

South Plainfield Observer

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50 CENTS

AUGUST 12, 2005



2005 Labor Day Parade Grand Marshal John Cotone.

John Cotone Perfect Choice As Parade Grand Marshal

The Public Celebrations Committee announced last week that they have chosen former Fire Chief John Cotone as the Grand Marshal for the 48th Annual Labor Day Parade which will be held on Monday, September 5. The theme of this year's parade is, "Civic Groups are the Heart of South Plainfield."

John Cotone, a lifelong resident of South Plainfield, is a perfect example of what volunteerism in South Plainfield is all about. He has been a member of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department for 43 years, joining in 1962. During those years he served as a volunteer, captain, deputy captain and as chief for 18 years, from 1977 to 1993, the second longest chief in the history of the fire department. During those years he was involved in many projects which helped to upgrade fire department equipment and training and has helped them to obtain a reputation as one of the most outstanding departments in the state.

One of the nominating letters submitted read, "I believe that John considers his service to the fire department a project, a mission if you will,

to assist others without expecting anything in return. He would be the first to provide you with the statement that he has gotten much more in return that he ever gave over those 43 years by simply being involved."

John's volunteerism goes further than just the fire department. He is a charter member of the South Plainfield Elks, holding office as Esquire, Lecturing Knight and Loyal Knight. He was an assistant coach with the South Plainfield Eagles Football Club for seven years and head coach for six years. In 1968, the South Plainfield Jaycees chose him as "Young Man of Year."

He is a member of the Association of Firemen, NJ State Fire Prevention Assoc., NJ State Fire Chief's Assoc., International Assoc. of Fire Chiefs, Middlesex Co. Fire Prevention Assoc. and Building Offices Assoc. of NJ.

John joined the US Naval Reserve in 1954 and went on active duty in 1956, returning to reserve status in 1958. He played semi-pro football with the Plainfield Merchants.

In 1961 he started working with the Borough as a heavy equipment

(Continued on page 10)

Charles Mingle Receives International Award

By Michael Duquette

Chaplain Charles Mingle, a long-time fixture of South Plainfield's police force, fire department and rescue squad, was honored with an award presented by the International Conference of Police Chaplains (ICPC) during their Annual Training Seminar held July 11-15 in San Antonio, Texas.

The ICPC seminar, which is attended by 2,800 members from nine different countries, presented Chaplain Mingle with the John A. Price Award for Excellence in Chaplaincy as a Volunteer Chaplain in a Small Department. This is the highest award the organization can bestow on an individual.

The award is a deserved honor for the Pennsylvania-born chaplain, who came to South Plainfield in 1963 as the pastor of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church. He served St. Stephen's until 1989; during that time he helped orchestrate the town's Ecumenical Mass for Thanksgiving and served as grand marshal of the Labor Day Parade. He was appointed chaplain for PBA Local 100 in 1975. It was there that he met and befriended former Deputy Police Chief Tulio Capparelli, who affectionately refers to Rev. Mingle as "the patriarch of all clergymen in South Plainfield."

In 1983, Chaplain Mingle learned about the ICPC from Capparelli. He



Rev. Charles Mingle and his wife, Jean, show off the prestigious award he received from the International Conference of Police Chaplains.

was understandably excited saying, "I didn't know there was such an organization to train chaplains." He has attended their annual seminars since then, taking various courses for credentials to chaplains in training, which include Basic, Senior, and Master levels. Currently, Chaplain Mingle has been trained and certified as a Senior Credential Police Chaplain. The PBA initially paid for his trip to ICPC, but the next two years they were no longer able to pay his way. Nonetheless, Rev. Mingle's devotion

to the chaplaincy moved the South Plainfield Police Department to begin funding his trips, and since then, they have done so annually.

When it came time for Chaplain Mingle to prepare for this year's seminar, Capparelli became aware of the John A. Price Award. He decided that Chaplain Mingle more than deserved this honor and went to work to make sure he would have the best chance of being recognized. Several letters are needed to nominate

(Continued on page 12)



Congratulations to the cast, crew and everybody involved with the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop for their excellent production of *The Pajama Game*.

The Pajama Game Another SDW Hit

Last week's production of *The Pajama Game*, the hit Broadway musical, was another hit for the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop (SDW). This endearing production had all the qualities characteristic of SDW's usual fare: show-stopping musical numbers, eye-popping choreography, well-crafted sets, a talented ensemble, enjoyable lead actors and actresses, humorous gags, and even a

bit of romance.

Each year, SDW is responsible for lighting up the dog days of summer with an adaptation of a classic musical. After last year's production of Gilbert and Sullivan's slapstick-filled operetta *The Pirates of Penzance*, picking *The Pajama Game* was an inspired choice. This lighthearted tale of a wage dispute at a pajama factory was a complete turnaround for theatergo-

ers who recalled last year's chorus of pirates dueling with police officers with mock gravitas.

Congratulations in the highest order go out to everyone at South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop. They have helped put smiles on the faces and songs in the hearts of a lot of people; which is a welcomed treat just before school starts.

Update on CAUTION: UNDER CONSTRUCTION Borough Construction

Construction work has started on Hamilton Blvd. between the hours of 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. in the area of Ryan St. and St. Nicholas Ave. Please plan alternate routes. American Water Company has continued working on Hamilton Blvd. this week.

Construction has also begun on Maple Ave. between the hours of 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. At this time, the curbs and sidewalks will be replaced and traffic will flow in both directions

during the construction at all times.

All local businesses on Hamilton Blvd. are remaining open during the construction period.

Should you have any questions, call Borough Administrator Vincent Buttiglieri at (908) 226-7606 or Construction Coordinator Michael Zushma at (908) 753-3775, or you can log on to spobserver.com or southplainfieldnj.com for the latest updates.

Mark Your Calendars

Log on to
southplainfieldnj.com
for the latest meeting agenda

councilmeetings

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
September 6	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
September 20	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
October 4	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
October 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.

planningboard

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

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

Aug. 16*, Aug. 30*, Sept. 13, Sept. 27, Oct. 11, Oct. 25,

Nov. 29*, Dec. 13, Dec. 27.

zoningboardofadjustment

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

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

Aug. 25, Sept. 8, Sept. 22, Oct. 13, Oct. 27, Nov. 10*, Dec. 8, Dec. 22.

boardofeducationmeetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted

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

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.

Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Dec. 20, Jan. 17, 2006, Feb. 21, March 21 and April 4.

taxpayersadvisorygroup

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.

siteplansub-committee

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

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

recreationcommission

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

Sept. 27, Oct. 25, Nov. 7 and Dec. 13.

environmentalcommission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)

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

Sept. 14, Oct. 12, Nov. 9, Dec. 14 and Jan. 11, 2006

businessadvisorygroup

Meets once a month (first Wednesday)

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 5 p.m. • Questions? 908-757-8100

trafficsafetyadvisorycommission

Meets once a month (fourth Wednesday) at 7 p.m.

in the Conference Room, Borough Hall (No Meeting in August)

boardofeducationcurriculum/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.

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

boardofeducationcurriculum/technology meetings

Meets once a month on Mondays, (except where noted) at 6:30 p.m. at Roosevelt

Administration Building on Jackson Ave. Work session. No public comment

Tuesday, Sept. 6, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, March 6 and April 3.

South Plainfield Observer

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in the South Plainfield Observer:

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

Dear Editor,

Recently there has been quite a bit of publicity about "gangs," both on TV and in print. One TV show told about a gang formed by mostly young men and older boys from a Central American country, most of whom were illegal immigrants. Their problem was that they were not very interested in merging into the American way of life. They seemed to be a bunch of losers. All they seemed to want to do was to carry on the kind of mayhem which was their way of life in their home country: robberies, rape, murder and coercing others to join their group.

Webster says that a gang is "a group of people working or playing together." The word "gang" can have a positive meaning too.

Last week at South Plainfield High School, the "gang" known as South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop put on a production of the musical *The Pajama Game*. There were 57 people in the cast, 22 in the orchestra, 15 in the stage crew and many that doubled as prop builders and painters. These people did a great job of putting on the show. This was the 34th season that these shows have been performed. All have been adaptations of Broadway shows. Congratulations to all who were involved and to those that gave backing to the show!

So a "gang" can be a worthwhile group. How about the "gangs" of Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and church youth groups? If their energies were aimed in the proper direction, they could benefit many people. I ask that more of the "thirtysomething" age group who have been a part of one of those "gangs" and remember the good things and times that you shared get involved with youth in your neighborhood.

SINCERELY,
WILLIAM TUTHILL

Dear Editor,

Congratulations to the South Plainfield boys' 10-year-old All-Star Baseball team on their outstanding season by winning the District 9 Championship in Edison and the first place trophy in the East Brunswick tournament and also tying for third place in States and second place in the South Plainfield tournament.

The children playing these games played well with the other towns' teammates, but unfortunately these 10-year-old boys trying to play their games had to listen to the rude chants and comments by parents on other teams. We had Monroe Township parents who tried to demise our one pitcher by barking like dogs and shaking their rock-filled Pepsi bottles and one young lady who rubbed her eyes and laughed because our pitcher became extremely upset. Wow – great sportsmanship by adults, great way to teach your children how to be fair and play on your ability. Then we had North Elizabeth, who shouted out comments about our players and pitchers.

No matter what the nature of the sport, the parents are the ones who set the tone by hollering out unnecessary comments and causing dissention among all players. These acts are witnessed all the time. A 16-year-old South Plainfield Soccer Club referee had to listen to the abusive comments from the parents on the other team as he tried to referee the game. It is the right, responsibility and obligation of each and every referee and umpire of the teams of the children to walk over and inform the parents and bystanders that if they cannot control themselves that they will be told to leave the fields, courts, etc.

The games are about the kids, unless the kids are fresh, and then they are reprimanded. They need to play their games and be cheered on – and not by barking dogs and rude comments.

IN YOUR OPINION

Congratulations to the South Plainfield Girls' U16 All-Star Softball Team – you had a wonderful season along with the help of the U14 at the Secaucus tournament because the SPHS varsity girls were at the State Championship game, where they won the championship. You took first place in the Secaucus Tournament on Sunday, first place in the Middletown Tournament and at the Union Umps Tournament in Union. You girls played a great game, especially at midnight under the lights in Union because of the backup caused by the rain. Coach Mike DiMeglio and Coach Scott Bishop: you did a great job; working with the girls as hard as you did proves encouragement and leadership prevail all the time and bring out the "all-star" in all the girls. Rich Little: thanks for recording the book and helping the girls.

Always remember for the boys and girls: there is no "I" in "team" and there is not any one person in our town or any other town who can win the game by themselves. A pitcher is as good as the TEAM behind them. You win as a team and lose as a team. When every player supports and encourages each other, the team comes out on top. This goes for every team sport a note to Rich Walton and Stacy Lake, we miss you both.

SINCERELY,
DEBBIE BOYLE

Dear Friends,

The Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission has awarded the South Plainfield Historical Society a History Grant for nearly \$1,400 to publish 43 articles on local history by South Plainfield native Larry Randolph.

Mr. Randolph's articles, "Looking Back at South Plainfield," originally appeared in the local newspaper, *The Reporter*, between 1986 and 1990. They have, according to our book's editor, Dr. Richard Veit of Monmouth University, "stood the test of time." He considers them to be an "important resource for individuals interested in local history." The NJN Family of Newspapers has kindly given us permission to reprint them.

The printing of Mr. Randolph's articles is Phase One of the Historical Society's Education Outreach Project, a three-year plan designed to disseminate historical information of local interest to the community. Two hundred copies will be given away free of charge to local schoolteachers, school, public and college libraries, and local history groups. A separate printing, funded solely by the Historical Society, will make available a limited number of copies for purchase by the general public beginning Labor Day at the

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.

society's booth at the PAL fairgrounds. All proceeds will benefit free programming.

See the Historical Society website at: <http://geocities.com/sphistorical-society> for excerpts from the book.

Also available in September is a compilation of 15 oral histories plus five pages of photographs in a book titled *Not Only Did I Get Fired, But the Horse Ate My Lunch: Remembrances of South Plainfield, NJ - Volume One*. Additional volumes will be printed as the audio transcriptions are completed. *Not Only Did I...* can be borrowed from the South Plainfield Public Library in September or for purchase Labor Day.

REGARDS,
DOROTHY MIELE, SPHS

Dear Editor,

Just like everybody else, I received my third- and fourth-quarter tax bill in the mail recently. While I was expecting a large increase, I got an even larger one than expected. Lo and behold, on top of the Board of Education's increase was a large municipal-tax increase, more than five percent!

What really bothered me, however, was the letter neatly tucked inside the envelope by Council President Dennis Cerami. Nowhere in that letter did he candidly explain why the Council raised taxes for the second year in a row, last year raising the sewer tax, and this year raising the municipal tax. In fact, Cerami does not even own up to raising taxes, but instead, points the finger at the Board of Education. Nor does the letter explain the council's spending spree that made taxes go up.

To add insult to injury, the letter is really a disguised campaign ad for the Democratic party. Why else would it only mention the names of the council members running for re-election? And why else would it include a laundry list of so-called accomplishments but at the same time overlook all the things that need fixing?

Please Mr. Cerami, don't raise my taxes and then use public funds to send a self-congratulatory letter advertising your fellow Democrats who are running for office. If you want to send out a campaign ad, pay for it yourself or pay for it from campaign funds. Don't use tax dollars.

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From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Sundra L. Randolph

The Summer Reading Programs are coming to an end at the Library. This Saturday, Aug. 13, is the last day to come and have your book stamped and collect your prizes if you participated in the Children's Summer Reading Program. The adult program will run a little longer with the picking of the raffle winners on Tuesday, Aug. 16.

Also, Miss Linda and Miss Danya will be doing their regular programs this week, but then will be on hiatus from Aug. 22 until Sept. 27 when all regularly scheduled children's programs will return. In the meantime you can still access all the children's books, videos, etc. in the Library and either Miss Linda or Miss Danya will be around most of the time.

We hope you have had a good summer so far. And so far this summer the Library has been busy acquiring new items. We are now subscribing to

many new magazine titles including crafting titles in quilting, beading, cooking, scrapbooking, etc. plus *Weight Watchers* magazine, *Sports Weekly*, *Cosmopolitan*, etc. All but the most current issue of any of our magazines circulate for two weeks. Remember that as long as they are returned on time these magazines are free which makes them a great buy considering the cost of both individual copies and subscriptions. We have also acquired many of the hottest new video titles and, of course the latest books by authors such as James Patterson, Danielle Steel, etc.

And another change we have made this summer is to put our music cds on display racks. No longer do you have to go through books, get a number, and ask at the Circulation Desk. Now you can actually look at the CDs, see what is available, and possibly find some you were unaware we owned.

There is also space left in Dayle Giammarino's scrapbooking class this Thursday from 10-11:30 a.m. There is a \$5 fee (payable at the class) and pre-registration is required. You can call the Library at (908) 754-7885 to register.

We hope you enjoy the few remaining weeks of summer and remember we are here to help.

Gas Leak Cause Maple Ave. Closure

On Tuesday at approximately 12 p.m. a gas leak on Maple Ave. forced the South Plainfield Community Pool to be evacuated for the entire day as PSE&G crews worked to repair the damage.

The gas leak was caused by the crews from Middlesex County who were working on the sidewalks and curbs in the area. Traffic was diverted to Cedarbrook Ave. and Joan St. for two hours.

Say Happy Birthday to Father John Skwara

Fr. John Skwara will mark his birthday on Monday, August 29.

If you would like to send him a card just mail it to: Fr. John Skwara, c/o McCarrick Health Center, Dellwood Rd., Somerset, NJ 08873.

Hellenic Dancers Perform for Residents

Story/photos by Patricia Abbott

Last month the South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission sponsored performance by the Hellenic Dancers of New Jersey. Over 100 people attended the event held at the Senior Center. Fifteen dancers in authentic ethnic costumes presented a cross section of regional Greek customs both past and present. They stomped and stepped, twirled and leapt into the air thrilling the audience with their traditional music and folk dances.

According to their literature the group was founded in 1972 by Eleni Chakalos, director and Rev. Father James Chakalos. The performers are young men and women who are first, second, or third generation Greek-Americans dedicated to presenting as well as preserving their heritage through regional folk dances of Greece.

The Hellenic Dances of New Jersey have performed nationally. Some of their appearances include; Inaugural Festivities for former President Ronald Reagan; Statue of Liberty



Marge Sheldon with the Hellenic Dancers of NJ.

Weekend Grand Finale; 20/20 ABC television program; Garden State Arts Center Intra-State Competition - First Place; Queens College of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies Benefit; Greek Heritage Day with the

Metrostars and Kickoff to the Olympic games. They also sent dancers to participate in the Closing Ceremonies of the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Greece. There are 45 dancers. Twenty appeared at the well-attended CAC event.

Sacred Heart 100th Anniversary Approaching

After more than a year-and-a-half of planning, the 100th Anniversary of Sacred Heart will be celebrated with a special mass, concert and gala dinner dance.

The 100th Anniversary Committee held their last meeting and all the plans are in place for the celebration. On Sunday, Aug. 21 a concert at 11 a.m. in Sacred Heart Church will start things off. The 11:30 a.m. Mass will officially celebrate the 100th anniversary. After mass, all are invited to the cafeteria of the school for coffee and snacks. At 4 p.m. the gala dinner dance will begin with a reception/cocktail hour, followed by dinner and dancing at the Pines Manor in Edison. The cost is \$50 per person and includes cocktail hour, dinner, dancing and an open bar.

Because of the concert before the 11:30 Mass, there will be no 9:30 mass on Sunday, Aug. 21, only the 8 and 11:30 a.m. mass. The public is cordially invited to attend the concert and the mass and help celebrate this

momentous occasion with their fellow parishioners. This would be a great opportunity to meet the hundreds of parishioners who have helped to shape the church we enjoy today.

More than 300 guests have already signed up to attend the gala dinner dance. Guests will enjoy a fantastic slide show depicting the history of Sacred Heart Church which will be

shown on several screens simultaneously during the 4 p.m. reception. Guests will also receive a book of the history of Sacred Heart Church as a souvenir.

If you haven't already made your reservations, call the Sacred Heart Parish Center at: 908-756-0632 or Nancy Stillman-Pender at (908) 561-5917. See the invitation on page 4.

Recycling Drop-off Relocating

The South Plainfield Recycling Center is temporarily relocating to the leaf collection area of the Yard Waste Site at the end of Kenneth Avenue. The Recycling Center will be paved during the second week of August. The asphalt must cure and harden for several weeks before it can bear the weight of the containers that hold the recyclable materials. Therefore, all recyclable materials will be collected at the leaf collection area on the left side of the Yard Waste Site until Labor Day. Hours of operation will continue to be noon to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays, and

8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

The used motor oil tank will not be accessible during August.

The brush and grass collection section on the right side of the Yard Waste Site will continue to be open on Tuesdays from noon to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. 2005 Yard Waste/Compactor Decals are available in the Municipal Clerk's office in Borough Hall. Bring the registration of the vehicle you will be using.

For updates, call the Recycling Hotline: (908) 226-7620.

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Concerts Continue at Spring Lake Park

The Big Band Express (Pat Mash, conductor) will be the featured performer at Spring Lake Park this Sunday, Aug. 14 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the gazebo. The performance is free.

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Andrea & Jesse Lacerda
"The Lacerda Team"

Around Town

Senior Center Trip to Claridge Casino

August 18

Seniors are planning a trip to the Claridge Hotel & Casino on Thursday, Aug. 18. Bus departs the Senior Center at 9 a.m. and returns around 7 p.m. The cost is \$15, which is returned in a voucher by the casino upon arrival. Purchase tickets at Senior Center or call (908) 756-4135.

Scrapbooking Class

August 18

There will be a scrapbooking class on Thursday, Aug. 18, at 10 a.m. at the library. "Creative Memories" instructor Dayel Giammarino will lead the class in cropping and mounting photos into a 7x7 scrapbook page. Participants should bring 2-4 photos with them. There is a \$5 materials fee for the class; pre-registration is required. For information, call (908) 754-7885.

100th Anniversary of Sacred Heart Church

August 21

The celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Sacred Heart will be held on Sunday, Aug. 21 starting with a concert at 11 a.m. followed by a special Mass at 11:30 a.m. in the church. A gala dinner begins at 4 p.m. at the Pines Manor in Edison.

For information, call the Parish Center at (908) 756-0632 or Nancy Stillman-Pender (908) 561-5917.

Stress Factory Comedy Club

August 21

The Stress Factory Comedy Club will present a fundraiser to benefit the South Plainfield Rescue Squad on Sunday, Aug. 21. Dinner starts at 5 p.m. and show begins at 7 p.m. Cost is \$30.

Feature performer will be Lenny Marcus. Reserve your tickets now. Stress Factory is located on Church St. in New Brunswick. For tickets call (732) 558-9076 or (908) 754-2324.

Hunterdon Hills Trip

August 24

The Senior Citizen Center is sponsoring a trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse on Aug. 24 to see the new summer musical *Living It Up: A Celebration of 100 Years of Popular Music & Dance*. Cost is \$55 and includes transportation, lunch and the show. Bus departs the senior center at 10 a.m. and returns around 5 p.m. You do not have to be a member to participate. For information or tickets call (908) 756-4135.

WOODLOCH PINES TRIP

The South Plainfield seniors are sponsoring a trip to Woodloch Pines in the Poconos Oct. 31 to Nov. 4. Trip includes transportation from the senior center, four nights of breakfast, lunch and dinner daily, hotel taxes and gratuities, all resort activities and nightly entertainment. Cost is \$475 for twin, \$465 for triple and \$555 for single.

A down payment of \$100 is required and a \$100 payment per month, with final balance due on Sept. 1. Make checks payable to South Plainfield Seniors and mail to: Mickie Panzarella, 128 Clifford St., South Plainfield, NJ 07080. For information call (908) 755-2487.

What's happening in AUGUST

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
UPCOMING EVENTS 	Hunterdon Hills Playhouse August 24, Cost \$55 Woodloch Pines Pocono Resort Oct. 31-Nov. 4 Info at Senior Center			Weekly Shopping 11 Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11am & 1pm
	Knitting/Crocheting 9:30-11:30am 15 Yoga 10:30-11:30am Drawing Class 11am	Bingo 10am-2pm 16 Ladies Social 10am	Excercise 8:30am 17 Line Dancing 10am Computer Class 10am, 11:30am & 1pm	Weekly Shopping 18 Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11am & 1pm
				Bingo 10am-2pm 19 Lunch Available

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

VFW Breakfast

September 4

South Plainfield VFW Memorial Post #6763, located on 155 Front St., will hold their monthly breakfast on Sunday, Sept. 4 from 8-11 a.m. The public is invited to attend. Call (908) 668-9751 for more information.

Sons of the American Legion Super 50/50

September 5

There will be a Super 50/50 drawing sponsored by the Sons of the American Legion Squadron #243 held on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 5 at 6 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at American Legion on Oak Tree Ave. Ticket cost is \$5. Only 1,000 tickets will be sold. Proceeds benefit the various charities that SAL #243 support.

Senior Center Trip to Taj Mahal Casino

September 7

The Senior Citizen Center is running a trip to the Taj Mahal Casino on Wednesday, September 7. The bus departs the Senior Center at 9:00 a.m. and returns around 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$15, which is returned in a voucher by the casino upon arrival.

VFW Picnic/Pig Roast

September 10

South Plainfield VFW Memorial Post #6763, located at 155 Front St., will host their annual picnic and pig roast on Saturday, Sept. 10 from 12-5 p.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$17 when purchased at the gate. Call (908) 668-9751 for more information.

Celebrity Roast for Chief John Cotone

September 11

A Celebrity Roast for Chief John Cotone will be held on Sept. 11 from 2-6 p.m. at the Italian American Club in North Plainfield. Dinner and an open bar will be available. Cost is \$40 per person. Only a limited number of tickets are available and reserved seating for a table of 10 only. Call (908) 753-3775 for tickets.

Trip to Lancaster Includes Theatre

September 21-22

The Senior Citizens Center is sponsoring an overnight trip to Lancaster, Pa. on September 21 and 22.

Trip includes transportation via private motor coach, overnight accommodations at the Best Inn, tickets to *The Story of Ruth* at the Millennium Sight and Sound Theatre, dinner at Miller's Smorgasbord, breakfast at the hotel, a tour of the Amish Country, and tax. The cost is \$179 per person double occupancy.

For reservations, please call the Senior Center at (908) 754-1047.

— Out of Town —

YMCA Summer Photography Class

Through August 24

The Metuchen Branch YMCA is hosting a summer photography class every Wednesday in Aug. Participants will focus on how to take better pictures and to get a better understanding of photography. The class includes trips to Metuchen Artworks, Roosevelt Park and downtown Metuchen. Cost is \$15 for YMCA members and \$25 for non-members. Call (732) 548-2044.

Blackrose to Perform

August 13

Blackrose, a band specializing in classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will perform at Molly Maguire's, located on 1085 Central Ave. in Clark on Saturday, Aug. 13 at 10 p.m.

Ninth Annual Sweet Sounds Downtown

August 16, 23 and 30

The "Sweet Sounds Downtown" Jazz Festival, sponsored by the Downtown Westfield Corporation (DWC), kicks off their ninth annual season in downtown Westfield. Performances take place on sidewalks and street corners every Tuesday in Aug. from 7 to 9 p.m. Rain dates are the following Wednesday evenings at the same time.

For information, call the DWC at (908) 789-9444.

Middlesex East WOWs Open Dance

August 12

Middlesex East Widows or Widowers will hold an open dance on Friday, Aug. 12, from 7:30-11:30 p.m. at St. Demetrius Community Center in Carteret. Live music and refreshments. All are welcome. Admission is \$8 for members and \$9 for guests. For information, call (732) 541-2174 or (908) 757-0515.

Walk to Cure Diabetes Luncheon

August 18

The Mid-Jersey Chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) is hosting a Somerset/Hunterdon County Walk to Cure Diabetes Kickoff Luncheon on Thursday, Aug. 18 from 12-1:30 p.m. at the Bridgewater Marriott in Bridgewater. Information will be available to help you create or grow your walk team. Call the JDRF at (732) 296-7171. For information e-mail mmalak@jdrf.org.

Woodbridge WOWs Dance-Social

August 21

The Woodbridge Area Chapter of Widows or Widowers (WOWs) will hold a member/guest Dance-Social on Sunday, Aug. 21 at the Elks' Hall in Woodbridge from 7:30-11:30 p.m. Live music by the Bill Gerry Duo and refreshments served. Call (732) 297-1775 for more information.

CHATS Meeting

August 22

A meeting of CHATS (Connected

Hearts Adoption Triad Support) will take place at 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. on Monday, August 22 at Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church on 170 Watchung Avenue in North Plainfield. An open sharing of adoption-related stories and light refreshments will be served. Check our website at www.chats-nj.com or call Alyce at (732) 227-0607 for more information.

JFVS Support Group Meeting

August 24

JFVS Caregivers Support Group, open to family members caring for loved ones with memory loss and all types of dementia, will hold a meeting on Wednesday, August 24 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the JFVS office, 515 Plainfield Avenue, Suite 201 in Edison. One of the topics we will be discussing is "Medication Management." RSVP is necessary as seating is limited. Call Marnie Kean, Older Adult Social Worker, at (732) 777-1940 ext. 121 to register.

Cruise and Seaside Heights Visit

August 27

Join People for Animals on Saturday, Aug. 27 for a two-hour sight-seeing cruise on the "River Lady" including lunch on board, followed by a two-hour visit to the Seaside Heights Boardwalk. Motor coach leaves at 10 a.m. from the Jeanette Avenue Municipal Parking Lot in Union. Free parking for the day is available in this lot.

A donation of \$69 per person is requested. Call (908) 688-8787 for reservations before July 22.

9th Annual SIDS Walkathon

September 11

The CJ Foundation for SIDS, along with sponsor Wawa Food Markets, will be holding their 9th Annual SIDS Walkathon on Sunday Sept. 11 at six locations throughout New Jersey.

Come join us and walk to help end Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. To register, call 1-888-8CJ-SIDS ext. 3 or visit www.cjsids.com.

The Church of Sacred Heart

Cordially invite you
To attend the

Centennial Gala Dinner Dance

On Sunday, August 21, 2005

From 4 p.m. until 9 p.m. at

The Pines Manor Banquet Hall

Edison, New Jersey

Cocktail Hour — 4 p.m.

Dinner & Dancing — 5-9 p.m.

Open Bar

\$50 per person

For reservations or additional information

Call the Parish Center (908) 756-0632 or

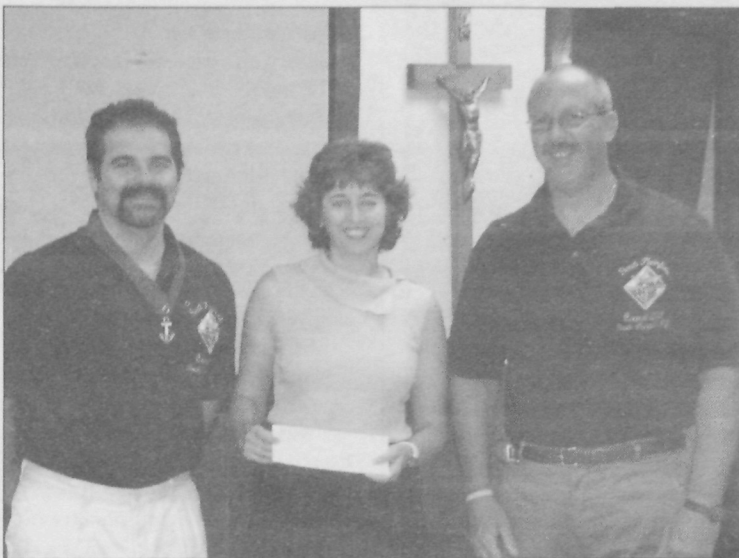
Nancy Stillman-Pender at (908) 561-5917

Knights Acoustic Concert Raises \$1,000

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus hosted an acoustic concert with recording artist Billy & Rose Falcon on June 25, with the proceeds of this concert, the Knights of Columbus donated \$1,000 to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. The donation was presented to Karen Hackel, Development Coordinator of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Central & South Jersey Affiliate. Karen Hackel spoke at the Knights council meeting on Aug. 2. She talked about the foundation and its cause.

The Komen Foundation Central & South Jersey Affiliate will be holding its annual New Jersey Race For The Cure event on Sunday, Oct. 16 in Princeton.

Information on this event can be found at www.komencsnj.org



Susan G. Komen Foundation Development Coordinator Karen Hackel is presented with a \$1,000 donation by Grand Knight Joe Scrudato and Event Chairman Brian Cargill.

SPEA Congratulates Those Retiring

The South Plainfield Education Association is pleased to congratulate all of the faculty members who retired at the end of the school year. They are: Eleanor Jordan, Kennedy librarian; John Lartaud, High School Industrial Arts teacher; Shari Lepore, Middle School Family and Consumer Sciences teacher; Betty Joyce Hill, High School Special Education teacher; Diane Scarpula, Middle School Language Arts teacher; Perry Scola, High School Foreign Language teacher; Florence Muglia, Roosevelt first grade teacher; and Susan Slinger, Middle School Health teacher. Janet Flanagan-Wurtz, High School Family and Consumer Sciences teacher, will be officially retiring on October 1. They have given a combined total of 232 years of service to the children of South Plainfield.

Janet Flanagan-Wurtz has been an educator for 38 years. Apart from teaching Family and Consumer Services at South Plainfield High School for 18 years, she has had a very varied

career. She previously taught at junior high and college levels (other than in South Plainfield) and served as a supervisor of vocational education in Indiana and New Jersey. She was also and educational representative for the JC Penney Company, conducting teacher workshops and television/radio interviews in a nine-state region. In addition to these educational positions, she also had her own business for ten years, working as a marketing and communications consultant in the business world. Flanagan-Wurtz was a Home Economics Education major at Montclair State College and received her Master's Degree in Home Economics from Indiana State University. She is a member of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, the New Jersey Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, SPEA, NJEA, and NEA. In 1993 she was selected as SPHS "Teacher of the Year." At the High School, Flanagan-Wurtz has been the advisor to Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) for 17 years. In her community she is active as a lector, Eucharistic Minister, and member of the Educator Advisory Committee at her church. Upon retirement in October, she is "looking forward to moving to South Carolina, opening my sewing machine and quilting, traveling, and bugging my husband and grown children."

Betty Joyce Hill started out as a substitute teacher in the 1970s. She began her career in South Plainfield 25 years ago and is now part of the Special Education Department at South Plainfield High School. There she has also taught ICS in History and English. She graduated from Seton Hall University with a degree in Sociology, Philosophy, and Social Studies. Later she earned graduate credits at Kean

University, taking courses in Special Education. In 2002, Hill was honored with an award in Cooperative Education. Her professional affiliations include Council for Exceptional Children, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, NEA, NJEA and SPEA. She is also active in PTA, as a Sunday school teacher and in sorority and volunteer work. Her outside interests include reading and tutoring.

Eleanor Jordan began her career as a school librarian in South Plainfield 38 years ago. She is currently at Kennedy School, where she not only runs their library but also shares her extensive knowledge of children's literature and media resources with her classes and colleagues, and teaches the children library skills during their weekly library period. The other schools where she has taught include Riley, Franklin, Roosevelt and the High School. Jordan received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Marywood College in Scranton, Pa. She majored in English with minors in French and Library Science. She has also earned postgraduate credits in Education and Library Science from Kean University. Jordan has been an active member of several professional associations including the New Jersey Association of School Librarians and the Middlesex/Union County division, where she has been secretary for the past three years and an executive board member for five. Her outside interests include reading, needlework, exercising, travel and college basketball.

John A. Lartaud has been teaching Applied Technologies in grades 9-12 at SPHS for 36 years, his total number of years as an educator. He has served as an advisor there for the Audio-Visual Club, Safe Schools and R-T-K. He graduated from Trenton State

(Continued on page 6)

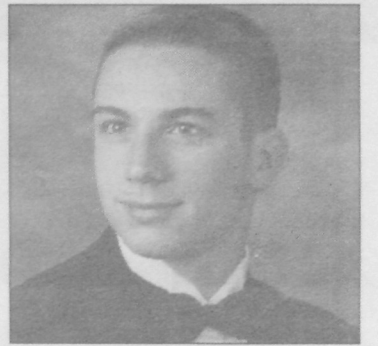
southplainfieldpeople Milestones

Philip Thomas Named to Dean's List

Philip Thomas, son of Kathy and Phil Thomas of South Plainfield, has been named to the Dean's List at College Misericordia for the spring semester.

In order to achieve Dean's List status, students must obtain a 3.5 GPA.

Philip is entering his senior year and is double-majoring in history and secondary education and minoring in English. He is also a member of the cross-country team and is a decathlete for the track team.



Philip Thomas

James Buckelew and Erica Franz Announce their Engagement

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Franz, Mr. & Mrs. James Buckelew, and Mr. & Mrs. Lester Jones would like to announce the engagement of their children, Erica

Franz and James Buckelew, on July 30, 2005.

Both are from South Plainfield. The wedding will be April 15, 2006.

Back to School Sale

ALEXANDRIA'S SHOES

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Through September 4

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American Legion Post #243 Holds Annual Picnic—Despite the Heat

On July 20 the American Legion Post #243 held their annual picnic. Hoping to beat the heat they started the event later in the day. Over 100 attended the picnic. The afternoon featured a wide assortment of picnic fare as well as roast pig, beer and soda. Guests settled at tables in the shade and enjoyed a slightly cooler afternoon after days of 95 plus temperatures. Entertainment included a DJ and a dunking booth.

SPEA Congratulates Retirees

(Continued from page 5)

College with a degree in Industrial Arts K-12 and received a Master of Education degree from the same institution. Lartaud is a recipient of the Governors Teacher Recognition Award and has been named Philadelphia School of Science and Textile Teacher of the Year. He is a member of NEA, NJEA, MCEA and SPEA. In his spare time he enjoys genealogy work and collecting rocks.

Shari Lepore has been teaching for 34 years, all of them in South Plainfield. She began when her subject was called Home Economics and she taught sixth and eighth grade Sewing, Family Living and Foods and Nutrition. Home Economics is now called Family and Consumer Sciences. This year her Middle School assignment has been teaching Foods and Nutrition for eighth graders. She received her undergraduate degree in Home Economics from Montclair State College (now University) and did graduate course work in various areas of Home Economics at Rutgers and Kean Universities, the Culinary Institute of America (CIA) and the Professional Culinary Baking Program. Lepore is a member of a number of professional organizations. These include the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, the New Jersey Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, the New Jersey Nutrition Council, the International Cake Exploration Society, the Confectionery Arts Guild and the Bakers Guild East. Following her retirement as an educator, Lepore will be pursuing her second career as a pastry chef.

Florence Muglia is completing a teaching career that spans 33½ years. Her assignment has been in a first grade classroom at Roosevelt. However, in the 26 years (as of June 2005) that she has spent in South Plainfield, Muglia has also taught second and third grades, and been based at Kennedy. Prior to her employment in the district, she taught in Clark for 7½ years. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Kindergarten-Primary Education from Glassboro College (now Rowan University) and has also accrued graduate credits in Nursery School from Kean University. Muglia was recognized as "Teacher of the Year" in 1991 and has served on the textbook, report card and curriculum committees. In her community she spends her time in the church-related activities of choir member and CCD instructor. In addition to singing, she also enjoys artwork and having fun on her computer. Muglia is a member of SPEA, NJEA and NEA.

Diane Scarpula is the English Department Team Leader at the Middle School and also an eighth grade Language Arts teacher there. She has been a member of the Middle School faculty for 35 years and an educator for 38. She received a dual Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Elementary Education from the College of St. Elizabeth, a Master of Arts degree in Education from Manhattan College and Master of Science degree in Edu-

cation Supervision and Administration from Pace University. Professionally, she is affiliated with ASCD and NCTE, as well as NEA, NJEA and SPEA. At the Middle School she has been an advisor to the Drama Club, the newspaper and the literary magazine in addition to Summer Drama in town. Scarpula also served on the Unified Writing Curriculum Committee and was honored as Teacher of the Year. She enjoys a wide variety of interests outside of school. These include reading, home decorating, walking and vacationing in New England. Her Italian heritage and culture — its history, architecture and cooking — are also an important part of her life.

Perry Sicola has been part of the Foreign Language Departments at both the Middle School and High School for 21 years, where she has taught all levels of French (I through VI). She has been an educator for a total of 25 years. This year she was assigned to teach High School French I, II, III, and IV. She received her Bachelors degree in French and Secondary Education from New York University and completed graduate course work at Kean in ESL (English as a Second Language) and Linguistics. Sicola has served as advisor to the French Club and French Honor Society and was the organizer and chaperone for two trips to France and three trips to Quebec. She is included in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers* and is a member of the American Association of Teachers of French as well as the Foreign Language Educators of New Jersey. Upon retirement Sicola plans to focus on her charity work and community service, continuing her fundraising efforts for Doctors without Borders, Heifer Foundation and 911 Fund. In addition she loves the fine arts, clothing design and painting and has been an avid racquetball player for 27 years. Sicola further states, "My family is everything to me so I can't wait to spend more time with my grandchildren! I will really miss my students — they are like family to me and have made my work especially gratifying! Merci a tout le monde."

Susan Slinger has been an educator for over 30 years, having taught in New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. She came to South Plainfield nine years ago and began as a substitute, mostly teaching Physical Education and Health, often in a long-term capacity. Later she received a permanent position in the department. She spent this final year instructing Middle School students in Health and Sex Education. Slinger has been an advisor for Peer Leaders and has been recognized as "Teacher of the Year." She graduated from Panzer College at Montclair State University with a double major and Bachelor of Arts Degree in Physical Education and Health. She belongs to the NEA, NJEA, PTA, and is a life member of Hadassah. Slinger is also a member of the Timberline Board of Directors, her condominium community, and has been a Democratic Committee-person in District 68 for five terms. Her other outside interests include skiing, tennis, golf, painting, roller blading, cooking and gardening.



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Sports

South Plainfield Golf Association Announces Tournament Results

The South Plainfield Golf Association (SPGA) held its 11th Annual Golf Tournament on Aug. 3 at Gambler Ridge Golf Course. The tournament was held for the benefit of the South Plainfield High School Golf Team. There was a full roster with 144 golfers in the tournament. The weather was beautiful and everyone enjoyed a great day of golf and fun.

Food, beverages, and contests were going throughout the day. A special thanks once again to our Gold Sponsor Sal Severini of Sal's Spirit Shoppe and Frank Pascale of Café Vivace and their fine cooking crew of "Brother" Rob Hunt and Chet Czaplinski. Sal's new cast-iron grill and smoker was broken in at the outing and his 20 chicken rotisserie was flaming all day! Man can these guys cook!! The burgers, dogs, and chicken were flowing from lunch to dinner. For dinner these guys served up some real good pasta, sausage, meatballs, including some of Lois Severini's special sauce, and beef brisket.

Thanks to all the parents and kids that worked the tournament: Jeannine DeAndrea, Robyn DeAndrea, Ashleigh Gaspari, Gary Gaspari, Lynne Gaspari, Dewey Gray, Janice Gray, Brian Hunt, Chelsea Hunt, Rob Hunt, Jeff Licato, JR Licato, Bissy Martin, Brad Martin, Patty Martin, Sam Martin, Lindsay Murtagh, Nancy Murtagh, Lenny Padula and Vinny Padula.

Prizes were awarded for both men and

women, including Low Team Score (Danny DeAndrea, Mike Butrico, Chris Czaplinski, Jonathan Fredericks), Longest Drive Women (Kumi Fuji), Longest Drive Men (Kevin Flannery), Closest to the Pin (Vito Ratti), and Closest to the Line (Danny DeAndrea). There was a special hole-in-one prize (Infiniti Luxury Car) sponsored by Ray Catena. Nobody took home this prize but one golfer came within a foot of the pin!

The SPGA wants to thank its many sponsors. Platinum Sponsors were Ampco Office Machines, Colony Mortgage, DeAndrea Associates, Flanagan's Restaurant, Oak Tree Buy-Rite Liquors, Patti Construction, Schweers Contracting and Zensky Electrical Contractor. Gold Sponsors were Arbor Interiors, Century 21 Moretti Realty, Dallas Contracting, Disch Tree Experts, Dunphy-Smith Co., ECI Communications, Frank P. Licato Insurance Agency, Frank P. Licato Jr., D.M.D., GAR Equipment Corp., Grotto Engineering, Insurance Restoration Specialists, Jafco Supplies, JDM Trucking, Jersey Tank Fabrications, Inc., Lanza & Lanza, Leland Gas Technologies, McCrisky Home for Funerals, PBA Local 100, Sal's Spirit Shoppe, South Plainfield Elks, South Plainfield Funeral Home, Stilo Excavating, Tele-Cable Inc., Twin City Pharmacy, Valley National Bank and Café Vivace. Silver Sponsors were A.J. Jersey, Inc., Absolute Fire Protection, Butrico's Auto Body, Caruso-Dellomo Construction, Joe and Rose Marie DeAndrea, Mastracola Plumbing, Inc., New Pak, Park Avenue Cleaner, POPS Communications Inc., R.T. Tech Electric Co., Roma Foods, SPEA, The Hess Group, Thomas E.

Hood and Walter Abrams. Bronze Sponsors were Alloy Industries, Carpet Bazzar, Carpet Plus, Ciccio's Pizza, Cindy Michael's Jewelers, First Class Travel, Haisch's Bakery, Harty Bros. Carpet & Vinyl, Inc., Lombardi Enterprises, Inc., North Stelton Lumber, Palisades Safety and Insurance, Renato Biribin, Santoro and Santoro Attorneys, Vail Hardware Store, Inc. and Zebro's Car and Truck Repair. Beverage Sponsors were Di-Lex Trucking, Inc., Skrocki Memorial Home and Zensky Electrical Contractor. Hospitality Sponsors were the Italian-American Progressive League, Panzarella Contracting, Inc. and Reydel Volkswagen. Special Sponsors were 1-800 Flowers, Angelo's Ice, Clouseau's Restaurant, Coakley-Russo GC, Columbia Bank, Fairway Golf Center, Frichoffers, GE Capital, Green Pond CC, High Bridge Hills Golf Club, Hometown Heroes, Kingston Plantation, Mohn's Flowers, Murphy Style Grill, Neshanic Valley, New Jersey Golf Headquarters, Nuova Cucina, Oak Hill Golf Club, PNC Bank, Ray Catena, Rita's Italian Ice, Rutgers Newark Athletic Department, Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort, Slim and Tone, Southmoore Golf Course, South Plainfield Athletic Booster Club, Sportworld, The Club at Morgan Hill, The Links at Brigantine, Unity Bank and VA Tramitano.

The SPGA and the High School Golf Team look forward to the support of all the golfers and sponsors at next year's 12th Annual. The scores for each foursome and other tournament results can be viewed at the SPGA web site www.spga.org.

Submitted By Bob Nilan

Notes from the South Plainfield Golf League

KC's Korner got a superb team effort just when they needed it to gain an overwhelming 17-3 win over Patti's Construction to move into first place in the American Division with just one week left to go in regular season action. Dan Conti led the way for KC's Korner with a fine 3-over par round of 36, and Mark Dugan and Rich Steele both had 38s. KC's Korner will have the momentum with them as they go into the final week of the season and face a very tough Masters team in a match that will determine the Division Championship. Patti's Construction has had a long and difficult season but they did get another terrific performance from "Iron Mike" Behr, who posted a 36 in a losing effort.

Plainfield Animal Hospital maintained its pennant hopes by edging out Twin City 11-9 to remain just one game behind KC's Korner going into the final week. Mark "Mr. Steady" Chichvar and Mike Sikanowicz both fired solid rounds of 37 to spark PAH's victory to offset the 37 turned in by Jay Coppola of Twin City and the nice round of 38 by Jay's teammate, Guy Severini.

Pornovets fell out of first place with a resounding thud when they got totally crushed 19-1 by last year's champions, Masters. Irish Danny Griffin is playing beautifully as the season comes to a close and fired a superb 34 and teammate Al Szumski had his best round of the season in matching Griffin's 34 as Masters waltzed to a very surprising easy win. Rich Szackowski won the medal for

Pornovets with a 40 while the rest of his teammates were really off their game.

In the National Division, the South Plainfield Elks, who finished the 2004 season with a 4-8-2 record, continue to enjoy an

amazing turnaround season

and hammered the Hackers 16-4 and now hold the top spot in the National Division with a 10-3 record, the best in the league. Dale Dube, who had a 36 last week, his low-round in league action, came through again and fired 39 to spark his team to victory. Kevin Boyce and Bill Mann both had 39s for the Hackers, who once again had just too many strokes to give away.

No twosome has to give more strokes than the formidable duo of Ed Banach and Fred Kirchofer of Aiello Chiropractic. They both played really well, with Banach shooting a superb one-over 34 and Kirchofer having a solid round of 36, but the best Aiello could manage was a 10-10 tie with Witty's. Howard Adler had another fine round for Witty's and shot a 37.

Frank "The Bayonne Bomber" Matthews earned the medal for Sport & Social with a 40 to lead his team to a narrow 11-9 win over the wounded vets of the VFW. Bob Nilan's 39 was the low-score for the VFW.

Mark Chichvar won the closest-to-the-pin competition on the third hole while posting a solid score of 37.

Low Scores for the Night: Ed Banach, 34, Danny Griffin, 34, Al Szumski, 34, Mike Behr, 36, Dan Conti, 36, Fred Kirchofer, 36.

LEAGUE STANDINGS:

American Division				National Division			
	W	L	T		W	L	T
KC's Korner	7	5	1	S.P. Elks	10	3	0
PAH	6	5	2	Aiello	8	2	3
Pornovets	6	6	1	Witty's	7	5	1
Masters	6	7	0	Sport & Social	6	4	3
Twin City	5	8	0	Hackers	4	8	1
Patti's	3	9	7	VFW	3	9	1

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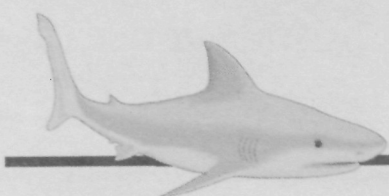


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Sports



Tigers Take Second Place at League Championships

The South Plainfield Tiger Sharks Swim Team took second place at the "A" League Championship of the New Jersey Swimming and Diving Conference held July 29 and 30 at the Cedar Hill Club pool in Somerset. The Tiger Sharks total score was 255.5, losing the first place trophy to the Willows Swim Team, who scored 265.5 points.

The "A" League consists of ten teams divided into two divisions, red and white. South Plainfield swims in the white division and captured second place, competing against swimmers in the red division, which by league standards are the more competitive teams.

League Championship is scored by the points that the individual members compile as they swim their individual events. Points and medals are given to only those swimmers who place first through sixth place.

Tiger Shark swimmers scoring the most points in their age groups were: eight-and-under-Aidan McDermott and Kelley O'Brien; 9/10-Anthony Gurrieri and Gracie Piekarski; 11/12-Zak Post, Dylan McDermott and Sarah Konops; 13/14-Alan Kasmer and Emily Piekarski; 15-18-CalvinJohn Smiley and Katie Kaczka.

While these swimmers scored the most points for the team, the coaches were very pleased with the entire team. All the swimmers swam their personal best times and showed team effort in all age groups and categories. Ages 13 and above swam on Friday evening and 12-and-under on Saturday morning.

The following are the results for those who placed first through 12th.

Men 13-18 200 Yard IM: Brian Green came in second. Women 13-18 200 Yard Medley Relay: Nina Byard, Katie Hill, Emily Piekarski, Sarah Konops placed third; Joanna Luzny, Kristen Dabrio, Michelle Gustafson, Teresa Gustafson placed eighth. Men 13-18 200 Yard Medley Relay: Chris Reed, Matt Moates, Alan Kasmer, Brian Babinetz were 10th. Girls 13/14 100 Yard Freestyle: Emily Piekarski placed seventh. Women 15-18 100 Yard Freestyle: Katie Kaczka placed first and Katie Hill was sixth. Men 15-18 100 Yard Freestyle: CalvinJohn Smiley placed first. Girls 13-14 100 Yard Breaststroke, Teresa Gustafson placed 10th and Michelle Gustafson 11th.

Women 15-18 100 Yard Breaststroke: Nina Byard place seventh. Men 15-18 100 Yard Breaststroke: Brian Green was third. Women 15-18 100 Yard Butterfly: Katie Kaczka placed first. Men 15-



O'Brien girls, Kate and Kelley at Willows Swim Club.

18 100 Yard Butterfly: Brian Green was sixth.

Girls 13/14 100 Yard Backstroke, Emily Piekarski was third; Teresa Gustafson placed seventh and Michelle Gustafson was 10th. Boys 13/14 100 Yard Backstroke: Alan Kasmer placed fourth and Brian Babinetz eighth.

Women 15-18 100 Yard Backstroke: Katie Kaczka placed first, Nina Byard third and Katie Hill fifth. Men 15-18 100 Yard Backstroke: CalvinJohn Smiley was fourth and Matt Moates came in 10th.

Men 13-18 200 Yard Freestyle: CalvinJohn Smiley was first. Women 13-18 200 Yard Freestyle Relay: Nina Byard, Katie Kaczka, Maggie Valentino, Emily Piekarski placed fourth and Michelle Gustafson, Teresa Gustafson, Katie Hill, Kristen Dabrio were ninth.

Men 13-18 200 Yard Freestyle Relay: CalvinJohn Smiley, Brian Babinetz, Alan Kasmer and Brian Green placed sixth.

Girls ten-and-under 100 Yard IM: Gracie Piekarski was third and Evelyn Peregrin came in 12th. Boys ten-and-under 100 Yard IM: Liam McDermott was 10th. Girls 11/12 100 Yard IM: Maggie Valentino placed sixth.

Girls eight-and-under 100 Yard Medley Relay: Megan Mann, Megan McDermott, Kelley O'Brien and Madison Faustini placed fifth and Emily Sukenik, Chelsea Housel, Casee Le and Justice Lipuma came in ninth.

Boys eight-and-under 100 Yard Medley Relay: Nicholas Gurrieri, Michael Petritsch, Enzo Butrico and Billy McLaughlin were sixth.

Girls 9-12 200 yard Medley Relay: Taylor Aljian, Kate O'Brien, Chelsea Cullen and Gracie Piekarski were third and Kaitlyn Faustini, Kate McLaughlin, Maggie Valentino and Ellen Zinsky came in eighth.

Girls eight-and-under 25 Yard Freestyle: Kelley O'Brien placed third and Megan McDermott was 12th.

Boys eight-and-under 25 Yard Freestyle: Aidan McDermott placed second and Nicholas Gurrieri came in 12th.

Girls 9/10 50 Yard Freestyle: Kate McLaughlin was seventh. Boys 9/10 50 Yard Freestyle: Anthony Gurrieri came

in first. Girls 11/12 50 Yard Freestyle: Sarah Konops was first; Maggie Valentino, fourth and Ellen Zinsky, 10th.

Girls eight-and-under 25 Yard Breaststroke: Megan McDermott placed eighth and Madison Faustini was ninth.

Boys eight-and-under 25 yard Breaststroke: Aidan McDermott was second. Girls 9/10 50 Yard Breaststroke: Kate McLaughlin was third. Boys 9/10 50 Yard Breaststroke: Liam McDermott was second and Charlie Butrico was 11th.

Girls 11/12 50 Yard Breaststroke: Sarah Konops was first; Kate O'Brien sixth and Kelly McLaughlin 12th. Boys 11/12 50 Yard Breaststroke, Zak Post came in first.

Girls 10-and-under 100 Yard Freestyle: Gracie Piekarski was third and Kaitlyn Kenny 11th. Boys 10-and-under 100 Yard Freestyle: Anthony Gurrieri placed first and Liam McDermott was eighth.

Girls 11/12 100 Yard Freestyle: Chelsea Cullen was first and Maggie Valentino, sixth. Boys 11/12 100 Yard Freestyle: Zak Post came in second.

Girls eight-and-under 25 Yard Backstroke: Kelley O'Brien was second and Madison Faustini, eighth. Boys eight-and-under 25 Yard Backstroke: Enzo Butrico placed seventh.

Girls 9/10 50 Yard Backstroke: Taylor Aljian placed third. Boys 9/10 50 Yard Backstroke: Sean Cullen was 12th.

Girls 11/12 50 Yard Backstroke: Kate O'Brien came in 11th. Girls eight-and-under 25 Yard Butterfly: Kelley O'Brien was fourth. Boys eight-and-under 25 Yard Butterfly: Aidan McDermott won

first and Billy McLaughlin came in 12th.

Boys 9/10 50 Yard Butterfly: Anthony Gurrieri placed third and Charlie Butrico, 10th. Girls 11/12 50 Yard Butterfly: Chelsea Cullen was second and Ellen Zinsky, 12th.

Boys 11/12 50 Yard Butterfly: Dylan McDermott came in first and Zak Post, 7th. Girls eight-and-under 100 Yard Freestyle Relay: Chelsea Housel, Madison Faustini, Megan McDermott and Casee Le placed fifth.

Boys eight-and-under 100 Yard Freestyle Relay: Aidan McDermott, Enzo Butrico, Nicholas Gurrieri and Michael Petritsch came in third.

Girls 9-12 200 Yard Freestyle Relay: Kate McLaughlin, Chelsea Cullen, Sarah Konops and Gracie Piekarski placed first and Taylor Aljian, Kelly McLaughlin, Kate O'Brien and Ellen Zinsky were fourth. Boys 9-12 200 Yard Freestyle Relay: Dylan McDermott, Zak Post, Anthony Gurrieri and Liam McDermott came in first.

Swimming their personal best times were Abby Petritsch, Lucy Roseo, Annie Pezzolla, Amy Zinsky, Cristian Butrico, Mike Olano, Michelle O'Sullivan, Kyle Bythell, Ryan Bythell, Aimee Le, Brittany Papa, Joey Valentino, Cristina Butrico and Lauren Parello.

On deck to see the win were coaches Laurie Post, Sarah Blessing, Shannon Dabrio, Mary Otlowski and former coaches Robin Cone and Jen Otlowski.

Next week: results from the Roycefield Invitational Sprint Meet.

Submitted by Cheryl Nagel-Smiley

Tiger Sharks Dive Team with Their Fantastic Second Place Win!

On Thursday morning, July 28 at 7 a.m. at the Metuchen Municipal Pool, the sun was rising over the tree-tops, pushing away the cool morning air, as divers from five different teams made their way towards the dive boards to take their first icy plunge into the pool! As they all began their warm-up routines, the day started to heat up, and the excitement and anticipation of the meet began to build!

The meet began with the 15-18 age group diving first. Michael Boyle placed third and Kayleigh McGovern walked away with a fifth place ribbon.

The next group to dive was the eight-and-under. Jacob Alba and Abigail Stevens both brought home

third place medals and Brett Temple a sixth place ribbon.

The 9/10 age group did an excellent job as well! Jack Green took the first place medal, Patrick Boyle took fourth and Ryan Temple took sixth. Jena Cianfrocca brought home a third place medal and Janet Kelly took home sixth.

In the 11/12 age group, Alexis Alba won a second place medal and Allison Wagner won a third place medal.

In the 13/14 age group Stephen Wagner nailed his dives and took first place, while George Graves took a second place medal and Logan Green took fifth. Alex Petronko took home sixth place.

There was also a "fun" dive for parents and coaches! Jennifer Kelly brought home a second place ribbon in the parents' category and Nicole

Moretti took third place in the coaches category. Didn't they do a great job? It was a beautiful, fun, yet very long day, with the meet not finishing until nearly 5 p.m.

After the meet, the members of the dive team were invited to Rudolfo's to celebrate their wonderful second place win! The second place trophy is kept at the community pool... make sure you check it out next time you visit!

The dive team is always looking for new members...you can be taught how to dive by our wonderful coach Nicole Moretti! The only requirements for being a member of the team are to be under 18 and a member of the pool! Keep it in mind for next year. Who knows...maybe diving is something you would enjoy experiencing!

Submitted by Jena and Terry Cianfrocca

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Human Services Support Grant Applications

The Middlesex County Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) is accepting applications for 2006 Human Services Support Grants which fund social services for lower income individuals and families and people with disabilities.

Applications from social services providers will be considered that address emergency basic needs, non-emergency basic needs and prevention or education to improve the quality of life. Applications are due by noon on Wednesday, Aug. 31 to the Middlesex County Department of Human Services.

For information, contact Harriet Slonim at (732) 745-4051 or e-mail harrietslonim@cc.middlesex.nj.us.



Children enjoy cooling off during one of the sessions at this summer's Recreation Program, which ended last week.

"America Loves Math" Scholarship Contest

Math isn't typically considered to be something that most of us enjoy. We tease the "bean counters," dread splitting any restaurant bill and rely heavily on calculators for everything else that involves numbers.

But all that is about to change. Math is about to become fun.

The Online Math League (www.onlinemathleague.com), a new organization dedicated to improving students' skills and enthusiasm for math, announces its first annual "America Loves Math" contest with \$1,500 in college scholarships.

Founded to generate enthusiasm for math in the classroom and at home, the Online Math League provides a series of math competitions for third through 12th grade homeschoolers,

school teams and individual students. After each competition, student scores are immediately posted to the site in real time, providing quick feedback for students, teachers and families.

The first annual national "America Loves Math" competition will give students the opportunity to tell the world what's best about crunching numbers.

Students in grades 3 through 12 are invited to submit a brief essay (250 words or less) about why they love math. Essays will be judged in three age categories: elementary (3rd-5th grades), junior high (6th-8th grades) and high school (9th-12th grades). The best overall essay (from any age category) will win the Grand Prize: a \$1,000 college scholarship and a free

individual entry into the 2005-2006 Online Math League. \$250 college scholarships and free individual Online Math League entries will be awarded to the best essays in each of the age ranges not represented by the Grand Prize winner.

In addition, five second-prize winners will be chosen from each age category. These 15 winners will also receive free individual entries into the 2005-2006 Online Math League contests.

Students who wish to enter this contest should go to www.onlinemathleague.com to read the full contest rules and to submit their essays. All essays must be received by midnight on Oct. 21, 2005. Winners will be notified on Oct. 24, 2005.

NOTES FROM The Senior Center

by Joann Graf, Director of Office on Aging

If you think you're too old to reap any benefits from starting an exercise program, think again. A new study finds that men and women aged 65 and older who were previously physically active or who became physically active during the study had lower mortality rates than seniors who remained sedentary. The results are published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

The National Institute on Aging believes that "when older people lose their ability to do things on their own, it doesn't happen just because they have aged. More likely, it is because they have become inactive." Seniors need to engage in cardio, strength training and flexibility exercises to stay healthy and maintain as much strength and functionality as possible.

Exercise is no less important for those in their sixties and seventies than it is for people half that age. No matter what your age, the benefits of exercise are the same – increase energy and self-esteem, conditioned heart and lungs, improved muscle tone and greater function of bones and joints. The effects of certain chronic diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure, arthritis, and osteoporosis, can also be reduced by engaging in regular exercise. Exercise can also help to reduce the risk of falls.

If you've been inactive for a while and would like to start walking or another exercise program, see your doctor first to get the go-ahead and for advice on how to exercise properly to avoid injury. Then come and visit the South Plainfield Senior Center. We

have a variety of exercise opportunities available. We have an exercise room with treadmills, a cardio glide, stepers, stationary bikes and a gazelle. We also offer yoga class, line dancing, an exercise class, and we are currently registering members for a new Tai Chi class to begin in the fall. The center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday.

One of the primary goals of the Senior Center is to help keep our older residents healthy and fit. If there is a particular activity that you would like us to incorporate in our fitness program, please let us know. Take that first step. Join us. It's fun and it may just add years to your life.

JFVS Holding Workshops For Those Affected by 9/11

On Sept. 20, Jewish Family and Vocational Service of Middlesex County is offering an evening of workshops for individuals and families affected by 9/11. The workshops focus on the arts, movement and emotional support.

Professional and licensed artists, educators, fitness trainers and social workers will lead all programs. Ongoing workshops will begin at 4 p.m. and continue until 8 p.m.

If you or someone you know would like to attend this program or if you would like additional information, call Felene Weinstein at JFVS of Middlesex County at (732) 777-1940.

There is no fee for this program.

Obituaries

Mary Lou (Trembley) Suehn, 60

Mary Lou (Trembley) Suehn died on Wednesday, August 3 at Union Hospital in Union.

Born in Elizabeth, Mrs. Suehn was raised in Cranford and lived in Woodbridge before settling in Piscataway 14 years ago.

Mary Lou worked for Merck in Whitehouse Station, retiring in 2000. Most recently she was employed by Aventis Pharmaceutical in Bridgewater, working in the Human Resources Department as an executive assistant.

A member of St. Bartholomew's RC Church in Scotch Plains, Mary Lou sang in the church choir. Mrs. Suehn loved to sing and she was a member of the St. James Church Choir in Woodbridge, St. Anthony of Padua Choir in Port Reading, the Aventis

Gospel Choir and the St. Joseph Folk Group in Keyport.

An avid bingo player, Mary Lou frequented Chinese Auctions. She also enjoyed the Jersey Shore, traveling on cruises and was a supporter of the Freehold Beagle Rescue.

Surviving are her husband, William of Piscataway; a sister, Kathleen Davis of Maryland; a niece, Kristina Stitt and a nephew, George Stitt.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home for Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to the Freehold Beagle Rescue, 125 Georgia Road, Freehold, NJ 07728.

Richard J. Hansen, 84

Richard J. Hansen died on Saturday, August 6 at the New Jersey Veteran's Home at Menlo Park in Edison.

Born in Manhattan, Mr. Hansen was raised in Scarsdale, NY. He resided in Piscataway for nearly 48 years before entering the New Jersey Veteran's Home at Menlo Park three years ago.

An Army veteran of World War II, Richard graduated from New York University in 1947. He was employed for 25 years by GAR in Wayne, working as a traffic distribution manager. He enjoyed playing golf and tennis.

His wife, Frances, died in 1999. Surviving are his three sons, Donald and his wife Allison of Gillette; Bruce and his wife Amy of Hawaii and Larry and his wife Doris of Piscataway. Also surviving are five grandchildren, Karl, Dennis, Kristen, Joshua and Jenna.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Madeline was a homemaker who loved her family. In addition, she was a longtime member of St. Joseph RC Church in North Plainfield and enjoyed cleaning the church.

She is predeceased by a sister, Helen Schaffer and four brothers, Arthur, Neil, George and Troy Lehlbach.

Surviving are her husband, Carl Sr. of North Plainfield; a daughter, Karen Marion and her husband Wayne of South Plainfield; a son, Carl Jr. and his wife JoAnn of Dover and her brother, Richard and his wife Ruth Lehlbach of North Plainfield. Also surviving are four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Anthony R. "Bob" Vargo, 75

Anthony R. "Bob" Vargo died sud-

denly on Saturday, August 6 in his home.

Born in Plainfield, he was raised in North Plainfield and had resided in South Plainfield for many years before moving back to North Plainfield 20 years ago.

Bob was a self-employed tile setter and worked for many years throughout the central New Jersey area. His specialty was in home remodeling.

He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Korean conflict and was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Post #6763 of South Plainfield.

His son, James Vargo, died in 1986. Surviving are his daughter, Kathleen P. Vargo of South Plainfield; two sons, Thomas Vargo of Morris Plains and John Vargo and his wife Kim of Brielle; a sister, Beverly Horak of New Hope, Pa. and two granddaughters, Ellen and Julia.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Madeline (Lehlbach) Ramskow, 79

Madeline (Lehlbach) Ramskow died on Saturday, August 6 at her son's home in Dover, Pa.

Born in Jersey City, she was raised in Dunellen and lived in Scotch Plains and North Plainfield before moving to Dover a short time ago.

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Resident Ghost Hunter to Star in TV Show

By Jane Dornick

South Plainfield's homegrown ghost hunter and psychic Jane Doherty recently announced plans to host a new reality television show airing this fall on The Learning Channel. She, along with a researcher, sketch artist and historian, spend the weekend at the homes of local families who wish to have their strange goings on investigated. The primetime show is currently entitled *Haunted House*.

Doherty is known for her internationally publicized ghost investigation of South Plainfield's own gentleman's club Liquid Assets. Prior to that she has been investigating other local homes for years such as the Metlar/Bodine House in Perth Amboy and the Propriety House in Perth Amboy, where she conducts ghost tours every year around Halloween. She has had a business office in town for many years and conducts seances at the homes of clients on weekends. Her claim to fame is her expanding stomach which protrudes in the presence of a spirit.

So far, four out of an allocated 10 shows have been taped in locations in New Jersey and New York. Doherty and the "investigative team" drive to the home of willing participants on a



Jane Doherty

Friday night, eat dinner with the family and spend most of the next 48 hours awake with cameras rolling. Doherty roams the house at all hours of the night in hopes of locating "hot spots" of ghost activity. During the weekend a historian researches the history of the area and a sketch artist draws what Doherty envisions. On Sunday night, the investigation comes to a conclusion with Doherty conducting a seance "to see who comes," as she puts it. Part of the concept of the show is that there is a skeptic in the family and Doherty's goal is to get

them to question their beliefs. She is hesitant to give away too many details of what she encountered so far, but revealed that in a home in Port Murray she smelled flesh burning.

On the heels of her TV show was the February release of Doherty's first book entitled *Awakening the Mystic Gift: The Surprising Truth About What it Means to be Psychic*. Prior to taping the show, she completed a national book tour where she held book signings and performed seances. In San Diego she performed a ghost investigation and seance at the William Heath Davis house, the oldest house in town and in San Francisco she had the honor of being the first psychic ever invited to speak at a prestigious high society function held by the Breakfast Club at the Fairmont Hotel. She also spent time at the famous Palace Hotel, which has been previously off limits to ghost investigations. There she communicated with the ghost of a former president, a man who was murdered and the ghost of George Burns.

Aside from her budding book and TV career, Doherty maintains an office at 2325 Plainfield Ave. where she holds psychic development classes, seances and has a private clientele. She

also does public speaking, and on August 11 will be addressing Hunterdon County law officials at a breakfast meeting about how psychics can be beneficial in law enforcement. According to Doherty, she is still seeking a few more homes to be investigated for

her TV show. If you or someone you know is interested you can email her at janedoherty@comcast.net. She also has an updated website, www.jane-doherty.com, which includes extensive information about ghost investigation, her new book and future appearances.

John Cotone Perfect Choice As Parade Grand Marshal

(Continued from page 1)

tor with the DPW and promoted to foreman. He has been a code official for 20 years.

John has three children, Donna, John A., and Cheryl and five grandchildren, Christopher, Ryan, Kayla, John E. and Jenna.

Cotone will lead this year's Annual Labor Day Parade through the streets of South Plainfield. The parade is shaping up to be the biggest ever. If you haven't signed up to march, please note that Aug. 15 is the last day for parade entries. More than 45 entries have already signed up to march and there will be twice as many cartoon characters for the kids to greet and shake hands with. Comcast will be televis-

ing the parade, so be prepared to see cameras along the route also.

The festivities start with the annual 5K race and 1.5 mile family walk before the parade. Streets and roads will be closed, so make sure you get a good spot early enough to miss the traffic snarls. The parade will end at the PAL and there will be plenty of activities planned afterward. Plenty of good food and beverages, plus many other concessions will be located behind the PAL building. At 12:30 live musical entertainment will be provided by Forrester.

The evening entertainment at Spring Lake Park begins at 7 p.m. with live music from Sound Investment, followed by a fireworks display.

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John Petronella's Model Displayed At Sacred Heart Church

By Libby Barsky

John Petronella has recaptured the structure of the original Sacred Heart Church constructed in 1905 in a model he recently built. The replica has been placed behind an altar rail at Sacred Heart with a sign next to it engraved by Tulio Capparelli.

"I like working with my hands. I like doing things," said Petronella, who has intimate knowledge of the buildings in the Sacred Heart complex. He recently retired after 27 years of going back and fourth between the Sacred Heart school building and Holy Redeemer Cemetery, where he was cemetery manager.

"I made a lot of stuff for the church, tables, bookcases and benches for a bridal party. That's how I started working for Sacred Heart. They asked me to make a cabinet and table. Later, after I was hired to be manager of Holy Redeemer Cemetery, I put my table saws and tools in the cemetery garage. If the school needed a table or chair made I'd make it there in the garage, he explained. "I also built scenery for the school plays and for the Christmas

display. Over time I've made three different mangers. The last one has life sized statues with the background of the stable and a life-size donkey that a child can sit on," said Petronella.

When Sacred Heart School was undergoing accreditation certification, Petronella built miniature classrooms on the auditorium stage, so when the presentation was made and a subject was mentioned, that particular classroom would light up.

Petronella used a photo to make the replica of the 1905 Church. "One of the fellows in church gave me a picture of it. It was an angled shot, but I could figure it out. When it was done I asked the old timers who were married there and they said it looked just like it," he said.

According to Petronella, there have been three separate Sacred Heart buildings. The original 1905 church was placed next to the rectory, where the priests now live. Then the church was built and the school was built along side of it. The second church was built where the school gym currently stands. The third church returned to the original 1905 spot, next



to the rectory.

"I just completed a model of Hadley Field," said Petronella. "I started it at the same time I began making the Sacred Heart model. I used the picture of Hadley Field that is on the wall of Commerce Bank."

Petronella has also made small scale replicas of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Korean Memorial located in Washington D.C. He also makes the molds for the miniature fig-

ures of soldiers that are in these models. "I was a model maker for General Mold Caster in Newark for 21 years. I made original patterns for toys and furniture. It was a one-of-a-kind foundry that went out of business in 1972."

"When we moved to South Plainfield from Jersey City, I had my own remodeling business working nights and weekends, mostly repairs inside the house and finishing attics. I had three heart attacks and didn't work for

two years until Sacred Heart called me to make cabinets for the CCD office," said Petronella.

Petronella, whose wife died three and one half years ago, has two daughters Christine Zwiebel of Rahway and Patty Perrine, who recently moved into a home in Clark. Before she moved, Petronella put up a new front door, new sliding back doors, railings and tile floors in the house. He credits his father for the construction skills he has. "I was born into construction, because my father was a contractor. He was a bricklayer, stone cutter and a mason. We used to build the whole house from the ground up," he said. Now Petronella is transmitting his skills to his grandchildren.

Since he came to South Plainfield, the Petronella house has made cars slow down at the corner of Maple Ave. and Joan St. during Christmas, Thanksgiving and the Fourth of July when he displays the specially made wooden decorations. "I have a scrapbook with letters of appreciation for the lawn decorations left in my mailbox. Now my kids are doing it," he said.

Charles Mingle Receives Award

(Continued from page 1)

a chaplain and Capparelli was instrumental in recruiting the mayor, the chief of police and heads of the fire department, rescue squad and emergency management, all of whom are well aware of Chaplain Mingle's tireless devotion to South Plainfield, presiding over installations, funerals and the like and responding to virtually every call from every department. Those letters ultimately helped Chaplain Mingle win the award. No one knew for sure if he would actually get the award, but they wanted the nominating committee to know he deserved recognition. The award winner was not known until the announcement was made during the conference in July.

Chaplain Charles Mingle is a man who tirelessly works for the good of South Plainfield. He marches in the Labor Day Parade with the Police Department, Fire Department and Rescue Squad. He has earned not one, but two PBA Silver Life Membership Cards. One has to ask if there is anything he doesn't do. "Sometimes I don't take the garbage out," he jokingly responded.

The *Observer* offers its sincerest congratulations to Chaplain Mingle for a deserved honor from his fellow chaplains.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF HEARING CONCERNING APPLICATIONS FOR SUBDIVISION APPROVAL AND VARIANCE


NOTICE IS GIVEN that a hearing before the South Plainfield Planning Board will be held on August 30, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey concerning an appeal of the denial of the application of Joseph Poletti a/k/a Giuseppe Poletti, (with Antonio Poletti, Iole Fragassi, and Anna Caruso who are sought to be added to the application) to obtain the following concerning the property currently designated as 3131 Park Avenue, South Plainfield, Middlesex County, New Jersey (Block 222, Lot 6 on the South Plainfield tax map):

1. Approval of subdivision of the land from one (1) lot into two (2) lots, and
2. Variance approval for lot depth of one (1) or both resulting lots, lot width of one or both resulting lots, and rear and/or side yard set back requirement for the accessory building (shed).


The Applicant(s) may seek such other relief as the Planning Board may require. The Applicant(s) seeks to convey the resulting southerly lot to an interested person who would then construct a single-family residential dwelling thereon.

You are entitled to appear and be heard on this application. All maps and other documents for which approval is sought are available for inspection by the public in the Zoning/Planning Office of the Municipal Building at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey on any weekday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Anthony J. Marra, Jr. Counselor at Law, L.L.C.
Attorney for Applicant(s)



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