

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 9, NO. 1

50 CENTS

SEPTEMBER 2, 2005



Laura DeAngelis presents a \$1,200 check to Mary Ann Lisewski for the Open Your Heart Foundation, as her mom, Pat, Tony Moretti, Andrea Lacerda and Dina Capparelli look on.

Young Cancer Survivor Opens Her Heart with Gift to Others

Laura DeAngelis, 8, defies her age by her incredibly maturity and selfless actions. She recently donated her First Communion money to the Open Your Heart To Children Battling Cancer Foundation, Inc., founded by Century 21 Moretti Realty. What makes this donation so special is that Laura is herself a cancer victim.

Two years ago when Laura became ill, her parents took her to the doctor

and got the shock of their life. Thinking she just had some sort of stomach disorder, Laura was diagnosed with Burkett's Lymphoma, a rare cancer which resulted in the removal of part of her colon, followed by aggressive chemotherapy. This cancer only strikes one in 100,000. Laura was a patient at the Institute for Children With Cancer and Blood Disorders at

(Continued on page 24)



Sacred Heart pastor, Father John Alvarado, cuts the cake at the 100th anniversary gala dinner dance. He is joined (from left) by Elaine Tuthill, Grace Bertucci, Nancy Stillman-Pender, Sandy Severini and Sacred Heart School Principal, Sister Mary Nadine Boyle. See page 11 for additional photos.

Update on **CAUTION:** UNDER CONSTRUCTION Borough Construction

Construction work will continue on Hamilton Blvd. between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. At the present time, the work is being done on Hamilton Blvd. around Montrose Ave., where PSE&G is installing a new gas line.

American Water Co. has resumed work along Hamilton Blvd. between 7 p.m. and 5 a.m. Local businesses on Hamilton Blvd. will remain open during the construction period.

Construction is almost complete on Maple Ave. Curbs and sidewalks are being replaced. Traffic will flow in

both directions during this construction at all times.

Construction will begin on Church St. on or about Sept. 12. The roadway will be closed between Lakeview Ave. and Hamilton Blvd. for 30 days once work has started.

If you have any questions call Borough Administrator Vincent Buttiglieri at (908) 226-7606 or Construction Coordinator Michael Zushma at (908) 753-3775.

You can also log on to the Borough's website: southplainfieldnj.com.

Steve Novak Plans Many Changes at Middle School

By Patricia Abbott

After 38 years Steve Novak is right back where he started. The new Middle School principal is happy to be returning to the building where his career began nearly four decades ago. Fresh from college in 1968, Steve did his student teaching at the (then) South Plainfield High School. In 1969 he was hired as a history teacher and the rest as they say, "is history!" The new assistant principal is Kelly Panuzzo.

Novak noted that he likes a challenge and is excited about those that the Middle School present. He has big plans for the school. These goals include: facilities; curriculum; updating equipment, including audio visual aids; working to improve GEPA scores in math and language arts and improving attendance. He plans to emphasize the four "A's"—Academics, Athletics, Arts and Activities. Novak said, "Junior high is a transition period; it paves the way and prepares students for high school. The Middle

School is not an elementary school and cannot be run like one."

Steve believes updating facilities will go a long way toward promoting a greater pride in the school. The gym floors have been redone for the first time in 20 years. The lighting in the main entrance and gym have been greatly improved. The hallways have been repainted and are adorned with Tiger emblems and the four "A's" insignia. The outside of the building hasn't been neglected either. Landscaping outside the cafeteria is a work in progress. This beautification work is being done through donations from Jim Patti of Patti Construction, Kevin Krystipik of KKK Trucking and Jim Conroy of Conroy Lawn Service. All are SPHS alumni.

The courtyard is unique to the Middle School. Weather permitting, it will continue to be utilized by students on a daily basis. The school has plans for the yard to be used for special ceremonies, including Veteran's Day and a 9/11 program. The events will be coordinated by the Social Studies



Middle School Principal Steve Novak with Georgeann Larsen.

and Music departments, headed by teachers Joe Blondo, social studies and Andy Veiss, instrumental music. Tentative dates for the ceremonies are Nov. 8, 9 and 10 for Veterans Day and Monday, Sept. 12 for the 9/11 observance.

The 2005-06 handbooks for
(Continued on page 24)

Police/Fire Softball Trophy Honors Bataille

The Handicapped Children's Committee, BPO Elks Lodge 2298 in South Plainfield, has sponsored the annual softball game between members of the South Plainfield Police and Fire Departments for the past five years. Starting this year, the winning team will be awarded the Gene Bataille Sr. Memorial Cup, in honor

(Continued on page 15)

48th Labor Day Parade Celebrates Volunteerism

The members of the Celebrations Committee would like to invite all residents to join the festivities that are planned for Labor Day. This is the one day of the year when South Plainfield residents can spend the entire day with their families and friends celebrating with each other. Hopefully the weather will be as perfect as it was last year.

The 48th Annual Labor Day Parade will be held on Monday, Sept. 5. The day is geared toward the enjoyment of both young and old. The Celebrations Committee has spent the past year planning this day-long event so that everyone can enjoy themselves.

The day begins with a 5K race and 1.5 mile family walk. This is a great way to start the Labor Day fun and festivities. If you get a little sore, Dr. Patrick Aiello will be on hand to massage away your pain.

The parade officially starts at the Middle School at exactly 10 a.m., led by the South Plainfield High School



Starry Night

A member of the Class of 2006, executes his interpretation of Van Gogh's *Starry Night* as part of the senior project, whereby seniors paint a hall in South Plainfield High School. For story and additional photos, see page 21.



John Cotone, the 48th Annual Labor Day Parade Honorary Grand Marshal

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 (NJS 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

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

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.

siteplanreviewcommittee

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

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

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.

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

The South Plainfield Observer is published every Friday

SUSAN KANEPS
Art Director/Associate Editor

PATRICIA ABBOTT
Staff Writer/Photographer

LIBBY BARKSY, MICHAEL DUQUETTE
Staff Writers

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

CAROL GRENNIER
Editorial Assistant

(908) 668-0010 • FAX (908) 668-8819

MICHAEL DUQUETTE
NATIA KATSANTONIS
TARYM BILLICH
Production Assistant

NANCY GRENNIER
Publisher/Editor-in-Chief

TOM PEDERSEN
Web Page Design

WAYNE GRENNIER
Associate Publisher

ROXANNE CORTESE
JANE DORNICK
WILLIAM TUTHILL
Advertising Sales

Web page:
www.spobserver.com

For subscriptions, advertising or
information, call (908) 668-0010.

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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.

IN YOUR OPINION

Dear Editor,

We would like to take a moment to thank the gentlemen of the Public Service Electric and Gas Company and the South Plainfield Public Works Department for their prompt and efficient work in restoring power and removing a very large tree that fell on our property early in the morning of August 15. It dropped right across the road over the wires and landed in our driveway, but by noon that day it was cut up, chipped and hauled away. We greatly appreciate their immediate response.

MARVIN AND RUTH DERUYSCHER

Dear Editor,

Having worked in South Plainfield for the past 28 years, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my former and current customers and those who are making the transition with me to a new location.

It has been my pleasure to serve you and I have appreciated the loyalty of people who have brought family members and friends over the years to see me at The Brush Stop.

I have tried to contact as many of you as possible to express my thanks for your patronage and to let you know that I am now affiliated with the new All About U Salon and Spa, 285 Central Ave. in Metuchen (just past St. Joseph's High School.)

South Plainfield has been my home, both personally and professionally, for many years and I have come to know the residents of this town well and consider you as friends as well as customers. I hope to see many of you around town and hope that you will take an opportunity to check out the new salon.

Again, thank you for your patronage.

TOM EGAN

Dear Editor,

They say it takes a village to raise a child. We, the parents of Kevin Conroy, know how true that statement is. We would like to sincerely thank everyone involved with making the South Plainfield PAL Charity Softball Tournament for Kevin's benefit such a great

success. We feel grateful to live in South Plainfield and are thankful for all the help we have received from everyone.

Special thanks to Gary Cassio, Chris Colucci and Jimmy Parker for organizing the tournament. To Halls Motor Freight for donating all the food and the refrigerated van, to Freihofters for all the rolls, to Sal Severini and his pals from Sal's Spirit Shoppe for their cooking and catering capabilities, to the umpires of all the games, to Dolly and Celia from Worldwide Wholesale for their assistance and to our families and friends who are always there when we need them.

We would also like to thank the tournament winners, Universal Nutrition of North Brunswick for their support as well as all the other teams for their eager participation and support. We appreciate all the donations that have been made on Kevin's behalf from so many of you and the coverage of the events by Pattie Abbott, Jane Dornick and the *South Plainfield Observer*.

Our gratitude also goes to Creative Kids Academy for their continued support and care for Kevin and our family. We are blessed to be part of such a caring community. South Plainfield is truly a village raising a child.

**SINCERELY,
TOM & DIANE CONROY**

Dear Editor,

I am writing to introduce you to the 2nd Annual Buddy Walk of South Plainfield which will be held on Oct. 8 at Spring Lake Park. We appreciate those who made last year a great success in which we raised nearly \$22,000 and had over 350 people participate. We are hoping to increase donations this year.

The buddy walk was developed by the National Down Syndrome Society in 1995 not only to promote awareness and inclusion for people with Down Syndrome, but also to raise money for research and education programs. The program has expanded from just 17 walks the first year to more than 235 in 2004. Last year, over \$4.5 million was raised na-

tionwide for the Down syndrome community.

In 2005, we will be working once again with the South Plainfield Rescue Squad and Central Jersey Down Syndrome Parent Advocacy Group. Last year we donated \$3,500 to the rescue squad, but they decided to return it to us so more could be donated to NDSS; we thank them for that. This year some of the proceeds will be dispersed toward creating packets for new parents and implementing a program on educating healthcare professionals that deal with Down syndrome.

For information or to donate, call (908) 531-5100. Sponsors will be displayed on our website: www.buddywalkofsouthplainfield.com and at the walk.

Thank you in advance.

**SINCERELY,
MICHELE BOTH, BUDDY WALK ORGANIZER**

To the Editor,

Yes, this is Team Tambo's 10th year of riding in the MS Bike Tour and it's our goal this year to break the \$50,000 mark.

Last year we raised a record \$10,800 to bring our total to \$41,371, but we want our 10th year to be our best. Our goal this year is to raise \$12,000. As always, in order to accomplish this, we need support.

The members of Team Tambo will again ride across 100 miles of New Jersey roads during this tour and will fight through the aches and pains of this physical endeavor, but the true fighters and spirits are those that live with MS every day. Our efforts last two days a year. Theirs last a lifetime.

It has been a long ride so far (over 17,000 miles for Team Tambo members), but your contributions have benefited so many people in the services that the MS Society provides individuals and families battling MS. Additionally, your donations have helped fund research that has provided many new drugs that have allowed those with MS to live each day a little better.

But the job isn't done. We still have

(Continued on page 25)

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From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Chris Grippo

Recently a number of patrons have come to the library with a similar situation involving websites. They were looking for government forms and ended up at a site which wanted to charge them for the forms. Now, almost all government forms are free. What was confusing the situation was the fact that these websites, say www.irs.gov, had the extension [.gov](http://www.irs.gov). Now there are basically four web address extensions (there are more but these are the most common). They are: [.com](http://www.irs.gov), [.edu](http://www.irs.gov), [.gov](http://www.irs.gov), and [.org](http://www.irs.gov). [.com](http://www.irs.gov) are commercial (business websites) like amazon.com, or cnn.com; [.edu](http://www.irs.gov) are educational websites, such as Rutgers.edu; [.org](http://www.irs.gov) are websites run by organizations like the American Library Association (ALA.org). Finally, all official federal government sites have the extension [.gov](http://www.irs.gov). State governments have a totally different format. New Jersey is www.state.nj.us. The official U.S. Government website for the IRS is irs.gov. You will not be charged for printing out or filling in forms at this website. However, if you go to irs.com you will be charged for doing either of those activities, and the forms will be the same. It is just that the commercial site is in business

No One's Perfect...

In last week's McGrath-Weber wedding announcement, we incorrectly reported the name of Gregory Weber's mother. Her name is Dora Weber. We apologize for the error.

to make money, while the government is not. Also, when I did a search for passport applications <http://travel.state.gov> is the official free website while www.passportsandvisas.com will charge you.

So please remember when you go online to check your extension. Unless you want to pay for free government documents, make sure your website is [gov](http://www.irs.gov) NOT [.com](http://www.irs.com).

There will be no children's programming this week, but Miss Linda and Miss Danya will be in the library to help. In honor of Labor Day the library will be closed on Monday, Sept. 5. But we will be open Saturday, Sept. 3 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and will resume regular hours on Tuesday, Sept. 6.

We hope you have an excellent holiday weekend and look forward to serving you this fall.

Recycling Drop-off Center Labor Day Schedule

The South Plainfield Recycling Complex at the end of Kenneth Avenue will be closed on Tuesday, Sept. 6, because of the Labor Day holiday weekend. The Recycling Center and Yard Waste Site will be open instead from 12 noon to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 7. Both facilities will be open as usual from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 3.

Because the recycling center was recently paved, it has moved temporarily to the leaf collection area on the left side of the yard waste site.

Regular recycling center hours are

Major D'Amico to be Honored by Street Naming



Major Marcel D'Amico

On Saturday, Sept. 10 a street will be renamed in honor of Major Marcel D'Amico, who was killed in an air crash on Dec. 16, 1958 at Tampa Florida Air Force Base.

D'Amico had served in World War II and his military record was commendable. He earned the Air Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, the Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with four Bronze Service Stars, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one Bronze Service Star, Philippine Republic Presidential Unit Citation Emblem and the Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with one Oak Leaf Cluster.

Major D'Amico was recalled to duty during the years of the "Cold War." History indicates that this was a dangerous period. Opposing powers were armed and ready to destroy our country. Many men lost their lives during this part of our country's history.

Major Marcel D'Amico made the supreme sacrifice while serving in the strategic air command. He was certainly one of South Plainfield's "greatest generation." His sister, Mrs. Panzarella, resides at 128 Clifford St. in South Plainfield.

The late Major Marcel D'Amico more than deserves the honor of having a street named in his memory.

Ceremonies will take place at 10 a.m. The D'Amico Street is located next to the post office. The public is welcome to attend.

Enjoy this issue of the Observer?
Don't miss another!

To subscribe,
call (908) 668-0010.

Passport Applications at Borough Hall

Residents can renew or obtain passports at Borough Hall in the conference room on Friday, Oct. 7 from noon to 2 p.m. Personnel from the Middlesex County Passport Office will be on hand to assist applicants. There are several items required to renew passports, so check out the list below or you will be disappointed.

In order to renew your passport, you must have a completed application—unsigned. All applicants must appear in person. For those under 14, both parents must be present.

You will need proof of American citizenship, such as birth certificate, previous passport or naturalization certificate (original). Hospital or Baptismal certificates are not acceptable.

Bring two identical photographs (2"x2") taken within six months; driver's license, employment photo ID, high school or college photo ID are acceptable. Be prepared to write two separate checks.

For those 16 and over, a check for \$67 made payable to the U.S. Dept. of State and one for \$30 made payable to the Middlesex County Clerk is required. This passport is good for 10 years.

For those under 16, the passport is good for five years. Write checks for \$52 made payable to: the U.S. Dept. of State and \$30 payable to the Middlesex County Clerk.

No cash or credit cards will be accepted. Checks or money orders only. Passports will not be issued that day. Normal processing time is six weeks.

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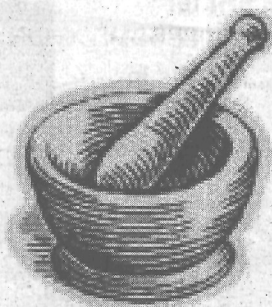
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Mark Baldwin hands Jim Hallis a copy of the history of the Robert M. Baldwin collection.

Baldwin Art Collection Donated to Ft. Bragg Airborne Museum

Robert M. Baldwin, former Mayor of South Plainfield and an 82nd Airborne Division Paratrooper during World War II, died on Dec. 28, 2003, at his home in Saylorsburg, Pa., at the age of 78. His tour of duty during the war included participation in the Rhine Jump on March 21, 1945, as the Allied Army crossed into Germany during the occupation of Berlin after the war.

During this time he sketched his observations and put together a collection of original water color paintings depicting the war scenes he witnessed. Between 1945 and his death in 2003 he added other battlefield depictions to his collection of the war in the Pacific and Vietnam.

On Saturday, March 26, (almost 60 years to the day of the Rhine Jump) his 17-picture collection was donated by his estate to the 82nd Airborne Military Museum at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, by his son, Mark Baldwin.

Baldwin was born March 3, 1925, the second son of William M. and Evelyn L. Baldwin in Ridgway, Pennsylvania. He attended school in the Ridgway Public School system and although he didn't distinguish himself as an academician, he proved quite adept with a sketch pad and paint brush.

During the latter part of his senior year of high school, Robert was granted his diploma before the end of the normal school year so that he could serve his country's during World War II.

Baldwin left school Feb. 5, 1943, just before his 18th birthday and enlisted in the U.S. Army. After completing basic training he passed from group to group serving in the infantry, artillery, the aviation cadets and fi-

nally ended up in the paratrooper school where in November of 1944, he graduated and was assigned to the 507 Parachute Infantry Battalion of the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 82nd Airborne Division as a Private First Class. He was sent to Europe in January of 1945 and saw action in the Rhine Jump on March 24, 1945. He was a member of the first army of occupation in Berlin at the war's end. It was during this period in Germany that the first of his works were painted.

Baldwin received the following honors: Good Conduct Medal, Distinguished Unit Badge, American Theater Service Medal, EAME Theater Service Medal, two Bronze Stars, and discharged from service on January 16, 1946.

Before departing for overseas he married his childhood sweetheart, Caroline Jean Hold of Ridgway, Pa. His first child, R. Mark, Jr., was born before his return from Europe. His three other children: Carl J., Jeanne L. and Erica H. followed during the 1950's.

After the war Baldwin moved to New Jersey, eventually settling in South Plainfield in 1950. He was employed at the Art Color Company in Dunellen as a timekeeper in a composing room and then as a window designer for the Teppers Department Store in Plainfield.

A talented artist from childhood, he sought to build himself a career in commercial art. In 1948 he created The Robert M. Baldwin Company as a one-man commercial art and advertising agency and set up shop in a one room studio in Newark. In 1956 he moved his studio to his residence on Plainfield Ave.

In 1956 Robert ran for public office and led a Republican resurgence in the predominantly Democratic town of South Plainfield. He remained in office for six years.

His presence was not unfelt in the community. Although not an architect, he was responsible for the construction and design of the Borough Hall and the Borough Library, both of which bear plaques inscribed with his name. He also designed the Borough Seal and developed the original ideas for the New World Industrial Site in the southern end of town and the park in South Plainfield's Spring Lake.

As a politician he was of course a joiner, whether by choice or otherwise. In addition work on several town bodies such as the Planning Board, Sewer Commission and all other administrative boards.

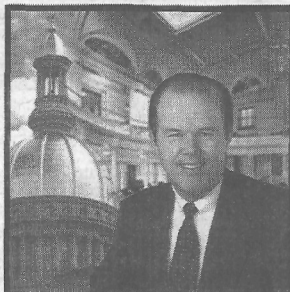
Many of his memberships were of a military nature. He was a member of the local V.E.W. Post #6763, The American Legion Chaumont Post #243, and a trustee of the South Plainfield Public Library. He was also a charter member of the V.E.W. Post in Ridgway, Pa., the Military Order of the Cooties Pup Tent #41 of the South Plainfield V.E.W., the South Plainfield Civic Band, and the South Plainfield Junior Chamber of Commerce, the latter two of which he organized. And finally he was a member of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church of Plainfield, serving as a Warden from about 1957-1959.

As Vice Chair of the Judiciary Committee, I have the opportunity to propose legislation to enhance law enforcement in our state. In this session of the Assembly I have drafted two bills that I strongly believe will better protect the citizens of New Jersey. As you may know Senator Barbara Buono and I sponsored companion bills which require a Municipal Court Judge to review a driver's record before imposing sentence for drunk driving. This bill was prompted by the tragedy involving the death of a young man who was a student at St. Joseph's High School in Metuchen. Prior to the accident, a judge sentenced the driver of the automobile that caused the accident as a first time offender when in fact he was guilty on two prior occasions. If the drunk driver had been properly sentenced, his drivers license would have been revoked at the time of the tragedy. Governor Codey signed that legislation into law in February. Never again will that mistake be made in any municipal court in New Jersey.

However there is still a loophole in the law. Motor vehicle records do not always contain convictions in other states. It is quite possible that an individual could have two DWI convictions in Alabama that will not be recorded in New Jersey. Assemblyman Peter Barnes and I have sponsored Assembly Joint Resolution 128, which will create a National Drunk Driving Database Study Commission. This commission will be formed within 60 days of the Governor's signature and will report back to the Senate and General Assembly with specific recommendations to create a reliable national database for drunk driving convictions. Over a quarter of drunk driving offenses in New Jersey are committed by drivers with previous drunk driving convictions. This law will provide the judge with the proper information when a sentence is imposed and keep drunk drivers off the road.

A second bill that I have sponsored, (A4094), admits evidence of prior sexual offenses in a trial involving a repeat offender. Sexual predators are four times as likely to commit the same type of crime. Under New Jersey's present rules of evidence a jury would not know that the defendant committed the same crime previously. The proposed legislation will give the trial judge discretion based on all of the evidence to inform the jury of the defendant's criminal history. The rights of the accused will be protected. However we must assure that victims rights are also enhanced. There is no more despicable crime than a sexual attack. As a society, we must do all that we can to put these predators behind bars. A4094 will provide prosecutors with another tool to bring these individuals to justice.

As a member of the General Assembly I have a unique opportunity to help our citizens and you have my commitment that I will continue to do so. If you have any suggestions, please contact me at (908) 757-1677 or email me at AsmDiegnan@njleg.org.



News

From The State House

Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan

Our Lady Of Czestochowa R.C. Church

807 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily at 8am except Wednesdays

(908) 756-1333

Tues.-Miraculous Medal Novena followed by Mass
Thurs.-Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until noon

Weekend Schedule: Saturday evenings 5:30pm
Sunday mornings 8am and 11am



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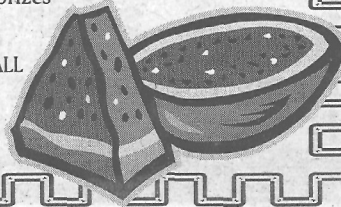
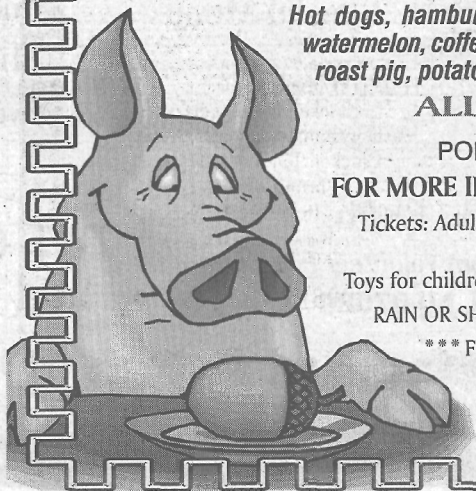
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southplainfieldpeople Milestones



Dr. M. Ann Walko

Walko Elected First Female President of Plainfield's Unico

Dr. M. Ann Walko, a resident of Scotch Plains, was elected to serve as president of the Plainfields' Chapter of Unico National. She is the first woman to hold this post. A member of the Plainfields' Chapter since 1998, she has served as the chairperson of the scholarship committee since 2001. In addition to service to the chapter, Walko was appointed to serve on the District Achievement Committee, and the Culture and Heritage and Scholarship committees on the national level. She is also active with District X, which oversees the activities of chapters within the district. Walko recently served as a delegate from District X at the national conference held in West Palm Beach, Fla.

Walko also serves as an education consultant to the Department of military and Veterans Affairs serving on the Women Veterans Committee and holds the rank of Lt. Col. in the Civil Air Patrol, an auxiliary of the United States Air Force. She holds a doctorate from Rutgers University.

The Plainfields' Chapter meets on the third Wednesday of each month at Giovanna's Restaurant in Plainfield.

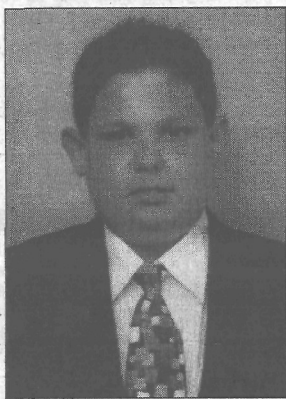
Michael Knesinowski National Award Winner in Mathematics

The United States Achievement Academy announced that Michael Knesinowski from South Plainfield has been named a United States National Award (USAA) winner in Mathematics.

This award is a prestigious honor very few students can ever hope to attain. In fact, the Academy recognizes fewer than 10 percent of all American high school students.

Michael Knesinowski, who attends Grant, was nominated for this national award by Mrs. J. Haus, a teacher at the school. Michael will appear in the United States Achievement Academy Official Yearbook which is published nationally.

"Recognizing and supporting our youth is more important than ever before in America's history. Certainly,



Michael Knesinowski

United States Achievement Academy winners should be congratulated and

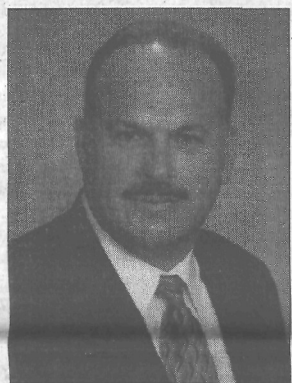
appreciated for their dedication to excellence and achievement," said Dr. George Stevens, Founder of the United States Achievement Academy.

The Academy selects USAA winners upon the exclusive recommendation of teachers, coaches, counselors and other qualified sponsors and upon the standards of selection set forth by the Academy.

The criteria for selection are a student's academic performance, interest and aptitude, leadership qualities, responsibility, enthusiasm, motivation to learn and improve, citizenship, attitude and cooperative spirit, dependability and recommendation from a qualified sponsor.

Michael Knesinowski is the son of Krystyna and Marek of South Plainfield.

Decker Named Manager, Prudential Properties' Middletown Office



Charles Decker

Prudential New Jersey Properties has announced the appointment of Charles Decker as manager of its Middletown office.

"Charles' experience and passion make him a great fit for the Middletown office," says Nancy Litwin, co-president of Prudential New Jersey Properties. "We have no

doubt that he will be an excellent leader." Charlie's duties will include handling the daily operation of the business to include managing a staff of 18 agents and support staff, coordinate training and business plans for our professional sales associates, customer service enhancements, prepare and implement budgets and coordinate charity functions.

A member of the National Association of Realtors, New Jersey Association of Realtors, the Monmouth and Middlesex Board of Realtors, and the Monmouth, Middlesex, and Garden State Multiple Listing Services, Charlie has served as a Real Estate office manager for the past four years, specializing in residential, commercial and fine home and estates sales and rentals. Charlie is a resident of South Plainfield and a dedicated member of his community and is a member of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department Exempt Association, South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club, South Plainfield Elks, the South Plainfield High School Music Boost-

ers Parents Association, COACHES CARE affiliated with JFK Hospital in Edison and the Who's Who Business Leaders World Wide. Charlie also coaches in the basketball and soccer recreation programs.

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Around Town

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

A trip is planned to the Taj Mahal Casino on Wednesday, Sept. 7. Bus departs the senior center at 9 a.m. and returns around 7 p.m. Cost is \$15 and includes voucher.

VFW Picnic/Pig Roast

September 10

VFW 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 purchased at the gate. For information, call (908) 668-9751.

Celebrity Roast for Chief John Cotone

September 11

A Celebrity Roast for Fire Chief

What's happening in SEPTEMBER

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

Senior Center EVENTS

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

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| UPCOMING EVENTS  Trip to Lancaster September 21-22 Woodloch Pines Pocono Resort Oct. 31-Nov. 4 Info at Senior Center | | | Weekly Shopping Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11am & 1pm | Bingo 10am-2pm Lunch Available |
| Knitting/Crocheting 9:30-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Drawing Class 11am | Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social 10am Red Hat Social Group 10am Lunch Available | Exercise 8:30am Line Dancing 10am Computer Class 10am, 11:30am & 1pm AARP Crafts Group 1pm | Weekly Shopping Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11am & 1pm AARP Meeting 12:30pm | Bingo 10am-2pm Lunch Available |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |

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

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.

Sacred Heart Family Fun Picnic

September 11

Join us for an afternoon of prayerful remembrance and family fun. Gather for an opening memorial tribute and peace prayer followed by our annual parish picnic at Sacred Heart School from 2-5 p.m. Plenty of food and games are planned. All are welcome. Bring a friend.

SPHS Music Boosters Meeting Changed

September 14

The SPHS Music Boosters will hold their monthly meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 14. Please note the change in date from Sept. 7! The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. in the Chorus Room. All chorus, band and orchestra parents are welcome to attend. Please join us.

AARP Chapter 4144 Resumes Meetings

September 15

The South Plainfield Chapter 4144 of AARP will resume its meetings at the South Plainfield Senior Center on Thursday, Sept. 15 at 12:30 p.m. Needlecrafters meet every Wednesday,

day, 1 to 3 p.m. year round at the senior center to knit and crochet lap robes for nursing homes and baby blankets, hats and booties for Muhlenberg Hospital Nursery and DYSP-Middlesex County Division of Your & Family Services. For information call Jean at (732) 752-0358.

The trip to Delaware's Dover Downs Casino and Racetrack is approaching and open to all. Call Lee (732) 968-6613 or Mary (732) 752-3764 by Aug. 31 to reserve a seat.

Girl Scout Registration

September 13

The South Plainfield Girl Scouts will hold a registration on Tuesday, Sept. 13 at Riley School from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. All girls welcome to join K-12. Leaders are also needed. Registration is fee \$10.

Wesley Methodist BBQ Fun Fest

September 17

Wesley Methodist will hold a fundraising BBQ Fun Fest on Saturday, Sept. 17 (rain or shine) from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. In addition to the BBQ, there will be hamburgers, hot dogs and much more. Along with the great food there will be amusements for the whole family to enjoy.

Troop 207 Car Wash

September 17

Boy Scout Troop 207 (Knights of Columbus) will hold a car wash on Saturday, Sept. 17 from 9 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the South Plainfield Middle School. Cost is \$5 for cars and \$7 for SUV/pick up trucks. Rain date is Saturday, Sept. 24. All proceeds will go towards their Washington, DC trip. Please come out and support the boys.

Trip to Lancaster Includes Theatre

September 21-22

The Senior Citizens Center is sponsoring an overnight trip to Lancaster, Pa. on Sept. 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.

VFW Dinner

September 23

South Plainfield VFW Memorial Post #6763, located on 155 Front Street, will host their monthly dinner on Friday, Sept. 23 from 5-7 p.m. The public is invited to attend. Call (908) 668-9751 for more information.

OLC Blood Drive

September 30

Our Lady of Czestochowa is having its Annual Blood Drive on Friday, Sept. 30 at the Parish Hall, located at 807 Hamilton Boulevard. For information call Mary at (908) 757-4490.

South Plainfield Buddy Walk

October 8

The 2nd Annual South Plainfield Buddy Walk will be held in Spring Lake Park on Oct. 8. Registration will begin at 11:30 a.m. and the walk will follow at 1 p.m.

The Buddy Walk is a one-mile walk in which anyone can participate without special training. After the walk you and your family will enjoy entertainment for everyone, including face painting, games, music and much more.

— Out of Town —

Christian Professionals Starlight Socials

September 2

Christian Professionals in their 30's and 40's are invited to a happy hour and game night on Friday, Sept. 2 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Bennigans in Morristown. Optional dinner or movie afterwards. RSVP to AngelButterfly37@aol.com or (732) 764-9073.

NY Waterway Offers Labor Day Escape

September 3

Enjoy a traffic-free Labor Day weekend and escape to the great castles and estates in the historic Hudson Valley with NY Waterway's overnight Historic Hudson Weekend Getaway Cruise. The cruise departs Saturday, Sept. 3 from West 38th Street in Manhattan at 10:30 a.m. Passengers will enjoy a guided cruise up the Hudson River to Tarrytown. The return trip departs Tarrytown on Monday at 4:30 p.m. Prices begin at \$287 per person based on double occupancy.

For reservations and information contact NY Waterway at 1-800-533-3779 or check the website at www.nywaterway.com. Tickets can also be purchased online.

(Continued on next page)

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.



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Around Town

(Continued from previous page)

teams for the Fall 2005 baseball season. The league offers divisions for teams ages 10 to 18 years old, 16+ games, and one free tournament. First scheduled games will be Sept. 10. Teams will play up until Oct. 23. For information visit: www.league-lineup.com/cjmajors, or give us a call at (732) 382-4610 or e-mail us at johnsgbl@aol.com.

Gallery Exhibits Artist Tim Halpin

September 10

Metuchen ArtWorks Cooperative Gallery presents an exhibition of naturalistic landscapes by Tim Halpin of Edison. The show runs from Wednesday, Aug. 31 through Sunday, Sept. 25. Opening reception with artist Tim Halpin on Saturday, Sept. 10 from 7 to 10 p.m. Admission is free.

The Metuchen ArtWorks Gallery is located on Station Place in Metuchen. For information contact the gallery at (732) 603-9299 or visit the website at www.metuchenartworks.com.

Pro Wrestling at Bound Brook Elks

September 10

Former WWE World Heavyweight Champion Iron Sheik and former WWE Tag Team Champion and legendary manager "Luscious" Johnny Valiant will top the lineup for Piledriver Pro Wrestling's patriotic salute on Sept. 10, 2005 at the Bound Brook Elks Lodge #1388 at 8 p.m. Pre-show "Meet and Greet" at 7 p.m. Tickets are VIP Ringside \$20, general admission \$15. Meet and greet includes wrestling ticket.

Call to reserve tickets at: (732) 254-7299. Tickets also available at the Bound Brook Elks Lodge #388 305 East 2nd st. in Bound Brook.

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.

Willow Grove Sunday School

September 11

Discovery Kingdom Multimedia Sunday School will be held on Sunday, Sept. 11 at Willow Grove, located on Raritan Rd. in Scotch Plains. Ages nine and up meet at 9 a.m. and four through eight at 10:30 a.m.

Do you want to give your children a Christian faith, but just don't know how to overcome their complaint that "Church is boring." Well, get ready to see your kids not only learn and discover their faith, but be excited about it!

For information call (908) 232-5678, e-mail: wilgrv@netzero.com or visit our website at www.scotchplains.com/wgpc.

Largest Networking Party by MCC

September 13

Come out and enjoy our largest networking party of the year on Tuesday, Sept. 13 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick. Food, drinks and entertainment included. Members \$25, non-members \$30, at door \$35.

Open House at Metuchen-Edison Women's Club

September 14

The Metuchen-Edison Women's Club, an organization dedicated to benefiting our communities since 1961, will hold an "Open House" at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 14 at St. Luke's Church Hall on Oak Ave. in Metuchen. Finger sandwiches, salads, desserts and beverages will be served; free to guests and members.

For more information about club meetings and membership, please call

Diana Degnan, vice president, at (732) 548-0925.

Walk for Polycystic Kidney Research

September 17

Join the PKD Foundation for Research in Polycystic Kidney Disease on September 17 as they hold a walk for PKD at North Street and Boardwalk in Seaside Park. Registration at 9 a.m. and walk starts at 10 a.m. You can register online at www.pkdcure.org or call (732) 269-0403 for more information.

All-American Fast Pitch

September 17-18

The All-American Classic Fast Pitch

of New Jersey is now registering teams for our upcoming "The Jersey Classic Fast Pitch Tournament."

For information visit www.league-lineup.com/americanclassic or call (732) 382-4610 or e-mail us at johnsgbl@aol.com.

Woodbridge WOWs Dance-Social

September 18

The Woodbridge Area Chapter Of Widows Or Widowers (WOWs) will hold an open, fundraiser dance-social on Sunday, Sept. 18 7:30-11:30 p.m. at the Elks Hall, 665 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. Live music by the Blue Notes. Admission is \$8. Homebaked refreshments. All are welcome! For more info, call (732) 297-1775.

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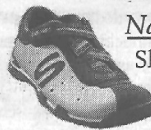
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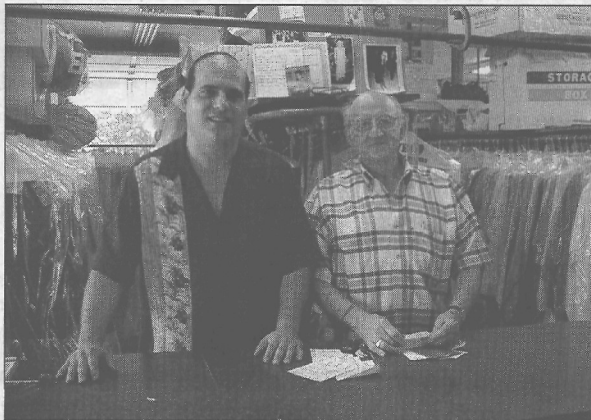
For information, call 908-668-0010

Giakas Cleaners Celebrates 40 Years of Service to South Plainfield

Giakas Cleaners, located at 2380 Plainfield Ave., is celebrating 40 years of service to South Plainfield. Giakas is the oldest family owned dry cleaners in town. The business was first established in 1965 by George and Eileen Giakas. Together they raised four children, who at some point, all worked at the store. After 32 years, they retired and their son Brett bought the business, carrying on the family tradition.

When he was 15-years-old, Brett began working for his parents after school and during the long hot summers. After he earned an auto technician certificate from Lincoln Technical School in Union, Brett decided to continue working at his family's business and never looked back. Brett continued to follow his father's footsteps, putting in long 12-14 hour days, six days a week. He learned the machines and studied for his black seal boiler license.

Since buying the business from his parents in July 1997, Brett continues to work along side his father, George. Although retired, patrons can still see George in the back of the store spotting clothes, loading up the machines, and greeting the store's faithful customers. George exemplifies the dedicated work ethic which he has instilled in all his children. He is committed to the business he started. Both George and Brett are devoted to seeing the



Brett Giakas with his dad, George Giakas.

business grow, meeting the needs of South Plainfield and its surrounding neighborhood towns.

Giakas Cleaners continues to thrive, offering its customers full service professional dry cleaning, shirt laundry, and expert tailoring. It also offers flood/fire restoration, wedding, communion and baptismal preservation, fur and leather cleaning and shoe repair. Monthly accounts, Visa/Master Card services and free pick-up and delivery are available.

Brett remains dedicated to servicing South Plainfield and its community. Prior to moving to Hunterdon County last year with his wife Beth, a South Plainfield elementary school

teacher, and their two sons, Nicholas, 15, and Christopher, 11, Brett was active with the South Plainfield Pop Warner Football Program and the South Plainfield Jr. Baseball Club. Currently, Brett is active in the Giakas Family Scholarship Fund, giving scholarships to South Plainfield graduating seniors, now in its eighth successful year.

In honor of celebrating 40 years of dedicated service, Giakas Cleaners is offering weekly discounted specials, and giving away personalized items to its patrons. Giakas Cleaners wants to thank South Plainfield for their continued support and patronage. Please stop in and visit Brett and George and help them celebrate 40 terrific years.

Middlesex Co. Introducing Project Lifesaver Program

If you know someone who suffers from disorientation due to illnesses such as Alzheimer's, dementia, or autism, we would like to hear from you. The Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders will begin a pilot program this October called "Project Lifesaver" which will help locate missing persons using a tracking bracelet. The program will be utilized for individuals prone to wandering due to a disorienting illness.

The teaching system will be administered by the County Sheriff's Office. Individuals enrolled in the program will wear a special bracelet that allows a tracking device to locate them. The Sheriff's office will be outfitted with special tracking equipment and fifteen officers will be trained in all aspects of the program. The County will purchase 30 bracelets to begin the pilot program and will assess the need for more based upon requests for enrollment. At this time there will be no charge for those who participate in the program.

The bracelet is not designed to act as a babysitter or be "big brother" and does not replace a home alarm or other security equipment that prevents individuals from leaving the home. It does not prevent individuals from

wandering away, but it can speed up locating them before they experience harm. Following a report that a person is missing, the tracking device is activated on location and it follows the signal in the bracelet to locate the individual.


If interested in participating in the pilot program, please contact Joann Graf at the South Plainfield Office on Aging or stop by the Senior Center to fill out a pre-registration form.

Origami Craft Program at Library

There will be an origami craft program at South Plainfield Free Public Library on Monday, Sept. 12. There will be two sessions: 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Practical Crafting instructor Ronda Wisniewski will lead participants in making origami boxes. Students are requested to bring a ruler, a pencil and a glue stick. Paper will be provided. Space for the class is limited, so pre-registration is required. There is a \$1 materials fee payable upon registration.

For information, call (908) 754-7885 or visit the library's website at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us.



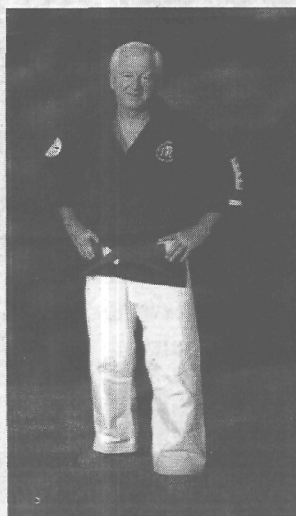
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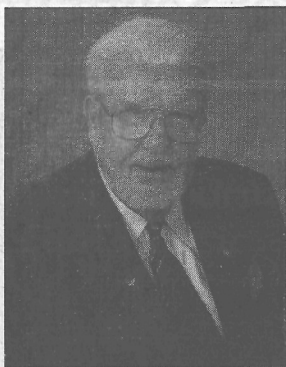
Tara Faulkner-Catalina
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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Walk in - Dance Out!

Kubala and Thomas Look Forward To Upcoming Campaign

Council members Ed Kubala and Kathy Thomas kicked off the 2005 election for Borough Council this week. Ed Kubala presented the theme of the campaign, "The South Plainfield Borough Council is proud of its accomplishments and its proactive and innovative approach to government. Under Democratic control, the Council has preserved over 150 acres of open space, repaved over 130 roads, expanded the PAL building with the weight room and the youth wrestling facility, made improvements to the community pool, made improvements to Putnam Park, built the first senior housing in South Plainfield and built the new senior recreation center. We are also proud of our record on taxes. The fiscal policies that we have adopted have given South Plainfield the lowest municipal tax rate in Middlesex County over the last five years. We will continue our commitment to reducing expenses and continuing to look



Councilman Ed Kubala

for alternative sources of funding such as county, state and federal grants." Kathy Thomas expanded on Ed's comments saying, "Ed and I are proud to run on our record and our vision for the future. We don't expect to rest on past accomplishments however. We



Councilwoman Kathy Thomas

look forward to discussing with residents our vision for the Borough's future. Exciting things are happening everywhere in South Plainfield like the start of the reconstruction of Hamilton Blvd., the curb and sidewalk restoration and repaving of Maple Ave. and

additional improvements to Putnam Park. All of these projects have been paid, to a great extent, by county or state funding. Other projects that were funded by grants were the lights on the soccer and ponytail fields, the concession stand at the Pop Warner/soccer field complex and improvements to the senior recreation center. The design for the new 15,000 square foot library on Plainfield Ave. is nearing completion and we look forward to presenting these plans to the public. We are committed to building a better South Plainfield for our children's and grandchildren's futures without burdening residents with unbearable tax increases."

Ed Kubala echoed his running mate's thoughts, "I am proud to have served on the Borough Council for 12 years and to have helped take South Plainfield back from the arrogance of the prior Republican administration. Gone are the days of borrowing to pay for everyday expenses, and gone are the days when our infrastructure was ignored and Hadley Rd. was a pot-hole highway and the people in charge said nothing could be done to fix it. The Democratic team has shown that a town can provide essential services while still keeping expenses and taxes

under control. I look forward to running with Kathy Thomas. She has been a tremendous addition to the Council with her intelligence and hard work. She has earned the respect of all of our residents."

Kathy Thomas concluded the Democratic message, "Ed and I look forward to talking with the residents during the campaign. Over the next ten weeks before Election Day, we will highlight our plans for the future in a weekly column. We also have started going door to door so that we can hear the thoughts of residents of our great borough. Our goal is to knock on every door in town. I am proud to be running with a person of the dedication and integrity of Ed Kubala. His service and devotion to South Plainfield is unmatched. His leadership on the Borough Council has been a key factor in the success of the governing body over the last decade. Ed and I love South Plainfield and we will work our hardest to keep it the best town in Middlesex County. We look forward to the upcoming campaign and meeting people as we go door to door. Please visit our website at www.spdems.org or call me at 561-3247 or Ed at 755-2442."

BBQ Fun Fest, A Community Wide Event

The Wesley United Methodist family extends an invitation to our neighbors in the community to join us for a day filled with good food and fun for the whole family. This fundraising event will be held on Saturday, Sept. 17 (rain or shine) from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Wesley United Methodist Church located at 1500 Plainfield Ave.

This year we have invited a professional barbecue chef and his team to cook and serve their prize winning pulled pork BBQ sandwiches and special family secret recipe coleslaw. Chef Chris and his team started their quest out of the smoke and smoldering ash of the grills at the Meadowlands parking lot tailgate parties. The "Art of Boar Barbeque Competition Team" was formed from humble tailgating beginnings. This team developed the philosophy that the tailgate party with the food and drinks are the real focus of the event, and that the game was secondary to the fun of the party! The team began taking their show on the barbeque competition circuit and have now expanded their horizons to include events like our Fun Fest. Chef Chris is a master at the art of barbeque. We assure you that after tasting his barbeque your taste buds will sing!

If you like more mundane picnic

food, we will also be selling hot dogs, hamburgers and much more!

In addition to the good food, there will be all types of games and amusements for the whole family. There will

be a 24 foot super slide, a dunk tank, pony rides, a test your strength pole, pie-in the face and pop the balloon game stands. We hope you will join us (rain or shine) for a fun filled day!

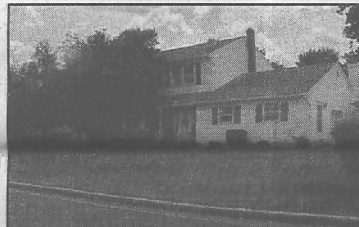
South Plainfield Properties for Sale



Location, location, location in addition to being beautifully updated throughout makes this custom split level a great choice for your next home. 3 spacious bedrooms & 2 full baths. New eat in kitchen with 42" cabinets, ceramic tile, crown moldings & beautiful prefinished wood floors, new Pella windows, skylights, Andersen slider from formal dining room to deck. Fabulous finished basement for entertaining complete w/gas fireplace, recessed lights, wet bar & built in seating. Nestled on cul de sac street, walk to South Plainfield schools, Spring Lake Park & shopping. Quick closing possible. Call Andrea Lacerda for your appointment today, 908-578-1166. Asking \$414,900.



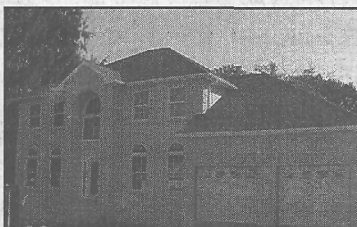
Wonderful opportunity to purchase new construction in prime location. This 2900-square-foot custom colonial with all the bells and whistles. Two story entry foyer and family room, 4/5 bedrooms 2.5 baths, full basement. Partial brick front, master bedroom suite and more. One lot left in prime location in small new subdivision. Choice of models—still time to pick your colors and amenities. Located close to North Edison and in the Kennedy School district. Please contact Andrea Lacerda at 908-578-1166 for plans and other details. Asking \$654,900.



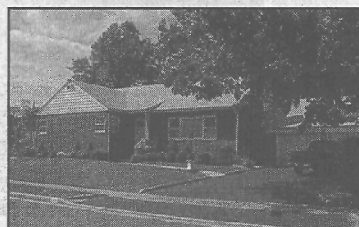
Move right in to this mint condition 20 year young Colonial. This freshly painted 9 room home features 4/5 bedrooms and 2½ baths. The living room, formal dining room and upstairs bedrooms all have hardwood floors. The open floor plan features a nice size eat in kitchen open to a sunken family room with stone fireplace, cathedral ceiling and skylights. The first floor offers a den/5th bedroom. Full basement, one-car attached garage, large storage shed and fully fenced rear yard. There is central air and the home is vinyl sided. Lovely new slate walkways and front porch welcomes you and your family. Call Andrea Lacerda for your appointment at 908-578-1166. Asking \$519,900.



This mint condition 9 room bilevel home is ready for its new owner. Lovingly maintained and updated throughout, this home is in absolute move in condition. The upper level offers a living room, formal dining room, remodeled kitchen, 3 bedrooms and full bath. The lower level offers a family room currently being used as a master bedroom a lovely den/sunroom addition and a half bath. The large laundry utility room is perfect for extra storage or expansion. This home has been vinyl sided, all windows have been replaced and a new roof was installed in 2001. There is central air and a one car attached garage. Wonderful location in a nice, quiet neighborhood. For your personal tour, call Andrea Lacerda at 908-578-1166. Asking \$429,900.



Wonderful opportunity to purchase new construction in prime location. This 2700-square-foot custom colonial features all the bells and whistles. Two-story entry foyer, family room with fireplace, 4/5 bedrooms 2.5 baths, full basement. Partial brick front, master bedroom suite and more. One lot left in prime location in small new subdivision. Choice of models—still time to pick your colors and amenities. Located close to North Edison and in the Kennedy School district. Please contact Andrea Lacerda at 908-578-1166 for plans and other details. Asking \$629,900.



This custom built sprawling brick ranch is situated on an oversized lot in a neighborhood of newer higher priced homes. Enter into the entry hall into the living room with a wood-burning stone fireplace and large formal dining room. The spacious eat in kitchen boasts plenty of cabinets. There are 3 large bedrooms, 1½ baths, a Florida room, a huge partially finished basement and a two car garage. Newly refinished hardwood floors and brand new kitchen flooring make this home a winner! Walk to schools, shopping and Spring Lake Park! Handicap accessible too! Call Andrea Lacerda to view this home at 908-578-1166. Asking \$435,000.

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Not Every Great Career Begins in College

Today more than ever, young people are being steered towards college as the beginning steps of a career path. What many parents, students and school counselors may be unaware of is the alarming dropout rate. The first-year dropout figures are 50%, according to the Department of Education. Further, by year four, only 20% of those who entered college will get a degree. And then what?

The Department of Labor has classified 84% of jobs in the U.S. requiring specialization or a focused area of expertise. Will a four-year college degree give a student what they need to begin a career, or will it simply qualify them to get a job? An important distinction.

The court reporting industry has exploded with opportunities over the last decade, yet enrollment in our schools is less than stellar. Why? Perhaps we as an industry have done a poor job of keeping the public informed about the job market, income range, and all the other factors that help a young person make a career decision. If you are that court reporting student, parent or counselor, please take a moment to consider the following: income, \$60k to \$150k per year

and security, quite literally, zero unemployment.

Advancements in technology have broadened the arena in which court reporters work. Court reporters are assisting the hearing-impaired in classrooms; live captioning television programs and recording corporate meetings, government hearings and live webcasts.

For more information on a career in court reporting, contact StenoTech Career Institute toll-free at (888) 783-6685. StenoTech has two New Jersey campuses located in Piscataway and Fairfield. Limited seating is still available for classes starting on Sept. 12.

Retreat for People with Substance Abuse

The Middlesex County Department of Human Services is offering a retreat for people with the co-occurring disorders of substance abuse and mental illness from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Oct. 1, at Camp Kiddie Keep Well in Roosevelt Park, Edison.

The retreat is free-of-charge.

For more information, or if you are interested in participating, please call Annette Dill at (732) 754-4042.

Anesh, Bengivenga Offer Fresh Leadership for South Plainfield



Matt Anesh and Rob Bengivenga, 2005 candidates for Borough Council

Summer isn't yet over, but Borough Council candidates Matt Anesh and Rob Bengivenga have already been hitting the campaign trail talking to voters. And both candidates have

reached the same conclusion: voters want fresh leadership.

"Voters are telling us that it's time to bring back two-party government," said Anesh. "One party controlling everything is not working. We need new voices and an open exchange of ideas."

"Right now, there's little, if any, discussion at council meetings," added Bengivenga. "Two or three people make all the decisions, and there's no debate. Having two parties on the council would change that."

Anesh and Bengivenga, both lifelong residents, see controlling spending as a priority. "We've got to make South Plainfield more affordable for

families, and especially seniors," said Bengivenga. "Taxes have gone up the past two years, and spending increases are much higher than inflation. We've got to put the brakes on spending if we want to control property taxes."

"We've also got to bring back fiscal responsibility," added Anesh, an assistant vice president with Merrill Lynch. "Borrowing is on the rise, as is leasing. These long-term obligations make it more difficult to control property taxes down the road."

"We need a more disciplined approach," his running mate added. "The town can't keep spending at this pace and still keep property taxes in line. It's time to make the hard decisions and set priorities."

"Over the next two months, Rob and I will share our plans for making South Plainfield a better place," Anesh explained. "And while we have lots of ideas, don't expect any big spending plans. To make our town more affordable, we've got to stop the spending spree. Fiscal responsibility is the key."

Bengivenga reiterated the need for change: "We need fresh leadership. Under one-party control, things have gone in the wrong direction. Spending, borrowing, leasing and, most importantly, property taxes are all on the rise, and it's time for a return to fiscal discipline. Matt and I will work hard to make our town more affordable, because we can't continue to spend like there's no tomorrow. Under our leadership, South Plainfield will once again be an affordable place to live, work, and raise a family. That's our priority, and that's what we'll be talking about in the weeks to come."

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Across from Super A&P

Sacred Heart Celebrates at Gala Dinner Dance

100 Years



On Behalf of Fr. John Paul Alvarado, Pastor of Sacred Heart Church and myself, I am writing this letter to thank all of the members of Sacred Heart Church's Centennial Anniversary Committee

Two years ago I asked several individuals to become a part of something at Sacred Heart that they all would find personally rewarding and enriching. They were asked to give of themselves, their talents and their time. Everyone I asked eagerly said "yes."

For the past two years our monthly meetings were always interesting, funny and progressive, and they resulted in a variety of functions which were held within our parish our community, all of them leading up to the 100th anniversary of Sacred Heart.

On Sunday, August 21, a con-celebrated Liturgy honoring our 100th anniversary was offered in Sacred Heart Church. The Most Reverend Edward T. Hughes, the former Bishop of Metuchen, was the main celebrant. Also in attendance were priests, nuns and other clergy who have served, or are presently serving, at Sacred Heart. This was the beginning of a day which will be remembered by everyone.

I would like to publicly thank Bishop Edward Hughes and all the clergy for their participation in our Centennial Liturgy, and for taking the time to be with us during this important milestone in our church.

Sacred Heart's Director of Sacred Music Dan Mahoney should be commended for his selection of music and for the choir's performance of that music during the Centennial Mass. After the Liturgy celebration, the Rosary Altar Society hosted a reception for everyone who attended the Mass.

Later that afternoon, the committee hosted a 100th Anniversary Gala at the Pines Manor in Edison. This was the last of the committee's functions, and its success surpassed everyone's expectations. Over 300 people attend the gala, and everyone had a GREAT time.

As attendees arrived, they enjoyed a slide show presentation created by Rich McCriskin, which depicted Sacred Heart's history using photos from the past and present.

I would like to thank everyone who attended for their support and dedication, especially all the church and community organizations.

Gala Committee members were Nancy Stillman-Pender, Barbara Kaplan, Grace Bertucci, Sandy Severini, Kathy Thomas, Ann Demico and Debbie Vokral. These folks are to be commended for all the endless hours they spent paying attention to every detail arranging this special function.

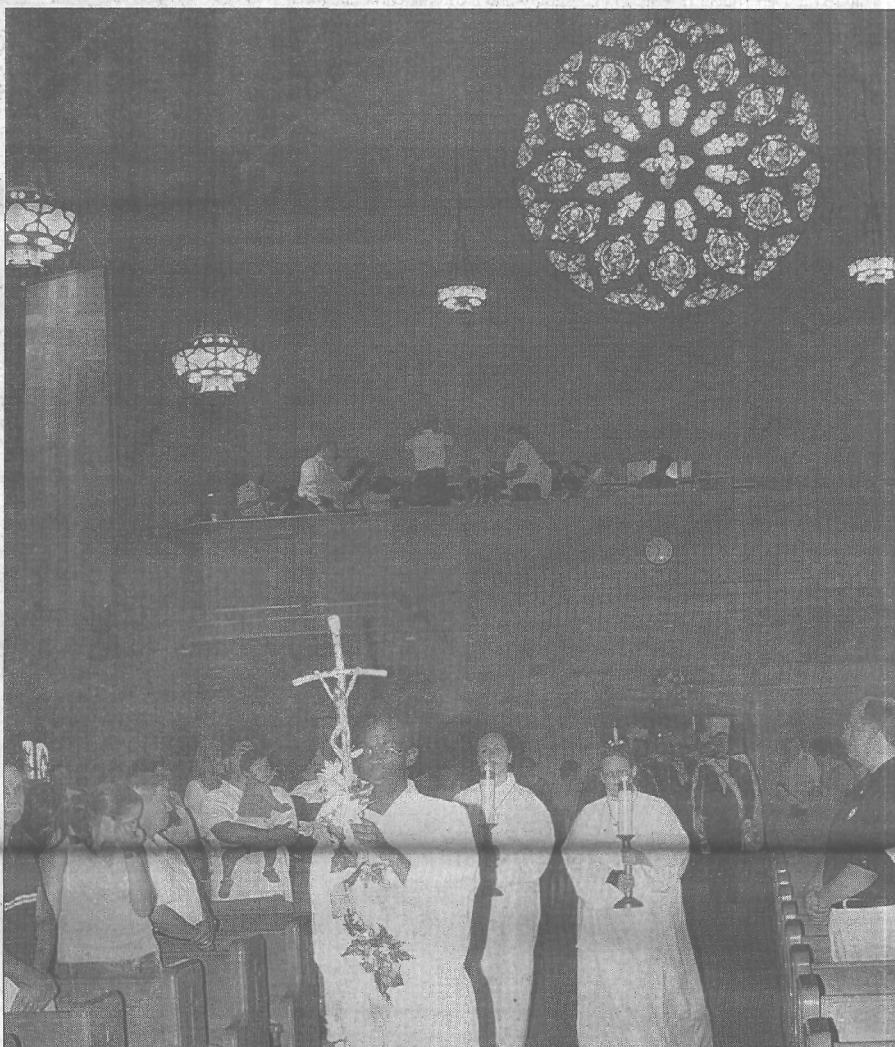
A special thank you to Nancy Grenier for all the time and effort she put forth organizing the 100th Anniversary commemorative book.

Working with such wonderful people for the past two years has truly taught me the meaning of Christian friendship and community, and I will not forget this great experience.

If I may quote Bishop Hughes's homily, "100 Years, 100 Years, Way to Go". Thank You to Everyone, and 'WAY TO GO.'

BILL McCRISKIN, CHAIRMAN

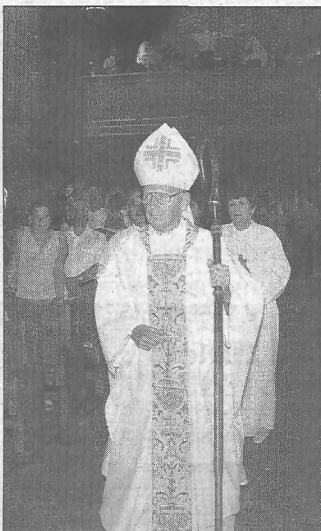
SACRED HEART CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE



Knights of Columbus escort the Most Reverend Edward Hughes before Mass as the choir sings.



Sister Nadine Boyle (left) leads the Rumba line at the gala dinner dance. Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan (right) presents a proclamation from the New Jersey Governor, Senate and Assembly.



Pictured left to right: Father John Alvarado receives a very special gift from Grace Bertucci, Mayor Dan Gallagher presents a proclamation from the Borough Council, Bishop Edward Hughes enters Sacred Heart Church and Rob Bengivenga reads a letter from President George Bush.

Schedule of Activities

SOUTH PLAINFIELD

(All times are approximate and subject to change)

- 8:15 a.m. Registration starts for 5K run and 1.5 mile family fitness walk
 9:30 a.m. All major roads will be closed in town
 9:30 a.m. 5K Run and 1.5 Mile Fitness Walk begin
 10:00 a.m. **Parade Kicks Off at Middle School**
 12:00 p.m. Parade Ends/Activities Begin at PAL
 Trophies are awarded
 Food and drinks available all afternoon at the park

PAL Activities

- 12:00 p.m. Pie Eating Contest, Watermelon Contest, Egg Toss, Big Slide, Water Balloons, Tug'O'War, Rock Mountain Climb and Moon Walk
 12:30 p.m. Entertainment by Forrester
 Radio Station WDHA 105.5 will be at the PAL

Evening Activities

- 7:00 p.m. "Sound Investment" Concert - Spring Lake Park
 Dusk Fireworks Display by Garden State Fireworks



Put On Your Running Shoes: Signup for the Labor Day 5K Run & Walk

Once again, the South Plainfield Alliance for Substance Awareness and the staff at The Club at Ricochet are sponsoring the 15th Annual The Club at Ricochet/SPASA Labor Day 5K Run on Sept. 5. There will also be a 1.5 Mile Family Fitness Walk once again.

Last year more than 200 runners participated in the 5K Run and 25 in the 1.5 Mile Walk and the hope is to increase those competing this year.

The Family Walk supports family togetherness and a positive drug free, fun-filled fitness lifestyle. The entry fee for the walkers is \$5 per person or family. T-shirts and substance awareness information packets will be given to the first 50 participants.

This year's 5K Run pre-entry registration is \$13 (by Aug. 26) with a race day fee of \$15. The first 200 5K entrants will receive t-shirts along with a packet of various items and substance awareness information. Again this year, Aiello Chiropractic Center will offer pre and post race/walk massages and computer timing will be handled by Best Race Systems. Race results will be posted on the Internet at www.best-race.com.

The race will begin and end at the PAL Building on Maple Ave. near Jost Field. The run/walk will begin at 9:25 a.m. with registration starting at 8:00 a.m.

It is also important to note that all proceeds for the race go to supporting the efforts of the South Plainfield Alliance for Substance Awareness in making the South Plainfield commu-

nity drug free. It is a hope that participants will find time to recognize and/or patronize the many businesses and sponsors of the race.

Prizes include \$100 in cash, one month free membership to The Club at Ricochet, \$50 gift certificate donated by Home Depot or Nike running shoes donated by Sportworld. Trophies will also be presented to the overall male and female winners in each age group.

The race is just the first of a full day of fun in South Plainfield. Festivities include the race, the parade, games, picnicking and fireworks. Bring a friend in support of healthy exercise and reducing substance abuse. Let's make this year the best ever.

The SPASA 2005 business supporters are as follows: South Plainfield Liquor Store, David's Stationary, Sherban's Diner and Restaurant, K.C.'s Korner Bar and Restaurant, Spring Lake Texaco Service Center, Domino's Pizza, McCriskin Home For Funerals, South Plainfield Funeral Home, Giakas Cleaners, The Club at Ricochet, Joe Romer Trophy Shop, Sportworld, The Home Depot, Rodolfo's Pizza, Oak Tree Farms, Bagel Pantry, Twin City Pharmacy, Ciccio's Pizza, Poland Spring Water, Casablanca Is Hair, Flanagan's Restaurant, Mohn's Florist, Aiello Chiropractic Center, Physiques In Motion, Buy-Rite Auto Parts, Presto Printing Service, South Plainfield PAL, SP Alliance for Substance Abuse and South Plainfield Education Foundation.

Parking Restrictions And Road Closings

Roads along the parade route and the 5K run will be closing at approximately 9:15 a.m. If you are coming to the PAL you must plan to arrive early or you may not get in the park. If you are marching in the parade be sure to be at your assigned location by 9:15 sharp.

Streets along the parade route will be closed at some time during the parade. This includes Plainfield Ave. and

Maple Ave., which is the actual parade route.

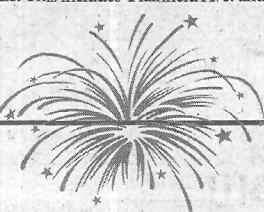
After the parade, roads will be reopened. There is limited parking in the downtown area, Spring Lake Park, the area across from the PAL and near the tennis courts.

The evening concert will begin at 6:30 p.m. Please beware that parking will be restricted around Spring Lake Park because of the fireworks display.

Do not park at the Senior Center.

No parking will be allowed behind Borough Hall, the library, Veterans' Park, Lowden and Willow avenues.

Spring Lake Park is designated handicapped parking only. The best parking will be at the high school or the P.A.L. Building. Both have extra lighting and are easy to access. Roads will close at 7:45 p.m. for the fireworks.



Parade Trophies to be Awarded



HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL TROPHY

Given by Honorary Grand Marshal to best overall entry in his/her opinion.

JUDGES' TROPHY

Best overall entry as determined by judges

GEORGE W. L. PAGE TROPHY

Given to the best civic entry.

MOST OUTSTANDING FLOAT

Best overall

BEST YOUTH ENTRY

Awarded by judges to the best youth group

BEST CIVIC ENTRY

MOST PATRIOTIC ENTRY

MOST OUTSTANDING VISITING ENTRY

Awarded to the best appearing entry from outside of South Plainfield

BEST ANTIQUE VEHICLE

Awarded to the best appearing antique vehicle entry of any kind entered as a separate unit

MARIE D. PAGE TROPHY

Awarded to the best overall marching entry.

A representative must be present for the trophy to be awarded

Parade Judges:

Richard McCriskin, Paul Chickene, Debbie Kurland, Charlie Kurland, Georgeann DiGrazia

VISIT THE OBSERVER AT THE PAL AND HELP US CELEBRATE OUR 8TH ANNIVERSARY!

The Public Celebrations Committee

The following people have been working behind the scenes to make this year's parade a success. They deserve our thanks for all the work and time they have put in. Everyone on the committee is a volunteer. The only compensation they receive is the satisfaction of putting together this once-a-year parade. (What would this town be without our volunteers?)

John Sorrentino, Chair

Don Alexa

Ray Petronka, Council Liaison

Marion Gallagher, Patricia Vargo, Michael English,

Kevin Hughes, Joseph Scrudato, Michelle Cerami,

Christine Buteas, Kim Gallagher, Matt Anesh

Also working very hard on the parade are members of the police department, rescue squad, fire department, emergency management, R.A.C.E. radio operators and the public works employees.

Parade Announcers:

BILL COCHRANE at Reviewing Stand

AL CZECH at Boro Hall

SOUND by J.W.T. SOUND SERVICES at Reviewing Stand & Boro Hall

INVOCATION: Daniel Nikolich, Pastor Pilgram Covenant Church

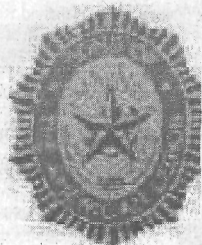
Parade Marshals:

John Sorrentino, Joe Scrudato, Tom Perry, Marie Smith, Pat DeSantis, Angelo Paradiso, Terry Alexa, Trisha Cosney, Brian Cargill, Clair Mosier, Sue White, Carl Adlassnig, Mark Chosney, Mary Chosney, Bill Thomas, William Co, Kevin Hughes, Debbie Krawic, Christine Buteas, Trisha Chosney, Ashley Chosney

The South Plainfield Labor Day Parade Public Celebrations Committee invites you to

The 48th Annual Labor Day Parade

Monday, September 5



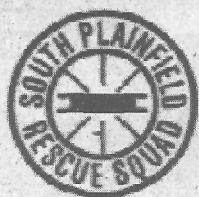
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the heart of
South Plainfield"*

Parade starts at 10 am at the Middle School-Road closings at 9:30 am

**BRING
THE
WHOLE
FAMILY!**

Fireworks (By Garden State Fireworks)
In Spring Lake Park
start at dusk preceded by the entertainment of "Sound Investment"

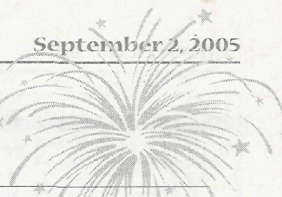
Activities at the PAL Field: 9am-5k Race & 1.5 Mile Walk

Beginning at 12:30-Pie/Watermelon Eating Contests • Egg Toss • Water Balloon Toss • Potato Sack Race • Extreme Rock Wall and Pirate's Cove • Musical Entertainment by "Forrester"

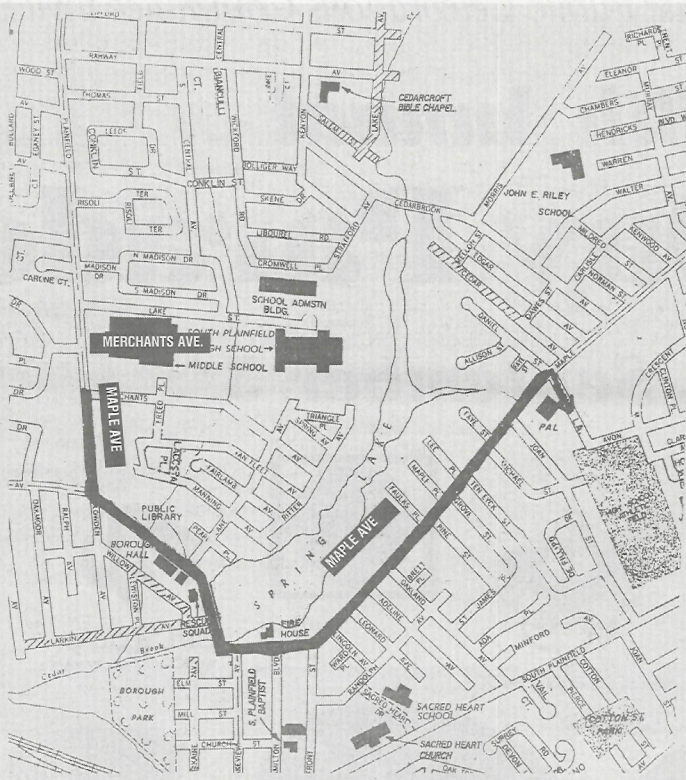
Come out and enjoy crafts, food, local business and organization giveaways and plenty of food at the field!

BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Fireworks at dusk in Spring Lake Park preceded by the entertainment of "Sound Investment"



labor day parade route



Concessions at the PAL

South Plainfield Lions Club—Beer, Steak and Sausage Sandwiches, Soda; Hometown Heros—Subs, Drinks, Chips, Coffee, Bagels and Rolls; Maglione's Italian Ices—Italian Ices, Cotton Candy, Popcorn, Water; SPHS Music Boosters—Hot Dogs, Soda, Bottled Water; Summer Drama Workshop—Water, Soft Drinks, BBQ Meat Sticks, Pkg Snacks, T-Shirts; Phil Emma—Funnel Cakes, Apple Fritters, Fried Oreos, Fried Pretzels, Water, Soda, Lemonade; Carnival Concessions—Zeppoles, funnel cakes; Pretzel Dude—Pretzels, Hot Dogs, Drinks, French Fries, Ice Cream; South Plainfield High School Varsity Football—Baked Goods, T-shirts, Pens and Pads; Charlie's Ice Cream Factory—Ice Cream Cart; M.D. Bars Ice Cream—Ice Cream Truck.

Parade Entries

South Plainfield Police Department, Arbor Hose Company #1, McGruff the Crime Dog, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Darren the D.A.R.E. Lion, ATA Black Belt Academy of South Plainfield, South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department, Boy Scouts of America, New Jersey State Police Motorcycles, Cinderella, Middlesex County Dept. of Corrections Honor Guard, Boy Scouts of America Troop #207, South Plainfield Rescue Squad, Buddy Walk of South Plainfield, Red, White & Blue Stilt Walker, Clifford The Big Red Dog, Batman, Girl Scouts of South Plainfield, Bob The Builder, South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission, South Plainfield Curves, Green Brook Fire, EMS, Ambulance, HK Volunteer Fire Department, South Plainfield Right To Life, South Plainfield Knights of Columbus, South Plainfield Columbiettes, South Plainfield Soccer Club, Dora the Explorer, Chewbacca, 1975 Pontiac Grand Prix-George Olsson, South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop, Watchung Valley Model "A" Restorers Club, Yee's Hung Ga Kung Fu Association, Elmo, Mickey Mouse, 1929 Model A Ford-Philip Burgess, 1979 Cadillac Sedan DeVille-James Singleton, 1952 Ford F600 Rack Body w/John Deere Tractor, Spiderman, SpongeBob, 1966 Pontiac GTO-Tony Pisaniello, Unforgettable Autos of Mid Jersey & NY/NJ, Slant/Six Funny Factory Comedy Stunt Car, South Plainfield Junior Field Hockey, VFW Memorial Post #6763 60th Anniversary, South Plainfield High School Cheerleading Team, 1981 Corvette-Paul Fessock, 2 Edison horses, Rainbow Academy Child Care Center, South Plainfield Tiger Sharks, Cedarcroft Bible Chapel 40th Anniversary, VFW Storr Richie Post 506 Plainfield/North Plainfield, Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter #10, American Legion Chaumont Post #243, South Plainfield Churches Association, JJ Gardner Detachment Marine Corps, League Middlesex County Safe Kids Van, Somerset Patriots Van w/mascot Sparky, Charlie Chaplin with dog, Shannon Pilgrim Covenant Church, South Plainfield Football Eagles, South Plainfield Elks Lodge #2298, Sacred Heart School Walking Group, Rescue House of Prayer, Warriors Drill Team and 1971 Customized SpongeBob Dune Buggy.

13 Marching Bands: South Plainfield High School Marching Band, New Jersey Polka Band, Funny Factory Clown Band, Westfield Fife & Drum, Motor Corps of Salaam Shrine, Legionnaires Seniors Band, Ragtimers, St. Brendan The Navigator Pipes & Drums, Atlantic Watch Pipes & Drums, Salaam String Band, Salaam Temple Oriental Band, Middlesex County Police & Fire, Fife & Drum Corp and Metropolitan Festival Band.

Tables at the PAL

Observer "South Plainfield's Newspaper" • ATA Black Belt Academy • Boy Scout Troop #124 • Buddy Walk of South Plainfield • Cedarcroft Bible Chapel 40th Anniversary • Century 21 Moretti Realty • Commerce Bank • K. Toovey - Personalized Bibs & Socks • Sensations Salon • Sons of American Legion #243 • Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War • South Plainfield Curves • South Plainfield Environmental Commission • South Plainfield Historical Society • Wesley Methodist Church • Rainbow Academy Child Care Center Edison • Junior Baseball Club • Unity Bank • Squeegie Printing • T-shirts and Crafts • Childrens Technology Workshop • Boy Scout Troop #207 • American Martial Arts • Red's Sports Heaven Sports Cards & Memorabilia • South Plainfield Republican Organization

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www.MorettiRealty.com
800-899-9199
225 Maple Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080

Support



Open Your Heart to Children
Battling Cancer Foundation, Inc.

Meet us **Monday Sept 5** at the
South Plainfield Labor Day festivities at the
PAL Field following the Parade, & at the 33rd
annual Art on the Green, **Saturday Sept. 10**,
Washington Park, Dunellen, 10am-3pm

48th Labor Day Parade Celebrates Volunteerism

(Continued from page 1)
up to march.

Those participating in the parade are reminded that every float must have four spotters, one at each corner, or they will not be allowed to participate. Safety is a huge concern to the parade committee.

The parade will be led by Former Fire Chief John Cotone, who will be riding with his proud 80+ year-old mother.

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.,

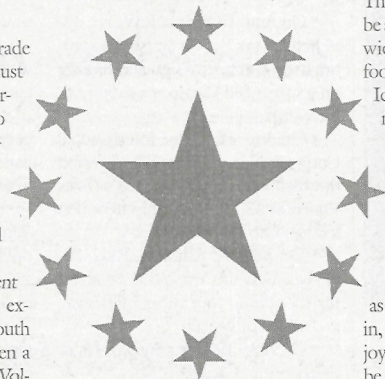
Police/Fire Softball Trophy Honors Bataille

(Continued from page 1)

of Gene Bataille Sr., who passed away last September. Gene was a member of the Elks and served many years as the chairman of the Handicapped Children's Committee. He was also a member of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department for over 40 years and served as the Fire Department's president from 1972 to 1975. He was also a Life Member of the NJ State Firemen's Assoc and served as a Commissioner of the Industry Division of the NJ Fire Safety Regulatory Commission and had been a member of the NJ State Industrial Fire Chief's Asso.

His son, Gene Bataille, Jr., is a member of the South Plainfield Police Department.

The game will be played at Veterans Park on Friday, Sept. 2 at 7:30 p.m. Residents are invited to attend this annual grudge match, which gives bragging rights to the winner for a full year.



International Assoc. of Fire Chiefs, Middlesex Co. Fire Prevention Assoc. and Building Offices Assoc. of NJ.

After the parade reaches the PAL, at about noon, folks are invited to visit the numerous concessions which will be set up by local businesses. There will be plenty of give-a-ways and literature available. The Observer will also be on hand to greet all of our readers, answer questions, and if you like you can sign up for home delivery.

There will also be plenty of food.

The South Plainfield Lions Club will be selling beer, steak and sausage sandwiches and soda. Others supplying food are Hometown Heros, Charlies.

Ice Cream Factory, as well as Summer Dramas Workshop and the High School Varsity Football.

Contests to be held at the PAL after the parade include a pie and watermelon eating contests, egg and water balloon tosses, potato sack race, extreme rock wall and pirate's cove. The contests are just as much fun to watch as participate in, so plan on sticking around to enjoy them. Live entertainment will also be provided by Forrester.

The evening fireworks at Spring Lake Park will be preceded by entertainment by "Sound Investment" at 7 p.m. This year's fireworks will be presented by Garden State Fireworks and begin at dusk.

Roads along the parade route will be closed during the 5K race, the parade and in the evening around Spring Lake Park.

For the latest update on the parade log on to the Borough's website at southplainfieldnj.com.

Kids to Race Inchworms at Labor Day Event

Children's Technology Workshop will be hosting heats of creepy crawler LEGO robots with prizes for the winners and fun for all.

Children's Technology Workshop will be hosting robotic LEGO inchworm races and awarding prizes to kids between ages five and 13 at the PAL field immediately following the borough's annual Labor Day Parade.

Mark Noble, the regional director of Children's Technology Workshop, says that kids learn better when they are having fun. "When a child builds a device like the inchworm in one of our workshops, she thinks she is just having fun with LEGO, but the truth is that she is learning about how simple machines like levers, pulleys and wheels and axles operate in ad-

dition to engineering processes used to create more complex devices. It's hands on learning that enable kids to experiment and be creative with technology."

Families are encouraged to stop by the Children's Technology Workshop table at the PAL to take part in the festivities and see how esoteric science and math concepts can be made tangible and easily learned while having fun.

Valuable discount coupons for Children's Technology Workshop's engineering, animation, and video game maker birthday party and group workshops will be available to all who visit.

Please contact Mark Noble at (908) 264-9147 for additional information about the event or to pre-register your child to participate in a race.

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2005 Monday After Club at annual meeting and installation of officers.

GFWC Monday Afternoon Club Installs President

D. Margaret Messemer, Scotch Plains resident and former resident of Plainfield, was installed as president of the GFWC Monday Afternoon Club at the club's annual meeting at the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church in Plainfield by Mildred Leonard, state officer.

Messemer was a charter member of the Scotch Plains Jr. Woman's Club and a member of the Scotch Plains Woman's Club where she served as newsletter editor, first vice president, program chairman, delegate to the state convention and sixth district chairman for safety, community im-

provement and program assistance.

In 1989 she joined the Monday Afternoon Club as a dual member of both clubs. She has been chairman of social services, public affairs, federation secretary, recording secretary, newsletter editor and a delegate to the state convention.

The current officers are First Vice President Peggy Cohen of Scotch Plains, Second Vice President May Fash of South Plainfield and Recording Secretary and Treasurer Muriel Delano and Corresponding Secretary Kay Casserino, both of Scotch Plains. Messemer's name has been placed

on the NJSEWC Honor Roll and awarded the Order of the Lily. As a 50+ member of GFWC, she was presented with a Gold Card of membership. The club meets on the first Monday of the month and welcomes transfers from other clubs and new members who are interested in joining the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the largest volunteer group in the nation dedicated to community services.

The Monday Afternoon Club has served Plainfield for 117 years when it's founder, Elvira Eliza Kenyon founded the club. For more information on the club, call (908) 756-3476.

policereport

• On Aug. 17 Steven T. Walker, 43, of Bethlehem, Pa. was arrested for failure to stop at a stop sign and driving on a suspended license at a motor vehicle stop.

• On Aug. 18 Hyline International Corp. on New Market Ave. reported the theft of assorted women's shoes valued at \$3,700. The shipment was loaded onto the wrong truck.

• On Aug. 18 Ashok C. Patel, 50, of Piscataway was arrested at Pathmark for shoplifting four tubes of Bengay and a tube of Os-Cal.

• On Aug. 19 Javier Franco, 43, of Harrison and Richard Sosa, 27, of Hillside were arrested at Canada Dry for theft by unlawfully taking cases of drinks.

• An employee of Just Packaging Inc. on Oak Tree Ave. reported the theft of her purse from the lunch room.

• On Aug. 20 the Gulf Station on Stelton Rd. reported that a customer had driven off without paying for \$25.84 worth of gas.

• On Aug. 21 Peter McCormack, 50, of Westfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated while he was parked on Oak Manor Parkway.

• On Aug. 23 a Kenyon Ave. resident reported that a hole had been cut in the screen door of their porch and

a brick had been thrown through a window to gain entrance. A diamond watch and diamond necklace were taken from the bedroom.

• An Arlington Ave. resident reported the theft of a locked bicycle that had been taken from a bike rack at SPHS.

• On Aug. 24 Maria Y. Morales-Veras, 36, of Plainfield was arrested for driving an unregistered vehicle and for an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

• A Robert Pl. resident reported the theft of a girl's 18 speed Magna bicycle from their backyard.

• The Middle School reported that a door window had been smashed and unlocked and several juveniles were running around the hallway.

• On Aug. 26 Patricia Imez Hall, 57, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license, no insurance and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

• A Lee Pl. resident reported that eggs had been thrown at the side of their house.

• A So. Plainfield Ave. resident reported that eggs had been thrown at their parked vehicle.

• On Aug. 27 Michael John DeFeo, 28, of South Plainfield was arrested for resisting arrested and disorderly conduct at a residence on Maple Ave.

• Scott D. Simsay, 33, of Branchburg and James D. Pivovar, 24, of Ringoes were arrested at Home Depot for theft by deception. They were picking up cash register receipts in the parking lot, then picking up the items and returning them for cash.

• A Park Ave. resident reported that her American Express account had been used to make several unauthorized purchases without her knowledge.

• On Aug. 28 Eric Edward McNamara, 19, of Colonia was arrested for a minor possessing and consuming an alcoholic beverage at a motor vehicle stop in which he was a passenger.

• Kamleshku M. Patel, 43, of Edison was arrested for driving while intoxicated at a motor vehicle stop.

• On Aug. 29 Richard S. Borges, 50, of Lynbrook, NY was arrested for driving while intoxicated, careless driving and driving at night without headlights on at a motor vehicle stop.

• Anayo Akalonu, 61, of Plainfield was arrested at Pathmark for shoplifting a \$5 tube of Monostat soothing care cream.

• A Delmore Ave. resident reported that the front aluminum door to their residence had a large dent in it.

• On Aug. 30 a Wooden Ave. resident reported the rear window and rear left side window of their vehicle had been smashed in.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE

Aug. 25, 2005: Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its meeting held on Aug. 25, 2005.

A. Case #37-05/TU—Winfall, Inc. Block 256; Lots 6 and 7; 417 Hamilton Blvd. The applicant's request for a temporary permit to place a one story storage trailer on the site was hereby GRANTED. This permit will be valid for period of (6) months.

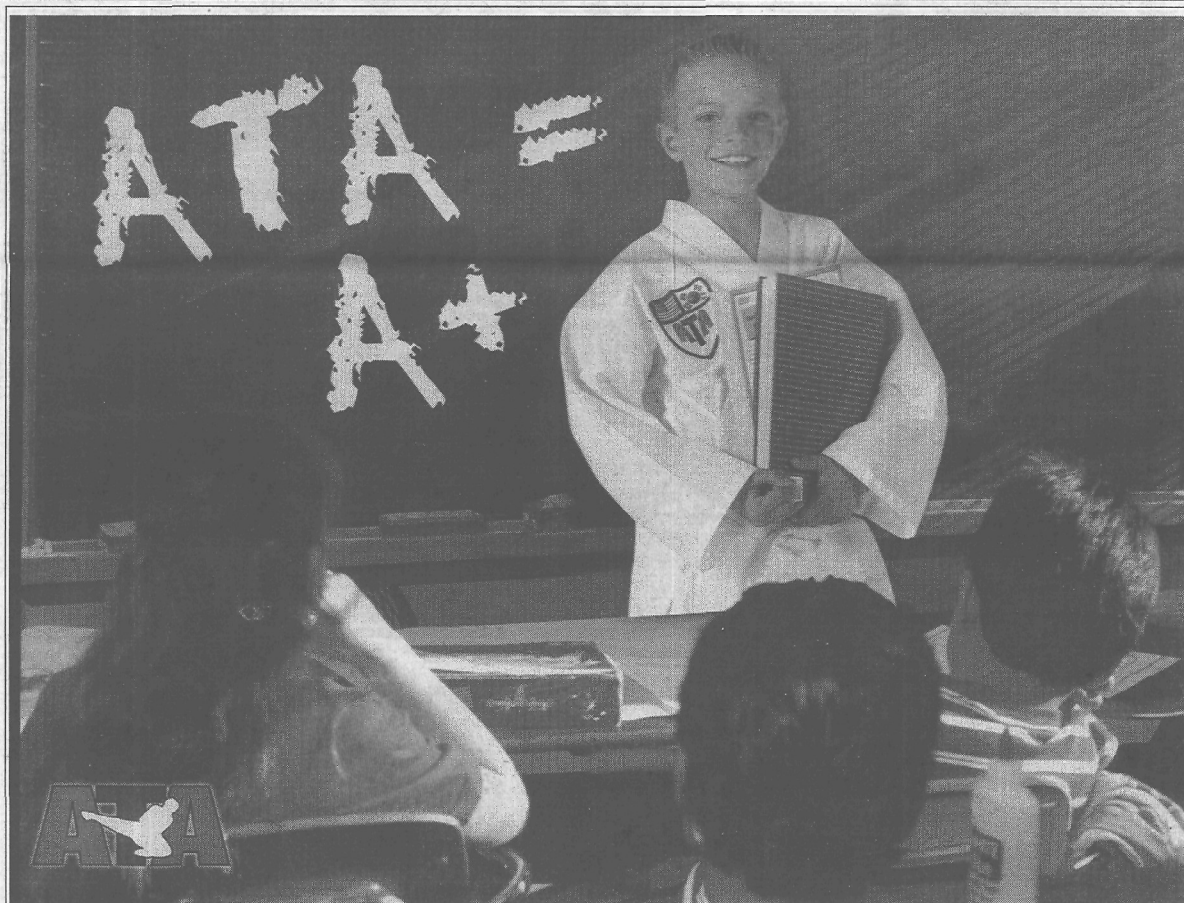
B. Case #56-05—Raymond Gallina. Block 96; Lot 13; 117 Park Ave. The applicant's request for a front yard setback variance in order to construct a porch was hereby GRANTED subject to (1) voluntary condition.

C. Case #58-05—Bernardo Correa. Block 134; Lot 24; 1119 McDonough St. The applicant's request for a front yard setback variance to erect a deck was hereby GRANTED subject to voluntary conditions.

D. Case #59-05—Dennis Holowka. Block 120; Lot 12; 118 Norman St. The applicant's request for front yard setback variance in order to erect a front porch with roof was hereby GRANTED subject to (1) voluntary condition.

Respectfully Submitted,
Danielle M. Utter
Secretary Zoning Board of Adjustment
\$42.00 September 2, 2005

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Open Your Heart To Children Surpasses \$250,000

The Realtors at Century 21 Moretti Realty do more than earn real estate accolades for their assistance to home buyers and sellers. The only Central New Jersey office to receive the 2004 Century 21 President's Award for achieving both service and sales awards in the same year, Moretti Realty has reached yet another significant plateau. The company's non-profit foundation to benefit children with cancer has raised over \$250,000 to support children with cancer and related blood disorders.

Open Your Heart To Children Battling Cancer Foundation, Inc., was founded by Century 21 Moretti Realty with the hope of making a difference in the lives of these children and their families. "Only 20 percent of the money raised for cancer support and research is spent on children," said Mary Ann Lisewski, broker associate and president of the foundation. "All the money we raise supports pediatric oncology research and non-medical services to families of children who have cancer, leukemia or related blood diseases, including the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Program at The Institute for Children with Cancer and Blood Disorders at the Robert Wood Johnson Hospital in New Brunswick, and the Stein Building of Hope, a family facility near the hospital modeled

after the Ronald McDonald House. There are no administrative costs; all our time is volunteered," she noted.

The realtors sponsor fundraising events throughout the year including a black tie gala which raised \$50,000 this year; a joint program with the Wall Township PBA, which raised an additional \$50,000 and a golf outing with COACHes Care (Coaches Offering Assistance for Children's Health) Foundation, which raised an additional \$20,000. Following the Labor Day Parade, Moretti will be selling "Heartfelt Cookbooks" at their exhibit table. They will also be at Art on the Green on Saturday, Sept. 10 in Washington Park in Dunellen.

Future fundraising events include the annual vendor night featuring sales and exhibits by artisans and crafts people on Thursday, Nov. 10 at the South Plainfield Senior Citizens Center and a casino night to be held in 2006 (date to be announced).

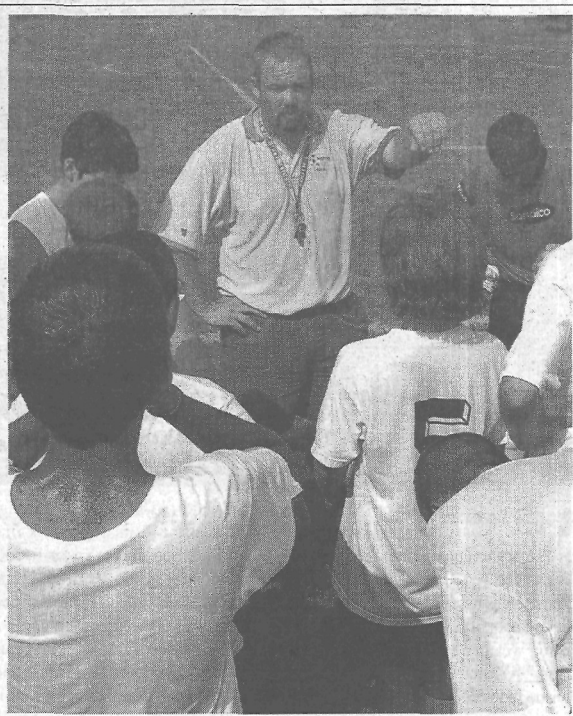
"Children and cancer are two nouns which should never appear in the same sentence," says Andrea Lacerda, realtor associate and vice president of the foundation. "But because they do, our committee has made a long-term commitment to do all we can to help provide aid to the children and their families."

Their efforts were doubly rewarded recently when eight-year-old cancer

survivor Laura DeAngelis of Warren recently visited the Moretti office and donated \$1,200 she received from her First Holy Communion to the foundation. Laura was a patient at the institute in New Brunswick two years ago where she was diagnosed with Burkett's Lymphoma, a rare cancer which resulted in the removal of part of her colon followed by aggressive chemotherapy. Cancer free now, Laura is committed to helping other children. Last year she sold toys at her grandmother's garage sale and set up a lemonade stand. Construction workers across from her home quenched their thirsts and filled her coffers. The monies she raised she donated to the institute that saved her life. (See story on page 1).

For more information about Century 21 or the Open Your Heart To Children Battling Cancer Foundation, Inc., call (908) 755-5300 or stop by the booth at the PAL field on Sept. 5 after the parade.

For donations to the Foundation, mail to Open Your Heart To Children Battling Cancer Foundation, c/o Century 21 Moretti Realty, 225 Maple Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.



GEARING UP—South Plainfield High School Soccer Coach Cameron Green talks to players at pre-season practice.

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| FREIXENET Cordon Negro Brut 750 ml 8.99 | MOET & CHANDON White Star Extra Dry 750 ml 28.99 | RANCHO ZABACO DANCING BULL Zinfandel 750 ml 7.99 | RODNEY STRONG Chardonnay 750 ml 9.99 |
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| CARLO ROSSI Burgundy, White Grenache, Chablis, Sangria, Chianti 4 liter jug 8.99 | PORT ROYAL Rum 1.75 liter 12.99 | CLUB 400 Blended Whiskey 1.75 liter 12.99 | CANADIAN PEAK Whisky 1.75 liter 13.99 |

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| THE BLENDIVE 12 Year Old Single Malt Whisky 1.75L 29.99 | SMIRNOFF Vodka 80° 1.75 liter 18.99 | GREY GOOSE Vodka 80° 750 ml 25.99 |
| JOHN BECK Blue Cap Scotch Whisky 1.75L 15.99 | SOUTHERN COMFORT 70 Cider 1.75 liter 22.99 | T.G.I. FRIDAY Blenders 1.75 liter 12.99 |
| JOHNNIE WALKER RED Scotch Whisky 1.75L 29.99 | | |
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| GORDON'S Vodka 80° 1.75L 13.99 | | |
| CABO WABO Tequila 750 ml 39.99 | | |
| MYER'S Original Dark Rum 750 ml 16.99 | | |
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| BUCKLER NON-ALCOHOLIC 4/6 Packs 12 oz. N.R. Bottle 13.99 | SAM ADAMS LAGER OR LIGHT 2/12 Packs 12 oz. N.R. Bottles 22.99 | SMIRNOFF ICE TWISTED PARTY PACK 2/12 Packs 12 oz. N.R. Bottles 21.99 |

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It was a Hot Time at the Annual North Madison Drive Block Party

By Jane Dornick

Damp, chilly weather in the past convinced residents of No. Madison Dr. to switch their annual block party from September to August, hoping for better weather. However, on Saturday, Aug. 13 they got more than they wished for. Skies were sunny and temperatures soared to over 100 degrees, but that didn't stop the large crowd of part goers from having a good time.

Underneath tents were tables filled with homemade food. Games for the

young and old included a scavenger hunt, musical chairs, a sidewalk chalk contest, limbo and a water balloon contest. DJ Tom Foster from Sounds Good Entertainment provided non-stop music for the afternoon with lots of dancing and karaoke. The South Plainfield Fire Dept. provided relief from the heat when they showed up to cool everyone off with a wetdown. Residents held a 50/50 raffle and donated half of the proceeds to the fire department.

Rumor has it, though, that they are

considering holding next year's block party in September again.

With record high temperatures on August 13, our volunteer fire depart-

ment came to our rescue by squirting water into the street so kids and adults could cool off at our block party and have some fun. Thank you to our vol-

unteer fire department and also to Park Avenue Caterers and Deli in Piscataway for supplies. The residents on No. Madison Dr.

NOTES FROM The Senior Center

by Joann Graf, Director of Office on Aging

Beginning Jan. 1, 2006, new Medicare prescription drug plans will be available to people with Medicare. The Medicare drug benefit offers help to beneficiaries with rising out-of-pocket drug costs, especially those with low incomes. Insurance companies and other private companies will work with Medicare to offer these drug plans.

Beneficiary education and counseling will be critical for people to make an informed decision and a smooth transition as the new drug benefit is implemented. Are you prepared to make this decision? Do you know how to choose and join a drug plan that

best meets your needs?

In an effort to assist our local residents, we will be having several seminars to provide the latest information available. The first program will be held on Thursday, Sept. 8 at 1 p.m. at the Senior Center. Our SHIP (State Health Insurance Program) counselor, Joe Zekas, will be our guest speaker and provide all the latest information. Then, on Monday, Oct. 24, at 1 p.m., the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services will conduct a free in-depth seminar hosted by Debbie Breslin, director of the State Senior Health Insurance Program.

Please mark your calendar and make

it a point to attend these seminars. It is vitally important that you have the information you need to make the best decisions for your medical coverage.

Also, please make a note of these upcoming events:

DINNER DANCE: We will be holding a dinner dance on Saturday, Oct. 15 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. The theme is a Country Hoedown and the menu features London broil, and barbecued pulled pork. The cost is \$10 per person.

ATLANTIC CITY TRIPS: There are a few seats left for the Sept. 15 Atlantic City trip to the Claridge. The cost is \$15 and you receive \$15 back at the casino. You do not have to be a member of the center to participate. Stop in at the Senior Center and sign up. The bus departs the Senior Center at 9 a.m. and returns around 7 p.m. We will also be running two trips in October, Wednesday, Oct 5 and Thursday, Oct. 20.

THEATRE TRIP: The Senior Citizen Center is sponsoring a trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse on Oct. 17 to see the Jamie Farr (Corporal Klinger from Mash) in the hilarious play, *Weekend Comedy*. The cost is \$60 including transportation, a wonderful luncheon and the show. The bus departs the Senior Center at 10 a.m. and returns around 5 p.m. You do not have to be a member of the center to participate.

LANCASTER, PA & the MILLENNIUM THEATRE: Only six seats left!!! The Senior Citizen Center is sponsoring an overnight trip to Lancaster, Pa. on Sept. 21 and 22. The trip includes transportation via private motor coach, overnight accommodations at the Best Inn, tickets to "The Story of Ruth" at the Millennium Sights 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.

Openings in JFS CAMEO Program

JFS has opening available in their CAMEO (Challenging Adult Minds and Energizing Ourselves) Program. It is a social day care program tailored to the needs of adults who are physically disabled, but cognitively alert. Some of the activities designed for CAMEO are book reviews, exercise, day trips, painting, discussions of current events, special interest group, etc.

Transportation is provided and sliding scale fees. Call (732) 777-1940 for more information.

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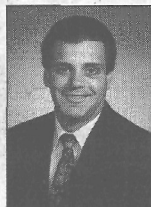
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Special Education in New Jersey – Here's to the Next Fifty Years

By Michael Petti, School Psychologist

The year 2005 marks the 50th Anniversary of special education in New Jersey and the 30th Anniversary that special education is guaranteed to children in the United States through the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA).

The person who spearheaded special education in New Jersey was the late Senator Alfred Beadleston. As such, New Jersey was in the forefront of offering programs in public schools for children with mental, physical, emotional and learning needs. New Jersey's pioneering effort in 1955 laid the cornerstone for the enactment of IDEA in 1975.

Fifty years ago only full-time self-contained classes were offered to children in need. Gradually, this expanded to include a pullout service known as supplementary instruction that was tutoring. Today, there is a wide menu of educational programs available from the least restrictive to most restrictive. The gamut runs from inclusion, in-

class support, one to four resource center classes, in-district part-time or full-time self-contained classes, to out-of-district part-time or full-time classes.

Initially, the school psychologist was the only diagnostician determining a child's entrance into a special education class. In 1963, the social worker became part of a two member team acting as a bridge between the parent and the school. By 1969, the learning consultant was a team member whose function was to translate findings and recommendations into instructional realities. From this point on the concept of three members of a child study team (CST) consisting of a school psychologist, social worker, and learning consultant was established.

Because IDEA shadowed many of the practices in New Jersey, the only major changes to special education in our state were the implementation of the Individual Educational Plan (IEP) and Annual Review (AR). The former is a written summary of test findings, proposed academic program, and edu-

cational goals. The latter is a written statement of yearly progress, intended class schedule, and learning goals.

Fifty years ago a verbal response was all that was necessary to conduct an assessment and to provide a special education service. Thirty years ago accountability in the form of written documentation became the norm under IDEA. Child Study Team reports were never given to parents until the advent of IDEA. Today, parents receive these reports in advance of an IEP meeting.

The emphasis from 1955 to 1975 was primarily helping students with learning problems or intellectual limitations. During the last 30 years special education also has been involved with the emotional and social problems of children.

For the first forty years, special education teachers had been providing specialized methods for students with specific disabilities. Within the last ten years, they have been increasingly servicing pupils with a broad range of disabilities and diverse needs. In addition, the role of the special education teacher now also includes being a facilitator or partner with the mainstream education teacher.

It is hard to believe 50 years have gone by since Senator Beadleston's vision to ensure that children with special needs get an education. However, it is easy to realize how far special education has come since then. Students with disabilities are doing things today never thought possible in 1955. New Jersey's Golden Anniversary of special education is only the beginning. Here's to the next 50 years.

Journey Through Grief Bereavement Series

Center for Hope Hospice & Palliative Care will offer a four-week lecture series titled "Journey Through Grief" each Tuesday night Sept. 20 through Oct. 11 from 7 to 9 p.m. This non-denominational lecture series is designed to assist those adults who have experienced the death of a loved one. It will be held at the Center For Hope's Administrative & Information Center

on Raritan Rd. in Scotch Plains. The series is open to the public.

Pre-registration is not required and there is no cost for participants. Guests are invited to bring family members and friends. Refreshments and fellowship will follow each session.

For further information or directions, call Center For Hope Hospice & Palliative Care at (908) 889-7780.



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Sports

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

With the summer season coming to an end, the Executive Committee is planning for the annual family picnic to be held on Saturday, Sept. 10. The picnic will run from 12 to 5 p.m. with food and beverages for the kids and their immediate family. Many games are being planned for this great day.

Also on the picnic day, there will be an early registration for the 2006 season. This fee is \$95 with a \$75 work bond. The Executive board has de-

cided on the work bond.

You can also get your 2006 membership card on that day.

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



SPEA to Hold Emil Leporino Golf Classic

The South Plainfield Education Foundation, Inc. Emil Leporino Memorial Golf Classic will be held on Saturday, Sept. 24 at Heron Glen Golf Course, located at 110 Highway 202 & 31 in Ringoes.

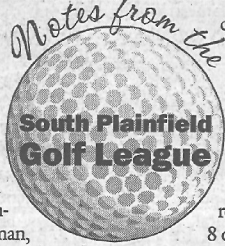
The cost of registering for this outing is \$155, which includes a full eighteen-hole golf event, green fees and cart, lunch and a buffet dinner. All gratuities are included. Suggested attire is casual; rubber spikes are to be worn only.

Attractive prizes will be offered, including a new car, a vacation, and a pot of gold. Awards will be given for low net, low gross, longest drive, closest to the hole, closest to the line, corporate team net and corporate team gross.

The outing registration will start at 8:30 a.m. and the day will commence at 10 a.m. with a shotgun start. Lunch will be served at noon and dinner and awards will take place at 4 p.m.

To register, send a check to the South Plainfield Education Foundation, P.O. Box 733, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. For more information, call Bob Hunter at (908) 756-2800 (work) or (908) 769-0439 (home) or call Rich Regan at (732) 249-4702 (work) or (908) 756-4530 (home).

Submitted By Bob Nilan



To conclude the 2005 season that saw KC's Korner play so very well down the stretch when it counted and go on to win the League Championship, the final night of the South Plainfield Golf League is traditionally devoted to a two-man, best-ball tournament.

One of the surprising stars of this year's tournament was Al Schroeder of Masters, who found it difficult to win medalist honors during the season, playing with low-handicappers like Irish Danny Griffin, Al Szumski and Mike King.

Schroeder played his best round of the season by far to win Low Gross honors with three different partners: Jim Pornovets, Bob Pornovets, and Danny Griffin. Schroeder was in the last group of the night to tee off and finished the final four holes while most of the other league members were already at the Elks hall enjoying the end-of-season buffet.

Schroeder certainly saved his best for last to the delight of his tournament partners who really contributed very little to their partnership victory because of Schroeder's stellar performance.

The other surprising star of the night was Jim Pornovets, Sr., the 1960 West Nine Club Champion, who is now in his 80's and plays some occasional recreational golf. He de-

cided to participate in the two-man best ball tournament for a little fun and amazed everyone by making a hole-in-one on the 151-yard third hole. "Years ago," Jim said, "I could reach the green with an 8 or 9 iron; now I have to use a 3-wood." As the old saying goes, it's not how but how many and Jim's remarkable achievement will stand out as one of the highlights of the 2005 season.

With this ace, Pornovets now has the distinction of making holes-in-one on all the par three's at West Nine, having earlier in his career aced the 179-yard fifth hole and the 189-yard seventh hole.

Mike Behr won the closest-to-the-pin competition on the third hole and Howard Adler had the best tee shot on the seventh hole. Al Szumski stroked one down the middle on the second hole and watched it roll down the rock-hard fairway like it had hit the tarmac at Newark Airport to win the longest-drive contest.

Matt Ward of Patti's Construction and Chris Nuzzo of the South Plainfield Elks teamed up to win the low net prize with an eight-under 25. Seven other twosomes tied for second place and graciously voted to return their shared monetary reward to the league treasury.

Commendations were extended to outgoing League President John Cotone and to Treasurer Bob Nilan for jobs well done. Fred "Catfish" Kirchofer of Aiello Chiropractic was elected to serve as president in 2006 and Mike Behr of Patti's Construction was elected treasurer.

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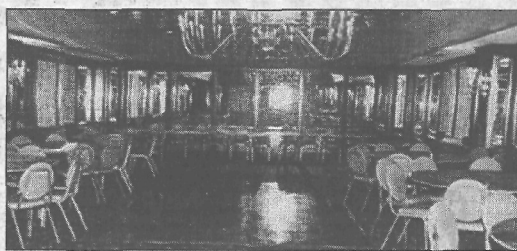
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Woman's College Basketball Evaluation

The Player's Choice will host a women's College Basketball Evaluation Showcase for high school basketball players who want to play basketball in college. The showcase is a one day event to be held on Sept. 25 starting at 8 a.m. at Kean University in Union. Additional information can be found on the Player's Choice web site www.playerschoice1.com.

If you are in the class of 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009 and want to play basketball in college, you must start to put yourself in a position to be recruited.

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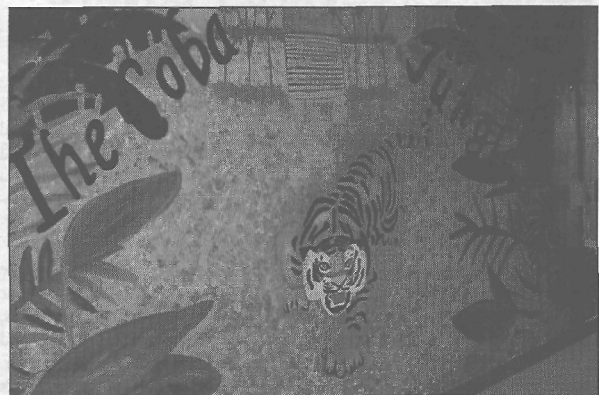
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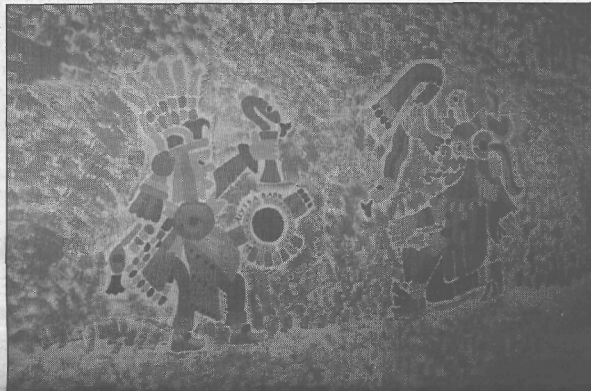
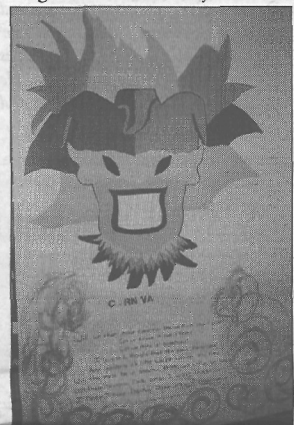
Photos by Christopher Abbott

By Patricia Abbott

This year's SPHS Senior Class project brought the students around the world as they repainted the foreign language section of a hallway that is shared with the science department. The finished product proves that the students did some serious research for their project. The detail brought from imagination to the hallway more than

suggests that the artists reveled in their findings. Artwork includes renditions of Incan, Mayan and Aztec temples, the Eiffel Tower, and Spanish dancers and colorful Spanish and French landscapes.

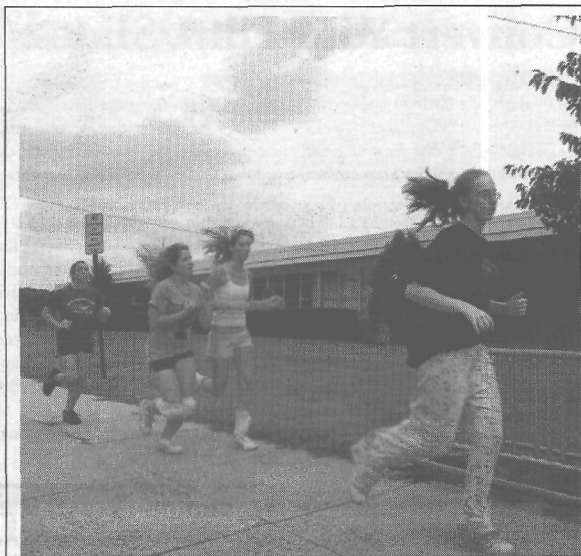
Katie Pollok said, "A large majority of the senior class really contributed ideas and time to help out with the project, which made it a huge success. Some of the artwork looks like it came straight out of a museum."



Keeping with the international theme the students outlined each classroom doorway with flags of the united nations. Gina Severini said, "Walking through the finished hallway for the first time finally made me feel like a true senior. It's amazing how fast high school passes and being able to leave our mark on the school is awesome."

The successful project was completed two weeks early. Advisors on the project were Mr. Baker and Mr. Lewis.

Artists include Katie Pollock, Eric Reiner, Gina Severini, Alyssa Babinetz, Kristina Mascolo, Charlie George, Nicole Aiello, Kazuki Daimo, Ashley Bodner, Becky Watts, Amanda Smith, Alicia Montanaro, Kaitlyn Negron, Breanne Fore, Heather Thompson, Nadine Yon, Melissa Szeliga, Gaelle Amazon, Samantha Deffler, Denise Scavone, Hamed Ahmed, Divya Sindha, Brittany Frasier, Amanda Deba, Angelique Rualo, Stephanie Troi, Jeff Seesselberg, Jimmy Conroy, Mallory Cooper, Kristen Dabric, Nick Decillis, Beverly Jamieson, Zack Gray, Kevin Siedenber and Chris Weakley.



Members of the South Plainfield High School Girls Volleyball Team get in shape for the upcoming season.

Veterans New Counseling Hotline

There is a new toll-free counseling hotline to assist all veterans and troops returning home from abroad. The state hotline, staffed 24 hours/7 days a week, can be reached at 1-866-VETS-NJ 4 U (1-866-838-7654).

"The New Jersey veteran hotline will enable all veterans to easily access a wide variety of services from peer counseling to a comprehensive health-care network," said Senator Buono (D-Middlesex). "The creation of this helpline further shows New Jersey's commitment to supporting our troops returning home and to all New Jerseyans who proudly served our community."

The hotline will give troops returning from overseas immediate assistance on various matters. The helpline will assist veterans returning from ac-

tive duty who are suffering from psychological or emotional distress, offer counseling services, as well as clinical assessments. The counseling hotline will also provide assistance to families regarding any other veteran issues.

"This 'one call fits all' measure will cut bureaucratic red tape and deliver answers and assistance to veterans in a matter of minutes," said Senator Buono. "With the leadership of Governor Codey and Maj. Gen. Glenn Rieth, New Jersey continues to improve services for all veterans."

The hotline is coordinated by University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey's University Behavioral HealthCare. Please contact Senator Buono's office at (732) 819-8141 with additional questions.

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Obituaries

Daniel M. Bruno Sr.

Daniel M. Bruno Sr. died Sunday, Aug. 28, at Ocean Medical Center in Brick.

Born in Newark, he moved to South Plainfield in 1964 and then to Iselin in 1986.

Mr. Bruno was employed with Summit Filter in Union for 57 years, retiring in January of 2005.

Daniel was preceded in death by three sisters, Antoinette, Louise, Jean and Katherine and a brother, Anthony.

Surviving are his loving wife of 57 years, Della (Lombardi) Bruno; sons Daniel Bruno Jr. of South Plainfield and Gary Bruno and his wife Patricia of Brick; his daughter Annette Yackman and her husband Nick of Mesa, Arizona; grandchildren Andrea Solowynsky, Kimberly Solowynsky, Courtney Bruno, Keith Bruno and Jenna Bruno and his sister Ann Lobue of Colonia.

Funeral services were held at South Plainfield Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Daniel's name to the American Heart Association, 2550 U.S. Highway 1, North Brunswick, NJ 08902.

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Home videos won't last forever, even if they're simply stored away and not played. Images and sound on the videos deteriorate over time due to stray magnetic fields, plus wear and tear from playing. Even changes in temperature and humidity can cause physical damage. Irreplaceable videos can become unplayable in about 10-15 years. Although still pictures last longer than videos, they too deteriorate and become discolored, torn and

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Creature Feature

By Anthony Loomis, DVM



Just as you see your doctor on a regular basis, it is important that your pets receive routine veterinary care. Preventative medicine and early detection of diseases are the keys to pet health.

Your pet should receive a thorough physical exam, from nose to tail, at least once yearly for young pets, twice yearly for senior pets. These exams will assess your pet for both normal and abnormal findings, which may indicate potential health risks or underlying disease.

The second part of a comprehensive health exam is laboratory testing. This includes fecal and urine analysis, heartworm and Lyme disease testing, as well as routine blood work. This testing is important because your pets often show no outward signs of illness until the condition is far advanced.

The last part of a comprehensive health exam is recommended preventative care. This includes routine vaccinations, monthly flea, tick and heartworm prevention, at home dental care

and dietary suggestions.

As your pet ages, more frequent checkups or additional testing may be recommended since senior dogs and cats can develop chronic health problems including arthritis, kidney, liver, and heart disease.

Your pet's health care should continue at home. Check your dog or cat for lumps, bumps, flakes, or scabs. Observe your pet's eyes and ears for clarity, discharge or odor. Monitor for any changes in your pet's eating or drinking habits.

If you have any concerns, contact your veterinarian immediately. Remember, your pets offer unconditional love and affection and become an additional member of the family. They deserve the very best health care.

Anthony Loomis, DVM grew up in Scotch Plains and attended St. Joseph's High School. He majored in Animal Health at the University of Georgia and attended Oklahoma State University for veterinary school. His special interest is exotic animal medicine and surgery. He recently moved to South Plainfield and married his wife, Michelle.

Calling All Boy Scouts

The Cub Scouts of South Plainfield will have their annual float in the Labor Day Parade. All boy scouts in town are welcome to march behind the cub scout float. Anyone interested in marching should contact Jeff Pauls at (908) 755-6133, or meet us at the Middle School on Monday morning.

Board of Education Seeking Candidates

The South Plainfield Board of Education is seeking candidates to fill the vacancy on the Board of Education created by a recent resignation. Any individuals interested in serving on the Board for the time remaining in this position, should submit a letter of application and resume to:

Mr. Steven Bohn, Acting Board President
125 Jackson Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
All applications to be received by
September 6, 2005



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Opening Day School Menu

The opening menu for South Plainfield Schools on Sept. 7 will be:

Elementary Schools

Choice of grilled cheese sandwich, hamburger on a bun, ham sub, fun bag; asst. cereal with soft baked pretzel, juice and milk, choice of two sides.

Grant School

Choice of grilled cheese sandwich, chicken patty on a bun, ham sub, French bread pizza and choice of 2 sides.

Middle School & High School

Choice of grilled cheese sandwich, hamburger or chicken patty on a bun, cheese or pepperoni pizza, choice of deli sandwiches and choice of two sides.

All lunches include choice of milk. Peanut butter and jelly sandwich available daily.

New lunch prices elementary \$1.85, middle and Grant schools \$2, high school \$2.25. Milk \$.45.

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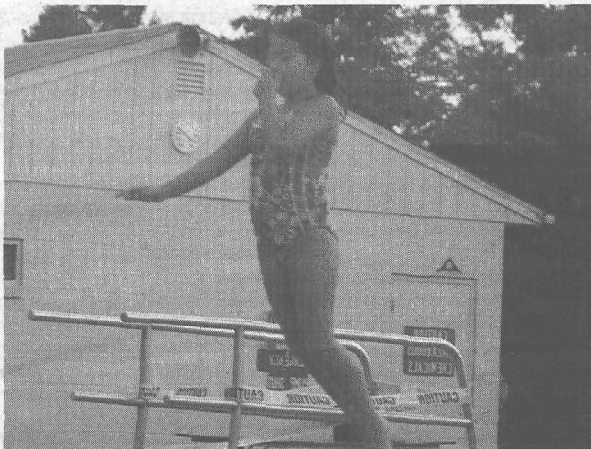
Borough of South Plainfield's official web site at
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Visit your community web site for the latest local news on

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- Recreation
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- Senior Corner
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- Community Bulletin Board
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- Election Results and more

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For rates or information email at: southplainfieldnj.com
Or call 908-226-7656

Tiger Swim Teams Celebrate Their Great Season



Story/photos by Patricia Abbott

Timing is everything, and it was 'party time' at the South Plainfield Community Pool. Weather wise they just missed those hot summer nights with outrageous temperatures ranging in the high 90s. The evening was on the cool side and toes dipped into the water brought squeals of "It's cold!"

The annual Tiger Sharks swim, dive teams' and life guard picnic at the pool became a community event as members joined in the celebration. There was a slow start, but eventually more guests chanced the chilly swim. As the sun set the crowd moved from the water and comfort of lawn chairs to the chow line where they dined on pizza, subs and cold drinks. Over 150 people attended the evening party.



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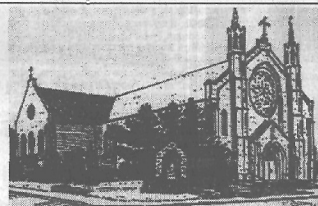
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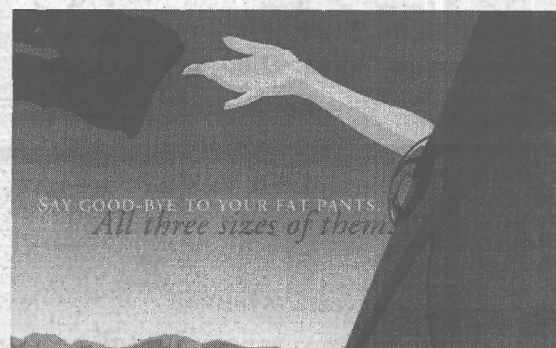
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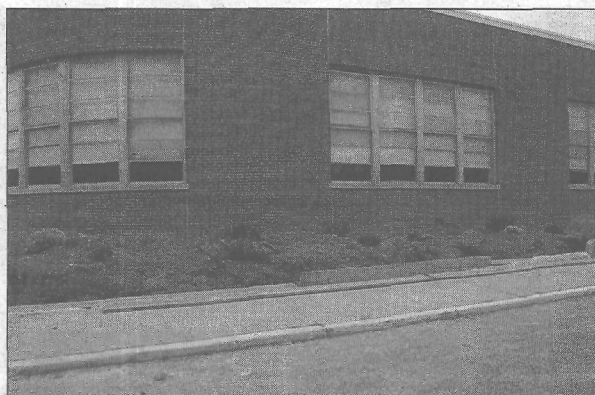
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Steve Novak Plans Many Improvements at Middle School



Landscaping work in progress at the South Plainfield Middle School.

(Continued from page 1)

students and staff were completely revised and describe higher expectations in areas such as academics. Beginning Oct. 3, the Middle School will provide morning classes for GEPA math prep. The classes will run from 7:15-8 a.m. through March. New to the school are the AM GEPA prep classes for Language Arts. These will run mornings a month prior to the tests. In order to improve GEPA scores, Novak held a one-week seminar with about 25 teachers in attendance. They

worked on team teaching and curriculum. Novak noted that the input he and Panuzzo garnered from the staff was very helpful. He said, "We learned a lot from each other. Improving the GEPA scores is everyone's responsibility, not just math and language arts teachers. I am not their boss; we will work together so these children can succeed in high school and their entire lives. Study skills must be mastered in junior high, especially in math. Cooperation has been outstanding, this is a great faculty!" Novak said, "I am

also blessed with wonderful secretaries, Linda Gianakas and Joanne Plate." Long-time Middle School secretary Grace Decillis will retire the end of August.

The Middle School's team teaching will continue. The successful program consists of three teams for each grade. Each team has four teachers—language arts, reading, social studies and science—who work together on a common preparation for tests, quizzes and projects. There are approximately 100 students per team. They will compete during the course of the year, and the team with the highest GPA will be awarded a prize. Novak noted there will be incentives for best attendance each marking period.

The list of goals doesn't end with academics. There will be more emphasis on classroom management and improved behavior. Students will be expected to respect everyone; there will be zero tolerance to violations. The dress code will be enforced. Novak said, "This is not the beach!" There is a section in the student handbook that details the dress code—what is acceptable and what is not acceptable. Parents will be asked to review the book with their children and sign a form noting that they have done so. There will be a t-shirt available for students to wear for the first violation. Parents will be notified. If there is a second violation, the parents will have to pick up their child from school.

Novak will handle discipline of eighth grade students and Panuzzo will handle seventh grade. They plan to use in school suspension, out of school suspension, and may institute an AM detention. New walkie-talkies will help maintain better control of all activities such as outdoor gym classes and hallways. Novak has created a fifth "A" attendance. All students will be expected to arrive at 8 a.m. prepared to start the school day. The Middle School will resume the tradition of an eighth grade trip to Washington, DC and Baltimore. Academics and behavior will determine which students will be permitted to take the trip.

Students will be issued ID cards on the first day of school. The card will have last year's photo and their student ID number, which will follow them throughout middle and high school. The card will have a barcode and can be used to check out library books. Cards with new photos will be taken in the fall.

Improvements include new computers in the computer lab and information center. The new librarian is Wendy Su. The library will be open all day and after school. Looking to the future, Novak hopes to see new lockers, better lighting throughout the school, and air conditioning and heating improvements by 2007-2008 school year.

Novak had a hand in preparing the building for the new school year and said, "I never knew a principal's job included pruning trees, painting hallways, feeding fish and cleaning a custodian closet!"

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Young Cancer Survivor Opens Her Heart

(Continued from page 1)

Robert Wood Johnson Hospital in New Brunswick two years ago. Cancer free now, Laura is committed to helping other children. Last year she sold toys at her grandmother's garage sale and set up a lemonade stand.

Laura is one of the lucky ones, since her cancer was found early and she had a great doctor, Margaret Masterson. Her mother, Pat, said that she may be only eight, but she had handled her ordeal like a champ. When you first see her, you can't help but notice her beautiful smile and carefree attitude. She seems well adjusted and acts just like an eight-year-old, but he has an amazing maturity in her actions to others.

Earlier this year when she received her First Communion, Laura received plenty of gifts and cards with money. She could have bought lots of toys and games or even put it in the bank, but she made the decision to help other kids who were not as lucky as she was and are still undergoing cancer treatment. Laura decided to donate her First Communion money, \$1,200, to the Open Your Heart To Children Battling Cancer Foundation, Inc.—quite a generous and mature act for an eight-year-old. She is setting an example for all to look beyond their problems and help others in need. (See related story on page 17.)

For more information about Century 21 Moretti Realty or the Open Your Heart To Children Battling Cancer Foundation, Inc., call (908) 755-5300 or stop by their booth at the PAL field Monday, Sept. 5 after the Labor Day parade. For donations to the foundation, mail to Open Your Heart To Children Battling Cancer Foundation, c/o Century 21 Moretti Realty, 225 Maple Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

IN YOUR OPINION

(Continued from page 2)

We're getting closer every day, but each day costs money. Your donations get us closer and closer to our ultimate goal.

So, once again, I'm asking for your help to fight this crippling disease.

Please help sponsor the members of TEAM TAMBO as we ride over 100 miles through Northern New Jersey in "The 18th Annual MS100 Bike Tour."

Our team goal this year is to raise \$12,000. Together, we can make a difference.

Just send a check payable to the

National Multiple Sclerosis Society for whatever you can afford, by Sept. 16, and be added to our list of "official sponsors." Mail the check to Cornerstone Architectural Group, 202 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

PS-If you think you would like to join "Team Tambo" and ride with us, please give me a call. We're always looking for new team members.

Thanks for your support.
VITO TAMBORRINO, JR., ROBERT LONGO, PATRICK FUCCI, KRISTINE ROVELL, ALYSSA TAMBORRINO and RICHARD SCOTT.

Journey Through Grief Bereavement Series Offered

Center for Hope Hospice & Palliative Care will offer a four-week lecture series titled "Journey Through Grief" each Tuesday, Sept. 20 through Oct. 11 from 7 to 9 p.m. This non-denominational lecture series is designed to assist those adults who have experienced the death of a loved one. It will be held at the Center For Hope's Administrative & Information Center on

Raritan Rd. in Scotch Plains. The series is open to the public.

Pre-registration is not required and there is no cost for participants. Guests are invited to bring family members and friends. Refreshments and fellowship will follow each session.

For further information or directions, call Center For Hope Hospice & Palliative Care at (908) 889-7780.

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| Sept. 7 | Atlantic City Trip to Taj Mahal | 9 a.m. | \$15 |
| Sept. 8 | Medicare Update Program | 1 p.m. | |
| Sept. 15 | Atlantic City trip to Claridge | 9 a.m. | \$15 |
| Sept. 21-22 | Lancaster, PA trip | 8 a.m. | \$179 |
| Oct. 5 | Atlantic City trip to Taj Mahal | 9 a.m. | \$15 |
| Oct. 10 | Senior Center Closed-Columbus Day | | |
| Oct. 15 | Country Hoedown Dinner Dance | 6 p.m. | \$10 |
| Oct. 17 | Hunterdon Hills Playhouse | 10 a.m. | \$60 |
| Oct. 20 | Atlantic City trip to Claridge | 9 a.m. | \$15 |
| Oct. 24 | Program on Medicare's New Prescription Drug Plan, Part D | 1 p.m. | |
| Oct. 30 | Historical Society's "History Day" | | |
| Oct. 31-Nov. 4 | Woodloch Pines trip | | |
| Nov. 2 | Atlantic City trip to Taj Mahal | 9 a.m. | \$15 |
| Nov. 11 | Senior Center Closed-Veteran's Day | | |
| Nov. 14 | Program on Alzheimer's and Dementia | 1 p.m. | |
| Nov. 17 | Atlantic City trip to Taj Mahal | 9 a.m. | \$15 |
| Nov. 19 | Thanksgiving Dinner Dance | 6 p.m. | \$10 |
| Nov. 24 & 25 | Center closed for Thanksgiving | | |
| Dec. 7 | Atlantic City trip to Taj Mahal | 9 a.m. | \$15 |
| Dec. 15 | Hunterdon Hills Christmas Show | 10 a.m. | \$58 |
| Dec. 21 | Christmas Luncheon | noon | \$7 |
| Dec. 26 | Senior Center Closed for Christmas | | |

Vendor Night- Benefiting Open Your Heart to Children Battling Cancer, Thursday Nov. 10 at the South Plainfield Senior Center from 6-9:30 pm. Local vendors wanted—please contact Karen Cammarata at (908) 755-5300 x332.

Annual Golf Outing to Benefit Center For Hope Hospice & Palliative Care

Monday, Sept. 12, marks the 19th annual golf outing to benefit the Center For Hope Hospice & Palliative Care. Over the past 19 years, the golf outing, which is our largest fundraiser, has raised over \$2 million. This money is utilized to provide services from our physician, nurses, home health aides, social workers, counselors and volunteers to thousands of terminally ill patients and their loved ones.

We urge you to register early as the spots fill up quickly. All sponsors and contributors will receive recognition in the program and a sign will be displayed at the outing with their name. The cost is \$150 per person, which includes 18 holes of golf with a cart, breakfast, lunch, cocktail hour and dinner at the Roselle Golf Club. For those who wish to attend the cocktail hour and dinner, the cost is \$60 per person. Fabulous gifts and raffle prizes abound during this fun-filled evening.

The Center For Hope Hospice & Palliative Care is one of the oldest and largest freestanding, nonprofit hospice organizations in the state and has earned a reputation for providing qual-

ity care since 1982. Hospice, a medically directed program of care for the terminally ill, provides physical, emotional and spiritual support to individuals with life-limiting illnesses and their families. The center has also expanded our services beyond the needs of individuals with a six month prognosis. One of our newest programs is Palliative Care in which we provide

comfort care and symptom relief for people with an extended prognosis. This enables us to partner earlier with patients and their families during one of life's most difficult journeys.

Whether you are a golfer or not, please join us to show your support. For sponsorship possibilities and more information, call Larry Reagan at (732) 244-1044.

Families Needed to Share America With Exchange Students!

American freedom and democracy are a part of our everyday lives and something that we often take for granted. Have you ever thought about sharing with the rest of the world what makes America so special? You can by hosting a teen from one of more than 30 countries for the upcoming school year or semester. Michigan Families are still needed to host students who will study at local high schools for a semester or school year. Families of all types are eligible to host: those with young children or teens or families with no children at home. They are expected to treat their exchange students as fam-

ily members.

The students, all between the ages of 15 and 18, are participating in the Share! High School Exchange Program to learn first hand about Americans and our way of life.

The SHARE! Program is sponsored by Educational Resource Development Trust (ERDT), a non-profit educational foundation, celebrating 30 years of experience in cultural exchange.

Families who are interested in hosting or obtaining more information should call the ERDT National Office tollfree at 1-800-321-3738.

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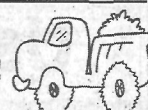
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Grant Writing Workshop

The Grant Institute's Grants 101: Professional Grant Proposal Writing Workshop will be held at Rutgers University, Oct. 5 to 7. Interested development professionals, researchers, faculty, and graduate students should register as soon as possible, as demand means that seats will fill up quickly.

The Grant Institute's Grants 101 Course is an intensive and detailed introduction to the process, structure, and skill of professional proposal writing. This course is characterized by its ability to act as a thorough overview, introduction, and refresher at the same time. In this course, participants will learn the entire proposal writing process.

and complete the course with a solid understanding of not only the ideal proposal structure, but a holistic understanding of the essential factors, which determine whether or not a program gets funded. Through the completion of interactive exercises and activities, participants will complement expert lectures by putting proven techniques into practice. This course is designed for both the beginner looking for a thorough introduction and the intermediate looking for a refresher course that will strengthen their grant acquisition skills. This class, simply put, is designed to get results by creating professional grant proposal writers.

Participants will become competent program planning and proposal writing professionals after successful completion of the Grants 101 course. In three active and informative days, students will be exposed to the art of successful grant writing practices, and led on a journey that ends with a masterful grant proposal.

All participants will receive certification in professional grant writing from the Institute. For more information call (888) 824-4424 or visit The Grant Institute website at www.the-grantinstitute.com.



Center, Chris Baron, Best Lead Actor in a Musical nominee.

SDW's "Pirates" Nominated for Seven Perry Awards

Story/photo Patricia Abbott

The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop is proud to announce that their 2004 production of *The Pirates of Penzance* has received seven nominations for the prestigious 2005 Perry Awards. Nominees are: Best Lead Actor in a Musical, Chris Baron; Best Sound, Joy Moore; Best Costuming, Dianne Sesselberg, Janis Neitzer, Harriet Sideck, Janet Panella and LouAnne Severini; Best Choreography of a musical, Patti O'Brien; Best Musical Direction, Wayne

Mallette, Paul McCullen; Best Direction of a Musical, Eric Hafen and Best Production of a Musical, Bill Mott.

The nominations are based on 248 plays reviewed. According to the New Jersey Association of Community Theaters Committee website, two members of the NJACT nomination committee attend two different performances to evaluate the show. The information from the two evaluation forms are compiled and averaged. At the end of the NJACT season the highest scores determine the seven nominees. The winners will be announced on Sept. 18.

Red Cross Offers Cpr Courses

The Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross is offering the following CPR courses:

- **Adult CPR, Child CPR, Infant CPR and First Aid** will be held on Saturday, Sept. 10 from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. The course will be held at the American Red Cross office at 16 Jefferson Ave. in Elizabeth. Some or all portions of the course may be taken.

- **Adult CPR, Child CPR, Infant CPR and First Aid** will be held on Saturday, Sept. 24 from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. The course will be held at the American Red Cross office at 332 W. Front St. in Plainfield.

- **Adult CPR, AED, and Standard First Aid** will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 13 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The course will be held at the American Red Cross office at 332 W. Front St. in Plainfield.

- **CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer** will be held on Saturday, Sept. 17 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The course will be held at the American Red Cross office at 332 W. Front St. Call (908) 756-6414 ext. 10 to register or for more information.

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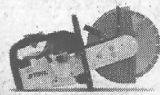
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