

South Plainfield Preserver

NO FOOLIN'

VOL. 8, NO. 30

50 CENTS

APRIL 1, 2005

Spring Lake Park Designated Canadian Geese Sanctuary

At a special meeting of the National Save the Canadian Geese Association held last week, South Plainfield's Spring Lake Park has been designated as a refuge for all Canadian Geese in Central New Jersey beginning May 1. Apparently this designation supersedes anything the county or borough can do to prevent this refuge from becoming a reality.

Canadian Geese have been methodically chased out of parks and open spaces throughout Central New Jersey during the past few years and they are finding it very difficult to find a friendly place to live and multiply in peace. Because of their treatment, the National Save the Geese Association (NSGA) was formed to provide these animals with a more humane way of life. Because of NSGA, Spring Lake will become their new refuge and the geese will now have a place they can truly call home.

In order to accommodate the vast amount of geese that are expected to occupy the park, it will be necessary to prohibit pedestrians from walking and using the park except for two one-hour periods. Pedestrians will

be allowed in the park from 10 to 11 a.m. and 6 to 7 p.m. every day. Also pedestrians will have to walk in the park at their own risk and wear protective footwear since geese droppings will no longer be cleaned on a regular basis.

In addition to the geese occupying the park, Plainfield Ave. will have a special crosswalk designated so geese can cross the road to Memorial Park and Veterans Park. Drivers will be expected to yield the right of way to any and all geese crossing the road. Fines could run as much as \$1,000 and points will be assessed to violators. As of presstime the New Jersey DMV has not decided how many points will be assessed.

When Mayor Gallagher was apprised of the new geese sanctuary, he was speechless and unable to provide a comment.

Pedestrians walking in the park were very upset with the idea of not being able to use the park except for certain hours. The council has called a special meeting to discuss their options and have asked the members of the Republican party to join forces in stopping this action.



Area Canadian Geese will rest a lot easier now that Spring Lake Park has been designated as a sanctuary.

Borough Finds Solution to Boulevard Traffic Dilemma

The increase in traffic on Hamilton Blvd. has been the discussion of several secret meetings during the past year and the council has finally unveiled their new plans to ease traffic problems and wonder why they hadn't thought of this solution earlier.

Beginning in two weeks, traffic will be prohibited on the entire length of Hamilton Blvd. from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., thus eliminating the massive traffic jams that occur every day.

According to the Mayor, this will

not only help with the heavy traffic on the boulevard, it will save millions of dollars in the upkeep of the road. "It is a win-win situation," he said.

Those driving into and out of South Plainfield will have to find another route to get to their destination. Those living along the road will have to use the nearest side street to access their homes. They will also be expected to maintain the area in front of their houses during snowstorms since plows will also not be allowed on the road.

Another advantage to having the road closed is that police will no longer be required to patrol a vast amount of the south side of town, which would result in additional savings to the community.

Walking will still be allowed on the sidewalks along the boulevard and residents will be encouraged to use them.



Texas Hold'em Added to High School Sports

The Board of Education is expected to announce that the newest rage in poker, Texas Hold'em, will become a competitive sport at South Plainfield High School.

According to the Board, Texas Hold'em recently became an accredited sport nationally and South Plainfield, along with several other school districts, have decided to embrace the competitive game and add it to their sports schedule in the fall.

The Board is in the process of deciding to take it one step further by requiring each student at the high school to participate in at least one semester in order to graduate, starting

in 2006. It is being openly discussed by several committees and a decision will be forthcoming.

Texas Hold'em is unique as a sport because no physical skills are required to participate. Competing will require courage, strategy and nerves of steel, just as in other sports, but physical training will not be a consideration.

No coach has been named as of yet, but several teachers are taking Texas Hold'em crash courses so they can apply for the position. Students will also be required to take prep courses. The Board is contemplating adding the course to their summer school program.

Observer Announces Plans To Purchase Courier News

The overwhelming success of the weekly local paper has resulted in South Plainfield Observer's offer to purchase the popular daily newspaper, *The Courier News*. Negotiations are still in the early stages, but progressing smoothly.

"Bringing South Plainfield's news to everyone in the area is our goal," said Nancy Grenier, publisher of the *Observer*. "We feel South Plainfield's news can only have a positive impact on everyone reading the paper

throughout the area. There is always plenty state and national news reported through TV and the internet. Somehow our news just doesn't reach the masses and we mean to change that."

The *Observer* has been a very successful resource for everyone living in South Plainfield. Independent papers are making a big comeback throughout the country and we want to take the trend a step further.

Watch the *Observer* for the latest information on negotiations.

Aliens Land In Borough

The local police department has just confirmed what some residents have been speculating for years—aliens may have landed in South Plainfield.

Longtime borough resident Jeremiah Smithwold has made hundreds of reports to police of alien sightings over the past 30 years.

Last Thursday evening, Smithwold was entertaining council members at his home when what appeared to be lightning struck his home. Shortly thereafter, a knock at his front door revealed alien-like creatures. Four of the creatures entered Smithwold's home, attempted to communicate verbally and then removed all of Smithwold's home repair manuals and cookbooks.

The creatures then fled the home, returned to their ship and took off. One creature was apprehended and is being held for questioning.

Police are asking any witnesses to come to the station to identify the alleged alien in a lineup.

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NO FOOLIN'

If you enjoyed this edition of the Observer & would like to subscribe, call 908-668-0010.

Mark Your Calendars

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
April 5	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
April 18	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

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

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.
Regular Board Meeting Tuesdays at 8 p.m. (Date Change) April 5.

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.

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

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

April 13, May 11, June 8, July 13, Aug. 10, Sept. 14, Oct. 12, Nov. 9, Dec. 14 and Jan. 11, 2006

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.

To the Editor,

The usual campaign letters in recent years has been rampant with vitriol and name calling. I hope to not be brought to that circumstance.

Your has become of running on record or on what you see as the path you feel should be taken? Making a difference should be the reason for seeking office. Truth should be demanded of candidates, with no spin and no shading. Cronyism and all of its accompanying isms shouldn't be a part of the school board. Independent people with strong feelings for and pride in the place they live are what every town, borough and city should want to elect. Setting the record straight should be a necessary part of any knowledgeable and truthful persons agenda. To that end, I feel it only right that I correct a misstatement that was published in the March 25 edition of the *Observer*.

In stating that the board pushed a case (the English arbitration) that could have been settled for \$37K Mr. Smith is in error. I was present at the personnel meeting where this whole situation started. The two teachers involved, Mrs. Timko and Mr. English, along with their union representatives, were both present to state their views. The committee felt that Mrs. Timko's claim was valid. When informed that the board was willing to settle with Mrs. Timko and language stipulating that this would end the grievance, was presented to the representatives, they refused to sign off on the stipulated information and went on to survey the entire teaching staff for more people to add to the mix.

As this entire affair went forward, the Board continually offered settlement language. Board representatives even met with the union in the jury room of Superior Court after recess to try to work out a solution. We went away from that meeting with a verbal agreement. This was later rejected by the union representatives. Escalation continued until this matter was referred back to the ORIGINAL arbitrator. She, unsurprisingly, stood by her ruling.

Returning to my beginning premise, I believe that honesty, straightforward, clear language should be used by all candidates for public office. Negative advertising, personal attacks and general nastiness have become business as usual. I think, in this troubled world, that some old fashioned courtesy and genuine concern for your neighbor, is what should be practiced and I hope I can count on my fellow candidates to follow suit.

I'm asking that you, the voters, support my candidacy. "I want to bring back the pride, the stability and the solvency of the South Plainfield School District." Please vote Line 4 on April 19th.

CAROL M. BYRNE

Dear Editor:

On behalf of Roosevelt Elementary School's principal, Ms. Keogh, and the faculty and staff of Roosevelt Elementary School, we would like to thank everyone for making the Middlesex County Food Organization and Dis-

tribution (M.C.F.O.O.D.S.) Food Drive a success. As always, your generosity was tremendous! All the 12 containers were overflowing with donated items of different types of canned goods and dry foods. Thanks again for contributing to a worthwhile cause.

SINCERELY,
MRS. MOSLEY, MSW, LCSW
ASSISTANT COUNSELOR

To the Editor:

I knew it would appear as a reply in this section of the paper and it did. To Mrs. D'Alessandro I would like to say this. It's NOT about the kids, it's about the MONEY. Big, big, money. Put the emphasis where it belongs.

You may get the impression that I am against after school sports programs. The fact of the matter is that I'm not. I had two girls who took part in the field hockey program that started when they were in the high school and the financial disposition of the system was in better shape. However, I didn't screw up the finances of the school district. And I meant what I said. Cut what isn't needed to educate the kids. If teachers, sports programs and after school programs have to go, then they go. If a kid loses out on a sports scholarship because of the cuts, blame it on the school finance committee. Don't mismanage the money I have to give the school system through taxes and then have the audacity to ask me for more money. All that does is make my jaw more rigid. If sports are a real and important asset to the district then at this particular juncture in time the parents should pay to have their kids participate. The taxpayers should not be asked to support programs that are non-curricular, used as babysitter support for working parents, and have a decidedly heavy drain on a school system's finances.

What is needed here are people running for board seats that have a sound corporate financial background, can leave their egos and political aspirations at the door and get down and dirty to fix a lousy situation without mortgaging the finances of the system into oblivion. There ought to be at least three members who possess that qualification, as well as any legal expertise to mutually compliment that ability. They should be looking at the

Submit Letters to the Editor:

Please be advised that the *Observer* will not publish any anonymous letters until further notice. Any letter received without identification will be discarded.

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 or to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject.

administration process, including their own, from the superintendent on down. Unfortunately at the present time none of them can agree on what day of the week it is. It would appear that the people we are depending on are of absolutely no use to us in our present predicament and are more of a problem than a solution. They will be non-productive. It really makes you want to reach out and touch someone.

The school system should run on the KISS principal. Take the creative accounting out of the picture because that's what has gotten us into this predicament in the first place. Because a person has an MBA or a PhD doesn't mean they have the common sense to run a department or, for that matter, a school system. Book smarts are one thing and common sense is another. It appears that this is the one attribute not practiced by the present school administration/board. If one half of what I have read in the papers in the last year is correct, then there are people running the system that are under qualified. This town needs an outside audit done by a known accounting firm not associated with anyone in the town and it needs to be done once a year for at least five years into the future. The people responsible for this debacle should be fired for non-performance. The textbook leasing should be reinvestigated and the lost parking lot funds should be accounted for, line item by line item with footnotes. The people responsible for preparing the past budgets need to come clean about what they did and did not do. The school system has to clean up its act, and if they don't, someone will have to do it for them. Prior explanation of these events has been vague in response and convoluted in detail. The trust is gone.

ROBERT MESSER

South Plainfield Observer

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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.

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April 1, 2 & 3 at the National Guard Armory in Westfield

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Riley Principal Resigns Crown Named Acting Principal

A letter sent home to the parents of students at John E. Riley Elementary School from Superintendent Dr. Robert Rosado announced the sudden departure of the school principal, Randall R. Rossilli, Jr., effective immediately. This was Rossilli's first year in the district.

Some parents were surprised; however others were not. Plenty of rumors circulated, but none could be confirmed. Rosado stated in the letter, "When I am able to release any additional information, I will do so and that no child or staff member has been at risk, and rumors are just what they are—unsubstantiated gossip at best."

Assistant Superintendent Anthony Massaro temporarily took over the reins at Riley until March 21 when Rosado appointed Director of Curriculum Kaye Crown as acting principal until the position could be filled permanently.

The Board of Education officially

accepted Rossilli's resignation at their March 15 meeting, without any public comment, and after the meeting Board members refused to answer questions regarding his departure other than saying no charges have been filed, nor will they be.

Rosado attended the Riley School PTSO meeting on March 21 to promote the new school budget. However, he spent almost three hours fielding questions from concerned parents regarding Rossilli's departure.

According to parents who attended the meeting, Rosado reiterated that his hands were tied and he couldn't make any comments except that Rossilli's attorney advised him to resign.

Over the past few years Rossilli was employed by several different school districts in New Jersey. He had been an elementary principal for a year at the Riverdale Public School. Prior to that he was director of technology and

(Continued on page 9)

"Jesus" Sighted on Good Friday

Last Friday South Plainfield resident Bob Stevens and his family were seen by many residents walking near Spring Lake Park reenacting Christ's journey to his death on Good Friday.

the firehouse on Front St. Along the way they attracted passersby; one of them was Marcelo Palma, who parked his car and joined in the walk.

According to Stevens and his wife,



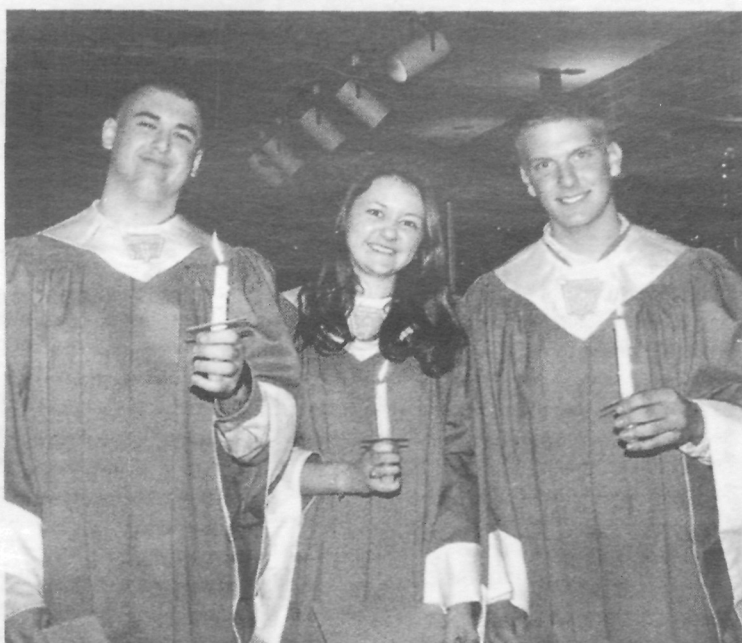
Bob Stevens as Jesus, along with his daughters Hannah and Abby, wife Rebecca and follower Marcelo Palma, on their pilgrimage through town.

This is one of the most solemn days of the year on the Christian calendar.

Stevens, dressed as Jesus, wore a crown made of twigs, a muslin robe hand painted with dirt and blood and carried a wooden cross he had made. His wife Rebecca portrayed Mary and daughters Hannah and Abby were dressed as disciples.

The journey began at their home on Delekas Ave., and continued on to

they reenacted the walk to remind people of the religious significance of the day and the silent testimony of God's love. They said that when they arrive home they intended to spend the rest of the day in prayer with their other three young children, Grace Anne, Joshua and Faith and later to watch the movie, *The Passion of the Christ*, at the Calvary Tabernacle in Cranford.



Anthony Romano, Katie Pollock and Gerry Butrico were three of the 56 inducted into the SPHS Honor Society.

SPHS Inducts NHS Members

By Michael Duquette

South Plainfield High School inducted 56 new members into the National Honor Society program during a ceremony recently.

Principal Dr. Kenneth May, Vice-Principal Steve Novak and Superintendent Dr. Robert Rosado were on hand to induct the juniors and seniors eligible for this prestigious honor.

SPHS guidance counselor Eileen Boettger, the school's NHS advisor, explained the process of selection to the National Honor Society: students are recommended for candidacy based upon their superior academic prowess (referred to in the National Honor Society manual as the characteristic of "scholarship"), which amounts to a cumulative grade point average of 3.25 or better. Students are also judged upon their leadership skills, service to the community and general character. Once inducted, NHS members work to better the community of SPHS through fundraising and other charitable work.

The inductees for this year are as follows: Hamed Ahmed, Shakellah Amini, Peter Assad, Ashley Bodner,

Gerry Butrico, Ashley Bitton, Eileen Cameron, Jenny Cheng, Lauren Ciandella, Shaunique Cisson, Joel Cortese, Jeffery Cupo, Kazuki Daimo, Peter DeAndrea, Samantha Deffler, Siobhan Delaney, Joseph DeNittizio, Keith Dezmin, Allison DiMeglio, Breanne Fore, Brittany Frazer, Zachary Gray, Kristen Gualano, Beverly Jamieson, Kevin Lahey, Jonathan Lopez, Krista Malecki, Christina Martin, Christopher McKnight, Danna Airie Mirasol, Brian Murtagh, Huan Nguyen, Deep Patel, Kaitlyn Pollock, Alishah Rametulla, Eric Reiner, Michael Richard, Andrew Roibal, Anthony Romano, Angelique Rualo, Courtney Sacco, Jessica Schwartz, Gina Severini, Devance Sewdat, Kevin Siedenburgh, Ryan Smith, Melissa Szeliga, Natalia Tamzoke, Steven Tietjen, Stephanie Troia, Amanda Veinott, Krystal Williams, Carla Zappi, and Matthew Zebrowski.

This year's NHS officers are Rosanna Mootoo, President; Stefanie Miller, Vice-President; Jessica Manning, Secretary; Dawn Besser, Treasurer; Alyssa Maiorino, Parliamentarian; Cassandra D'Urso, Historian; and Michael Benak, Public Relations.

Mark your calendars!

Senior citizens are advised that Superintendent of Schools Dr. Robert Rosado will visit the Senior Center on Monday, April 4, 1:00 p.m. to offer a presentation on the proposed school budget. Time will be allowed for questions and answers. All seniors are encouraged to attend.

Music & Art Festival Tickets Now on Sale

The South Plainfield Public Schools will present the 36th Annual All-District Music and Art Festival on Thursday, April 7 at SPHS starting at 6:25 p.m. Tickets for the festival are now on sale to the general public.

The festival will feature performances of instrumental groups, vocal ensembles and winter guard, as well as displays of art created by the district's many talented students. The art exhibits will be on display throughout the evening. The concert will be performed as three separate mini-concerts. Each concert will require a separate ticket for admission.

The orchestral concert starts at 6:25 p.m.; the choral concert starts at 7:30 p.m. and the band concert at 8:40 p.m.

The cost is \$2 per ticket per mini-concert. To order tickets, please send a letter of request specifying which concert (orchestral, choral, and/or band) and the number of tickets for each along with a check payable to South Plainfield Schools (include a self-addressed stamped envelope) and send to the attention of Andrew Weiss, South Plainfield Middle School, 2201 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080. If you have any questions you can reach him via e-mail: aviess@spnet.k12.nj.us or at (908) 754-4620 ext. 378. Orders will be filled based on ticket availability. No tickets will be sold at the door!

Curbside Pickups Begin

The Public Works spring curbside pickup is set for the week of April 4 for residents in District One.

Debris should be placed at the curb in front of the residence on Sunday, April 3.

Items should be either tied or boxed and be neatly placed at the curb. The amount of waste cannot exceed 12 ft. x 3 ft by 3 ft.

Pickups are for any large household items, not including recyclable items, yard debris and automotive items. Also concrete items will not be picked up.

Target Store Gets Final Approval

Planning Board approval of variances for National Realty & Development Corporation and Colorful Story Books will enable both entities to execute their building plans.

National Realty & Development had received final site plan approval on April 4, 2004 to extend Hadley Center onto a parcel of land formerly owned by Duke Energy/Texas Eastern which borders Stelton Rd. and Corporate Ct. The plans for that additional land include a Marshall's where work has already started, a

Target store, a bank, a restaurant and an office building.

The Planning Board approvals involved amending the final site plan to include a subdivision to separate the office building from the retail area. The Board also approved the plan of National Realty to lower the number of parking spaces from the zoning ordinance requirement of five spaces per 1,000 feet to 4.74 spaces per 1,000 feet set by the Institute of Traffic Engineers.

Under this plan there would be

1,086 parking spaces in the retail section, with 105 parking spaces for the proposed office building site adjacent to the 741 parking spaces in the parking area utilized by Regal Theatres. Also 15 new handicapped spaces will be positioned closer to the movie entrance, which were recently moved from there earlier location.

Colorful Story Books, a book binding and distributor/manufacturer of giant coloring books will now be able to put up a two story 15,128 sq. ft.

(Continued on page 9)

Events

Music Boosters Meeting

April 6

There will be a meeting of the South Plainfield Music Boosters on Wednesday, April 6 at 7 p.m. in the high school chorus room. All parents are urged to attend. Also hot food will be available to all attending the District Festival, along with desserts and drinks. Please support the kids!!!

Oklahoma at NJPAC

April 7

The Senior Center is sponsoring a trip to see *Oklahoma* at NJPAC on Thursday, April 7. Bus leaves the Senior Center at noon. Cost is \$40.

Purchase tickets at the Senior Center.

Glitterbug Club Event

April 10

The South Plainfield Clean Community Advisory Board is hosting a Glitterbug Club Event at the Highland Avenue Woods on April 10 off Sylvania Place at 1 p.m. They will be doing a brief clean up, having an environmental talk, a short hike and children will discuss their Litter Detective Assignment. There is still time to become a litter detective. The club is geared to fifth graders and younger, but they can also use older children! Do you need community service hours? Assist the Glitterbugs and learn how you can get involved and volunteer in a leadership or assistant role. For information call Marie Markey (908) 755-3213

Atlantic City Bus Trip

April 10

The Polish National Home will sponsor a bus trip to the Taj in Atlantic City on Sunday, April 10. The cost is \$20 with a \$17 coin return. Bus leaves the Polish Home at 10 a.m. For tickets or information call (908) 668-9442 or (908) 757-3428.

VFW Hosts Dinner

April 15

The VFW Post 6763, located at 155 Front St., will be holding a dinner on Friday, April 15 from 5-8 p.m. The public is welcome. For more information, call (908) 668-9751.

Cahal Dunne Concert

April 17

Cahal Dunne, singer, songwriter, pianist and comedian, will be performing at Sacred Heart Church on Sunday, April 17, at 3 p.m. Admission is

What's happening in APRIL

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

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
UPCOMING EVENTS	April 4-1 p.m. Senior Center – Superintendent Rosado to discuss the school budget April 7... Oklahoma at NJPAC \$40 includes transportation		Weekly Shopping Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10am	Bingo 10am-2pm Pizza Lunch Available
Knitting/Crocheting 9:30-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Drawing Class 11:30am	Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social 10am	Exercise 8:30am Line Dancing 10am AARP Crafts 1pm Computer Class 10 am 11:30 am, 1 pm Atlantic City 9am	Weekly Shopping Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11am & 1pm NJPAC Oklahoma 12pm	Bingo 10am-2pm Lunch Available
4	5	6	7	8
TO SIGN UP FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER, VISIT THE CENTER.				

\$20 and seniors and students are \$15. To purchase tickets or for more information, call (908) 756-0632 ext. 10, (732) 549-9633, or (908) 755-6416.

Rainbow Academy Open House

April 19

Rainbow Academy Child Care Center, located on Oak Tree Rd., will hold an Open House on Tuesday, April 19, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Limited space is available for the infant, nursery, pre-kindergarten and summer camp programs. Register on or before the open house and receive free registration and two free months of ParentWatch. For new customers only, mention the South Plainfield Observer.

Visit the center for a tour during operating hours. For directions and information, visit their website at rainbowacademy.com.

Spring Fest 2005 at First Baptist Church

April 23

A celebration of Arts and Crafts will be held on Saturday, April 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Henderson Hall of First Baptist Church on Hamilton Blvd. The event is sponsored by the Women's Evening circle. For information, call Linda at (908) 754-2386.

Tricky Tray Raffle

April 30

The Sacred Heart Home School Association is sponsoring a Tricky Tray

Raffle on Saturday, April 30 in the school cafeteria featuring baskets, sports memorabilia, gift certificates, bikes, 27" TV, a Dyson vacuum and more. The doors open at 6 p.m. and drawing starts at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$10 and includes five raffle tickets. For information or for tickets, call (908) 755-0891. Must be 18 years or older.

Trip to Las Vegas

May 27-30

The Senior Center is sponsoring a four-day trip to Las Vegas Friday, May 27 to Monday, May 30 (Memorial Day Weekend). Trip includes round trip non-stop flight on Continental, three nights at the Paris Hotel and Casino, round trip airport transfers to/from hotel and all taxes and baggage handling.

Cost is \$689, double occupancy. A deposit of \$200 per person is required to make a reservation. For reservations, call Joann Graf at the Senior Center at (908) 754-1047.

SPJBC Chinese Auction

June 10

The South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club Women's Auxiliary will be holding a Casino Royale and Chinese Auction on Friday, June 10, from 7 p.m. to midnight at the South Plainfield Italian American Club.

Price is \$50 p.p. and includes an open bar and buffet. Each guest receives \$500 in play money. Money must be redeemed for Chinese Auction tickets.

For information and tickets, contact Stacy Lake at (908) 757-9531. Tickets are limited to the first 100. Get your tickets early! They are available now and on opening day through June 1.

Senior Center EVENTS

— Out of Town —

Grief Bereavement Series

Through April 26

Center for Hope Hospice & Palliative Care will offer a four-week lecture series titled "Journey Through Grief" each Tuesday night, April 5 through April 26 from 7 to 9 p.m. The non-denominational lecture series is designed to assist those adults who have experienced the death of a loved one. It will be held at the Center For Hope's Administrative & Information Center on Raritan Rd. in Scotch Plains. Series is opened to the public.

Pre-registration is not required and there is no cost for participants.

Guests are invited to bring family members and friends. Refreshments and fellowship will follow each session. For information or directions, call center at (908) 889-7780.

Poetry Workshops

Through May 25

The Unlimited Potential Theater Company (UPTCo) will offer a Spring Poetry Workshop Series at North Brunswick High School in North Brunswick. Workshops will be held from 7-9 p.m. on Wednesdays, March 23 to May 25. The program is taught by Gha'il Rhodes Benjamin.

This program is offered free and open to ages 16 and over. For information, call (732) 745-3885, or info@vsanj.org.

Curves Grand Opening

April 4

Rose M. Berkowitz, President of RoseB Enterprises, Inc., announces the grand opening of the Franklin Curves for Women on April 4 at 9 a.m.

Stop by the club and check us out. We're located in the Hempstead Plaza Mall on Rt. 27 between Bennett's and Skillman's Lanes. Call (732) 476-5270 for more information or visit our website at www.curves-franklin.com. First 100 women who join as Check Draft members on their first visit are entitled to a 66% discount off the one-time service fee at our grand opening

St. Anthony Reunion

April 8

Calling all graduates and friends of the Friar Family! The Alumni Association of St. Anthony High School will be celebrating a Grand Reunion on Friday, April 8 at the Casino in the Park in Jersey City.

Festivities will begin with a cocktail hour at 7 p.m., followed by dinner and dancing until Midnight. All are welcome. Tickets are \$75 pp and available either by contacting the school at (201) 653-5739 or e-mail: alumni@stanthonyhigh-school.org. Information about the school can be found on the website at: www.stanthonyhighschool.org.

Auditions for Guys and Dolls at NJPAC

April 9 & 16

The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) Summer Musical Program and the Westfield Young Artists' Cooperative Theatre (WYACT) will hold auditions for the Broadway musical comedy *Guys and Dolls* on April 9. Final callbacks on April 16.

The show premieres on Friday, July 15 and runs through Saturday, July 24. For details call (973) 353-8051.

The Saturday, April 9 audition is singing open call, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. The dancing callbacks are at 7 p.m. at NJPAC, in Newark. Saturday, April 16 is the final callbacks at the NJPAC.

For information, call (973) 353-8051.

Stockton College Plans Benefit

April 9

Stockton College is presenting the 25th Silver Anniversary Spring Scholarship Benefit on Saturday, April 9. Tickets, sponsorships and volunteer opportunities are available. For information, call (609) 652-4658.

Peter Arakawa at Metuchen Art Works

April 9 & 10

Metuchen Art Works will feature artist Peter Arakawa at a reception on Saturday, April 9, 7 to 10 p.m. and a coffee talk Sunday, April 10 at 12.

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

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Middle School Student Faculty Game Raises \$2,100



By Patricia Abbott

The recent Middle School student-faculty basketball game was truly hilarious. With the agile talented youths pitted against teachers of varying ages, the elder team had to call on all of their resources. Desperate means call for desperate measures and the faculty was determined to win. Their methods included what some might call 'breaking the rules,' chicanery or downright cheating. Their antics brought roars of laughter from audience and student competitors alike. Not wanting to miss out on the fun referees Tom McCreesh and Tom Curtis sided with their generation and assisted the fac-

ulty team. The students quickly caught on and worked hard to outwit the devious educators.

Teacher John Limyansky served as DJ for the event and had the crowd energized long before the game started. The evening began with the introduction of the teams by the Voice of SPMS, teacher Jim Makowski. His hysterical if somewhat exaggerated intros of each faculty player made it obvious where his loyalties were. The faculty team consisted of 21 teachers including former Principal Fred Oberkehr. There was also a special guest appearance by Terry Allen, a long time middle school teacher and boy's basketball coach, who retired last year. The

girls and boys teams played alternate quarters. Coaching the girl's team was Rob Richkus and Dana Marotto. Joe Bennett and Jay Han coached the boy's team. Notably missing from the game were the comedic cheerleading teachers. Perhaps they felt they could not compete with the half time performances of the Middle School Cheerleaders and Color Guard.

Prior to the start of the game, VFW Commander Metro Kopchak and members Jules Peterson and Rudy Poczak joined in the salute to the flag and presented the school with a plaque thanking the students for their participation in the Youth Essay Contest.

The successful event raised \$2,100. In addition to ticket sales, funds were generated by the sale of hamburgers, hot dogs, beverages and candy. The food was donated by the Boyle family and prepared by Principal Al Czech and his wife Debbie. The game was a fundraiser to purchase pre-paid phone cards for the enlisted men and women of VFA-146, a Navy Strike-Fighter Squadron currently assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson that is underway on a Western Pacific Cruise supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom from the Persian Gulf. Teacher Joe Blondo met a pilot from that squadron while he was home on leave around Christmas and wanted to do something to support them. Teacher Barbara McDonough suggested purchasing pre-paid phone cards.

The winning shot was made by teacher Rob Richkus, winning the game 80-77. However some faculty members did admit the error of their ways noting that the students outplayed the faculty.

Blondo said, "The success of the game is due to a lot of hard work by many people who helped Joe Bennett and myself out with the preparation and execution and we think everyone had fun as well."



Knights to Sponsor Live Acoustic Concert

On Saturday, June 25 at 7 p.m. the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus will host a live acoustic concert with pop recording artists Billy and Rose Falcon. Billy Falcon, a well respected major label recording artist, singer songwriter and producer, will perform with his daughter recording artist Rose Falcon in this up and close live event. Billy Falcon will perform from his many albums including Mercury Records, "Pretty Blue World," including hits *Power Windows*, *Heavens Highest Hill*, *You Still Got a*

Prayer and songs from Billy's latest 2004 album release, produced by Jon Bon Jovi and Obie O'Brien.

Rose Falcon will then take over the stage with her guitar and powerful voice to sing songs from her Columbia Records album "Breakable," including hits *Up, Up, Up*, *Breathe Fire* and unreleased songs due to come out soon. Billy and Rose will go back and forth telling about the songs and then sing them with great acoustic guitar melody to go along.

This event is one that you will not

want to miss. Tickets for this event are limited and are available by advance sales only. Price per person is \$25, which will include concert and after show party which includes hors d'oeuvres and beer, wine and soda. Doors open at 6 p.m., concert starts at 7 p.m. Performers will be around afterwards to sell CDs and mingle with the guests.

For tickets, call Brian Cargill at (908) 755-9717. Check Billy and Rose Falcon at: www.billyfalcon.com or www.rosefalconfriends.com



Scouts Serve Up 55 Gallons of Chili

Story/photos by Patricia Abbott

Last month Boy Scout Troop 207 took the chill out of chilly during their Sixth Annual All You Can Eat Chili Fest. The event held in the high school cafeteria fed nearly 400 guests a hot meal of home cooked chili, salad, bread and beverages. The steady flow of hungry visitors kept scouts, parents and other volunteers busy for several hours. Six cooks created about 55 gallons of chili.


South Plainfield scout mom Angela Uffer smiled as she enjoyed her chili. The former "Chili Queen" chaired the event from its inception in 2000.

The chili event was founded by former Scout Master Randy Gemenden. He was inspired by a troop in Montana who had been holding successful chili fests for 20 years. The troop obtained the recipe and a new tradition was born. Food and other items were donated by area businesses. The fundraiser assists the troop with the purchase of new equipment and helps defer costs of trips. Leftovers are usually sent to appreciative Keystone building residents.

New scouts are welcome to stop in and visit the troop Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus on Hamilton Blvd.



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Lion Larry Massaro and Mario Medici prepare made-to-order omelettes for guests at the Lions breakfast.



These volunteers helped out at the Lions breakfast and were eager to help by cleaning tables and making sure guests were satisfied.

Lions Host Another Great Palm Sunday Breakfast

by Patricia Abbott

On March 20 members of the South Plainfield Lions Club were kept busy serving over 400 hungry guests. The annual Palm Sunday Breakfast offered residents the chance to dine on a sumptuous gourmet breakfast. The menu included made-to-order omelettes, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, french toast, waffles, and assorted beverages.

At 11 a.m. the room was still bustling with diners and people continued to arrive. The Lions noted it was one of the largest crowds they had seen in the 40 year history of the breakfast. After residents finished

their breakfast, children and grandchildren of Lions members quickly cleaned each table and reset it for the next hungry visitors.

In addition to the great food there was a 50-50 and assorted raffle prizes including: first prize-a seven piece Venetian patio set, second prize-a Kenmore gas grill, third prize-a 14" Huffy bicycle, fifth prize-a ladies watch, sixth prize-a cordless drill and seventh prize-a jigsaw. Prizes were donated by Boro Recycling, Cesaro Insurance Agency, Cindy Michael Jewelers, Federated Fire Services, Lordina Builders, Lions Club members, Vincent Buttiglieri, Michael Grennier and Roy Kaplan.

Author Mo Willems Welcomed at Franklin

By Libby Barsky

For weeks the children at Franklin School anticipated the visit of author Mo Willems by reading his books, drawing pictures of characters in his stories, writing reviews and suggesting titles for future books. Fourth graders wrote essays on why they wanted to have lunch with Willems and 14 of the essayists were selected for the honor.

Finally, on Tuesday, March 22 Mo Willems arrived at Franklin School to banners welcoming him and a full schedule where he shared, with everyone in the school, a reading of his two Caldecott Honor books, *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus* and *Knuffle Bunny*, and explained how he came to write and illustrate them. Willems has also won six Emmy Awards for his writing and animation on TV shows, including *Seesame Street*. A creator of Cartoon Network's *Sheep in the Big City*, he left his head writer position for "Code Name: Kids Next Door" to write more children's books after receiving his first Caldecott Award.

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus is a humorous look at a pigeon who dreams of driving a bus—but who never gets the opportunity. Pigeon is also featured in another book, *Pigeon Finds a Hot Dog*. Willems told the students it was apparent they had read his Pigeon books and he wanted to introduce *Knuffle Bunny*, a book recently published. *Knuffle Bunny* is the tale of a trip to the laundromat by a father with his daughter who hasn't begun to talk yet. She brings her "Knuffle Bunny" and discovers its loss when they return home and her mother asks, "Where's Knuffle Bunny?" The tension increases until the father retrieves the beloved stuffed animal. Willems told the students that the incident in *Knuffle Bunny* is a true one that happened to him when he took a trip to his neighborhood laundromat with his daughter Trixie (the same name that is used in the book) in the Park Slope Brooklyn neighborhood where he lives. In fact, after Willems told his editor the story, the editor told him to write it up as a book, as it was better than any of the ideas for books that Willems had submitted.

"Writing a story from what happened to you is one way to write," Willems pointed out to the students. "Another way is to describe what happened to others and a third is to make up the entire story," said Willems.

Willems also read *Leonardo, The Terrible Monster*—a story that will be published in the fall about a monster that couldn't scare anyone.



Author Mo Willems signs one of his books for a student.

lished in the fall about a monster that couldn't scare anyone.

Willems was asked about the placement of the pigeon, as pigeon was almost hidden in the hat of the monster Leonardo. "The pigeon hates it when the book isn't about him, so there is always a pigeon in every book," Willems explained.

Williams then went on to have the children draw with him the figure of the pigeon. He drew in a few strokes a circle for the head, then a smaller circle within for the eye and an even smaller circle for the pupil. He then placed two small triangles on a side of the circle for the beak. After each child followed Willems instructions he asked them to look at their neighbor's drawing and see that although everyone had used the same shapes they had drawn their own distinctive individual pigeons. No illustration was good or bad. "You are all artists and writers," Willems told the children.

Many students showed their enthusiasm for Willems' work by lining up at the end of the talk to have Willems sign his books for them with a personal message and often a quick sketch of pigeon or Knuffle Bunny.

"It was the first time I met an author and he signed my book," said second grader Madeus El. "He was cool," added second grader Sean Hutchenson. "I liked all his books. They are really great and funny," said Courtney Maino.

This was the first time an author had visited Franklin School. The activity was sponsored by the PTA, said Linda Wilson, chairman of the Cultural Arts Committee. Willems couldn't believe that he was the first, and complimented Franklin School Librarian Kim Alongi on how smoothly everything had gone. "Thanks for the compliment," answered Alongi. "But now I'm afraid to have another one because how am I going to top you?"

New Format for History Grants Announced

Starting April 1, Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission History Grants application will be available for the first time on CD as well as on the Commission's website, www.cultureheritage.org; by clicking on History Grant Forms. CD versions may be requested by calling the Commission, (732) 745-4489. History Grants are funded by the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders, Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission and the NJ Historical Commission, a Division of Cultural Affairs in the Department of State.

As this is the final year the Commission will be accepting hardcopy applications; staff are encouraging his-

tory groups to use the CD or the online format for download. These computerized versions are easier to complete than the hardcopy form in that the questions contain dozens of helpful "pop-up" hints on how to answer the questions; calculations will be done automatically, with all final calculations being placed in the summary section; other new features include more detailed questions, attendance charts and budget sheets with automatic calculations and help icons.

The computerized applications and ADA compliance forms are completely self-contained and include all forms, charts and budgets necessary for grantees to complete the grant application. The computerized application does not require any additional pages (as with the hardcopy format), with the exception of resume's of historians to be engaged, or for first time applicants, copies of their incorporation papers and tax exempt status. Groups awarded funding will automatically receive the final report CD by mail.

Any group that has received a History Grant in the past three years will be sent a CD automatically. Groups that will be applying for the first time are encouraged to request the CD by calling the Commission at (732) 745-4489, or to download it from the Commission's website after April 1.

The purpose of the history grants is to support programs relating to the history of New Jersey and its people, staffing needs, technical needs and publications. Applications are due to the Commission's office, 703 Jersey Ave., New Brunswick, NJ 08901, no later than 4 p.m., Thursday, May 19, 2005.

For more information regarding History Grants, or to register for the Help Clinic, call Isha Vyas, History Services Coordinator, at the Commission, (732) 745-4489 (voice), (732) 745-3888 (TTY users only).

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Kennedy to Hold Jump Rope For Heart

John F. Kennedy Elementary School will hold a "Jump Rope For Heart" event during the week of April 4, 2005. The students will jump into the fight against heart disease and stroke with Jump Rope For Heart. The children will participate during their physical education classes.

This popular event takes place in other schools all over the country. Students jump rope and collect donations from family and friends. Our efforts help other kids and adults who may have heart disease or stroke. Jumpers who raise a certain amount of money receive thank-you gifts.

Jump Rope For Heart is a school fitness and education program. It teaches the value of cardiovascular fitness while raising money for research into heart disease and stroke. These diseases are our nation's No. 1 and No. 3 killers.

Jump Rope For Heart is co-sponsored by the American Heart Association and the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

For more information contact Alan Hook at Kennedy Elementary School at (908) 754-4620.

Women Award Soup Kitchen Fundraiser

The Middlesex County Battered Women's Shelter, Women Aware, is holding their 13th annual Soup Kitchen Fundraiser...A Taste of Kindness on April 11 at 6 p.m. at the Pines Manor in Edison.

All monies raised at the event will support Women Aware's effort to continue its comprehensive program for children from violent homes. This program is called ELVES (Empower the Littlest Victims to Emerge Strong), which includes services to "empower" each child to discuss their feelings and resolve the fears that have resulted from living in a violent home.

The event for which members of the Central Jersey community enjoy dining on gourmet soups from many of the areas finest restaurants. Local establishments donate breads, cheeses and desserts, which tantalize the palates of the attendees. Door prizes and raffles round off the events of the evening.

The Soup Kitchen...A Taste of Kindness fundraiser was so named because one of the effects that domestic violence can often have on its victims; homelessness.

For information contact Eve Hook, at Women Aware at (732) 249-4900.

Attention Class of 1991!

It's time for the 1991 class reunion. We are trying to plan a 15 year reunion and we need lots of help, such as addresses and people who would like to be on organizing committees. If interested in helping, email your address and what you can do to help to the address below.

Anyone who can supply other peoples' addresses and know they would like to come, send it to us. As soon as we have enough addresses more information will follow. Continue to check the *Observer* for information.

This is an exciting time and I would like for all to be there. Email me at morintune1221@aol.com.



Roosevelt Holds St. Patty's Dance

Story/photos by Patricia Abbott

At Roosevelt School the wearing o' the green started as early as Friday, March 14 when the students celebrated St. Patrick's Day with a dance. Green was the color of the day, showing up everywhere; clothing, jewelry, makeup and even hair. The dance committee transformed the gym into a lively dance hall. Over 120 students and parents attended.

A DJ kept the kids hopping with their favorite dances and fast paced games such as Pass the Potato. Every student received a green glow bracelet and even those that lost the games received small prizes.

There were snacks and beverages to fuel the youths throughout the evening. Sixteen Middle School and Sacred Heart teenagers were on hand to assist with the dance to fulfill community service hours. They applied green freckles, temporary tattoos and helped in the kitchen.

The PTO sponsored event replaced the school's snowed-out 'Dance With a Loved One.' It was organized by parent Lynn Loalco.



John E. Riley PTSO Offers Two College Scholarships

John E. Riley PTSO is accepting applications for its annual college scholarships. Applications are available at the South Plainfield High School Guidance Department and at John E. Riley School in the main office.

John E. Riley's P.T.S.O. offers two scholarships of \$500 each. Applicants must be residents of South Plainfield

graduating from South Plainfield High School this June and must have been promoted from John E. Riley School.

The filing deadline for these scholarships is April 6.

Contact Mrs. Flannery at South Plainfield High School for more information.

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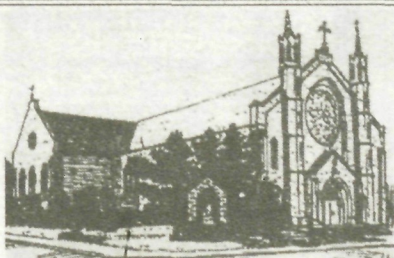
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Five Legal Documents Everyone Should Have

The time to plan for the future is when you are able to make decisions for yourself. If you were to suddenly become disabled and were not able to voice your wishes, your family might not know what you want and they may not all agree. Many people hold off putting their important legal documents together until they are faced with an emergency. Unfortunately, that can be the most difficult time to have to make decisions. Listed below are five documents that you should have. They will give you peace of mind that your family will have a plan to guide them through emotionally trying times.

1. A will specifies how your assets will be distributed. Without a will, the state divides your estate. The state may distribute your assets in a way you may not want.

2. A Durable Power of Attorney authorizes a person who you trust to make financial decisions on your behalf in the event you become mentally incapacitated. The extent of that person's power can be limited by the terms of the document.

3. A living will is a document that allows you to tell your doctor what to

do if you cannot communicate your wishes and specifies whether or not you want life prolonging medical care if you have a terminal condition. It allows you to establish the conditions under which you no longer want medical treatment.

4. A health care power of attorney is another document that allows you to give instructions for future health care and can be linked with a living will. It provides someone you designate with the authority to be your "agent" in the event you are unable to make health care decisions, not just for life and death situations. Discuss your medical wishes thoroughly with your agent and your doctor.

5. A financial inventory is a written record of financial information your family may need in an emergency. The inventory should list telephone numbers, addresses and account numbers for all financial accounts, insurance policies, personal property, investments, credit cards and other assets.

Take time to discuss your plans with your family. You may also want to seek the advice of a lawyer, doctor, clergy or counselor.

Suburban Womans Club Meeting To Feature Rockettes, Rockets

The Hillsborough Rockettes and Rockets will perform at the April meeting of the GFWC South Plainfield Suburban Woman's Club. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 7 at 2 p.m. at the American Legion Hall on Oak Tree Ave.

The Rockettes and Rockets are a group of 30 dancers (ages 70-80) who have performed in the Central Jersey area. The group regularly performs at local nursing homes, hospitals, schools, at parades and other community events. They are under the direction of choreographer and dancer

Gloria Padgett of Whiting, New Jersey. She and the Rockettes and Rockets have won numerous awards and honors. Last May, they were awarded the "Spirit of Somerset Award," for cultural arts at the George Street Playhouse. The members of the group consider dancing a way of life and they have made many friendships over the years.

Visitors are always welcome to the club's meetings. For further information concerning this program, or for club membership, please call (908) 757-3527.

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If this is something that interests you and you live within two hours of New York City then please get in contact. You can apply to be on Cash in the Attic by filling in our online application form found on the HGTV website at www.hgtv.com/hgtv.

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Pop Warner Eagles Offering Scholarships

The South Plainfield Football Eagles will again award four scholarships in the amount of \$500 each to former South Plainfield Eagles participants of football and cheerleading. Applications can be obtained in the guidance office of South Plainfield High School under the titles South Plainfield Football Eagles and Pop Warner, or can be down loaded from our website www.speagles.com. The deadline for applications is April 8, 2005. There will be no exceptions.

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Junior Journalist Corner

Eric Burnham, Roosevelt School Fourth Grader, Named "Junior Journalist"



Junior Journalist Eric Burnham with Roosevelt School teacher Ellen Decker-Lorys.

Eric Burnham, Roosevelt School fourth grader, is this week's winner in the *Observer*/Hometown Heros Junior Journalist Program. His poem, "When I Do Kiss You," has won 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 honored at a year end banquet on May 25.

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

When I Do Kiss You...

By Eric Burnham

When I do kiss you
It will be in all kinds of ways
It will be on the lips,
On the forehead,
Or on the cheek
But until I do kiss you
I'm going to pray
That our lips touch
BUT
For now,
My mom says
I'm not gonna kiss you
Because
I'm still a geek

Pilgrim Covenant Church To Host Missionary

Paul Noven, a career missionary of the Evangelical Covenant Church, will be the guest of Pilgrim Covenant Church on Wednesday, April 6. A potluck supper will be shared at 6:30 p.m., followed by a presentation of his ministry in Africa. Discussion will follow with a question and answer

period.

Noven currently serves in the Central African Republic, and previously worked for 17 years in Loko, Congo, concentrating on technical services. His work has been in agricultural areas such as fish culture, fruit trees, reforestation, helping with animal projects, village development and water turbines.

Paul and Cheryl Noven have been evacuated due to civil unrest in previous assignments. They have three children. Cheryl Noven's parents are Rev. Robert and Lois Hirsch, who served on interim pastorate at Pilgrim Covenant Church in 2004.

The public is welcome. The church is located at 3121 Park Avenue in South Plainfield.



SPHS Wrestling Team gathered to honor Kevin McCann, SPHS head wrestling coach and third grade Kennedy School teacher, who was named 2005 NJSIAA Wrestling Coach of the Year.

Kevin McCann Honored at Kennedy School Spirit Day

By Jane Dornick

Kennedy Elementary School held a Spirit Day on March 18 where students and faculty wore the school colors of green and white and participated in an assembly in the afternoon.

The students had a special surprise planned for third grade teacher Kevin McCann, who is also the SPHS head wrestling coach recently named by his fellow coaches as the 2005 NJSIAA Wrestling Coach of the Year. Coach McCann led the Tigers to an undefeated state championship season, sent seven wrestlers to the state tournament with two finishing second in the state.

The teachers had composed a cheer for McCann and they practiced it with students all week. During the assembly Principal Fred Oberkehr recognized him for his accomplishments, and the teachers led the children in the cheer praising him, which ended with each member of the school staff holding

a letter spelling out "Congratulations Coach McCann." Student Council members presented him with a cake, balloons and a handmade sign congratulating him. To his surprise, members of the high school wrestling team showed up and Rob Maistickle presented the coach with a plaque that read, "2005 State Coach of the Year-You Make the Difference-For Making a Positive Influence in our Lives."

Also on hand to show their support were Superintendent Dr. Robert Rosado, High School Principal Dr. Ken May, Head of Curriculum Kaye Crown, Staff Developer Mary Ellen Martko and Social Studies teacher and Team Leader Anthony Barca.

Kennedy School Speech Pathologist Peggy Monagle was also honored at the assembly after she was chosen by her fellow teachers as this year's Governors Award winner for teacher of the year from the school.

Apply Now For Ponytail Scholarship

Applications are currently being accepted for the South Plainfield Ponytail Parents Association's scholarships and can be obtained from the South Plainfield High School Guidance office.

To qualify for the scholarships, the applicant must be a high school senior graduating in June 2005 and a current resident of South Plainfield. To qualify for one of the recreation scholarships, applicants must have played for a minimum of four years in the South Plainfield Recreation Department's Ponytail Softball League. To qualify for the Ponytail All-Star scholarship, applicants must have played South Plainfield Recreation softball for a minimum of four years and South Plainfield Ponytail All-Stars for a minimum of three years. All-Star players may apply for both the recreation and All-Star scholarships; however, a player is eligible to

receive only one scholarship. Please refer to the application for further details. The filing deadline is April 30.

All completed applications must be mailed to SPPPA Scholarship, P.O. Box 441, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. Verification of school enrollment is required prior to funds being awarded.

Board of Education Meeting Change

The Regular Public meeting, originally scheduled for Tuesday, April 12, has been changed to Tuesday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m.

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Junior Journalist WINNER

Charlie and Debbie Kurland from Hometown Heros present dinner to last week's Junior Journalist contest winner, Robert Benwell, pictured here with parents Coleen and Rob and sister Nicole.

Congratulations Robert!

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Riley School Principal Resigns

(Continued from page 3)

media service in the Millburn Twp. school district for a short time. And prior to that he was supervisor of art, music and library programs at the Ramapo-Indian Hills Regional High School in Franklin Lakes, where he and two other school administrators were sued successfully for physically and verbally harassing a head art instructor there.

According to a story in a North Jersey newspaper in September of 2004, an art teacher at Ramapo for 32 years, claimed that Rossilli, along with another supervisor, screamed at her and repeatedly acted in a hostile manner causing her to file a lawsuit in 2002 and retire earlier than she had planned. Nelson also said that Rossilli made a number of comments implying

that she should retire and repeatedly denied her request for an aide after she tore a rotator cuff in 2000. The school district ultimately settled with the former instructor for \$100,000 last year. They also had to take out full page ads in a local weekly newspaper and the school paper stating their regret that she had retired earlier than she anticipated.

Target Store Gets Final Approval

(Continued from page 3)

addition to its existing building located on the corner of Hollywood Ave. and Hollywood Ct. The company will use the added space for additional storage space and an employee area.

Previously there had been a question about the number of parking spaces on the site. The borough estimated that 100 parking spaces were needed based on the size of the building. However, the president of Colorful Story Books, John J. Blewitt con-

tended that only 37 parking spaces were needed for the 60 member workforce which operates on two shifts. Many of the workers also car pool, lessening the need for additional spaces.

Blewitt also noted that much of the building was used to house large machinery and one third of the new addition would be used for storage of the large amounts of paper that comes pre-printed and is fashioned into books for various publishers.

Obituaries

Guido M. Celentano, 83

Guido M. Celentano died on Tuesday, March 29 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield following a brief illness.

Born and raised in South Plainfield, he was a lifelong resident.

During WWII Celentano served with the US Army and had been stationed in the Pacific, where he had seen action in the Battle of Okinawa. He was a member of the American Legion Chaumont Post 243.

Guido's career with the A&P as a produce manager spanned 40 years. He started in the produce department with the A&P in Plainfield and later had been assigned to Fanwood and South Plainfield. At the time of his retirement in 1988, he was the produce department manager at the A&P in Fords. He was a member of the United Food and Commercial Workers International.

He was a very active and a long time member of the Sacred Heart Parish in South Plainfield where he had served as an usher for 22 years. He was also a member of the church's St. Vincent DePaul Society. In addition, Guido was a member of the Knights of Columbus Council 6203, where he was a past grand knight.

He was predeceased by his brother, Julius "Sup" Celentano.

Surviving are his wife of 56 years, Jean Campana Celentano; three chil-

dren, Alfred Celentano of Ventura, Calif., Diane Leahy and her husband Joseph of Woodbridge and Jerry Celentano and his wife Doreen of Hampton; a sister, Alfreda Campana of Freehold; a brother, George Celentano of Edison and two grandchildren, Jesse and Alexarae Celentano.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

March V. (Pointek) Malecki, 88

Mary V. (Pointek) Malecki died Friday, March 25 in Manor Care Nursing in Easton, Pa.

Born in Minors Mills, Pa., she resided in South Plainfield for 35 years before moving to the care center two years ago.

Mrs. Malecki was a communicant of Our Lady of Czestochowa RC Church in South Plainfield, a member of the Sacred Heart Sharing and Caring, South Plainfield Senior Citizens and a lifetime member of the Polish Home.

She is predeceased by her loving husband Teofil Malecki in 1988; two brothers, Andrew Pointek and Martin Pointek and a sister, Helen Niemczyk.

Surviving are a son, Theophil Michael Malecki and his wife Mary of Easton, Pa.; three daughters, Lorraine Delgado and her husband Peter of Belvidere, Mary

Ann Powell and her husband Keith of Apopka, Fla. and Dorothy Malecki and her fiancé Joseph Pizzo of South Plainfield; eight grandchildren, Scott Allen and his wife Danelle, Richard Allen, David Allen, Barbara Allen, Amanda Allen, Jonathon Powell, Caitlyn Powell and Kimberly Powell, two great grandchildren, Jared and Jordan Allen and her dog, Ginger.

Funeral services were held at the South Plainfield Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the South Plainfield Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Joseph C. Nappe, Sr., 88

Joseph Charles Nappe, Sr., died Friday, March 25 at his home.

Born January 12, 1917 in Newark, he has resided in South Plainfield for the past 40 years.

Mr. Nappe served an enlistment with the U.S. Army during World War II where he did photography. He was a general manager for Equitable Handbags in New Brunswick, retiring in 1982. Joseph enjoyed gardening, traveling, fishing and especially spending time with his grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his granddaughter, Laura Ann Spottswood.

Surviving are his loving wife of 62 years, Antoinette (Benicassa) Nappe; a son, Joseph C. Nappe, Jr. and daughter-in-law Bella of South Plainfield; a daughter, Diahann Spottswood of Jacksonville, Fla.; six grandchildren, Joseph C. Nappe III, Anthony Vincent Nappe, David Spottswood, Eric Spottswood, Michael Spottswood and Garrett Spottswood and his sister Florence Mulley of Toms River.

Funeral services were held at the South Plainfield Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Haven Hospice, 65 James St., Edison, NJ 08818.

Lawrence M. Kuna, Sr., 52

Lawrence M. Kuna, Sr. died at St. Michael's Hospital in Newark.

Born in Pennsylvania, Larry resided mainly in New Jersey.

Surviving are his wife, Deborah Kuna; a daughter, Jessica Kuna of Paterson; a son, Lawrence M. Kuna, Jr. of Lakehurst and two brothers, Jack and his wife Nancy of South Plainfield and Edward of Toms River.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

June Meissner, 69

June Meissner died on Friday, March 25 at her home.

Born in Plainfield, she resided in Edison before moving to South Plainfield 60 years ago.

Ms. Meissner was an accountant for Lockheed, formerly in Watchung.

Surviving are a brother, Alfred Meissner and his wife Carol of North Plainfield; a niece, Carol Ann Meissner of North Plainfield and a nephew, Al Meissner of Basking Ridge.

Funeral services were held at the South Plainfield Funeral Home.

Lewis E. Owens, 70

Lewis E. "Grandpa" Owens died on Friday, March 25 in St. Luke's Hospital in Bethlehem, Pa.

Born in Monticello, NY, he resided in Plainfield and South Plainfield before moving to Easton, Pa. in 2000.

Lew was employed as a truck driver for Lombard Bros. of Elizabeth for 25 years. Before retiring in 2001, Lew was a driver for Aeropres, Inc. of Somerville for 17 years.

He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Korean conflict, was discharged with the rank of sergeant and received the National Defense Service Medal. During his service with the Marine Corps, a portion of his tour was serving at the doorway of the Oval Office at the White House during President Eisenhower's administration. He was also a member of the USMC Band and participated in President Eisenhower's inaugural parade in Washington, D.C. In 1980, Lew was honored at a dinner ceremony for his outstanding record of driving his truck for one million miles without a preventable accident and was inducted into the National Safety Council's exclusive Million-Mile Club.

He was a member of Mid-Jersey Trucking Industry Local #701 of North Brunswick and a past member of the Plainfield and Old Bridge Rescue Squad. Lew was an avid New York Giants and Yankees fan. He was also a dedicated NASCAR racing fan and following Dale Earnhardt's career.

His son, Michael Owens, died in 1981 and his grandson, Phillip Smickle, died in 1987.

Surviving are his wife, Aurina "Rene" Owens; three daughters, Linda Smickle and her husband Ron of Belvidere, Laura Arace and her husband Gene of Pittstown and Kathleen Smickle of Easton, Pa.; five stepsons and their wives, Michael and Margaret Tamburri of Freehold, Gary and Nancy Tamburri of Martinsville, John and Elisa Tamburri of South Plainfield, Christopher and Elaine Tamburri of South Plainfield and Guy Tamburri of Easton, Pa.; a sister-in-law, Elaine Savage; three nieces, Mary Savage, 1st Lt. Jeanne Savage and JoAnne McCrone-Ephraim and her husband Nicholas; a great-nephew, Joseph and his wife Susan; a great niece, Joelle Teachey and her husband Michael and a great-grandnephew, Seth Carter Teachey.

Also surviving are 19 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Joan E. (Striefler) Housel

Joan E. (Striefler) Housel died on Tuesday, March 29 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick.



Joan E. Housel

Born in Elizabeth, she grew up in Elizabeth and then Clark before settling in South Plainfield in 1971. With a second residence in Florida, Joan and her husband began spending time after their retirements in West Palm Beach for a few months every year.

Employed by the Plainfield Board of Education, she was the senior bookkeeper for 10 years before her retirement in 2000.

The matriarch of her family, Joan, was a great homemaker who loved to shop and spoil the family.

She is survived by her husband of 33 years, Walter A. Housel and a daughter, Shannon K. and her fiancé, Jim Rockford of Manasquan.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, April 1 at 10:30 a.m. in the McCriskin Home For Funerals, 2425 Plainfield Ave. Entombment will follow in St. Gertrude's Good Shepherd Mausoleum in Colonia.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to a cancer charity of one's choice.

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Sports



SPHS Freshman Baseball Coach Anthony Guida held a free batting clinic at the SPJBC complex on March 15 for members of the club. Pictured are Guida with the boys who participated in the clinic that evening.

By Lee Flanagan

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

We are continuing to get the complex ready for opening day and the upcoming season. This Saturday we are asking parents of all 11-year-old and 16/17-year-old kids who are playing in our program to come out and help us with a work detail. It starts at 8 a.m. The previous Saturdays were well attended and a lot has been accomplished, but as you know maintaining five fields, a clubhouse and two snack stands takes a lot of work. Also on Sunday April 3, all parents of 12-year-olds in our program are asked to come out starting at 8 a.m. to put the finishing touches on our complex in preparation for opening day.

Also this Saturday at 10 a.m. is our C-League orientation. All C-League parents and players are being asked to attend. This will be a very informative orientation telling you and your child the do's and don'ts of the SPJBC and how it works for you.

All parents who have not yet signed up for snack stand duty can come out on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Sunday from 8 to 10 a.m. and even Monday night from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. This is your last opportunity to sign-up for a date that is good for you. After Monday night, all remaining openings for snack stand duties will be assigned to those who did not sign-up willingly. We had 230 parents came out on a snowy night to sign-up for their snack stand duty. This great endeavor was coordinated by John Papa.

On Monday, April 4 our monthly SPJBC club meeting starts at 7:30 pm. All uniforms, assigned picture times and other information will be distributed to managers at this meeting. Come out and hear what is happening at the club.

Opening Day is Saturday, April 9, starting with our annual parade, opening day festivities, banner contest, bake sale and games that begin our 2005 season. We will honor Tony Cassano, Dennis Kazimir and Tom Kizcula with lifetime member awards, plus John Celentano, Dominic Papa and Sal Severini with Commissioner awards.



Ponytail Softball Batters Box

By Tom Gratta

Dates to remember—Opening Day is April 16. Games start April 11. All Star tryouts are April 30 and May 1. Tag day is May 5, 6 and 7.

To all coaches: don't forget your banner for opening day. The next Parent's Ponytail meeting will be held on April 26 at 8 p.m.

Grand marshal is Mike English. The SPHS Marching Band band will lead the parade and there will be a special guest, so check it out.

Selection of managers and coaches for our SPJBC traveling All-Star teams will be announced at the Monday, April 4 meeting.

We still have tickets for a Mercedes Benz. Michelle Kunie and First Class Travel are sponsoring the second prize—a trip for \$2,000 to any place you want to travel to. Tickets are available from Nancy Salici or any executive board member.

Wrestling News

By Bob Hunter

Ashnault Claims Third Consecutive State Title

By Bob Hunter

Well the Kids State Tournament does not have the flair of Atlantic City, but the wrestling was exciting with plenty of action, as South Plainfield wrestlers again had an outstanding tournament with one state champion and three second place finishers and twelve other place winners. The state tournament was held at two locations Union and Lakewood.

South Plainfield's lone champion was Anthony Ashnault Midget (60). This little firecracker racked up his third consecutive state title in one of the toughest weight classes in the tournament. Ashnault, the number one seed in the tournament, came out strong winning his first match by decision 8-3 over Ryan Higgins of Pascack Hills. In the quarter final round Ashnault defeated Collin Mitchell of Wrecking Crew by major decision 11-0. In the semi-final round Ashnault defeated fourth seed Jesse Thorsen of Belvidere 6-0 for his third straight trip to the finals. In the finals Ashnault had the task of defeating Joey McKenna of Pascack Hills. Ashnault defeated McKenna in last years final and it was no different this year. After a scoreless first period Ashnault took down at the start of the second period and quickly scored a reversal and held a 2-0 lead going into the final period. With McKenna in the down position he scored an escape half way through

the period, but it was not enough as time ran out giving Ashnault a 2-1 victory and his third consecutive state championship. Congratulations Anthony.

Other place winners in the Midget division were Dylan Painton (65), who recently moved to South Plainfield over the summer and finished in fourth place, while Kyle Brady (65) finished in sixth place. Troy Davisson (50) also finished in sixth place. Troy Heilmann (70) placed in his first state tournament with a very respectable fourth place finish. Scott Whalen (70) who was in the same weight but on the opposite end of the bracket finished in eighth place.

Let me tell you folks the Junior division was the action was this year with eight Tiger wrestlers qualifying and five of those wrestlers placing. The Tigers sent two to the finals with Ryan Sacco (90) leading off, who had a great year and a great tournament. Sacco the number four seed went to work winning his first match by fall at 1:34, and won his quarter final 8-6 and defeated Alex Lane of Phillipsburg 10-5 in the semi-finals, but came up short in the final 4-1 for second place. Mike Wagner (119) who was the sixth seed surprised a lot fans when he came out on fire winning by major decision 13-0 and 13-2 in the quarterfinals. In the semi-final round Wagner pinned second seed Erik Mitchell of Allamuchy at 3:15. In the finals Wagner lost to

Anthony Baldosaro of Voorhees (south) for second place. Also placing in the Junior division were Tyler Hunt (70) who lost his first match and then won the next four, then losing in the wrestleback semi-final then winning the seventh place medal. John Wylam (95) also finished in seventh place winning four matches on the day. His big match of the day was with Devin Biscana of Jackson a 1-0 upset victory. Corey Hay (100) was the biggest surprise of the day. After losing his first match he came back to win his next four to finish in eighth place.

In the Intermediate division Nick Heilmann (85), a second place winner last year, had his work cut out in a very tough weight class. Heilmann won his first match by tech fall 15-0 his second 2-1 and his semi-final match he defeated Sean McSweeney of Pascack Hills 7-6 to reach the finals. In the finals he faced defending champion Chris Villalonga and lost by decision 8-3 for second place. Justin Smith (133) also had a big day winning four matches and the seventh place medal. Jonathan Conroy (160) also finished in seventh place.

In the Cadet division Danny Pompilio (130) lost in the quarters and wrestled all the way back for third place. Nick Veruschi (125) lost his second match then won his next two matches for an eighth place finish. Congratulations to all the qualifiers and place winners.

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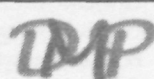
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police report

On March 23 Alexander Moravillaobos, 26, of Perth Amboy was arrested for exhibiting a fraudulent insurance card to the South Plainfield court Prosecutor as proof that he had insurance at the time of a motor vehicle stop.

Noe Ventura Mejia, 38, of Plainfield was arrested for exhibiting a fraudulent insurance card, not having a CDL license, transporting passengers for hire, no insurance and needing an omnibus registration at a motor vehicle stop.

A Bergen St. resident reported that an unknown male had attempted to remove some aluminum ladders from his property.

A Robert Pl. resident reported the theft of his wallet from his pants pocket in the unlocked clothing room at the PAL.

On March 24 Lyndsey E. Vena, 24, of South Plainfield was arrested for having an unregistered vehicle and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

Lateefah Ware, 30, of No. Plainfield was arrested for speeding, passing in a no passing zone and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

Ellie Ruiz, 31, of Edison was arrested at Kohl's for shoplifting \$939 worth of video games and clothing.

A Clinton Ave. resident reported the theft of a temporary NJ registra-

tion sticker from her unlocked vehicle that was parked on Wadsworth Ave.

On March 25 Ronald S. Gaines, 63, of Newark was arrested for speeding, no insurance and two outstanding warrants at a motor vehicle stop.

A Clinton Terr. resident reported the theft of a cell phone that was left in the locker room at the PAL.

A Duffy Pl. resident reported that someone had driven a vehicle across the front and side yard damaging the lawn.

On March 26 Charles L. Reliford, 33, of Edison was arrested for driving on a suspended license and two outstanding warrants at a motor vehicle stop.

German D. Romero, 31, of No. Plainfield was arrested for speeding and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

On March 27 Pathmark security reported the theft of a large amount of food and miscellaneous groceries by the night manager.

Oak Ridge Mfg. of Thomasville, N.C. reported the theft of a truck carrying furniture that was parked over night in the parking lot of Best Western on New World Way.

On March 29 Alfred O. Wilkins, 30, of Hillside was arrested for driving on a suspended license, maintenance of lamps and two outstanding warrants at a motor vehicle stop.

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

An appeal has been filed by Giuseppe Poletti requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit subdivision with new residence. Proposed subdivision (1) lacks 150' required lot depth, 144' being proposed and (2) 100' required lot width, 30.63' being proposed and (3) existing shed lacks 10' required rear setback, 6' being proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 3131 Park Avenue on Block 222, Lot 6 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, April 12, 2005 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 7:00 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

April 1, 2005

Classifieds

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Middle School Students Learn Lessons for Living

After taking a course on "Prejudice Reduction" at Kean University last year, South Plainfield Middle School seventh and eighth grade special education teacher Susan Schocklin decided to incorporate units on prejudice and prejudice reduction into her curriculum and to form an after school group dealing with this subject.

This past October Schocklin taught a unit on the Holocaust to her eighth grade History class. "The students were incredibly eager to learn about it and read stories of people that had survived this catastrophic event," Schocklin said. "We spent about three weeks indulging into the literature, stories, events, people and triumphs of the Holocaust. Before the unit, there were only a handful of students who knew about the Holocaust or had ever even heard of it. Once this unit was over, all of the students knew much more about World War II and Europe during this time period, the different people involved in the Holocaust and some of the reasons why the Holocaust happened. The students also learned some of the reasons why the events of the Holocaust were not prevented. Throughout the unit, students discussed social roles within our school, society and world and we were then able to link this to the Holocaust and eventually to the topic of prejudice reduction. I was extremely proud of my students for learning so much and maintaining a high level of maturity throughout my unit."

"Now I am teaching a unit on prejudice and prejudice reduction to my eighth grade Language Arts class.

We spent the first two weeks in January doing activities that involved reading, writing and creative thinking about prejudice, its reasons and what we can do to improve the conditions of our school and community. We had to take a break from the unit to concentrate on the GEPA prep for language arts, but the students are eager to return to the unit in the middle of March! By the way, our GEPA preparation for language arts is going very well. The students have completely grasped the main concepts of writing an essay. They have also mastered how to write specific types, including persuasive essays, business letters and picture prompts. Throughout the year, we have been

editing and revising many pieces of work so that the students would become successful in these areas as well. What's even better? We've actually had some fun while doing this!" Schocklin said.

Schocklin's after school group, which meets every other Thursday, is called "SPMS Student Alliance" and deals with the topic of prejudice reduction. She and another colleague, who also attended the Kean course, wrote up a mini-grant through the district and was approved at the end of last year. The Student Alliance was started at the beginning of this school year. The group has grown a great deal since its inception, mostly because more of the students are bringing their

friends to the meetings. The group talks about prejudice within the middle school, and students have the opportunity to describe their experiences. At the meetings, the students also discuss solutions for making their school a more tolerant place. So far, in addition to hanging posters and creating signs, they have just finished painting their first "anti-prejudice" mural in the school cafeteria for all to see. The group consists of about 20 students who are diverse in their races, religions, backgrounds, genders, school performance and their ideas. For the remainder of the school year, Student Alliance will continue painting murals and spreading the word about prejudice reduction and tolerance.

BOE Passes Budget at Tuesday Meeting

At a special meeting held Tuesday evening, members of the South Plainfield School Board unanimously passed the school budget for 2005-06.

Each member voiced their support for the budget. Board member Mike English said, "I will support this budget. This town has not been paying the true cost for education for the past few years."

The budget now goes on the ballot for approval by the voters on April 19.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice to Bidders

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey on **APRIL 19, 2005 at *** 10:00 AM ***** prevailing time in the Council Chambers of the municipal building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at which time and place bids will be opened and read in public for:

CONSTRUCTION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT DETECTIVES FACILITY

Specifications and other bid information may be obtained at the Municipal Clerk's office in the municipal building at the above address during regular business hours 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Only bidders who have picked up specifications will be allowed to submit bids. All bids must be submitted on the Proposal Forms furnished by the Borough. A bid bond in the form of a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond payable to the **BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD** in the amount equal to 10% of the highest bid amount, including alternates, if any, but not to exceed \$20,000 and a duly executed Consent of Surety. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27 et. Seq.), the New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act, N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.25, Employment on Public Works N.J.S.A. 10:2. EOE, ADAK

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$43.75 April 1, 2005

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its meeting held on March 24, 2005:

A. Case # 07-05—Robert Hughes Block 106; Lot 3; 214 Carlisle Street. The applicant's request for three separate side yard setback variances in order to allow two sheds and existing cellar doors to remain on his property was hereby **GRANTED** subject to voluntary conditions.

B. Case # 09-05—Sara and Paul Grzenda Block 219; Lot, 331 Clinton Place. The applicant's request for front and side yard setback variances to allow the construction of a second floor addition with the 4.9 foot northerly side yard setback and a 22.54 foot front yard setback was hereby **GRANTED**.

C. Case #11-05—Richard Goyette Block 129; Lot 1; 1905 Stratford Avenue. The applicant's request for a rear yard setback variance in order to construct a 12 foot by 19.73 foot deck to the rear of his existing single family home was hereby **GRANTED** subject to voluntary conditions.

D. Case #56-04—Joseph Panzarella Block 318; Lot 6; 428 Bergen Street. The applicant's request lot area and lot width variances in order to construct a single family dwelling with 1,742 square feet of space, on a lot with 5,000 square feet of lot area and fifty feet of lot width and with no bulk variances of any nature was hereby **GRANTED** with voluntary conditions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dawn Hunterton
Secretary Zoning Board of Adjustment

\$43.75 April 1, 2005



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