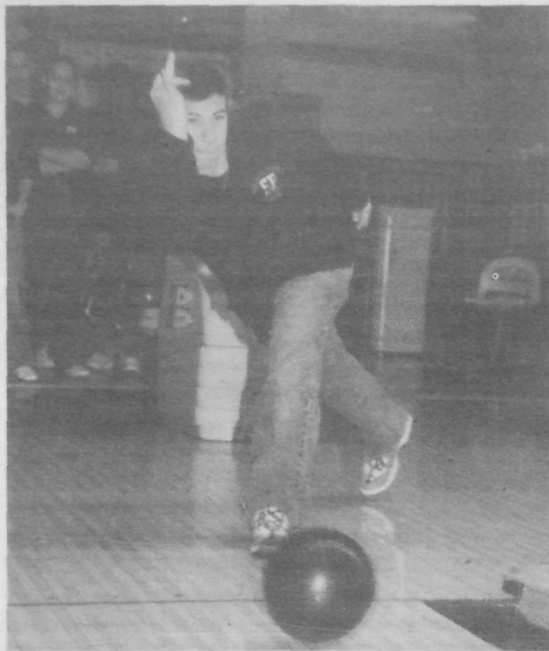
Sports

SPHS Bowling

BY RALPH FECH



SPHS Senior Anna Ferrer



SPHS Senior George Kleinknecht

Lady Tigers Hand Undefeated Franklin Township Its First Loss

South Plainfield	774	827	756	2357
Franklin Twp.	671	750	600	2021

In a non-conference match up, the Lady Tigers of the GMC stunned previously undefeated Franklin Township of the Skyland conference. The Tigers amassed a 300 pin advantage in the 4-0 shutout as they easily coasted to the victory. Kim Gaub topped the scorers with games of 199-226-154 and a sparkling 579 set. A solid team effort was turned in by the rest of the Tigers with Beverly Jamieson adding (154-450), Angelique Rualo (169-161-477 set), Lindsay Hunsicker (151-152-420), Anna Ferrer (147-421) and Jennifer Vasquez (149-409).

South Plainfield	706	658	755	2119
Monroe	634	667	686	1987

The Lady Tigers broke open a close match with Monroe in the third game and posted a 3-1 victory. Kim Gaub 225 high game and 549 set took scoring honors. Beverly Jamieson added 173-481 set and Jennifer Vasquez a 188 game in a low scoring day at Carolier Lanes. The Tigers had an early season loss to the Falcons.

Tigers Edged By #1 Monroe and Upset by Franklin Township

South Plainfield	927	936	984	2847
Monroe	990	954	1043	2987

The boys' bowling team, improving with each game, dropped a close match to the top ranked team in the GMC, the Falcons of Monroe. All three games were decided in the 10th frame, and the Tigers lacked the firepower to pull out the victory. Matt Boley led the Tigers with 226-182-196-606 set, followed by teammate Vin Genova 179-227-186-592 total. Rookie Chris Esposito fired games of 183-160-224 for a solid 567, George Kleinknecht found the range with 220-538 set and Nick Grego added a 191 game. Starter Shawn Ferguson was missing from the lineup.

South Plainfield	917	829	859	2605
Franklin Twp.	906	930	867	2703

Despite Matt Boley's 220-242 and 645 high set, the boys' bowling team was upset by a spirited Franklin Township squad at Strike and Spare Lanes. The rest of the Tiger lineup had a difficult time and could not adapt to the dry conditions of the lanes. Other Tiger scores were Shawn Ferguson 182, Vin Genova 181, Nick Grego 181 and George Kleinknecht 189, but the Warriors managed to squeeze out an eight-pin victory in the third game.

SPHS Gymnastics Team Closes Phenomenal Season

By Michael Duquette

South Plainfield High School's girls' gymnastics team ended their productive 2004-2005 season in December. As is tradition in South Plainfield, the season was marked with hard work paying off into another impressive showing.

Assistant Coach Victoria Uniacke, who marked her first season working with the team alongside Head Coach Meredith Murawski, praised the girls for their dedication and talent. The team competed in long, arduous meets judged by professionals, consisting of four separate activities: floor exercises, uneven bars, vaulting, and balance beam. The team worked well enough, however, to advance to the State Sectional

competition. The final totals for the year were four wins and six losses.

Uniacke proudly stated, "We had a good season." She added, however, that the team will have to rebuild in the next season following the departure of seniors Lauren Darr and Kayleigh McGovern. But given SPHS' continuing athletic superiority, that task should not be extremely challenging.

In December of 2004, the gymnastics team awarded honors to selected members of the team, including an MVP award to Beverley Jamieson and Rookie of the Year honors to Gina Rose Siringo. Congratulations to all the girls who participated during the season, and best wishes for a productive season in the seasons to come!



SPHS girls' gymnastics team with Head Coach Meredith Murawski.



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 at 7:30 p.m. in the middle school library.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 1685

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1685 entitled: AN ORDINANCE TO REVISE, AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT CH. 714 OF THE LAND USE CODE ESTABLISHING A SENIOR CITIZEN/ACTIVE ADULT ZONE WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, February 4, 2005 and a public hearing was 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday February 15, 2005 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

ORDINANCE No. 1685

AN ORDINANCE TO REVISE, AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 714 OF THE LAND USE CODE, THE SCHEDULE OF AREA, YARD AND BUILDING REQUIREMENTS AND THE LAND USE MAP OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield in the County of Middlesex and State of New Jersey, and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority of same as follows:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

There is hereby created and established, pursuant to a recognized need and unacceptable shortage of housing for Senior Citizens in the Borough of South Plainfield in the County of Middlesex and the State of New Jersey, a Senior Citizen/Active Adult Zone (SC-2) permitting single family homes, townhouses, condominiums and apartment dwellings. The location of the newly created Zone shall be bounded to the North by South Avenue, to the East by Coolidge Street, to the West by the Port Reading Railroad and to the South by Lot 3, Block 517. Specifically the property affected by the creation of this new Zone is known and designated as Lot 1, Block 517 and consists of approximately 27 acres of land as depicted on the zoning map (the "Site"). Because of location and topography, the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield finds the subject property particularly suited for the use permitted hereby. Additionally, approximately 500 feet to the east of the subject property is the Edison Township border. The Edison Township lands at this location are zoned RB-PUD (Residential Planned Unit Development) which provides an approximate linkage to similar residential land uses. The purpose of this zone is to permit single-

family attached and multi-family units in the density hereinafter described provided that the dwellings are restricted to households consisting of at least one member who is above the age of 55 years, which will be achieved by way of age restrictive covenants, a variety of housing options and the inclusion of appropriate recreation and pedestrian circulation supportive of this use.

SECTION 2 ESTABLISHMENT

Section 714A

SC-2 MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL

714A-1 PERMITTED USES

A building may be erected, altered, or used and a lot or premises may be occupied and used for any of the following purposes:

A. Principal Use

1. Senior Citizen/Active Adult Housing. In connection with this title, the term Senior Citizen/Active Adult Housing shall mean that at least one member of the family living in the dwelling shall be at least fifty-five (55) years of age which will be achieved by way of age restrictive covenants, a variety of housing options and the inclusion of appropriate recreation and pedestrian circulation supportive of this use. All dwelling units shall be deed restricted for occupancy by households with at least one (1) person fifty-five years of age or older and with no person less than nineteen (19) years of age being a permanent resident thereof.
2. The wording of the required deed restriction as finally approved by the Governing Body shall be recited in the Master Deed and the Homeowners' Association bylaws, which also shall be reviewed and approved by the Governing Body and Planning Board as a condition of any Final Approval granted by the Planning Board or Board of Adjustment for an Age Restricted housing development.
3. All dwelling units within an age-restricted housing development shall be deed restricted for occupancy by households with at least one (1) person fifty-five (55) years of age or older and with no person less than nineteen (19) years of age being a permanent resident thereof and the wording of the required deed restriction shall be submitted to the Planning Board for review and approval by both the Planning Board and the Borough Council as part of the application for final subdivision approval, and the approved language shall be appropriately

recited in the Master Deed and the Homeowners' Association by-laws which also shall be reviewed and approved by the Planning Board and the Borough Council as part of the application for final subdivision approval.

One adult under fifty-five (55) years of age (other than a spouse) will be admitted as a permanent resident if it is established and approved by the homeowners' association that the presence of such person is essential to the physical care of one or more of the adult occupants. If more than one adult under fifty-five (55) years of age is necessary to care for the adult occupant, approval shall be required from the homeowners' association and a copy of its decision shall be filed with the Borough Clerk.

B. Accessory Buildings and Uses

1. Clubhouses, swimming pools, tennis courts, fitness or other recreational facilities, for owners, tenants and their guests, but not open to the general public.
2. Signs subject to the special conditions of Article VIII.
3. Fences and hedges subject to the provision of this Article.
4. Other customary accessory uses and structures which are clearly incidental to the principal structures and use.

714A-2 DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Development with the SC-2 Zone shall comply with the following standards and requirements:

- A. The entire zone shall be utilized for Senior Citizen/Active Adult Single Family, Townhouse, Condominiums and Apartments. Density shall not exceed 18 units per acre.
- B. Special requirements for Senior Citizen/Active Adult Dwellings:
 1. Principal Buildings
 - a. Minimum front setback - measured from the proposed street R.O.W. line - 35 feet.
 - b. Minimum setback from interior roads, both public or private, and parking areas - 20 feet.
 - c. Minimum side and rear yard setbacks - 35 feet.
 - d. Maximum building coverage - 25%.
 - e. Maximum building height - 4 stories or

60 feet, whichever the less.

f. Each principal building shall:

- (1) Not allow or contain outside television antenna. All television antenna equipment shall be built into the building to eliminate individual antennas from being erected on the roof. Not more than one common antenna may be used for each building.
- (2) There shall be a trash area completely surrounded by a six (6) foot high 100% solid architectural fence with front solid gates. A chain link enclosure will not be permitted. All outside trash shall be stored in this area and shall not be in public view over the fence height. All accessory appurtenances such as propane tanks shall be similarly enclosed.
- (3) Not be located within 50 feet of the outside perimeter of any pipeline transmission easement.
- (4) Be situated in a location on the subject property to reduce the negative impact on the residents of the proposed housing development from the ambient noise generated by vehicles traveling on Interstate 287 and by nearby industrial uses.

2. Accessory Buildings and Uses:

- a. Accessory buildings shall conform to the front setback requirement of the principal building. The side and rear yard setbacks shall be ten (10) feet. The height shall not exceed fifteen (15) feet.
- b. Only in-ground swimming pools shall be permitted and shall be enclosed by a permanent fence not less than four (4) feet in height with a locked gate. Building permits shall be required for all swimming pools, with a water surface area of two hundred and fifty (250) square feet or greater.
- c. No truck or commercial vehicle shall be stored or parked on any lot or portion of a lot.
- d. Accessory buildings attached to a principal building shall comply with the setbacks of the principal building.

C. All site design standards and specifications contained in the Development Review Ordinance of the Borough of

South Plainfield (Ordinance 762) shall be complied with except as modified by section 907.12 of that ordinance.

714A-3 PARKING

The number of off-street parking spaces for the dwelling units shall be determined by the Residential Site Improvement Standards (Title 5, Chapter 21 of the New Jersey Administrative Code).

Additional parking for visitors and for accessory uses such as the clubhouse and other recreational facilities shall be provided at the rate of one space for every two hundred fifty square feet of floor area for a clubhouse and one space for every two persons, based on the maximum occupancy, of other recreational facilities, up to a maximum of ten (10%) percent of the number of spaces required for the dwelling units. However, upon adequate showing to the Planning Board or Board of Adjustment, a shared parking arrangement shall be allowed and permitted.

714A-4 LANDSCAPING

Landscaping shall be required in accordance with Section 711.4 of this ordinance, except that the provisions of Section 711.4(B)(11) shall not apply. Instead, a twenty-five (25) foot deep buffer shall be established along the entire perimeter of the subject property, except at driveways.

714A-5 FENCES AND HEDGES

Fences and/or hedges provided in the SC-2 Zone shall comply with Section 711.5 of this ordinance.

714A-6 AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMPONENT

Ten (10%) percent of the total number of residential dwelling units built within this zone shall be reserved as Low and Moderate Income ("Affordable") Housing either to be constructed on site or be the subject of a regional contribution agreement. The provisions and regulations of the South Plainfield Borough Ordinance regarding qualifications for Affordable Housing Units shall be applicable to this zone.

The reservation/restriction of ten (10%) percent of the Residential Units as "Affordable Housing" shall constitute the entire Affordable Housing obligation for any development of the property that is the subject of this zone. No additional Affordable Housing contribution shall be required over and above the ten (10%) percent reservation.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$298.00

February 4, 2005

Sports

Wrestling News

By Bob Hunter

Middle School Wins 2 of 3

The Middle School wrestling team had their hands full on Sunday when they wrestled High Point, Kittatinny and Lenape Valley in a quad match. The Tigers defeated Kittatinny 60-30 and Lenape Valley 61-21 but lost a heart breaker to High Point 41-33.

The Tigers opened with High Point and lost the first three matches by fall before Nick Heilmann 85 got things rolling with a pin at 1:56. Ryan Sacco 90 then won by a decision 2-0. The next Tiger win came at 112 with Nick Pauls winning a 3-2 decision. Mike Wagner 119 then won by tech fall 20-4. Joel Santos 124 then pinned at 1:58. Justin Smith 140 won by major decision 9-1. Jonathan Conroy 175 close the show with a fall at :51.

In the Lenape Valley match the Tigers came out roaring with Tyler

Hunt 70 and Richie Szeliga 75 both won by fall. Nick Heilmann 85 won by fall while Ryan Sacco 90 won by decision 3-2. Mike Wagner 112 won by fall and Joel Santos 119 by forfeit. Nick Vallone 124 won by fall at :37. Justin Smith 132 won by major decision 14-1 and JJ Delillo won by fall at 1:33. Jonathan Conroy won by fall at 3:10.

In the final match of the day the Tigers forfeited 70 and Tyler Hunt 75 won by fall at 3:00. Richie Szeliga 80 won by tech fall 17-1. Nick Heilmann 85 won by major decision 10-0. Ryan Sacco 90 won by decision 3-2. John Wylam 95 won by fall at :21. Mike Wagner 112 pinned at :37. Nick Vallone 124 pinned at 1:24 and Justin Smith 132 pinned at 2:22. and Jonathan Conroy heavyweight pinned at 3:46.

Rec Wrestlers Beat Roselle Park

The Recreation wrestling team defeated Roselle Park in Central Jersey League match 58-15.

Troy Davidson 50 got the Tigers off to a roaring start winning by decision 6-1.

Ryan Walsh 53 followed with a major decision 12-0 win. Anthony Ashnault 60 continued the assault with a fall at 2:18. Kyle Brady 63 then won by decision 6-5. Dillon Painton

67 won by major decision 8-0. Scott Whalen 70 went on a tear winning by tech fall 16-1. Tyler Hunt 73 then pinned at 1:55. Troy Heilmann 77 followed with a 39 second pin. Chris Sloan 80 and Jeff Conroy 85 won by forfeit. Ryan Billich 102 needed 54 seconds to score his fall. Also wrestling were Robert Brenwell 57, Randy Jakubik 90, Mike Molinaro 95 and Shawn Gorman heavyweight.

Tigers Shocked by Kenilworth

In the much awaited showdown between these two Central Jersey League powers, the young Tigers held their own against the more experienced Kenilworth team, dropping a 51-20 decision in Kenilworth.

In the lower weights the Tigers kept it close with Ryan Walsh 53 scoring a tech fall 15-0. Anthony Ashnault 60 scored a fall at 2:57 to keep the Tigers in the match. Dillon

Painton 67 wrestled a solid match winning by decision 5-0. Scott Whalen 70 also came through with a big win winning a 4-0 decision. Troy Heilmann 77 gave the Tigers the last lead of the night 20 to 15 when he won by decision 4-1.

The strength of the Kenilworth team was coming up and they never looked back winning the next seven matches for the win.

By Lee Flanagan

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

We currently have 355 children registered for the 2005 season, down 61 from last season. Parents can still sign up their children until Feb. 28. After that date, they will be subject to a waiting list. In order to sign-up your child, call the SPJBC at (908) 754-2090 or Lee Flanagan at (732) 684-8347. The fee is \$115.

All managers and one assistant coach per team are set in all leagues; these individuals will be announced at our monthly meeting on Feb. 7 by the league directors. Reminder to everyone: You must have your Rutgers certification and must 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 for further details, 226-7713.

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 umpiring questions.

Our next monthly meeting at the SPJBC is Monday, Feb. 7, 7:30 p.m. At this meeting, we will ask all members with voting rights to vote on deleting new rule change Article I, #13, from the 2005-2006 playing rules.

Tryouts will be Saturday, March 5 at the PAL Building for ages 8-12; all players must tryout. You will be receiving a postcard in the mail with your child's assigned time to tryout.

We have tickets on sale for Mercedes. Michelle Kunie and First Class Travel are sponsoring the second prize. Tickets are available from Nancy Salici or any Executive Board member. Call the (908) 764-2090 for tickets.

Soccer Squirts Returns

The South Plainfield Soccer Club and United Soccer Academy will again be hosting the popular "Soccer Squirts" program this spring. Age groups are 3-5 and 5-7. Dates for the programs will be April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 21, and June 4. Cost is \$89.

All sessions will be held at the Kenneth Ave. fields.

To enroll, please go to WWW.UNITEDSOCCERACADEMY.COM.

Tigers Beat High Point 37-28

The SPHS wrestling team, now 11-0 on the season, had a crucial win over number 11 High Point on Saturday. Chances are good the Tigers could face High Point again at the Group III finals later this month.

The Tigers who did look a little flat did what had to be done in securing a 37-28 victory.

The match started at 135 with Eddie McCray leading off for the Tigers, who got things going when he pinned Connor Perdisatt at 1:20 to give the Tigers an early 6-0 lead.

Pete DeAndrea 140 followed with a major decision over Lee Tisler 12-3 to extend the Tiger lead to 10. Paul Ritchey 145 built a large lead before pinning Steve D'Amato at 4:37.

High Point got on the scoreboard when Mark Kehoe 152 won by decision over Mike Jakubik 8-4. Sam Martin 160 was in a battle with Alex Dalrymple and dropped a close 2-1 decision. Mark Wagner 171 gave Derek Orr all he could handle before

getting caught and pinned in the third period.

Kevin Crilley 189 stopped the bleeding when he won by decision over Kasy Campbell 9-8. Preston Johnson 215 had a tough job facing the number two rated 215 in the state in Dave Zabriske who won by fall. Rob Maistickle was bumped up to heavyweight and pinned Kyle Jorritsma at 3:08 of the second period.

Patrick Hunter 103 suffered his first defeat of the season dropping a 5-4 decision to Galvin Trasa 5-4. Billy Ashnault 112 got the crowd back into the match with a fall over Rob Swarts at 1:41.

Jimmy Conroy 119 kept the pressure on High Point when he put the match out of reach by pinning Shane Bosma at 3:09. Viet Vo 125 then lost to Ryan Forbeck and Nick Dorey 130 lost a close decision 9-8 to Greg Martin.

Register for Pop Warner Football And Cheerleading

Registration forms will be mailed out to prior participants on or about Feb. 10. Forms will also be available at that time at the PAL and online at WWW.SPEAGLES.COM.

Please avoid the lines and return all forms by mail to SPFE, P.O. Box 7, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Walk-in registration will take place at the Eagles Field House on Kenneth Ave. Friday, March 4, from 6 to 8 p.m. and Saturday, March 5, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Visit our website at WWW.SPEAGLES.COM for details!

Back by Popular Demand!

THE BIG EVENT

To sign up for our March 18 borough-wide mailing, call 908-668-0010. Deadline to reserve space is Monday, March 9. Call the Observer early for best placement.

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BELLA SERA Merlot, Pinot Grigio 10.99 1.5 liter	LUNA DI LUNA All Blends 7.99 750 ml	HOGUE Cabernet, Chard, Merlot, Riesling 7.99 750 ml	CLOS DU BOIS Cabernet 13.99 750 ml
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SANDEMAN Ruby or Tawny Port 11.99 750 ml	FREIXENET Cordon Negro Brut 8.99 750 ml	BENTLEY'S London Dry Gin 11.99 1.75L	CLUB 400 Blended Whiskey 12.99 1.75L
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INVER HOUSE Scotch Whisky 14.99 1.75L	BACARDI Light or Gold Rum 18.99 1.75 liter	LEROUX POLISH Blackberry Brandy 18.99 1.75 liter	BUCKLER NON-ALCOHOLIC 12 oz. N.R. Bottles 13.99 Case
GREY GOOSE Vodka 80° 24.99 1.75L	GORDON'S London Dry Gin 13.99 1.75 liter	ABSOLUT Vodka 80° 30.99 1.75 liter	MIKE'S HARD LEMONADE, LIME CRANBERRY LEMONADE 11.2 oz. N.R. Bottles 21.99 Case
SAUZA Gold or Blanco Tequila 14.99 1.75L	CHRISTIAN BROS. Brandy 7.99 750 ml	ABSOLUT Vodka 80° 30.99 1.75 liter	ALL CASES REPRESENT 24 PACK UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
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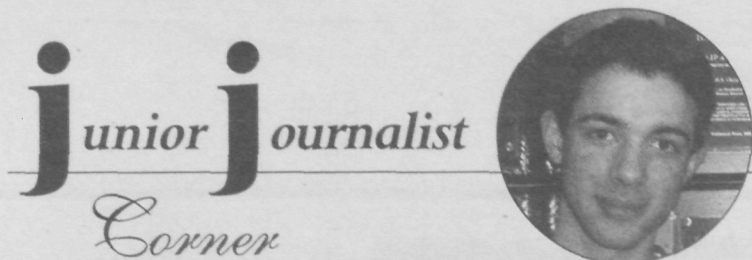
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Thurs. Fri. Sat. 9-10
Sun. 10-7



Steve Tietjen, High School Junior, Named "Junior Journalist"



SPHS Junior Steve Tietjen and Language Arts teacher Alisa Pecora, is this week's winner of the Junior Journalist contest.

High school junior Steve Tietjen's first place winning essay in the VFW's

'Voice of Democracy' contest is this week's winner in the *Observer*/Hometown Heros Junior Journalist Program. His essay 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.

There is a man huddled on the stoop of a disheveled townhouse near Canal St. in Greenwich Village. I can't tell you what he was wearing, because I've now forgotten. Neither can I regale you with the color of his eyes nor the sound of his voice. This broken soul whom I left on that stoop, his ragged baseball cap perusing through the crowd for spare change, came in contact with me for a few brief moments. Although I can recall none of his physical characteristics, I do remember his words:

"Can you spare some change for a veteran?" Yes, this man, a modern day Knight of American was left to implore for spare change on the streets of Soho in order to maintain his life. A veteran.

The word veteran always had a comfortable and distant meaning to me. A veteran was my grandfather, ripe with age and his friends—some lost and some still hanging in there. I'm sure they traded war stories over a deck of cards, inhaling the nostalgia soaked air of days gone by.

But this man was not my romanticized image. This man on the stairs had the appearance more of a bum than one who had risked his livelihood for the United States; on who should be enjoying his cigarette and a beer with the rest of them, whom we recognize.

This fleeting experience of mine haunts me as I reflect on the next generation of veterans. Are we to live in a country where we abandon our brave to the wolves and offer to them a quarter for their sacrifice? The blood of those that live and breathe in the dawn of everyday. When we pass this man on the street, he is not a stranger; he is our protector, our bashful and veiled sentinel. He is our hope and our brother. Yet, we speed past him, our noses in the air or our hearts momentarily sinking into our chests, or per-

haps that lump appears in our throat. But whereas we can continue on, the same lump in his throat as he choked on the stench of his dead comrades will never go away. Some will drop a penny, some a quarter and some a whole dollar and walk away with their backs turned to their guardian, congratulating themselves on a great show of benevolence.

As a society, we have lost our respect and reverence for veterans. Our nation is safe, secure and powerful and this we witness every morning when we wake up and are subject to the wishes of none save our own will. We forget that this is not the case in the rest of the world. For the past 300 years, men and women have been tirelessly working and struggling to maintain this unique freedom of livelihood. Sluggishly is credit given. The hand of thanks and praise is slow to extend itself to the lone octogenarian, walking in the Fourth of July parade behind the faded sign proclaiming his service to our country, his only companions being the ghosts of his fallen companions. They all

march to the same stifled drum as the homeless man on the street, whose purple heart is shaded by four layers of filthy clothing.

The veteran has been the backbone of our country since the first shots at Lexington and will continue being such until the almighty decides to end this earth. Now is the time to extend the hand of thanks and the embrace of friendship before the bone breaks and we descend into nothingness.

I doubt I shall ever see the veteran on the stoop again. I gather that he will implore for alms on the same surface for years to come. Yet before I could leave him forever, I did not offer him money; instead, I took the scapular off my neck and placed it in his cap. He looked at me and although I have forgotten their exact hue, his eyes looked at me and filled with their languishing.

"It's for constant protection from God," I explained.

He seemed puzzled, but replied with a heartfelt "thank you."

And I thought - 'No, thank you, sir.'

Borough Notes

Council News

- Michael Zushma has been appointed to the position of Project Coordinator-Construction effective Jan. 1, 2005. Zushma will coordinate several of the ongoing and upcoming construction projects in the Borough.
- If someone has a question or needs information they will be directed to Zushma.
- The council authorized the purchase of a tractor trailer from Storr Tractor at a cost not to exceed \$23,958. It will be used by the Public Works Department.

- Munidex has been awarded a maintenance contract through Dec. 31, 2005 at a cost of \$1,360.
- The Borough has entered into an inter-local agreement with Middlesex County Public Health Department through Dec. 31, 2005.

LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
January 28, 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 27, 2005.

Case #01-05—Angela and Anthony Otowski, Block 167; Lot 22; 518 Franklin Ave. The applicant's request for a westerly side yard setback variance for a second story addition with one voluntary condition was hereby GRANTED.

Case #02-05—William P. McLaughlin, Block 222; Lot 22; 305 Elissa Court. The applicant's request for a front yard setback variance to construct a porch with a covered roof and no walls with one voluntary condition was hereby GRANTED.

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

\$31.50

February 4, 2005

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF PENDING LEASE ORDINANCE AND SUMMARY

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, on February 1, 2005. It will be further considered for final passage, after a public hearing thereon, at a meeting of the Borough Council to be held at the Borough Municipal Building, Council Chambers, Plainfield Avenue, in said County, on February 15, 2005 at 8:00 p.m. During the week prior to and up to and including the date of such copies of the full ordinance will be available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk's Office for the members of the general public who shall request the same. The summary of the terms of such lease ordinance follows:

Title: BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS 2005 ROADWAY AND SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPROPRIATING \$1,140,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$620,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

Purpose(s): Various roadway and sidewalk improvements, including but not limited to, the expansion and construction of roads, the acquisition of permanent and temporary easements, the acquisition and installation of street lighting and traffic signals, the construction of sidewalks and curbs and storm drainage improvements, in and by the Borough.

Appropriation: \$1,140,000
Bonds/Notes:
Authorized: \$620,000
Grants:
Appropriated: \$118,100 Grant expected to be received from the Middlesex County Downtown and Business Improvement Fund, \$170,000 Grant expected to be received from the New Jersey Department of Transportation and \$200,000 Grant expected to be received from the New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund
Down Payments: \$31,900
Section 20 Costs: \$200,000
Useful Life: 13.47 years

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$66.50

February 4, 2005

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1687

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1687 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SPEED LIMIT ON NEW DURHAM ROAD BETWEEN STELTON ROAD AND NEW BROOKLYN ROAD IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, February 4, 2005 and a public hearing was 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday February 15, 2005 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

ORDINANCE NO. 1687

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SPEED LIMIT TO 45 MILES PER HOUR ON NEW DURHAM ROAD FROM STELTON ROAD TO NEW BROOKLYN ROAD

IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY as follows:

SECTION I. The speed limit of 45 miles per hour is hereby established for that portion of New Durham Road from Stelton Road to its intersection with New Brooklyn Road located within the boundaries of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey.

SECTION II. This ordinance shall take effect upon approval by the State of New Jersey, Department of Transportation after final adoption and Publication in accordance with the law.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$45.50

February 4, 2005

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1686

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1686 entitled: AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR PARKS AND RECREATION AND ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION FOR SAID POSITION FOR THE YEAR 2005 was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, February 4, 2005 and a public hearing was 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday February 15, 2005 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

ORDINANCE No. 1686

AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE FOLLOWING EMPLOYMENT POSITION FOR THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD AND ESTABLISHING THE COMPENSATION FOR SAID POSITIONS THE YEAR 2005.

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. The rates of compensation for each employee of the Borough of South Plainfield shall be on an annual basis as follows except where indicated. Such rates of pay shall be effective on January 1st of the years shown.

POSITION		BASE SALARY
		2005
AFSCME EMPLOYEES		
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR PARKS AND RECREATION		30,000 - 40,000

SECTION 2. INCONSISTENCY - All ordinance or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE - This ordinance shall become effective and operative ten days after the publication thereof after final passage.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$80.50

February 4, 2005

Voice of Democracy Essay

by Steve Tietjen

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SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING

Housing and Community Development
Block Grant Meeting

A public hearing for the 2005 Housing and Community Development Block Grant has been scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2006 at 7:45 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Ave.

The purpose of this hearing is to introduce projects being considered for inclusion in the 2005 Housing and Community Development Block Grant application. Public input on this project as well as input on any other projects will be entertained by the Governing Body at this time.

Further questions may be addressed to Councilman Raymond Petronko, Mayor's Representative to the Housing and Community Development Agency or Vincent Buttiglieri, Administrator / Municipal Clerk at (908) 226-7606 or e-mail at vbuttiglieri@southplainfieldnj.com

Back by Popular Demand!

THE BIG EVENT

To sign up for our March 18 borough-wide mailing, call 908-668-0010. Deadline to reserve space is Monday, March 9. Call the Observer early for best placement.

WOW! Look for Observer classified on our website: spobserver.com in the coming weeks!!!! **YOUR BUCK!**

Classifieds

Classified Rates: \$11 for 3 lines (min.) \$1 ea. add. line (10% disc. for 4 consecutive insertions)

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Obituaries

Anna "Ann" R. Demico

Anna "Ann" R. Demico died on Wednesday, Jan. 26 in her home.

Mrs. Demico was born in Stubenville, Ohio and moved to South Plainfield at an early age. She had resided here for over the past 85 years.

During the 1930s, she attended the NY School of Dress Design and she had worked as a dress designer in New York City and later worked as a seamstress for the former Hodes Dress Co. of Plainfield for 27 years before her retirement in 1987.

She was a life member of the International Ladies Garment Workers union Local 149 of Plainfield and was the Chairlady for the Union at the Hodes Dress Co.

Mrs. Demico had been a former volunteer for 15 years with the American Red Cross in Plainfield and during the 1960's and 1970's. She had been a volunteer at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield for 12 years.

She was a communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church and a member of the Court Watchung Chapter of the Catholic Daughters of America.

Her husband, Daniel Demico, died in 1985 and a son, Joseph J. Demico, died in 1992. She was also predeceased by a sister, Lucy Brandimarte and a brother, John Tom.

Surviving are two daughters, Diana R. Gallo and her husband, Carmine and Lucy A. Hudson and her husband, Marvin; a son, Dominic D. Demico and his wife, Ann, all of South Plainfield; 12 grandchildren; 18 great grandchildren and one great grandson.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Valerie E. (Vozab) Kaduk, 57

Valerie E. (Vozab) Kaduk died Monday, Jan. 31 at Quakertown Center in Quakertown, Pa., after a long, hard battle against respiratory disease.

Born in Queens, New York, she grew up in Old Bridge and was a 1965 graduate of Madison Township High School. She later resided in Elizabeth for a short time before settling to South Plainfield in 1969.

A very creative, artistic and determined woman, Mrs. Kaduk had been an extremely talented seamstress who had the ability to make anything. She turned her abilities into a small business, which she ran locally.

She was a long time active member of the Cedar Croft Bible Chapel, where she taught Sunday School and did missionary work. In addition, she was active with her daughter as a Girl Scout leader. Her desires and hobbies also included her love for swimming in the ocean and being an avid sports fan. She loved basketball and baseball, specifically the NY Knicks and the NY Yankees, paying special attention to the teams and player stats.

Surviving are her husband of 37 years, Joel; two daughters, Maria and her husband, Andrew Marzinke of Lansdale, Pa. and Jennifer Kaduk of Middletown, Conn.; a son, Michael Kaduk of Port Reading; a sister, Linda Mazola of Arizona and three adored grandchildren, Ashley, Rebecca and Andy.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in her memory may be made to the Cedar Croft Bible Chapel, 1715 Kenyon Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Anna J. (Sacco) Collins, 87

Anna J. (Sacco) Collins died Thursday, Jan. 27 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center, Plainfield.

Born in South Plainfield, she had resided there her entire life. Mrs. Collins was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church. Anna was employed at the Gindoff & Grunther Pocket Book Factory in South Plainfield for 25 years.

She is predeceased by a son, Gregory Collins in 1979; three brothers, William Sacco, Joseph Sacco and Nicholas Sacco and by a sister, Grace Arico.

Surviving is her loving husband of 52 years, Henry Collins; two sons, Robert Collins and Edward Collins and his wife, Michelle; a daughter, Carol Ann Collins Ray and her husband, Steve, all of South Plainfield; six grandchildren, Jessica Collins, Amanda Parzanese and her husband, Robert, Michael Ray, Heather Ray, Kristy Ray and Ian Collins; four great grandchildren, Jasmine, Alexander, Zachary and Jake and four sisters, Angelina Polite, Theresa Kalepach and Mildred Abbruzzese and her husband, Gurdo, all of South Plainfield and Mary Gallo of Long Island.

Funeral services were held at the South Plainfield/James W. Conroy Funeral Home.

Esther B. (Bell) Fyffe, 96

Esther B. (Bell) Fyffe died on Saturday, Jan. 29 at the Bridgeway Care Center in Bridgewater.

Born and raised in Northern Ireland, Mrs. Fyffe came to the United States in 1931. She resided in Plainfield for more than 60 years before moving to Bridgewater five years ago.

Mrs. Fyffe was a homemaker.

She is predeceased by her husband, William, who died in 1978 and by all of her brothers and sisters.

Surviving are two daughters, Margaret "Peg" Lacamera of Clinton Twp. and Irene LaMont of Westfield; a son, William Fyffe and his wife, Catherine of South Plainfield; eight grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews in Ireland.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Eleanor A. (Renelli) LaCosta, 84

Eleanor A. (Renelli) LaCosta died on Saturday, Jan. 29 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Elnora, Pa., Mrs. LaCosta was raised in Trenton and had resided in South Plainfield since 1945.

A member of Sacred Heart RC Church, Eleanor was a bookkeeper for her family business RCJ, Inc. in South Plainfield for over 28 years.

An avid traveler and baker, Mrs. LaCosta enjoyed her trips to Atlantic City, California and Florida. She loved being with family and friends and she was a devoted wife and mother that will always be remembered for her gentle smile.

She is predeceased by her husband, Charles C., who died in 2000; two sisters, Elda DiGorgio and Yolanda Allegretti and by two brothers, Joseph

and Zelio Renelli.

Surviving are two daughters, Roseann Lozinski and her husband, Thomas of Manasqua and Charlene Lindberg and her husband, Charles of Watchung; a son, Joseph LaCosta and his wife, Elizabeth of San Diego, Calif.; two sisters, Edith Persiani and Emma Cento, both of Hamilton and seven grandchildren, Thomas and Michael Lozinski, Chris and Erik Lindberg and Charlie, Diane and Katie LaCosta. Also surviving are two sisters-in-law, Victoria DeLayo of South Plainfield and Anne LaCosta of Kenilworth.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Shrine of St. Joseph, 1050 Long Hill Rd., Stirling, NJ 07980 or to the American Red Cross, Jersey Coast Chapter, 830 Broad St., Shrewsbury, NJ 07702.

Richard L. Bayer, 90

Richard L. Bayer died on Monday, Jan. 31 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born and raised in North Bergen, Mr. Bayer lived in Dunellen before moving to South Plainfield over 50 years ago.

He was employed with General Motors in Linden for more than 25 years working in various departments within the company. He and his wife, the late Emma C., who died in 2003, were the co-owners of Mom's Market in South Plainfield.

An avid traveler, he enjoyed trips to St. Martin Island, Atlantic City and numerous sections throughout the United States.

Mr. Bayer also participated in the Adult Medical Day Center program at JFK Hartwyk in Edison.

He is predeceased by all of his brothers and sisters.

Surviving are two daughters, Dorothy Traxler and her husband, Al of

Allentown, Pa. and Cathy Cribb and her husband, Joe of South Plainfield; a son, Robert Bayer and his wife, Patricia of South Plainfield and 10 grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Carol L. (Ejk) Lahm, 62

Carol L. (Ejk) Lahm, formerly of South Plainfield, died on Tuesday, Jan. 25 in Dearborn, Michigan.

Carol was born and raised in South Plainfield and graduated from South Plainfield High School. She lived in Middlesex before moving to Adrian, Mich. in 1979.

She is survived by three daughters, Karen and her husband, Michael Barnard of Fla., Kristen and her husband, Christopher Neimeth of NY and Suzanne and her husband, Jason Schug of Michigan and a sister, Patricia Rogers of South Plainfield. Also surviving are five grandchildren, Haley and Bridget Barnard, Alexander Neimeth and Claire and Conrad Schug.

Funeral services were held in Michigan.

Charles "George" Vomacka, 103


Charles "George" Vomacka died on Thursday, Jan. 27 at the Roosevelt Health Care Center in Edison.

Born in Romania, he resided in South Plainfield. Mr. Vomacka was employed with the Ford Motor Co. in Mawah for 53 years. George was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church.

He is survived by eight nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at the South Plainfield/James W. Conroy Funeral Home.

Our Beloved Sammy



Sam (Sammy) fourteen years old was put to rest Friday, January 28 after a brief and unexpected battle with arthritis. The most gentle and loving Lab/Sheppard mix on earth will be deeply missed by her only owners, Brian, Laurian and Skylar Cochrane.

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