

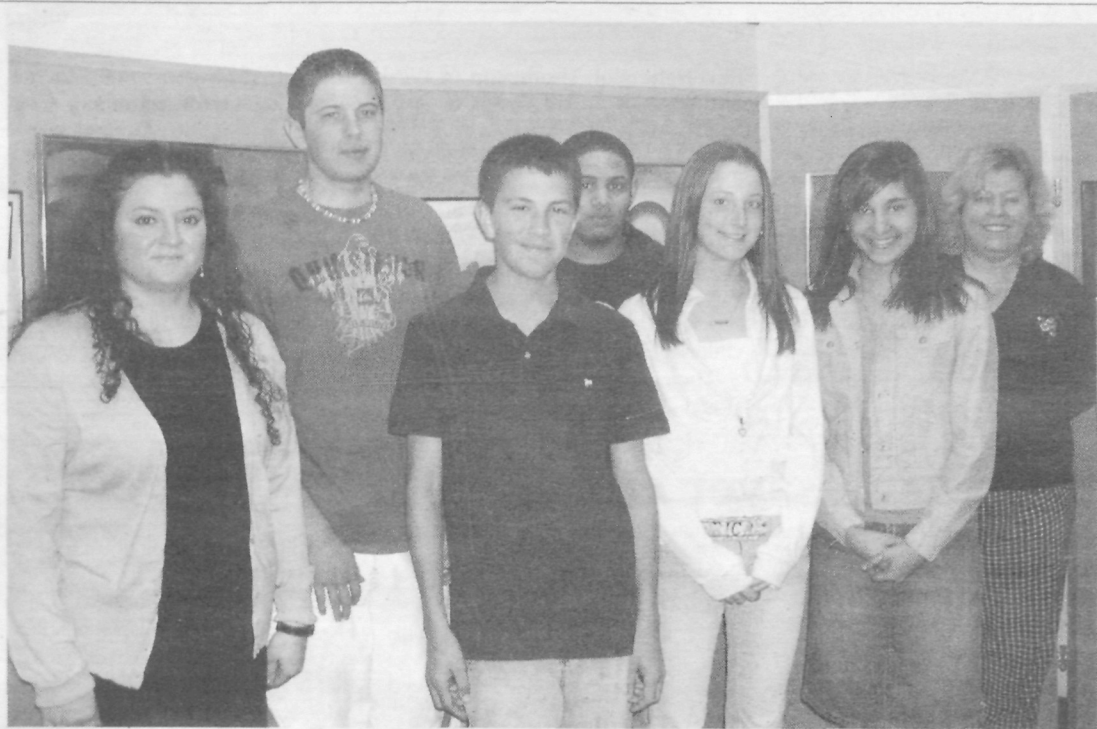


South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 8, NO. 37

50 CENTS

MAY 20, 2005



Left to right-SPHS 12th grade English teacher Alissa Pecora with poets Christopher McKnight, Bobby Harrington, Bryan Maldonado, Erica Bowden and Natia Katsantoni and ninth grade English teacher Donna Timko. These students were honored by having their poetry writing assignments included in "Teen Ink's" spring issue of the prestigious poetry journal. The journal is a semi-annual nationwide magazine for young writers.

Middle School Creates 50 State Quilt

Samia Guirguis' English as a Second Language Class at the Middle School recently completed a cooperative learning project called "The

50 States Quilt." This quilt was the culmination of a challenging thematic unit about the 50 states. Each square represents a state and was designed

by the students after doing research. Each state square incorporates three to five facts that the students learned. By the end of the unit, each student knew how to identify the states, their capitals, their location on the map and other important facts.

Guirguis used a variety of teaching tools, learning styles, media and approaches to present the lessons and engage the students. These included music, technology, visuals and team learning. The result was a high level of retention of the information taught and a harmonious learning environment, which fostered motivation and interest in the subject. The students' success is especially noteworthy because they are a heterogeneous group of Port of Entry (POE) students and others who have been in the program for only a year.

The quilt is currently on display on a bulletin board in the main hallway of the middle school near the library for anyone who wishes to see it.



From the left are Bryan Galvis, Genaro Gonzalez, Samia Guirguis, Michelle Bello and Victorya Glushko. Francisco Urtecho worked on the project but was absent the day the photograph was taken.

Water Co. to Do Road Work at Night

After meeting with local officials last week, Elizabethtown Water Company has agreed that the work to replace the pipes on Hamilton Blvd. will be performed at night.

When Elizabethtown originally told borough officials they would be replacing water pipes, they said the work would be done during the evening hours, but when crews began digging last week, officials were surprised to see them working during the day.

A meeting was called immediately and resulted in the water company agreeing to work only at night. They are now working Monday through Friday from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. The agreement will help alleviate traffic problems

during the daylight hours.

The area where repairs are taking place on Hamilton Blvd. allows only one lane of traffic to pass through at a time, with traffic backing up as cars and trucks are delayed in each direction. Police will be directing traffic during these repairs. Last week traffic was backed up all week.

Working at night may be an inconvenience to those who live on Hamilton Blvd. with the noise from construction equipment and the need to light the area, but will result in less traffic backups during the day. Drivers should avoid the area at night if possible. The work is estimated to take about 90 days.

Residents are reminded that the Hamilton Blvd. reconstruction will begin by the end of June. Motorists should plan alternative routes which best serves them.

The borough has installed two variable traffic signs, one before the overpass on Lakeview Ave. and the other on Durham Rd. just before the light at Hamilton Blvd. The signs will be used to alert drivers to traffic and can be updated in minutes with a laptop computer.

The *Observer* will provide updates on the latest road closures and construction areas as they become available. You can also log on to the borough's webpage at southplainfieldnj.com for the latest information on road conditions.

Girlfriend Blows Whistle on Resident

After serving a search warrant at a residence on Tompkins Ave. on May 6, South Plainfield resident David Ghigliotti, 24, was arrested for possession of stolen property by Kean University Police and for filing a false police report to the South Plainfield Police.

Ghigliotti's girlfriend, Cassandra Dorner, 24, of Hamilton tipped off police about Ghigliotti's part in the recent theft of two laptop computers and a desktop computer from

Kean University.

The South Plainfield Police Department was brought in when Dorner implicated Ghigliotti in a bogus burglary at his home which he had reported on May 4. A safe, jewelry and a PDA (personal digital assistant) that were supposedly taken were found in the home, along with the three stolen computers.

Ghigliotti is currently housed at the Union County Jail. Bail was set at \$10,000 with no 10% option.

Sukenik Earns Presidential Freedom Scholarship

Sara Sukenik has been awarded a \$1,000 Presidential Freedom Scholarship from the Corporation for National and Community Service and IBM Thomas J. Watson Memorial Scholarship Program in acknowledgment of her outstanding commitment to public service.

The Presidential Freedom Scholarship is a national initiative that promotes the young people's leadership in community service. The Corporation for National and Com-

service-related achievements of their young people, while encouraging others to get involved in service and volunteering," explained David Eisner, CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service. "Community service is an integral part of what it means to be an American citizen, and the Presidential Freedom Scholarship program is an excellent way to recognize young adults who are exercising their duty with distinction. We're proud to be



Presidential Freedom Scholarship recipient Sara Sukenik with South Plainfield High School Principal Dr. Ken May.

munity Service, which oversees the Presidential Freedom Scholarship, provides recipients with a \$500 scholarship. This award is matched with another scholarship of \$500 or more from a local organization. Over 31,000 scholarships have been awarded since the program's inception. This recognition of exemplary high school juniors and seniors would not be possible without the support of South Plainfield High School and IBM Thomas J. Watson Memorial Scholarship Program.

"The Presidential Freedom Scholarships are designed to help communities recognize the outstanding

able to offer these scholarships, which build community partnerships and make it easier for thousands to attend college."

The Corporation for National and Community Service provides opportunities for Americans of all ages and backgrounds to serve their communities and country through three programs: Senior Corps, AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve America. Together with the USA Freedom Corps, the Corporation is working to build a culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility in America. For more information, visit www.nationalservice.org.

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
June 7	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
June 21	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
July 12	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

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

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. June 7, July 12, Aug. 9, Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, Dec. 13, Jan. 10, 2006, Feb. 14, March 14 and March 28.

Regular Board Meeting Tuesdays at 8 p.m. June 14, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Dec. 20, Jan. 17, 2006, Feb. 21, March 21 and April 4.

taxpayers advisory group

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

site plan sub-committee

Meets once a month on the third Tuesday of the month, 8 p.m.

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

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

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.

June 20, July 18, August 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 19, Jan. 23, Feb. and March 20.

Wesley Methodist Provides Aid to Tsunami Victims

Wesley Methodist Church presented a slide show last Sunday to review the visit their delegation made to India in March. The group visited the scene of the devastation caused by last December's tsunami. They also dedicated an orphanage for homeless children. The group visited the Kanyakumari District, a region comparable in size to about four countries. It is located on the southern most tip of India where the Indian Ocean meets the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea.

The slides and photos showed just a small part of the destruction resulting from the tsunami. The group also visited a temporary shelter where 18 homeless families now live, sleeping on the ground, as well as a mass grave which holds more than 365 people.

The victims of the tsunami turned to the Nesamony Institute of Religion and Society for help. U.S. residents from the Kanyakumari District and the Wesley Church where Rev. Nehemiah Thompson is president of the institute, are helping the institute in its efforts to giving long term care to the surviving orphans and destitute children. The institute has rescued thousands of children from poverty over the years.

The delegation rented a temporary



Rev. Nehemiah Thompson of Wesley Methodist Church speaks to the audience about the needs of last December's tsunami victims.

home for 15 of the most destitute children and purchased land to build a permanent home for at least 50 children. Rev. Thompson is asking for donations to help build a four-story structure estimated to cost \$300,000, as well as help in sponsoring orphaned children at \$20 a month.

The event was sponsored by the National Association of Asian Indian

Christians in the USA, Inc. (NAAIC) and the Wesley Church Delegation.

If you would like to give a donation, make out your tax deductible check to: NAAIC and mail it to: Nehemiah Thompson, 1602 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

For information, call Rev. Thompson at (908) 756-1044 or email: Thompson3000@att.net.

Project Lifesaver Program to be Offered

Freeholders Christopher D. Rafano and Blanquita Valenti announced that the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders will be offering the Project Lifesaver Program to County residents during the latter part of 2005.

Freeholder Rafano explained, "Earlier this year, Barbara and Jay Sidrer of Colonia wrote to Board members requesting that Middlesex County implement a program known as Project Lifesaver. Project Lifesaver is a program to assist the families and caregivers of residents afflicted with various forms of dementia, as well as Down's Syndrome and autism, while, at the same time, protecting those residents from harm by providing a means of finding a resident who wanders from a secure environment. Project Lifesaver employs a system utilizing a personalized battery-operated radio wrist transmitter that emits a unique tracking signal every second, 24 hours a day. In the event that a resident enrolled in Project Lifesaver wanders from home or becomes lost, they can quickly be located by a specially-trained search and rescue team in a vehicle equipped with a tracking receiver."

Freeholder Blanquita Valenti added, "In most counties, Project Lifesaver is administered through the Sheriff's Department. Sheriff Joe Spicuzzo has enthusiastically agreed to coordinate the program here in Middlesex County. He will coordinate jurisdictional issues with the municipal police departments and will provide the staff and vehicles to operate the equipment and implement the program."

Rafano went on, "It appears that Middlesex County can equip two search vehicles and train 15 individuals to operate the search equipment for slightly less than \$6,000. Each wrist transmitter unit can be acquired at a cost of \$276.15 and maintained monthly at an average cost of approximately \$8. Batteries in the bracelet must be changed every 30-45 days.

Estimated annual costs in 2005 to implement a pilot program for 30 participants beginning in the fall of this year will be \$15,360. Funds are available to implement the program in 2005. No new staff will be required for this program."

Middlesex County Sheriff Joseph Spicuzzo said, "The Middlesex County Sheriff's Department is proud to be a part of Project Lifesaver and looks forward to its implementation this fall for

the benefit of the residents of Middlesex County."

Freeholder Rafano concluded, "Given the modest cost and the potential benefit offered by Project Lifesaver, I believe that it is a program which should be made available without delay to the residents of Middlesex County. Even if one individual is saved from harm, the minimal cost and manpower efforts required to operate this program will be money and time well spent."

IN YOUR OPINION

To the Editor,

We are writing as owners of the local Curves facility to thank all the township employees that responded so promptly to a major accident that occurred on the corner of South Plainfield Ave. and Front St. on Tuesday, May 10.

Within three minutes of reporting the accident, the police, the emergency coordinator and his team, the fire department and other essential personnel were on hand to handle the situation. It's very reassuring to own a business in a town that not only provides speedy responses, but one that employs efficient, conscientious and courteous personnel.

A special thanks goes out to Michael Zushma, Thomas Tracey and Bob Bengivenga whose professional, calm demeanor and quick knowledgeable

Submit Letters to the Editor:

Please be advised that the Observer will no longer publish anonymous letters. 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.

action allowed us to remain open to serve our members.

Once again, we would like to thank all involved and we look forward to providing continued service to the women of South Plainfield.

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JERRI HOCHRON & ELISSA BENNETT
OWNERS, SOUTH PLAINFIELD
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Church Office 908-757-2838 / Residence 908-756-1044
E-mail: WUMCSP@juno.com

South Plainfield Observer

The South Plainfield Observer is published every Friday

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

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

SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in the South Plainfield Observer:

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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.

Correction

On page one of the May 13 issue of the Observer the photo of the accident on Front St. and South Plainfield Ave. was incorrectly identified. The vehicle pictured was driven by 22-year-old Pooja Ladani, who was traveling north on Front St. when Julia Vakerich attempted to make a left hand turn onto South Plainfield Ave. in Ladani's path. The vehicles collided and Ladani's vehicle struck the curb and hit the Curves building. We regret the error.



Rev. J. Maciej Melaniuk, pastor of Our Lady of Czestochowa reminds residents that the Feast of St. Anthony begins June 7.

OLC Feast of St. Anthony Kicks Off on June 7

The Annual Feast of St. Anthony will be held at Our Lady of Czestochowa parish grounds from June 7 through June 11.

Advance ride tickets for the feast are available at the following South Plainfield locations: The Corner Deli on Hamilton Blvd., Sal's Spirit Shoppe on Park Ave., David's Stationary on Sampton Ave. and at Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish after weekend masses. Don't miss out on the opportunity to get \$18 worth of tick-

ets for only \$10, and avoid long ticket lines at the feast!

Any businesses or families wishing to sponsor the Feast of St. Anthony can contact Dale at the parish office: Monday-Thursday between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Call (908) 756-1333, or Jim at (908) 753-9763 after 6 p.m. Sponsorship is a great way to advertise and show support of the community. It's tax-deductible! A single booth sponsor ad can be purchased for \$50. Please call for more details.

Art Muglia Golf Tourney June 24

The Second Annual Art Muglia Memorial Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, June 24 at Spooky Brook Golf Course in Franklin Township.

Art Muglia was a dedicated South

Plainfielder and loved his hometown. Friends and family gather annually to share camaraderie, laughs and food and participate in one of Art's favorite hobbies, golf.

Golfers tee-off at 8:30 and afterwards will meet at Sherban's diner. Cost is \$100 for golf, cart, continental breakfast, prizes and food.

For information, call Jim Muglia at (973) 667-2466 or email him at Artsmemorialgolf@yahoo.com

Living Will, New Probate Law Seminar

The South Plainfield Senior Center is pleased to announce that a very important program on Elder Law will be presented on Wednesday, June 15 at 1 p.m. at the Senior Center. Attorney Kenneth Vercammen, Esq. will be the guest speaker and discuss such topics as the new Probate Law, preparation of wills, Living Wills and Advance Directives, Power of Attorney, Administering the Estate/Probate/Surrogate, Revocable Trusts and Irrevocable Trusts and Federal HIPAA Regulations on release of medical info.

Here is your opportunity to listen to an experienced Elder Law Attorney and find out all you need to know about estate planning and how to avoid the rigid provisions of the new state law. For information, please call the South Plainfield Senior Center at (908) 754-1047.

American Red Cross Offers Aquatics Training

The Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross will be hosting the following courses:

Lifeguard Training: Starting May 23-27 and will run on Mondays through Friday. Get the training needed to become an American Red Cross lifeguard. You must be at least 15 to complete this course. A second course will be offered starting May 23.

Lifeguard Instructor Course: Starting May 10-22 and will run Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays. The purpose of this course is to train instructor candidates to teach courses in the Lifeguarding program. You must be at least 17 to complete this course.

Please call (908) 756-6414 ext. 27 to register or for more information.



Left to right are Mrs. Hughes, Angela Raimondo, Kaitlyn Hughes and Lori Polito.

Family Math Event at Riley

John E. Riley School recently hosted Family Math for interested third grade families. Third grade teacher Angela Raimondo and fourth grade teacher Lori Polito were the facilitators of this event.

The purpose of Family Math is to enrich mathematics and bring families together. Eight families participated in the Family Math program. There were four nights of mathematical fun for these families. Each night families began by completing a bar graph and Venn diagram based on the topic given. Next, they estimated the number of candies in a jar. They also completed group activities led by the facilitators and finished the sessions with independent activities. The topics of mathematical fun were basic fact review, logical thinking, measurement, fractions and probability. Families were able to bring copies of all independent exercises and group activities home to continue the Family Math enrichment and fun.

Raimondo and Polito feel that the hard work and hours of preparation for Family Math was worth it. The parents expressed their positive feelings for the program each night as one parent said, "I liked that the families worked together with the children. We worked for our answers and we learned new things. Learning was fun for everyone."

Suburban Woman Chose Kaitlyn Pollock as Delegate

Kaitlyn Pollock has been selected as delegate to the Girls' Career Institute by the South Plainfield Suburban Woman's Club. She is completing her junior year at South Plainfield High School.

The Girls' Career Institute will be held at Douglass College from June

13 through June 16.

The delegates will experience a sample of college life, living in a dorm, eating in the cafeteria, attending lectures and workshops and learning about career choices. They also have the opportunity to network with delegates from other areas of the state. Organized sport activities, orchestra, crafts, games and after dinner sessions in the dorm are just a few activities that are available during the girl's free time.

The Girls' Career Institute is a program offered by the New Jersey Federation of Woman's Clubs. The South Plainfield Suburban Woman's Club sponsors a South Plainfield High School junior each year.

Affordable Housing Mtg. Announced

A public meeting has been called by the Affordable Housing Committee for the Borough of South Plainfield to discuss the Affordable Housing Program.

The meeting will be held on Monday, June 13 at 6:30 p.m. at Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave.

What's going on in your neighborhood?

Read all about it every week in the **Observer!**

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FRIDAY MAY 20 Beatlemania Now

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Events

VFW Dinner

May 20

The VFW Post 6763, located on Front St., will hold a dinner on Friday, May 20, from 5-8 p.m. The public is welcome to attend. For more information, please call (908) 668-9751.

VFW Flea Market

May 21

VFW Post 6763, located on Front St., will hold a Flea Market on Saturday, May 21, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. rain or shine. Vendors are wanted. The public is welcome to attend.

For information, call (908) 668-9751.

Colony Mortgage Presents Seminar

May 22

Colony Mortgage will present a free first-time home buyer's seminar on Sunday, May 22 from 1-5 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel in Piscataway.

Topics will include the investment of home ownership, home purchasing financing process and a wide variety of available loan programs.

Come join us for an exciting and information-packed event. Refreshments will be served. Seating is limited. To reserve a seat, call (866) 526-5669 ext. 130 and mention "seminar."

Boat Safety Classes at American Legion

May 23 and 25

Two classes on boat safety will be held at the American Legion, located on Oak Tree Ave. on Monday, May 23 and Wednesday, May 25. Choose either date. Classes start at 7 p.m. Cost is \$75. For information call the American at Legion at 668-9414 or Joe Penyak at (908) 753-4222.

AARP Meeting

May 23

The South Plainfield Chapter of AARP will hold its meeting on May 23 at 12:30 p.m. at the Senior Citizen Center. Election of officers will be held.

AARP Trip to The Villa

May 24

The South Plainfield Chapter of AARP will be going to The Villa by bus on Tuesday, May 24. Price is \$65 and includes transportation, gratuities, buffet lunch and the show at The Villa, *Broadway in Concert*, featuring live songs. Bus leaves the PAL at 10:15 a.m. For information or for reservations, call Lee at (732) 968-6613.

Pampered Chef Fundraiser

May 25

Grant School is holding a Stokes 2006 Fundraiser! Spend an evening

Elks Plan Bus Trip to Dover Speedway

September 25

The South Plainfield Elks will be sponsoring a trip to Dover International Speedway on Sunday, Sept. 25. Seats are still available. Cost is \$130 per person and includes ticket, bus, food, beverages, prizes, coffee and donuts at the lodge. A deposit of \$65 per ticket is required and the balance is due in mid-July. Make checks payable to South Plainfield Elks. Contact Barbara Muller at (908) 757-5734 or email: mullerjb@comcast.net.

What's happening in MAY

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

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

Senior Center EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
June 2—42nd Street \$45 Bus leaves at noon Living Will, New Probate Law Seminar June 15 at 1 pm				
UPCOMING EVENTS Knitting/Crocheting 9:30-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Drawing Class 11:30am AARP mtg. 10:30am	Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social 10am	Line Dancing 10am AARP Crafts 1pm Computer Class 10 am 11:30 am, 1 pm	Weekly Shopping Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11am & 1pm Cactus Flower 10am	Bingo 10am-2pm Lunch Available
23	24	25	26	27
TO SIGN UP FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER, VISIT THE CENTER.				

with us on Wednesday, May 25 at 7 p.m. as we host a Pampered Chef Fundraiser with "The Broadway Chef" David J.V. Meenan. Learn kitchen tips and get to see affordable kitchen tools from the Pampered Chef. Bring your friends. For more information, call (908) 756-1142.

American Legion Installation of Officers

May 27

The American Legion, located on Oak Tree Ave. will hold their Annual Installation of Officers ceremonies on Friday, May 27 at 7 p.m. A buffet will follow. All are welcome. For information call (908) 668-9414.

Annual Memorial Day Service

May 30

VFW Post 6763, 155 Front St., will be holding a Memorial Day service to honor those who gave their lives in service to our country on Monday, May 30 at 11 a.m. at the VFW. Refreshments will be served. The public is welcome. For more information, call (908) 668-9751.

Trip to 42nd Street at Performing Arts Center

June 2

The South Plainfield Senior Center is running a bus trip to the NJ Performing Arts Center on Thursday, June 2 to see the fabulous musical, *42nd Street*. Bus departs the Senior Center at Noon and returns around 5 p.m. Cost for the ticket and transportation is only \$45. You don't have to be a senior or a member to attend.

VFW Breakfast

June 5

The VFW Post 6763, located at 155 Front St., will be hosting a breakfast on Sunday, June 5 from 8-11 a.m. The public is welcome. For more information, call (908) 668-9751.

Rainbow Academy Plans Open House

June 7

Rainbow Academy Child Care Center, located on Oak Tree Rd., will hold an open house on Tuesday, June 7, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Rainbow Academy offers a variety of programs to fit your child's needs, from ages six weeks to eight years. There is limited space available. Ev-

eryone who registers on or before the open house will receive free registration and two free months of ParentWatch. This offer is for new customers only and expires 6/7/05. In order to receive this offer just mention the *South Plainfield Observer*.

For directions and information, visit their website at rainbowacademy.com.

SPJBC Chinese Auction

June 10

The 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 Italian American Club.

Price of \$50 p.p. 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.

SDW Auditions Dates Are Changed

June 14, 15 and 16

Auditions for the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop (SPSDW) play *The Pajama Game* will be held June 14, 15 and 16, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at the Middle School. Auditions are open to anyone completing sixth grade through their first year of college residing in South Plainfield. For more information, please call (908) 561-5255.

— Out of Town —

Hermus to Perform

May 20

The Indigo Coffeehouse in Aberdeen will welcome back Gary Paul Hermus for one show only on Friday, May 20 at 8 p.m.

For more information go to indigotrail.com.

Parker Gardens Presents 'Contain Yourself'

May 21

In response to the ever growing popularity of container gardening that continues to sweep the nation, Parker Gardens will hold their "Contain Yourself" seminar on Saturday, May 21 at 1 p.m. The seminar will tell you and show you the fundamentals of container gardening.

Parker Gardens is located at 1325

Terrill Road in Scotch Plains. Seminars and events are held throughout the year. For more information please contact (908) 322-5555 or visit www.parkergardens.com.

Open House at Messiah School

May 21

Messiah Lutheran School and Day Care Center, located on E. Front St. in Plainfield, is having an open house on Saturday, May 21 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will be accepting registrations for our summer camp program as well as for the 2005-2006 school year for ages 2 1/2 - 8 years old (Nursery-Second grade).

For information, call (908) 755-8430 or (908) 755-4525.

"Artists by Candlelight"

May 21

The Edison Arts Society will be holding its annual Gala Fundraiser Ball "Artists by Candlelight" on Saturday, May 21 at the Edison Arts Society Conference Center at Raritan Center in. Tickets cost \$150 each and can be purchased by calling the Edison Arts Society at (908) 753-ARTS.

28th Annual Bordentown Fair

May 21 & 22

The 28th Annual Street Fair in historic Bordentown is Saturday and Sunday, May 21 and 22, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This event features crafters, merchants and services, family fun, entertainment and food.

Tourette Support Group

May 23

Parents, teachers, and medical professionals are invited to attend a Tourette Syndrome support group on May 23 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Call TSANJ at (908) 575-7350 for details and directions. There is no charge to attend.

Adoption Support

May 23

CHATS (Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support) will be holding an adoption support, "Talking with Your Child About Adoption" on Monday, May 23 from 7:15-9:15 p.m. at Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church, in North Plainfield. There will be an open sharing of adoption-related

stories and light refreshments. For more information, visit our website at www.chatsnj.com or call Alyce at (732) 227-0607.

D.A.R.E. Carnival

May 31-June 5

D.A.R.E. New Jersey Inc., the largest drug/violence prevention and school safety program taught in NJ schools, is having its First Annual North Jersey D.A.R.E. Carnival on May 31 through June 5 at Westfield Shoppingtown Garden State Plaza. For more information, call (201) 843-2121 or visit www.westfield.com.

Aljira Art Auction

June 2

On Thursday, June 2 from 5:30-9:30 p.m., Aljira will present "Raising the Spirit: The Aljira Fine Art Auction 2005" at its downtown Newark location. A silent auction will be held from 5:30-7 p.m., followed by a live auction. For more information, call Paula at (973) 632-2165.

Canoe and Kayak Fair

June 4

The Jersey Shore Canoe and Kayak Fair will be held June 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Ocean County Park on Route 88 in Lakewood. Over 100 models of canoes and kayaks will be available to test paddle and purchase for adults and children. Free admission. Held rain or shine. For more information, call (609) 971-3085.

Janice Garbolino Memorial 5K Classic

June 4

The Metuchen Branch YMCA is holding the Janice Garbolino Memorial 5K Classic at Roosevelt Park in Edison on Saturday, June 4. Walkers are welcomed.

Walk starts and finishes by the lake at Lakeview School in Roosevelt Park. For information and to register, call Beth Helsby at (732) 548-2044.

Opening of "Phantasmagoric"

June 5

The opening of the statewide juried exhibit "Phantasmagoric," is Sunday, June 5 from 3-5 p.m. at the Sheraton Edison Hotel, located at 125 Raritan Center Pkwy. For information, call Nina Hand at (908) 753-ARTS or visit our website at www.edisonarts.org.

Golf Classic for Juvenile Diabetes

June 6

The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Mid-Jersey Chapter's Fourth Annual Golf Classic will be held at the Tournament Players Club at Jasna Polana in Princeton on Monday, June 6. Registration begins at 9 a.m. Silent auction will begin at 5 p.m., the awards ceremony at 6:30 p.m. Call (732) 296-7171.

Send Us Your Around Town Events

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

southplainfieldpeople Milestones

Renee Parisi Completes God and Me Program



Renee Parisi and mom Carolynn

Renee Parisi, a fourth grade Junior Scout from Troop 530, recently completed the God and Me program. On April 10 she was awarded the God and Me medal at The First Presbyterian Church in Metuchen, where she attends church.

The God and Me program is the first level of the God and Country Award Program available to Girl Scouts. Renee and another girl scout from Metuchen spent 10 months meeting with the Christian Education leader of their church Mary Ellen Robeson, while they worked through the God and Me workbook.

Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.) is a not-for-

profit organization whose national board of directors includes representatives from Protestant and Independent Christian Churches, Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., and Camp Fire USA. P.R.A.Y.'s mission statement is to "foster the Christian growth of children, youth and families through churches and youth serving agencies."

Thimons DeLair Chosen Outstanding Teacher of the Year

Sharon Thimons DeLair, having recently completed her internship in Nancy Furka and Marie Stemmler's class at Franklin School, has been chosen as Kean University's Outstanding



Sharon Thimons DeLair

Special Education Student Teacher of the Year. This honor is awarded to the student intern whose performance has been exemplary and who has maintained a grade point average of at least 3.65. Sharon will be graduating summa cum laude from Kean University on May 13.

A former student of South Plainfield High School. She excelled in field hockey, basketball and softball and currently resides in South Plainfield with her husband, Andrew.



Thomas R. Kunz, President & CEO Century 21 Real Estate Corporation presents a \$50,000 check to Maryann Lisewski, president of Open Your Heart to Children Battling Cancer at Century 21 Moretti Realty.

Century 21 Moretti Realty Fights Childhood Cancer

Residential real estate firm CENTURY 21 Moretti Realty raised \$50,000 at a fundraising dinner benefitting the Open Your Heart to Children Battling Cancer Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization they founded dedicated to research for children with cancer and related blood disorders. The event, which was held at The Chateau Grand in Lakewood, also honored Barton A. Kamen, M.D., Ph.D. and the Wall Township PBA 234.

Dr. Kamen, a leader in Pediatric Research and Treatment Development, received a donation from the Foundation for his continuing efforts to eradicate cancer in children. Proceeds from the donation will be designated to Dr. Kamen's Research Program at The Cancer Institute of New Jersey in New Brunswick. Dr. Kamen is a Professor of Pediatrics and Pharmacology at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, as well as the Division Chief of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology and an Associate Director of The Cancer Institute of New Jersey.

The Wall Township PBA 234 was honored for their continued support of the Foundation. They have donated almost \$25,000 to the Open Your Heart to Children Battling Cancer Foundation during the past two

years.

Guy Moretti, broker/owner of Century 21 Moretti Realty, founder and past president of the Foundation noted that the annual gala is a great opportunity to acknowledge the efforts, concern and commitment to finding a cure for children with cancer and related blood disorders. The dinner is one of several events the real estate firm sponsors each year for the Foundation. On Saturday, June 4, the Foundation will be working with C.O.A.C.H.es Care (Coaches Offering Assistance for Children's Health) on the annual golf outing, which will be held this year at the Heron Glen Golf Course in Ringoes. And on June 18, the foundation will again sponsor a picnic with the Wall PBA.

Since its inception in 2001, the Open Your Heart to Children Battling Cancer Foundation has raised over \$275,000 for pediatric cancer research and development.

"Our entire company is dedicated and supportive of the cause," he said. The 2005 Gala was coordinated by sales associates Mary Ann Lisewski, Andrea Lacerda and Dina Capparelli, who are also officers of the foundation's board of directors.

"Our goal," said Lisewski, "is to create a rainbow where the pot of gold will be a full and healthy life for all children." In addition to supporting research and development for pediatric cancers, the Foundation has extended its support to families in financial need as parents have to leave jobs to care for their sick child.

Located at 225 Maple Avenue in South Plainfield, Century 21 Moretti Realty is a full service, multi-lingual brokerage firm with 60+ agents providing real estate services throughout central New Jersey.

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This beautifully landscaped setting will take your breath away! Situated on over 1/2 acre of property adjacent to the Highland Park Nature Preserve. This Bilevel offers 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, living room, formal dining room, eat in kitchen, den/tv room plus a 25 x 12 foot family room addition with skylights and a wall of windows overlooking the property. This home features a brand new furnace and central air, vinyl siding, Marvin and Andersen windows, 3 dimensional roof, recessed lighting, central vac are just a few of the amenities offered. There is also an oversized 2 car garage with 2 separate interior entrances. A one of a kind home sure to please you and your family!

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SPHS Teacher Chosen for NASA Summer Institute



SPHS Assistant Principal Steve Novak (left) and Principal Dr. Ken May congratulate science teacher Pat Porzio on her upcoming trip to the NASA Summer Institute in Puerto Rico.

South Plainfield High School Science teacher Pat Porzio was thrilled when she received the news that she had been chosen to attend the 2005 NASA Summer Institute in Puerto Rico this July. She will attend the NASA Living with a Star Program, which is a unique opportunity to investigate science issues, the results of which affect everyone in their daily lives.

The workshops require several years of participation and the knowledge acquired will be used to enhance teaching in the classroom. Porzio said, "I am always looking to improve my teaching and I like to keep the kids interested."

SPHS Science teacher Kevin Haduk has also attended the NASA Institute.



Four hundred and fifty walkers trek around Spring Lake Park for Diabetes.

Walk Raises \$15,700 for Diabetes

By Patricia Abbott

Grant School students can be proud of their efforts to raise much needed funds and awareness for Diabetes. Their recent School Walk for Diabetes raised \$15,700. The May 6 trek around Spring Lake Park was led by Student Council Advisors Allison Schnieder and Rebecca Siegel 450 students and teachers. The group made two circuits around the lake. This is the fourth year the school has held the event, which had the full support of Principal Janis Burchell and Assistant Principal Leo Whalen.

During the weeks leading up to the walk, the youths learned about the

causes and effects of this disease via morning announcements. They raised additional money through the sale of awareness bracelets. Rebecca Siegel said, "This year's Walk for Diabetes was an impressive showing of generosity and spirit. I am very proud of the student and faculty efforts, and I am certain we will help many people as a result of this event."

An equally proud Allison Schnieder said, "Being in a school that is aware of the need for helping such worthy causes, I find it a fantastic and memorable experience for students to raise such large amounts of money and donate it to an organization like the American Diabetes Organization."

Census Bureau to Update Information on Housing

A nationwide survey conducted by the US Census Bureau in 2003 found that the country's households spent a median of \$684 monthly on housing costs. The respective figures for homeowners and renters were \$718 and \$651.

The Census Bureau has begun visiting 59,000 randomly selected housing units to update these figures, as well as other important housing information. The questions they will ask are part of the biennial American Housing Survey (AHS), the most comprehensive survey of U.S. housing conducted between censuses. The Census Bureau has been conducting the AHS since 1973 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The field representatives will gather information about the size, composition and condition of the nation's housing, as well as the financial and demographic characteristics of the residents. Specific questions will ask about the lot size, the year the struc-

ture was built, plumbing facilities, the type of mortgage, source of water, the frequency of equipment failures, the neighborhood's condition and residents' overall opinions of their neighborhoods.

By law, the Census Bureau protects the confidentiality of all identifying information about survey respondents and their housing units. Prior to the survey, local households selected in the nationwide sample receive a letter from Census Bureau Director Louis Kincannon. In the letter, it states that residents will be interviewed by a field representative carrying a photo identification card. Besides visiting occupied housing units, the field representatives obtain data on unoccupied units from landlords, rental agents or neighbors.

Joint HUD-Census Bureau reports on the survey's findings for the United States and regions are issued about 10 months after the interviews are completed.

By Bruce Harger

Books, books and more books! Visit our giant book sale this Saturday, May 21 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., rain or shine for a huge selection of books, videos and more. You can't beat the prices.

Children's Programs

Story time and crafting for children (3+ years of age) are offered at three different times during the week for your convenience: Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 1:15 p.m. The "Books 'n Babies" program meets at 10:30 a.m. on Fridays (except the first Friday of each month). It is designed for infants and children up to three years of age. Watch for further information about the *Summer Reading Club* registration will begin the end of June.

Adult Crafting Program

Join Practical Craft instructor Ronda Wisniewski on Monday, June 16, for another in our series of craft

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

programs (7 to 8 p.m.). Participants will be using polymer clay to create their own unique "Kaleidoscope Cane Pens." There is a nominal materials fee of \$2 and you MUST pre-register in order to participate.

Speaking of Crafting...

The library has recently acquired several new books that are full of great crafting ideas. These are just a few of the titles you can find on our shelves:

Easy Painted Home Décor by Gigi Wright and *The Complete Book of Decorative Painting* by Tera Leigh will help you add that special personalized touch to otherwise drab household items and furniture. Dana Marie Brooks' *Cut & Carve Candles* and *The Complete Book of Candles and Candlemaking* by Gloria Nicol will help shed light on the subject. If you are a "scrap-booker" or if you'd like to take on a summer project of creatively organizing your family album, these titles will help to motivate and inspire you: *Creative Stamping for*

Scrapbookers, Designing With Words, Designing With Notions and "Scrapbook Sampler" *Tips, Tags, & Titles*. If you are into polymer clay we have two new books that will tickle your creative impulses: *Polymer Clay Jewelry* by Debbie Jackson and *Step-by-Step Polymer Clay in a Day* by Emma Ralph. In the "miscellaneous crafts" category check out *Simple Fabric Folding for Halloween*, *The Complete Illustrated Stitch Encyclopedia*, *Painted Fabric Fun*, *Making Angels Ornaments*, and *Dolls by Hand* and *Fashion Sweatshirts* (this book helps you to make a simple sweatshirt into something you can be proud to wear). Last, but not least, we have several new titles for quilters that will get your creative drive into high gear: *Art Glass Quilts*/Julie Hirota, *Benni Harper's Quilt Album*/Earlene Fowler, *Country Quilts for Friends*/Margaret Peters, *Fat Quarter Small Quilts*/Darlene Zimmerman, *A Few of My Favorite Quilts*/Christiane Meunier, *A Gathered Garden*/Carol Armstrong, *Just Can't Cut It!*/Pamela Mostek, *Mad About Plaid!*/Debbie Bacon, *More Reversible Quilts*/Sharon Pederson, *One of a Kind Quilt Labels*/Thea Nerud... a very interesting book, bringing the new technology of computerized photography into play *Photo Fun* published by the *Hewlett-Packard Company*... *Quilted Woodland Décor*/Debbie Field, *Quilting With Donna Dewberry*, *Seasonal Quilts Using Quick Bias*/Gretchen Hudock, *Sensational Settings*/Joan Hanson, *Toppers*/Lynda Milligan, *Totally Tubular Quilts*/Rita Hutchens, *Triangle-Free Quilts*/Judy Hopkins and *100 Quick-to-Quilt Pot Holders*.

Historical Society Plans 2006 Calendar

At last meeting, the South Plainfield Historical Society introduced their campaign for their 2006 Pictorial Calendar.

Ad spaces are \$25 for a business card size or \$45 for a double business card size and a free calendar. The calendars will sell for \$8. The deadline for ads is

June 14. Calendars will be available for sale on Labor Day after the parade.

For information, email SPHistoricalSoc@aol.com. Businesses may send their cards with a check to the South Plainfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 11, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

junior journalist
WINNER

Charlie and Debbie Kurland from Hometown Heros present dinner to Junior Journalist winner Christina Kasmer, pictured here with mom Donna, dad Jay and brothers Alan and Mike.

Congratulations Christina!

Feed your soul...write!

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE

May 13, 2005—Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its meeting held on May 12, 2005.

- A. Case # 37-03—Hamilton Commons, LLC, Block 259; Lots 1.02, 5, 6.01, 7 & 12. Hamilton Blvd. The applicant's request for a use variance to permit residential apartments on the first floor of the (2) buildings to the rear of the site was hereby GRANTED subject to (6) voluntary conditions.
- B. Case # 68-04—Ruben Gonzalez, Block 7; Lot 28; 1146 South 9th Street. The applicant's request that this case be withdrawn without prejudice was hereby GRANTED.
- C. Case # 19-05—Tony Cassara, Block 82; Lot 24; 2511 Linden Ave. The applicant's request for a side yard setback variance to extend an existing dormer above a carport was hereby GRANTED subject to (4) voluntary conditions.
- D. Case # 21-05—Jeffrey S. Manno, Block 171; Lot 24; 178 Florence Pl. The applicant's request for a northerly side yard setback variance to construct a (2) story addition was hereby GRANTED subject to (3) voluntary conditions.
- E. Case # 23-05—Tracey Gratta, Block 324; Lot 4; 813 Bergen Street. The applicant's request for a front yard setback variance to permit a (2) story addition, front entry addition, and a porch extension with a new roof was hereby GRANTED.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Beth Khidre
Secretary, Zoning Board of Adjustment
\$45.50 May 20, 2005

**DEADLINE FOR ADS AND COPY
IS ALWAYS MONDAY, 5 PM.**

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE, that the undersigned shall expose for sale, in accordance with R.S. 39-10A-1, at public auction on May 27th, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, the below described motor vehicles which came into possession of the South Plainfield Police Department through abandonment or failure of owners to claim same.

Year	Make	Vin #	Status	Desc	Min. Bid
1993	Ford	12VCT20A0P5216627	Junk	2-dr Probe	\$1400
1985	Buick	164CW6938F1483926	Junk	Park Ave	\$1500
1993	Nissan	JN1HJ01F7PT083229	Resale	Maxima	\$2000
1992	Plymouth	2P4GH5537NR612941	Resale	Voyager	\$2100
1986	Ford	1FDFK37H6GNA55601	Resale	F350	\$2000
1981	Mercedes	WDB12602212084890	Junk	280	\$1200
1986	Nissan	JN1PS2685GW084064	Junk	200SX	\$1200
1991	Mercury	2MEPM36XOMB614574	Resale	Topaz	\$1600
1992	Honda	1HGE8644NL020026	Resale	Civic	\$1400
1994	Dodge	2B4GH2538RR766595	Junk	Caravan	\$2000
1996	Pontiac	1G2NE52M9TM510711	Junk	Grand Am	\$2800
1987	Olds	2G3GM11Y2H2352231	Junk	Cutlass	\$2000
1990	Audi	WAUCC544XLN054084	Resale	Quattro	\$2200
1989	Audi	2AUCB0441KN065480	Resale	Quattro	\$2100
2000	Toyota	2T1BR12E8YC294228	Resale	Corolla	\$4200
1988	Volvo	YV1FX8845J2239278	Resale	740GLE	\$1500
1954	Plymouth	13779335	Resale	Savoy	\$5000

\$61.50 May 20, 2005

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD Public Notice RETURN OF PERFORMANCE BOND

To Luis Santos for public improvements at 832 Spicer Ave. in South Plainfield, Block 6.02, Lot 379.

A public meeting has been scheduled by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield to hear objections, if any, to the release of a Performance Bond posted by Luis Santos for public improvements at 832 Spicer Ave. in South Plainfield known as Lot 6.02, Block 379 listed on the official tax maps of the Borough of South Plainfield. Said public hearing will be held on Tuesday, June 7, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

Luis Santos
832 Spicer Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
\$35.00



Cub Scouts from Troop 224, Den 7 at Riley School visited the *Observer* office to earn their "Go See It" bead. Sue Kaneps, art director/associate editor, demonstrated how the *Observer* is created each week. Scouts pictured are Matt Siepmann, Kyle DelPaoli, Alex Kelly, Dion Pender, Daniel Sprenger, Den Leader Diane Pender, Brian Csober, Trever Abood, and Diamond and Diana Pender.

Middlesex County 4-H presents E-Week Summer Program

Middlesex County 4-H will be hosting the 2005 Explorations Week Summer Program from Monday, July 11 to Friday, July 15 at the Middlesex County 4-H Center in East Brunswick. The program focuses on acceptance and belonging among attendees as well as having fun and promot-

ing self-confidence. Children from grades three through five are especially encouraged to take part, as there are many spaces open for this age group. Arrangements can be made for kids with special needs.

Attendees of the program will have a chance to choose from daily activities such as rocketry, dance, cheerleading, wilderness survival, drama, drawing and biking. The theme of E-Week 2005 will be "Adventures in Space." The cost of the program is \$145 for 4-H members, \$150 for non-members and includes program materials, lunch and beverages, an E-Week T-shirt, field trip and an optional Friday night overnight stay. Explorations Week fills up fast, so call now to get your registration in.

For information on E-Week or to register, contact the Middlesex County 4-H office at (732) 745-3446. 4-H will also accommodate efforts to carpool and the need for early drop off or late pick-up.

Greeting Card Contest Deadline Nears

The Mid-Jersey Chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation reminds area residents that the deadline is fast approaching for the JDRF's annual Greeting Card Contest. The cards give young artists a chance to increase the awareness of Type 1 diabetes and raise funds to find a cure.

The competition is open to children age 16 or under who have Type 1 (juvenile) diabetes, or who would like to dedicate artwork to their brother or sister who has Type 1 diabetes. For information on entering go to more-thancards.com and go to "art search."

policereport

• On May 3 a Norway Ln. resident reported that she had been followed home by two men who told her that the tire on her vehicle was wobbling and they would fix it, but they needed money. She gave them \$250, however while she was distracted by one suspect, the other entered the residence and took another \$243 from a tin container. The suspects then left to supposedly pick up the part and never returned.

• On May 4 Tomy Eathion Mayers, 52, of Edison was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

• K & G Delivery on Hadley Rd. reported that a Sony flat screen TV was taken from an unlocked truck.

• On May 5 Erik R. Bounds, 35, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

• James R. Cribb, 24, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated and careless driving at a motor vehicle stop.

• Miguel Angel Saavedra-Bravo, 21, of Plainfield was arrested for hindering apprehension by giving false

personal information, being an unlicensed driver and tinted windows at a motor vehicle stop.

• Gerrell E. Crawley, 19, of Piscataway was arrested for driving on a suspended license, driving without a license in possession, open alcoholic beverage, brake light out and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

• A So. 9th St. resident reported that eggs had been thrown at his vehicle.

• On May 6 a So. Plainfield Ave. resident reported that four CD's and some loose change had been taken from his unlocked vehicle.

• The manager of Meineke Mufflers on Hamilton Blvd. reported the theft of rubber gloves, a flashlight, lug nuts, two Polaroid pictures, a wrench and various car parts from a friends vehicle that did not run and was parked on the property.

• A Van Fleet Ave. resident reported the theft of two sets of keys and a purse from their unlocked vehicle.

• A Norwood Ave. resident reported the theft of four cartons of cigarettes and loose change from their unlocked vehicle.

• On May 7 an employee of Nutro

Labs on Hadley Rd. reported the theft of his wallet which was left on a vending machine.

• An Anthony Ave. resident reported the theft of a cell phone from their unlocked vehicle.

• On May 9 Estelle L. Rose, 34, of Plainfield was arrested for hindering apprehension, driving on a suspended license, unregistered vehicle, no insurance and two outstanding warrants at a motor vehicle stop.

• On May 10 a Vakarich Pl. resident reported the theft of \$20 in change and a pair of children's sunglasses from their unlocked vehicle. Another unlocked vehicle in the driveway had also been rummaged through, but nothing was taken.

ALMOST FAMOUS PLAYERS

Yard Sale

715 Sampton Ave.

5/21-9am-4pm & 5/22 Noon-4pm

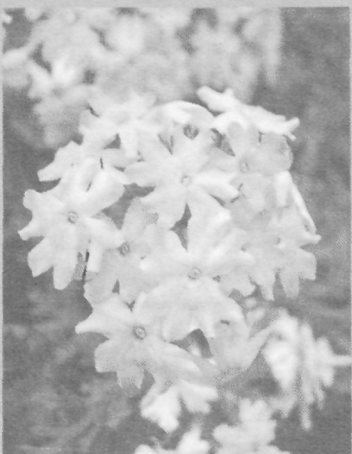
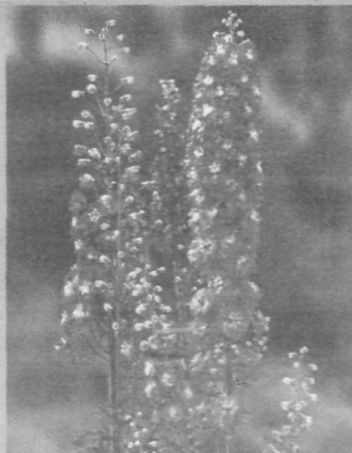
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Kids can play "fight a pirate" game

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Sports

Junior Baseball

'C' League Game Summaries (through week 6)

Red Sox vs Angels

Angels—Joe Bermudez made an outstanding throw from deep center-field hitting his cutoff man Daniel Vargas, who then threw a strike to home preventing a run from scoring. Cody O'Conner also sparked in the outfield, turning in a diving catch of his own, robbing the Red Sox from an extra base hit. Leading the offensive attack were Paul Cano, Brett Temple, Joe Spinella and Matthew Vargas with multiple hits.

Mets vs Cardinals

Cardinals—Sam Persad cracked a monster two run triple to lead the Cardinals. Also contributing was Mike Olano with two base hits and 2 two RBIs and teammate Mike Schroeder belted his first base hit of the season, driving in a key run.

Cardinals vs Astros

Cardinals—Sean Cullen smacked three singles and scored once. Also helping with his bat was teammate Ryan Walsh, crushing a big single to drive in two key runs. Joey Hart, Sean Cullen and Bryan Gillen combined to shut down the Astro bats with four scoreless innings from the mound.

Yankees vs Angels

Angels—John Chillemi turned in a solid performance from the mound. Mitchell Dean and Sean Hutchison each reached base safely three times. Helping to keep the Yankees off balance were Daniel Vargas and Cody O'Connor; they combined to pitch three scoreless innings.

Dodgers vs Red Sox

Dodgers—Christopher Melton safely reached base twice. Tommy Heim turned in a solid inning from

the mound. Jeremy Garcia smacked his first base hit of the season. Anthony Chirumbolo used his speed to score twice and Ryan Bythell got on base three times.

Red Sox—Austin Daly sparked in his pitching debut. Matt Resende made a diving catch at first base, then ripped a double to centerfield with his bat. Justin Marks also used his glove for a beautiful catch in centerfield to go along with his double to centerfield.

Mets vs Astros

Mets—Matt Roesch smacked his first single of the season. From the mound, Matt Hurst, Kyle Moroney, and Mark Stasio combined to shut down the Astros, throwing six quality innings.

Red Sox vs Cardinals

Red Sox—Matt Resende used the leather for an outstanding catch in the outfield, then crushed a double, driving in two teammates. Tommy Dunn used a sharp eye to draw two walks and getting one RBL. He also turned in one strong inning from the mound. Ryan Harris had a big hit for the Red Sox. He then scored three times.

Dodgers vs Orioles

Dodgers—Dakota Uhl had one of those games, smacking two base hits, safely reaching base four times and using his glove, turned in a few gems on the field. Ryan Bythell pitched two scoreless innings and teammate William Walsh continued his late season, getting yet another base hit.

Orioles—The team effort today was led by the pitching and hitting of Robert Eggert, Vinny Vetuschi and Charlie Butrico, with two base hits each.



Safe! From last weekend's South Plainfield Junior Baseball play action. —Submitted by Bill Brooks

By Lee Flanagan

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

All SPJBC tryouts for all Traveling All-Star Teams will end this week. Players who tried out will receive a phone call after the tryouts are over. We'll also announce teams in the *Observer*.

Alan Maglaque, a South Plainfield resident from MAG PHOTO, is taking action photos of the SPJBC kids while they are playing at the complex. If you would like to see some of his work go to www.maglaque.com and you can purchase photos from him.

Next weekend is our Third Annual Memorial Weekend Tournament at

the SPJBC. We will have four age groups and a total of 20 teams in town for the big event. Age groups participating are: 10 and under, 11 and under, 12 and under and 14 and under. We will be selling t-shirts to commemorate this fantastic weekend. Come on out and see some great games.

This serves as a friendly reminder for all parents. If you would like to help out with your son's team at the SPJBC, you must have a club membership card and your Rutgers Certification Card. You cannot be in the dugout without these two credentials. The only exception is the scorekeeper, but they must have a club membership card. This will be strictly enforced. Membership cards are \$10. See the officer on duty to obtain a card if you don't have it. The manager of the team is totally responsible for the actions of himself and coaches in the dugout.

We have positions on the Executive Board up for election in the month of June. If you're interested in running for a position, see the committee consisting of Jack Brady, Bob Bors,

Mike Salici and Rick Walton. These board members have another year on their terms. Executive Board positions that are up for election are commissioner, assistant commissioner for administration, assistant commissioner for finance, assistant commissioner for communications, trustee position (fundraising), trustee position (player agent), trustee position (uniforms and equipment) and trustee position (safety officer).

At this time, Lee Flanagan has submitted his name for re-election as commissioner. Glen Cullen has submitted his name for assistant commissioner for communications, and Tom Walsh and Bill Butrico have submitted their names for re-election to trustee positions.

We have tickets for a new Mercedes-Benz. First Class Travel is sponsoring the second prize, a \$2,000 trip to any place you would like to travel to. Tickets are available from Nancy Salici or any Executive Board member, or you can also call the SPJBC for tickets.

South Plainfield Soccer Association

Tryouts for Fall 2005 & Spring 2006

Boys and Girls Teams Ages 8 - 14

www.soplfdsoccerclub.com

The SPSA announces its tryouts for next year's teams. For complete details visit the tryout section of our web site. E-mail any questions to: tryouts@soplfdsoccerclub.com.

Tryout Location: Kenneth Avenue Soccer Complex
Time: 6 to 8 P.M.

Mon., May 23 & Wed. May 25		Tues., May 24 & Thurs., May 26	
Age	Born Between	Age	Born Between
U-8	08/01/97 - 07/31/98	U-12	08/01/93 - 07/31/94
U-9	08/01/96 - 07/31/97	U-13	08/01/92 - 07/31/93
U-10	08/01/95 - 07/31/96	U-14	08/01/91 - 07/31/92
U-11	08/01/94 - 07/31/95		



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Sports

With their new and very formidable line-up, Twin City scored an impressive 15-5 win over defending champions, Masters, to gain sole possession of first place in the American Division. Jay Coppolla and Frank Capparelli shot a pair of 37's and Joe Dillar came through with a 39 for Twin City. Danny Griffin fired an excellent three-over 36, and Al Szumski had a 37 for Masters in a losing cause.

In a relatively high-scoring match, last season's Most-Improved-Player, Mike Sikanowicz, earned medalist honors for Plainfield Animal Hospital with a 41 to spark his team to a 14-6 victory over KC's Korner who were led by Rich Steele's 41.

Pornovets had the good fortune of facing a Patti's Construction team, who played short one man as they cruised to an easy 14-6 win. Frank Oades and Bob Pornovets shared low-

Notes from the South Plainfield Golf League

man honors for Pornovets with scores of 41. Iron Mike Behr had a 39 for the depleted Patti's squad who dropped to last place.

In National League action, Fred "Catfish" Kirchofer was awesome off the tee with his new

Rattlesnake driver and posted a 37, while partner Ed Banach crushed some boomers himself in firing a 36, to lead Aiello Chiropractic to an overwhelming 19-1 win over a struggling VFW team that's playing like it last saw action at Gettysburg.

Howard Adler had a solid round of 38 as Witty's earned an 11½-8½ win over the South Plainfield Elks and thereby gained a tie for first-place with a record of 2-0. Jeff Orth was the medalist for the Elks with his 41.

Bill Mann of Hackers garnered medalist honors for the night with a splendid two-over 35, but the best his team could do was tie with Sport & Social, 10-10. Chad Hibbard turned in a 40 for a Sport & Social team that has yet to show its true form.

Danny Griffin stroked one of his soaring parabolic beauties to win the weekly closest-to-the-pin competition on the third hole.

LEAGUE STANDINGS:

American Division				National Division			
	W	L	T		W	L	T
Twin City	2	0	0	Aiello	2	0	0
PAH	1	1	0	Witty's	2	0	0
KC's Korner	1	1	0	Elks	1	1	0
Pornovets	1	1	0	Hackers	0	1	1
Masters	1	1	0	Sport & Social	0	1	1
Patti's	0	2	0	VFW	0	2	0

SOCCER

South Plainfield Blast Remain Undefeated

South Plainfield Blast chalked up two more wins this past week by defeating Scotch Plains 5-2 and defeating the Monroe Strikers by a score of 5-0.

These two wins did not come easily, as the Blast saw two players go down with injuries. Max Cordova did not play due to a medical problem and Kenny Breslau went down due to a wrist injury. We hope and pray these two players will have a speedy recovery and be able to play again soon.

The Blast were in control of the game against Scotch Plains. They were able to score five times. Goals were scored in order by Nick Pauls, Ken Breslau, Jose Fernandez, Christian Barrientos and a second goal by Jose Fernandez.

Nick Jeglinski played an excellent game in goal and the game saw great defensive plays by Kevin Veliz, Joseph Lacerda, James Seyffart and Ian Collins.

The Blast also scored five goals against the Monroe Strikers this week. The game was scoreless most of the first half, with a lot of missed shots taken by Jonathan Cursi, Ken Breslau, Nick Pauls and Christian Barrientos.

Jose Fernandez scored the first goal by putting a shot high up in the net. Ken Breslau quickly added to the score with an assist from Rafael Urena making the score 2-0. The third goal was scored by Christian Barrientos with assists from Alan Garcia and John

Cursi. Nick Pauls scored the fourth goal with an assist from Christian Barrientos. The final goal was scored by John Cursi with assists from Nick Pauls and Christian Barrientos.

Goalie Jared Christopher made a terrific save to start the second half and kept the game scoreless as the Blast beat the Strikers 5-0. Great defensive

efforts were put in by Emma Gambini, Alan Garcia, Ian Collins, Kevin Veliz and Joseph Lacerda.

The Blast are undefeated this year and as a team are playing great from both ends of the field. They are scoring a lot of goals, however, in my opinion, the defensive cord of the team is still their strong point.

SPHS Varsity Baseball Scores Season-Long Home Run

By Michael Duquette

South Plainfield High School's Varsity Baseball Team has spent the spring season writing a seemingly unstoppable success story for itself. In the past few months, the boys have racked up a record of 16-5, earned their second consecutive White Division title and recently played in the county tournament on May 18. (By press time, the outcome of the tournament was unknown.)

The team is at once aware and extremely proud of their success. Left fielder Chris Bakazan expressed his pride that "the team comes together as a whole...Everyone has a part with which they can contribute to the team's success." Among the players who have contributed to this success are senior co-captain Bill Merkler, who hit six home runs and tied the school's record for best season despite sitting

out with a shoulder injury for three weeks; senior first baseman and pitcher Nick Cesare, who has a pitching record of 6-1 for the season and senior short-stop and sophomore catcher Mike Benak and Chris Stallone, respectively, who have each achieved the seemingly impossible task of safely reaching every base during the season.

Cesare says that the key to success is the fact that "we work hard and practice everyday." An added advantage, Nick says, lies in the long-standing rapport between the players. "We've been playing together as a team for two years, but as seniors, we've been playing since we were eight." Despite the large amount of seniors moving on in the season to follow, head coach Ray Cieciewicz calls the outlook for the year ahead "promising...We are gaining tremendous leadership from the seniors that will prepare the underclassmen for the season to come. The next few years should prove positive with plenty of potential."

Clearly, the pattern of success characteristic of SPHS' athletes is in no short supply on the Varsity Baseball Team. Keep an eye out in the *Observer* for a look at the Varsity Baseball Team's sure-to-continue winning streak.

Tour of Somerville Lures World Class Cyclists

Bicycle racers from as far away as California, Canada and Europe are expected to compete in the Memorial Day running of America's oldest bicycle race, the 62nd Annual Tour of Somerville. The event is contested on a circuit including Somerville's Main Street, North Bridge St., High St., and Mountain Ave. There is no admission charge to the event that annually attracts in excess of 25,000 spectators to the town of 14,000 citizens.

The May 30 event is a series of five races for licensed amateurs and professionals, including world-class and Olympic cyclists. The first race will start at 11:30 a.m. and the featured 50-mile Kugler-Anderson Memorial will begin at 2:30 p.m. In that event, more than 200 professional and elite category cyclists will negotiate 43 laps of the 1.14-mile downtown circuit at speeds of up to 40 mph. Last year's

winner, Victor Repinski of Leicester, Mass., is expected to defend his title.

For the first time since 1940, the race will start and finish on the borough's High St., where thousands of spectators usually gather for parties.

A Central Jersey Memorial Day fixture and a legendary "must-win" among competitive cyclists, the Somerville race is named in honor of its first winners, Furman Kugler of Somerville (1940-1941) and Carl Anderson of Clifton (1942). Both men lost their lives during World War II. Since then, racers from every state and a dozen foreign countries have participated.

This year's races, part of the Tour of Somerville Cycling Series, will also feature free events in nearby Manville, Bridgewater and Bound Brook on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Obituaries

Anna H. Malinowski, 84

Anna H. Malinowski died on Monday, May 9 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

She was born on May 3, 1921 to Frank and Helen Starzinski in Sayreville. Anna grew up and lived in Sayreville until her marriage to Thomas F. Malinowski, Sr. The couple lived in Manville for 18 years before moving to South Plainfield in 1960. When her beloved husband, Thomas, died in 1974, she continued her residence in South Plainfield with her daughter and son-in-law until seven years ago, when they moved to Warren.

A seamstress, Anna had worked for the former Robert Manufacturing Co. in Manville for over 25 years, retiring 30 years ago.

Anna was a member of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union of New York. In addition, she was a member of the Warrenbrook Senior Citizens in Warren and a former member of the South Plainfield Senior Citizens and Sacred Heart Church.

Surviving are a daughter, Joanne B. Gallo and her husband William of Warren; a son, Thomas F. Malinowski, Jr. and his wife Linda of Martinsville; a sister, Edwina Papsin of South River; a brother, Benjamin Starzinski of Parlin; two granddaughters and their husbands, Lisa and Leon Mielnikiewicz and Stacey and Robert Strano and three great grandchildren, Taylor Strano, Thomas Mikolay Mielnikiewicz and Robert Strano, Jr.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Memorial donations made in her memory to the American Heart Association, 2550 Route #1, New Brunswick, NJ 08902 would be appreciated.

Calvin V. Lutes, 84

Calvin V. Lutes died on Friday, May 6 at the New Jersey Fireman's Home in Boonton.

Born in Elizabeth, he was the son of the late Joseph and Johanna Lutes. He had resided in Elizabeth and Pine Beach before settling in Edison 11 years ago.

He was a 1939 graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School in Elizabeth.

Initially employed as a machinist for Elastic Stop Nut Corp. in Union from October 1939 to September 1943, he then served in the US Navy during WWII. An aviation machinist mate, he served from 1943 to 1946. Later, he joined the Elizabeth Fire Dept., where he was a member for 31 years from 1949 to 1980, retiring as captain.

Calvin was a member of the Elizabeth Fire Officers Association IAFF Local #777 and St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in South Plainfield.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Frances (Hansen) Lutes; two daughters, Linda McGrath and her husband Peter and Karen Lutes; her grandchildren, Shannon Collucci and husband Christopher and Lauren and Erica McGrath; two great grandchildren, Grace and Chelsey; sister Madelyn Hampp and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held in McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the N.J. Fireman's Home, c/o Mr. W. Hunt, Administrator, 565 Lathrop Ave., Boonton, NJ 07005 or the St. Barnabas Burn Foundation, 94 Old Short Hills Rd., Livingston, NJ 07039.

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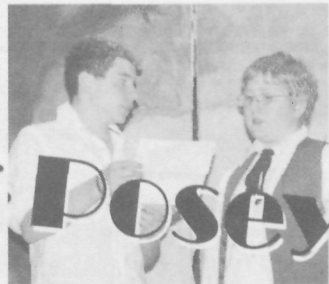
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My Fair Lady

Holder Posey



Middle, High School Plays Huge Success

By Patricia Abbott

South Plainfield High School and Middle School recently offered the community fine performances by their respective drama clubs. On April 21, 22 and 23 the SPSHS Players Drama Club presented the classic Lerner and Loewe musical "My Fair Lady." Combine a myriad of colorful costumes, eye-catching sets and a talented group of performers and the end result is an

evening of theatrical delight. Despite a series of setbacks the show was a huge success.

On May 5 and 6, just two weeks after "My Fair Lady" the South Plainfield Middle School Players staged their annual production. "Holder Posey" is a fast paced pony express era comedy set in an old west town of Holeinroad. The show featured devious villains and brave heroes, a fair maiden, robbery, dynamite, a saloon,

law enforcement and more. The side splitting laughter that filled the gym was enhanced by the "boo" and "hiss" signs prompted by the villains evil ideas. The plot progressed with the help of the town gossips. The outcome—the hero got the girl and the bad guy got his due. Both drama groups are to be commended for their productions. The hardworking cast, staff and crews are to be congratulated for their outstanding successes.



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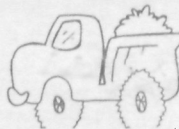
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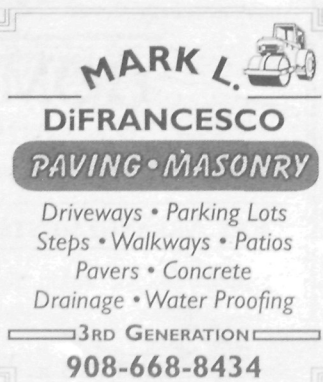
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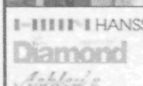
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Antique Road Show Comes to Library



Alan Snyder provides attendees to the library sponsored Antique Road Show, with appraisals for their items.

By Libby Barsky

Wanting to find out how much things around their house might be worth, over 30 people attended appraiser Alan Snyder's local Antique Road Show at the South Plainfield Public Library recently. They arrived with items that had been handed down from parents and relatives, items from garage sales and even found items from various locations.

As they entered the library each person received a number that Snyder would call in numerical order over the next two hours. Snyder is an appraiser

who has retired from selling antiques and is strictly in the appraisal business that he started in 1991. People hire him at an hourly rate to give an evaluation on their items for insurance purposes, estate settlements or to know the value of what they have. "I'm here to tell you what you would expect to pay in local antique shops. When I give you an appraisal I am strictly telling you what your items are worth. I am not offering to buy anything. I would never buy anything that I have appraised because I feel it is a conflict of interest for someone to give you a price and then purchase it," said Snyder.

During the course of the appraisal session, Snyder repeatedly urged those present to be sure that before they hold a garage sale to make sure they consult an appraiser to know the value of what they were selling before they decide a price.

To underline his point, Snyder gave a few examples. He appraised a sterling silver server that a woman from Branchburg had originally purchased

for \$50 at a garage sale, as an Art Deco Tiffany sterling silver at a value of \$75. A small dish given out as an advertising ashtray was picked up at a garage sale for 25 cents. The glazed ceramic piece with a picture of a woman smoking was established as an item that came out in 1910 that was given away at the time like a 'girlie' magazine to be used as an ashtray. Because of the rarity of the depiction of a woman smoking, Snyder appraised the dish in the \$75 to \$100 range.

Other items didn't fare as well. A Norman Rockwell Commemorative Christmas plate was worth \$5 because there were so many of them. Crochet hooks that dated back to the 1900's also were worth \$5 despite their age.

After feeling along the top of several crystal vases with the tips of his finger, Snyder found that they were chipped, which lowered their value. "Crystal needs to be perfect, but most have chips along the top," said Snyder.

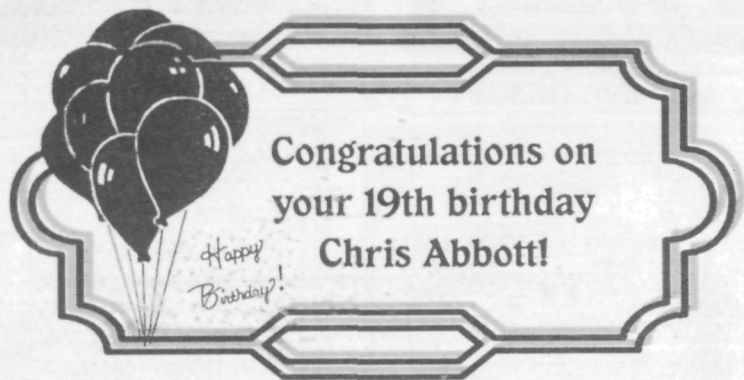
Items considered "collectable" received the highest evaluations. Erik Holtermann brought in an iron mechanical bank in the shape of an owl made in 1904 that was used by his grandfather and father. It was valued at \$700. Cigarette lighters with Camel cigarette logos on them were valued in the range of \$150-\$125. A beaded evening bag of 1910-1930 vintage was valued at \$75-\$100.

Early into the session, Snyder admitted that his level of expertise didn't cover oriental antiques or firearms, which disappointed those who came with those items. When Renee Dimayuga of Edison displayed an old violin, Snyder admitted that someone else had to make an appraisal on the instrument. But what really stumped him was a powder horn with the name John Hoskins and scrimshaw from the 1700-1850's incised on it. Alphonse Zieminski of Scotch Plains stumbled across the horn while he was working as a surveyor in 1946. Snyder recommended that Zieminski contact an expert in Americana to explore the history of the horn.

The program was so popular, the library will be offering it in the fall and in the spring. There are some who have become regulars to these sessions like Rita Polella of Warren. "I really enjoy it. I follow him wherever he goes to all the different libraries. And I'll be back here in October when he returns."

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SPHS Vice Principal Kelly Punnuzo is pictured with (l to r) Samantha Deffler, Keith Dezmin, Alex Nau and Ryan Smith who were among the 50,000 highest scoring participants in the 2004 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. These students have shown outstanding academic potential and are invited to be referred to two colleges or universities in the U.S. in which they are especially interested.

Middlesex County Plans Senior Health and Fitness Week

Senior citizens throughout Middlesex County will get the chance to line dance and belly dance, learn Tai Chi and participate in bocce tournaments during the "Go for the Gold" Senior Health and Fitness Week sponsored by the county's Department on Aging.

The Department on Aging has partnered with the county's 20 municipal senior centers to offer 92 events from May 23-27 to promote healthy living and physical activity.

"The Health and Fitness Week is a fantastic way for us to reach out to the community and offer something for everyone," said Freeholder Blanca B. Valenti, chair of the County Human Services Committee. "We greatly appreciate our local partners and their hard work in helping us sponsor this week full of fun and learning for our senior citizens."

At any time during that week, seniors will be square dancing, ballroom dancing and even belly dancing.

Classes on tai chi, holistic health and nutrition will alternate with bocce, bridge and billiards tournaments. Health screenings will also be held.

"The purpose of these events is to impress upon seniors the most important step to a healthier future is the first step," said Margaret Chester, executive director of the Department on Aging. "Participants in the events will be given Senior Health and Fitness Week t-shirts and we are hoping it helps motivate more seniors to start new physical activities."

For a complete list of events and more information, call the South Plainfield Senior Center at (908) 754-1047 or the Middlesex County Department on Aging at (732) 745-3295.

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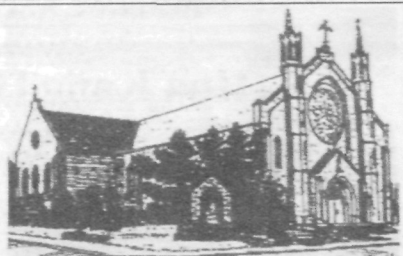
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