South Plainfield 1 hour hack 3 2 at a.m.

VOL. 9, NO. 9

50 CENTS

OCTOBER 28, 2005



Antoinette Muglia poses by her dad's car at the family home on Hillside Avenue, c. 1935. The home was previously owned by Sgt. Henry Brantingham, who was killed during the Civil War.

—Photo courtesy of Tony Bengivenga

Third Town History Day Sunday

Residents are invited to attend the Third Annual Town History Day sponsored by the South Plainfield Historical Society this Sunday, Oct. 30 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the senior center.

Last year's event was a huge

success and this year is shaping up to be even bigger. Guests will be able to step back in time display of photos and vintage

and review the history of our town through an impressive clothing, memorabilia and

GET SCARED SILLY AT HAUNTED Woods

Order tickets now! 908-756-8011

Join investigators Lewis and Clark for a frighteningly fun Halloween show and have fun being scared silly.

The Putnam Park tour kicks off Thursday with a twilight tour at about 6:15 p.m.

Tickets for adults are \$6 and children accompanied by an adult are \$4.

For advance tickets and info, call (908) 756-8011.

There will be two guest speakers: Governor Wm. Livingston, who was New Jersey's first governor (courtesy of the American Historical Theatre) and Dr. Richard Veit. archaeologist/historian from Monmouth University. Custer Camp #17 Son of Union Veterans will set up an impressive display of Civil War memorabilia and Ioe Nicastro has a lineup of vintage cars for

The society's latest publications, "Looking Back at South Plainfield," Vol. 1 and Vol. 2 of the Oral History transcriptions and the 2006 Keepsake Calendar will be available for purchase

Tell your friends and family. Stop by and enjoy the sights and sounds. There will also be refreshments and entertain-

Everyone is guaranteed to enjoy an afternoon looking back at South Plainfield's past.

SPPD Promotes One, **Welcomes New Hire**

Swearing in ceremonies were held during last week's council meeting promoting South Plainfield Police Officer Wayne Diana to sergeant and appointing Michael Grasse as the newest member of the

The council chambers were filled to capacity for the cer-emonies, with dignitaries, family, friends and fellow officers all on hand to show their

support.
Former police chiefs Bob and Steven Merkler, and former Deputy Chief Tulio Cap-parelli. South Plainfield High School Principal Dr. Ken May also attended the ceremonies

Diana is a 24-year veteran of law enforcement. He joined the South Plainfield Police Department in 1981. In 1989, he temporarily left the department and was employed as an investigator with the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Officer. He returned to South Plainfield in 1980.

During his career, Diana has received several Letters of Commendation, three Exceptional Duty metals, a Medal of Honor, an Honorable Service medal and numerous letters of thanks from citizens. He was one of the first canine officers in the department. He is currently a member of the South Plainfield Police Honor Guard and is a field training officer. Diana volunteered his services at the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001 to assist in the ch for survivor

He was named Officer of the Year in 2003 by the VFW and was honored by the Middlesex County 200 Club at their an-



Councilwoman Kathy Thomas swears in Wayne Diana as sergeant. They are joined by Diana's wife, Janice, and children Christopher, Stacey and Lauren.



Councilman Dennis Cerami swears in Michael Grasso as a South Plainfield Police Officer as brother Antonio, and father Antonio look on.

nual Valor Awards Banquet held in April of 2004.

Diana, a lifelong resident of South Plainfield, graduated from South Plainfield High School in 1976. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1976 to 1979. He holds an Associates Degree in Public and Social Service. He and his wife, Janice, have three children, Christopher, Stacey and Lauren.

Michael Grasso has been a police officer in Carterer since 2004. He is transferring to South Plainfield through the Inter-Governmental Transfer Program. Grasso, 23, is a resident of South Plainfield. He graduated from South Plainfield High School in 2000 and attended Kean University for two years,

majoring in Business and has earned an associate degree. He speaks fluent Spanish. He joined the Plainfield Police Department in 2004 and transferred to Carteret as a result of department layoffs. Michael joins one of the many brother teams in the police department. His brother, Antonio, is currently a South Plainfield police officer.

Hiring an officer who trans-fers from another department is beneficial to South Plainfield because the officer is available for full duty in a short period of time, as opposed to hiring an individual who has to at-tend the Police Academy for six months and then begins training. There is also a cost savings associated with hiring a transferred officer.

UPDATE..... Borough Construction

Construction continues on Hamilton Blvd. between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. At the present time, the work is being done along Hamilton Blvd., where PSE&G is installing a persurger line. new gas line.
American Water Co.

working along Hamilton Blvd. between 7 p.m. and 5 a.m. Construction on Church St. is completed and the roadway is reopened.

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 logon to the borough website, <u>www.south-</u> plainfieldnj.com.

Resident Charged in Murder also charged Cibelli

By Jane Dornick

South Plainfield resident Paul Cibelli, 42, of 171 Robert Pl. was charged last Friday with murder in the strangula-tion death of his 35 year-old live-in girlfriend, Tania Silva, in the home they shared

with Cibelli's father.

Silva was reported missing on Oct. 7 by her friend, Fernando Barrientos, who had come to help her move out because the couple was not getting along. The Middlesex County Prosecutor's office



Paul Cibelli

prehension by stuffing Silva's body into a large trash bag, driving to Philadelphia and dumping it in a recycling container. Her body was found on Oct. 11 when workers

opened the bag. The victim had a bag over her head and her hands had been tied behind her back with duct tape. Police were able to link Cibelli to the crime through evidence found on the body and in the home where she was last seen alive.

Divorce papers filed by

Cibelli's ex-wife, Michelle, who is currently residing in South Jersey, showed that the suspect had been accused of violent acts during their 20 year marriage, including hitting her, putting his hands around her neck and threaten-

ing her at gunpoint.
Cibelli is currently being held in an Ulster County, NY jail on \$750,000 bail and is charged with criminal mischief for spreading feces on the walls of a motel in New Paltz shortly after Silva's disappearance Middlesex County prosecu-tors will go before a grand jury within the next six weeks seeking an indictment and to extradite him to New Jersey.

Mayor Sets Hours for Trick-or-Treat/Mischief Night Mayor Gallagher has issued hours for Halloween "Trick-or-Treating," on Monday, Oct. 31. Trick-or-treat activities will be conducted between 3 and 7 p.m. Young children should be accompanied by a parent or other responsible adult. Households can indicate their willingness to welcome children by keeping their porch or exterior lights on. Youngsters should only call on homes with their lights on. A curfew of 7 p.m. has been set for Mischief Night,

Sunday, Oct. 30.

To the Editor

We would like to extend a big thank you to the board and members of the South Plainfield High School Athletic Booster Club for all their extensive de voted work to the children and coaches of South Plainfield.

For over 25 years, the Booster Club has been committed to enhancing the athletic programs at South Plainfield High School. It is a non-profit organization which raises money and promotes team spirit for all sports. They supply equipment and other items reested by the coaches which are above and beyond athletic budget. Over the past several years, we have raised thou-sands of dollars with various fundraisers such as our sports auction, art auction, Joint ventures with the PBA. 50-50 ajd selling South Plainfield High School clothing promoting teams. The snack stand food and drink items are purchased weekly by our booster club members Chet Czaplinski, Connie Besser and Mickey Wrublevski with the fundraising monies obtained by the Booster Club. The indoor snack stand is replenished in the same manner.

The Booster Club Sports Auction

will be held on Saturday, Nov. 19 at the high school. These baskets are obtained through donations made by booster club members and various businesses, which all go towards the sup-port of our athletes in the high school Please come out and support your chil-dren and the athletes of our high school, and enjoy a fun-filled evening. Tickets are on sale now. Look for our

posters in shops near you.

DEBBIE BOYLE, SP HIGH SCHOOL **BOOSTER CLUB TRUSTEE**

To the Editor, A Plainfield Municipal Court clerk made an error. She did not enter a no guilty plea on two traffic tickets I was a week earlier.

While driving through South Plain-field, I was stopped by a police officer, asked to get out of the car, handcuffed and taken to the South Plainfield Police Department. There I was processed and a picture of me and other information was taken and filed. After paying \$150, I was released.

The next day I contacted Plainfield Municipal Court Administrator, Marylene Sheppard. She reviewed the case

WAYNE GRENNIER Associate Publisher

SUSAN KANEPS Art Director/Associate Editor

PATRICIA ABBOTT

and determined that a warrant was erroneously issued for my arrest. She wrote me a letter of apology.

I then contacted South Plainfield Municipal Court Administrator Patricia Vargo and Chief of Police John Ferraro. Ms. Vargo said that the court had no authority to remove records kept by the South Plainfield Police, even if false. Chief Ferraro, after an investigation, determined that he could not do anything, but to include the letter of apology issued by Mrs. Sheppard in the false criminal file.

I then contacted the mayor of South Plainfield, Dan Gallagher. He spoke with Mrs. Vargo and Mr. Ferraro and offered the same solutions they had with the advice, get an attorney. I can-

not afford a lawyer.

I do not know about Ms. Vargo, Chief Ferraro and Mayor Gallagher, but I can recognize an injustice when I see it, especially if I am the victim of it. Mr. Gallagher is right when he says that the South Plainfield Police acted because of the warrant issued by Plainfield Police. But it is also right that this warrant was issued erroneously. This error does not justify the injustice of keeping a false criminal record of a person that has not committed any crime and has never been arrested.

So it is fair to ask the authorities of South Plainfield, in what way keeping false criminal records of individuals are the citizens of South Plainfield served? Why is it so vital to keep false criminal records of law abiding individuals? Whose interests is this policy of injustice serving? What am I going to say, if during a job interview, I am asked if ever been arrested? I am to lie and say no? Answer yes, but with an explana-

I understand that our civil liberties are being eroded with the reintroduc-tion of the Patriot Act, but the authorities of South Plainfield must have it clear. This is not Nazi Germany and keeping false criminal records of law abiding individuals is not a policy that merits endorsement by anyone, especially our municipal justice system.

I publicly implore the authorities in South Plainfield to have the courage and morality to correct this injustice. The interests of South Plainfield's citizens are not being served by keeping false criminal records of law abiding individuals.
NORMAN E. ORTEGA

Dear Editor

Over the past few years you have published dozens of pictures and articles which I have submitted to the Observer: Whether it be Tiger Shark Swimming, Junior Baseball, Ponytail Softball or JCC Swimming, the Observer has never been too busy to pub lish pictures and stories of South Plainfield's kids. I want to personally thank you for your support. The Observer is truly a hometown paper.

THANK YOU GLENN F. CULLEN

To the Editor.

It never ceases to amaze me how the election season progresses each year. The second year I ran for council against Bob Cusick and Ray Petronko, the new library idea was introduced. Here it is – three years later – and it is still in the planning stages. The Republicans have introduced a plan to establish a foundation to raise funds for the library. That sounds like a concrete plan - and then last week in the Observer, I see where there was a letter written stating that Kathy Thomas has started a foundation. Yet, I haven't heard of it before this. What is the name, what is the mission statement, what fund raisers have been held? Also, there was a beautiful artists rendering of the building in the paper a few weeks ago. Has anyone taken a good look at that property where the new library will be built? I cannot imagine that the lot that is proposed for the library will accommodate a building of that size. The parking area that is designated for the building is also not sufficient.

Also, in this past week's paper, the Democrats have started taking pot shots at the Republican candidates. Rob Bengivenga is not a local developer. Rob is a business and property manager and he just received his real estate license. He is not the one building McMansions and mega condos and apartment complexes here in town. His father is a builder, however, he has only built single family homes here and there on normal size lots.

A few weeks ago, the Republicans introduced a plan for a senior volun-teer corps to assist the senior citizens

Submit Letters to the Editor:

Please be advised that the Observe will no longer publish anonymous letters. Any letter received without identification will be discarded.

Letters may be submitted to the Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or fax 908-668-8819 or by email: spobse to lax 300-000-919 to by entails spubserverigeconfeat.net. Deadline is Monday. 5 p.m. Letters must be accompanied by a name and telephone number for verification. Limit letters to no more than 400 for verification. Limit letters to no more than 400 words. We reserve the right to refuse a letter, to edit for clarity or length, and to limit the number of letters submitted on the same subject. Please note: This is the last opportunity for readers to submit political letters regarding the November 8 election. any political letters published next week will only be responses to previously published letters. Negative letter will not be accepted. Deadline for submission is Monday, 5 p.m. No exceptions.

here in town. Then, this past week, at the council meeting, the Democrats introduced the very same idea – and gave no credit to the Republicans for the idea. The very same thing happened a few years back – the first year I ran for council. The traffic problem was discussed, and one of my ideas at the time was a traffic signal at St. Nicholas Ave. Guess what? Now it is being implemented! I guess the Democrats don't want to give credit where credit is due. The whole idea of a two party system is to bounce ideas around and come up with good ones. Well, over the last several years, the Republicans have come up with good ideas that the Democrats seem to like and are using.

I would hope that the community will see what has been happening here in town over the last several years. If anyone has ever attended a council meeting (and there are only a few in attendance each time), you will see that there is very little discussion that takes place. Everything is voted through with yes votes all around. The two party system works and we need healthy discussion of issues that concern all of the residents of South Plainfield. I hope you will join me in voting for Matt Anesh

and Rob Bengivenga on Nov. 8.

Oh, by the way – this Marge Reedy has not moved to Hillsborough – I am still here in South Plainfield and have no immediate plans to move out.

MARGE REEDY

Dear Editor,

The people of the 18th Legislative District, and especially the residents of South Plainfield, have an excellent opportunity this year to ensure that they continue to have their voices heard in Trenton.

Patrick Diegnan listens and responds to the concerns of his constituents. He uses his intelligence and compassion to legislate what is right for the people of his district and all of New Jersey.

Patrick has done a great job as our Assemblyman sponsoring over 200 bills in the Assembly and serving on the Judiciary Committee, the Educa-tion Committee, the Tourism and Gaming Committee and the Joint Committee on Public Schools.

Patrick also has done a great job securing state aid for his constituents. Over the last four years, over \$50 million in state aid has come to the residents of the 18th district. That is more than double what was received in any prior four-year period. It is refreshing to have a representative at the state level that remembers that he is not just making policy decisions, but decisions that affect people's daily lives.

Please join me in voting to re-elect

Patrick Diegnan to the State Assembly. **BILL THOMAS**

Dear Editor,

In last week's paper, Demcorats Kubala and Thomas, in the most irresponsible manner, charged their oppo-

(Continued on page 6)

South Plainfield Observer

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in the South Plainfield Observer:

Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.

Mail, fax or drop it at: South Plainfield Observer, Editorial Department, 1110

Hamilton Blvd., Suite 18, 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 clarify 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.

Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave. South Plainfield, NJ

Rev. John Paul

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 10-11:30 a.m. and by appointment

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 p.m. Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m

Weekdays Tues., Wed., Fri., Sat. 9 am; Mon. and Thurs. 7 p.m Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m. Holy Days 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m. and 7 p.m.



There's a New Lawyer in Town



Don't miss this opportunity to reach every homeowner in South Plainfield!

The South Plainfield ObserverDecember 2 issue will be mailed to every home in South Plainfield. Reserve your space now. 908-668-0010





SPHS Principal Dr. Ken May presents senior Krystal Williams with her certificate of recognition in the National Achievement Scholarship Program.

SPHS Senior Earns National Achievement Scholarship Honor

nior at South Plainfield High School was selected from among 3,000 out-standing National Achievement Scholarship Program participants being referred to US colleges and universities. She scored in the top five percent of more than 130,000 Black Americans who requested consideration in the 2006 National Achievement Program when they took the 2004 preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. She received a certificate in recognition of her potential for academic success in college.

The National Achievement Scholarship Program was initiated in 1965 specifically to honor academically promising Black American high school students. The annual scholarship competition is conducted by National Merit Scholarship Corp., which also conducts the National Merit Scholarship Program which is open to all US high school students.

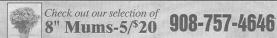
Krystal is the vice president of the

Student Council, a member of the Peer Leadership Club and a member of the National Honor Society and Spanish National Honor Society. She has been a member of the Girl's Varsity Track Team for four years and is currently captain and is a member of the Missionary Society at Rose of Sharon Church in Plainfield. The South Plainfield VFW awarded her a Certificate of Merit in 2004 and the same year she received the Middlesex County Student Recognition Award. Krystal received academic recognition in the Who's Who Among American High School Students, the National Honor Roll and National Society of High School Scholars. She is in the top 10 percent of her class and maintains a current GPA of 4.06.





Up to 50% Off Selected Trees/Plants, Roses, All Perennials, All Vines, Butterfly Bush, Selected Fertilizers



Calling All Student Writers!

Observer, Hometown Heros Resume Junior Iournalist Contest

The South Plainfield Observer and Hometown Heros will once again cosponsor "The Junior Journalist Corner." Last year's weekly writing program was very successful; the Observer published 26 essays, poems and stories by students throughout the district. The program encourages students to write and then rewards writers for their efforts.

At the end of the year, winners and their families were recognized at a banquet courtesy of Hometown Heros. The smiles of the students and their proud parents were all of the encouragement needed to repeat the program again this school year.

The rules are the same as last year: students should submit their original poetry, articles, opinion pieces or

essays to their English teachers.

Teachers have agreed to help with and to submit the students' original works to Hometown Heros and the Observer. After judging students' works, a winner will be selected, and his or her article will be published in the *Observer* each week along with a byline and their picture. Watch upcoming issues for winners and published works.

Winners will receive a catered dinner for their families from Hometown Heros, which will be delivered to their homes

At the end of the school year, winning students and their parents will be treated to a banquet and each will receive a certificate of achievement for their journalistic efforts.

All students are encouraged to submit their entries to teachers. Every school has been notified about the rules on submissions. If you would like the name of your school contact, call the Observer at (908) 668-0010, or stop by Hometown Heros, located at 340 Hamilton Blvd. or call them at (908) 755-4376.



The Pushcart Players with students from Sacred Heart.

Pushcart Players Perform At Sacred Heart School

The Pushcart Players Repartory Theatre for Children performed Wow! What a Century! to the delight of the students and faculty of Sacred Heart School recently.

The program is a memory piece spanning the last century, and its narrator talks of his family's experience during that time and the pertinent events that took place during each gen-

The Pushcart Players cleverly use props and songs to move from generation to generation, covering numerous important events, inventions and people who made history during the last century.

The show was well received; students and teachers gave the group a standing ovation at the conclusion of their program. Students were given the opportunity to ask questions of the actors afterwards.

Wow! What A Century? was written and directed by Ruth Frost. Players were Eric Aschenbrenner, Terrence Burnett, Tricia Burr, Stephanie Carr, Mandy Feiler and Jim Raposa.

Residents Invited to **Putnam Park Rededication**

The South Plainfield Recreation Department is happy to announce that the rededication of Putnam Park will take place on Sunday, Oct. 30, at 2 p.m. Phase two of the project is now complete.

New fitness stations, new tennis courts, resurfaced basketball and handball courts, and a new comfort station have been installed in the park. We ask all residents to come out and help us rededicate this beautiful park.

-Mike English, Director of Recreation

Do You Have HIGH BLOOD SUGAR?

Anderson & Collins Clinical Research, Inc. is currently seeking volunteers to participate in a 6 month research trial to determine if an investigational weight loss medication also helps to lower high blood sugar. If you are at least 18 years old, have high blood sugar and use diet and exercise to try and control your sugar, you may qualify.

If you qualify, study related lab work, dietician visits, and study-related health care will be provided at no cost. Compensation will be provided for time and travel.

For more information on this trial please call Irene at:

Anderson & Collins Clinical Research, Inc. 1 Ethel Road, Suite 106B Edison, NJ 08817 732-650-9165 or 732-287-5130 www.accrinc.com

Also recruiting for:

HIGH CHOLESTEROL • INSOMNIA LOW BACK PAIN ARTHRITIS OF THE KNEE OR HIP

Around Town

Kennedy School Trunk-R-Treating

Friday, Oct. 28

Kennedy School PTSO is hosting a Trunk-R-Treating fundraiser on Friday, Oct. 28 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the school parking lot. Families can decorate the trunk of their vehicles and win prizes from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Children can trick-or-treat in their costumes from trunk to trunk from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and visit the "haunted school." Admission is \$10 per family. Food and drinks will be sold. There will also be games, raffles, a 50/50, pictures and crafts. In the event of inclement weather, the event will be held indoors.

SP Town History Day October 30

The Third Annual South Plainfield Town History Day will be held on Sunday, Oct. 30 from 1-4 p.m. at the South Plainfield Senior Center, on Maple Ave. Admission is free.

For more information, contact Dorothy Miele at (908) 754-3073 or Kathy Horvath at (908) 754-7268.

Columbiettes Plan Trip to Reading

November 5

The Columbiettes will sponsor a trip to the outlets at Vanity Fair in Reading, Pa. Saturday, Nov. 5. Bus leaves the Knights of Columbus Hall on Hamilton Blvd. at 7:45 a.m. and returns approximately 7 p.m.

Cost of \$25 includes the bus, driver's tip, coupon book, shopping bag and lunch voucher. A stop will be made at the Cracker Barrel on the return trip..

For reservations call Karhy at (908) 756-3772. Space is limited.

VFW Breakfast

November 6

The VFW, located on Front St., will be holding a breakfast on Sunday, Nov. 6 from 8 to 11 a.m. The public is invited. Proceeds to benefit Lyons VA

Open Your Heart Vendor Night

November 19

A vendor night benefiting Open Your Heart to Children Battling Can-cer will be held on Thursday, Nov. 10 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Senior Center on Maple Ave.

Come enjoy a night of holiday shopping. There will be two, six-foot subs, baked ziti, meatball, sausage and eggplant sandwiches, drinks and various

What's happening in

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

Senior Center FVFNTS

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	
EVENTS	Historical Society's 3 History Day Sur Woodloch Pines I Oct. 31-Nov. 4 Info	nday 1-4 pm Pocono Resort	Weekly Shopping 27 Pathmark 9am Exercise Class 1:15pm Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11am & 1pm	Bingo 10am-2pm Lunch Available	28
Knitting/Crocheting 9:30-11:30am 31 Yoga 10:30-11:30am Art Class 11am Hunterdon Hills Playhouse 10am	Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social 10am Lunch Available Red Hat Society 2pm	Excercise 8:30am Line Dancing 10am Computer Class 10am, 11:30am & 1pm AARP Crafts Group 1pm Tai Chi Class 2 pm Atlantic City 9 am	Weekly Shopping Pathmark 9am Exercise Class 1:15pm Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11am & 1pm	Bingo 10am-2pm Lunch Available	4
TO SIGN	UP FOR MEMBERSHIP	IN THE SENIOR CITIZE	N'S CENTER, VISIT TH	E CENTER.	

desserts for purchase.

For information, call Karen Cammarata at (908) 755-5300, ext. 332.

VFW Dinner

November 18

The VFW, located on Front St., will hold a dinner on Friday, Nov. 18 from 5-7 p.m. The public is invited. Proceeds go to Lyons VA Hospital.

Sacred Heart Basket Bingo/Raffle

Saturday, Nov. 19

The Sacred Heart Home School Association is holding its third Longaberger Basket Bingo/Raffle on Saturday, Nov. 19. Doors open at 6 p.m. and games begin at 7:15 p.m. Admission is \$20 for all bingo games. Extra boards will also be sold. In addition to bingo prizes, Longaberger baskets will also be raffled. Basket raffle tickets are three for \$5 or grand prize tickets for \$5 each. Space is limited.

To reserve tickets or for information, call Kathy Thomas at (908) 755-0891 or Sacred Heart School at (908) 756-0632

Sports Auction-Raffle

November 19

The South Plainfield High School Athletic Booster Club will hold their annual Sports Auction-Raffle on Saturday, Nov. 19. Doors open at 6 p.m., auction begins at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$7 in advance and \$10 at the door. Admission includes 25 auction tickets.

For tickets or information, call the

Georges's (908) 755-4633 or Kevin Lykes at (908) 756-3671

SPHS Class of 1980 Plans Reunion

November 26

The 25th Reunion Committee is seeking classmates. If you know of anyone that has moved, married or otherwise be difficult to contact, call Jackie Vill at (908) 757-0204 or Andrea or Ken Pesta at (908) 595-1994. The reunion is on Saturday, Nov. 26, 2005. More information will follow.

Fr. Stephenson Returns To Sacred Heart

November 27

Father Alphonse Stephenson and his symphony orchestra, St. Peter by the Sea, will present a Christmas concert at Sacred Heart Church on Sunday, Nov. 27, at 3 p.m. in the church.

General admission is \$25; students and seniors, \$20. Tickets are sold after all masses. For information, call (908) 756-2523 or (732) 549-9633.

Hawaii, San Francisco And Las Vegas Trip

The Rec Dept. is planning a 10-day, nine-night vacation trip for July of 2006. The trip includes two days in San Francisco, five days in Hawaii and two days in Las Vegas.

Price is \$1,995 per person, double occupancy and is limited to only 40 people. For more information, call Mike Engglish at (908) 226-7714 or Joann Graff at (908)

— Out of Town –

Trail Of Terror Walk at Triple C Ranch

October 28

Edison Wetlands Association presents a second round of haunted tours at the Triple C Ranch on Friday, Oct. 28 from 7 to 10 pm.

Guided tour starts every 15 minutes beginning at 7 p.m. Refreshments will be sold. Groups of more than 10 people should call ahead if possible at (732) 287-5111 to reserve a spot.

4-H House of Horrors October 28

The 4-H Teen Council invites you to their Haunted House on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 28-31, 7 to 11 p.m

For more information, please contact the 4-H Teen Council by email at teencouncil04@vahoo.com.

Indoor Sale

October 29

Bound Brook Rd. in Dunellen will hold an indoor sale on Saturday, Oct. 29 from 9 a.m.-12 noon. Jewelry, col-

Resurrection of Christ Church on

lectibles, old dolls, household items, baked goods, bed frames, lingerie, etc. New item table...leather bags, sweaters, boots, most priced under \$10.

For information, call (732) 873-1731, (732) 752-5741 or (732) 968-1369.

Rocky Horror Show October 30

The Bucks County Playhouse will perform The Rocky Horror Show on

Sunday, Oct. 30 at 6 p.m.
The Playhouse is located at 70 S. Main Street in New Hope, Pa. For information and reservations call the Box Office at (215) 862-2041.

Woodbridge WOWs October 30

The Woodbridge Widows or Widowers (WOWs) will hold a fundraiser Halloween Dance on Sunday, Oct. 30 from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. at the Elks' Hall on Rahway Ave., in Woodbridge. Costumes optional for prizes. All welcome. Call (732) 297-1775.

YMCA Trunk or Treat October 30

The Metuchen YMCA and No. Edison/Metuchen Girls Scouts present a Halloween Trunk or Treat Spooktacular on Sunday, Oct. 30 from 4-7 p.m. at the YMCA on 65 High St.

Cost for member-\$8, children-\$4, non-member-\$10 and \$5 for child. Admission includes craft activities, games, movies, trunk or treating, pizza, drinks and more.

For information call Marie Patterson or Ruth Deluca at (732) 548-2004.

Metuchen-Edison Woman's Club Meeting

November 2

The Metuchen-Edison Woman's Club will holds its monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 2 at St. Luke's Church on Oak Ave. in Metuchen. The program will include fine fashion jewelry by Cookie Lee. Guests are invited at 8:30 p.m. The meeting is free and refreshments will

For information, call Diana at (732) 548-0925

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SUBMIT LETTERS TO THE EDITOR to allow readers to discuss and react to issues.

SEND US YOUR PHOTOS. If you have an event, take a photo, write a caption identifying the event and people and send it to us. The best photos record action and don't include so many people that it's impossible to identify anyone. Please don't send us photocopies or laser prints. They don't reproduce well. Digital photos should be 150 dpi or higher.

HOW TO CONTACT US. 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080; phone: 908-668-0010;fax: 908-668-8819 or email: spobserver@comcast.net

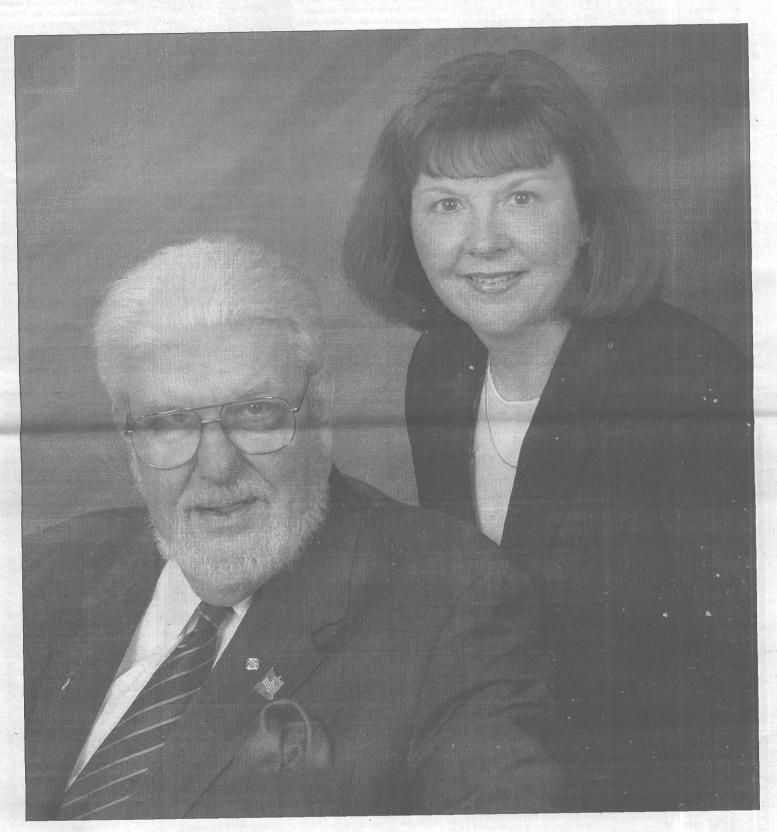
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GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN SOUTH PLAINFIELD!



ED KUBALA & KATHY THOMAS HAVE EARNED YOUR SUPPORT

(Continued from page 2)

nents with tearing down campaign signs. If these two had bothered to ask,

they would have found out that theirs were not the only signs vandalized. A large sign on my front lawn on Joan St. was forced down, bending the iron poles and breaking them in two. This also happened on Franklin Ave. and on Plainfield Ave.

The vandalism to the sign on my property occurred at about 3 a.m. and when I told Matt and Rob what hap-pened, they told me about others that had been vandalized the same night.

It's wrong for Kubala and Thomas to make baseless accusations and throw mud like this.

Also, why in the world would these unsubstantiated charges appear in the paper? All anyone had to do was ask and they would have been told that both parties had their signs damaged on the same night.

It's a shame that these people are so desperate to retain power that they're taking the low road. It's hard enough to get good people to enter public service, but it makes it even harder when they know they'll face nonsense like this. Kubala and Thomas's actions show more than ever why we need a change.

JUNE SCHULKES

Dear Editor,

I am urging everyone to go out and vote this Election Day, which will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 8. I am someone who takes this right very seriously. I want to make sure that I pull the lever for those individuals deserving of my vote. This year, the choice is easy. I will be voting for the Democratic team of Ed Kubala and Kathy Thomas. They

Both Ed and Kathy have worked hard during their time on the Borough Council. I'm sure everyone can see all the improvements that are going on. Just look at the new curbs and side-walks along Maple Ave., the new comfort station and exercise stations at Putnam Park, the new concession stand at the football and soccer complexes, the new classroom that is being built at the Highland Avenue Woods Nature preserve, the new curbs, sidewalks and culvert along Church St. and of course, the total reconstruction of Hamilton Blvd. The greatest thing about all of these projects is that the borough has secured State and County funding for all or portions of these projects. As a tax payer, I say thank you to Ed and Kathy!

As you can see, the Democratic team of Ed Kubala and Kathy Thomas are deserving of your vote on Election Day. I will be voting for them and I hope you will too. They deserve it.

INA E. WILD

To the Editor, On Wednesday, Oct. 5, my daughter rode through a pothole on Hamilton Blvd. near the Durham Ave. intersection. It was raining heavily and the pothole caused one of her tires to go flat. She pulled into the Empire Gas Station on Durham Rd. at about 9 p.m. and called her brother for help.

When my son arrived to change the tire, he was told by the employee that he had to move the car out from under the shelter of the rows or pumps. When he asked if he could just change the tire out of the rain and that it would only take about 15 to 20 minutes, he was told

no, the gas station might get busy.

I can't believe that on a rainy Wednesday night, they would get more than five customers at the same time. I

am appalled at the lack of consideration that a business in our town would show to a resident and customer.

I will never again stop at that station for gas and I urge others to do the

STEPHEN M. ANDERSON

Dear Editor,

As Election Day approaches, we have many choices to make when we go into the voting booth. There is one choice that is very easy. I will be voting for South Plainfield's hometown As semblyman, Patrick Diegnan and his running mate, Peter Barnes. Assemblyman Diegnan has proven time and time again to be a tremendous advocate for the Borough of South Plainfield, as well as the entire 18th Legislative District.

Assemblyman Diegnan has proven that although he represents the entire district, his heart is never far from South Plainfield. As a lifelong resident of our borough, Assemblyman Diegnan has been able to secure over \$1 million in various State grants for our borough. These grants have helped pay for the new curbs and sidewalks on Maple Ave., the curb and culvert re-pairs on Church St., the new decorative lights that will be installed along Hamilton Blvd., the widening on Durham Ave. and the new footbridge that will be constructed connecting the Municipal Complex with Monument Park, the Fireman's Memorial and fi-nally to the Senior Recreation Center. Although I could go on and on, I think

you get the idea. We cannot ask for a better representative in Trenton than our own hometown Assemblyman, Patrick Diegnan. I urge everyone to vote for Assembly-man Patrick Diegnan and his running mate, Assemblyman Peter Barnes on Elec-tion Day. South Plainfield needs these two

RAY JEAN BUTTIGLIERI

To the Editor.

Like most people in South Plain-

field. I'm concerned about the huge property tax increase I received this year. Everyone's taxes went up and with other costs rising, I'm sure others are feeling the pinch just like I am.

Given these rising costs, we need to look to our local elected officials for help. In reading about the candidates for office and their plans over the last few weeks, it seems apparent that only one side is focused on the future and what needs to be done, and only one side is offering ideas to make South Plainfield more affordable. That side is the Republican side, the team of Matt Anesh and Rob Bengivenga.

Anesh and Bengivenga have solid

plans for South Plainfield. Their opponents only have plans on how to spend money. The Democrats have yet to offer a single idea on how to restore open government, make life easier for seniors, save tax dollars, or reform the ethical lapses in Borough Hall.

In addition, actions speak louder than words. The mayor and council upped spending by more than 1.2 million dollars this year and at the same time, services are dwindling. How is that fiscally responsible?

It's time for a change. Let's elect a new team this year, one with fresh ideas. Please support Matt Anesh and Rob Bengivenga.

To the Editor:

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In reading the releases that the Republican candidates for Borough Council issue each week, it is clear that they just don't get it. People don't want to hear whining and complaints with-out any substance or accusations without any facts. It is clear to any reader that the Republican candidates don't have any real issues or a platform. What will be next just making stuff up? They must get their ides from the newspa-pers that they sell at the checkout counter

at the supermarket. Where are the Republican's ideas on how to keep taxes down and their strategies on how to provide quality services on a strict bud-

The one thing the Republican candidates can't dispute is the record of the Democrats. Sure, the Democrats have made promises, but they have backed up those promises. Just look at the accomplishments of the Democrats; they have preserved over 150 acres of open space, they completed the senior housing project on Morris Ave., they built a beautiful senior recreation center, they made significant improve-ments to Putnam Park and the PAL building, they replaced the crumbling curbs on Maple Ave. and they started the reconstruction of Hamilton Blvd. The Democratic agenda for the future includes the building of a new library on Plainfield Ave.. Given the Democrats

record, I know they will keep their word. On Election Day, vote for Ed Kubala and Kathy Thomas for Borough Council because they deliver on their prom-

WAYNE KAYOWSKI

To the Editor.

Whatever happened to Helen Street? For years Ed Kubala and his fellow Democrats running for council said this was the single-most important project for improving the quality of life in South Plainfield. Now we hardly hear a peep from them about it. Could it be because the project is more than nine years behind schedule?

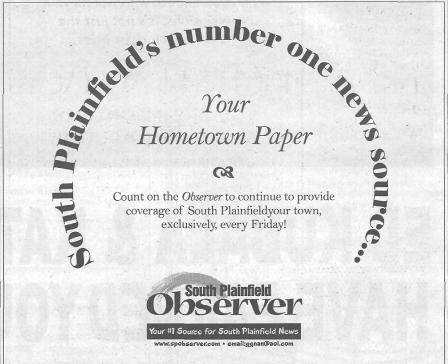
According to the Star Ledger, the Helen Street project was first proposed around 1980. This means that we've been talking about it for 25 yearssmall children at the time are now in their 30's. I'm beginning to wonder

which took longer, the pyramids of Egypt or the Helen Street project. While I say these things in jest, the truth is that the mayor and council have bungled this project. It should not take this long, regardless of whether it's a federally funded project or not.
Furthermore, if the mayor and coun-

cil had taken the suggestion of extending Hollywood Ave., made more than six years ago by the Republicans, there would be no truck traffic on the residential part of Hamilton Blvd. today. In addition, trucks wouldn't be whizzing by Roosevelt School. And at the same time, the town could have continued working toward making Helen Street a reality for our great-great grandchildren, who if things continue at this rate MIGHT see the project's completion.
(Continued on page 14)







For subscriptions and advertising information, call 908-668-0010.

southplainfieldpeople Milestones

Local Resident Celebrates 95th Birthday

Geraldine Ciccone recently celebrated her 95th birthday with her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. She was married to the late Peter Ciccone for 73 years prior to his death in 2001.

Geraldine immigrated to the United States in 1919 from Teora, Italy. This past summer she was invited to Ellis Island and was interviewed by one of the foundation's oral historians. She shared many of her experiences as a child in Italy and in the United States. She is looking forward to revisiting Ellis Island—this time to listen to her own story being told.



Geraldine Ciccone

Jacqueline Ortega is State Finalist



Jacqueline Ortega

Jacqueline Ortega is a state finalist in the 2006 Miss New Jersey Teen USA pageant. This is the first step on the journey that may lead Jacqueline to the nationally televised Miss Teen

Resident Member Of College Homecoming Court

Amy Leso of South Plainfield was named a member of the Lycoming College Homecoming Court during the College's Homecoming festivities held on Oct. 8.

Leso is a senior psychology major at Lycoming College. She is also involved in Alpha Sigma Tau, choir, intramural football, basketball, volleyball, Karate Club and the Psychology Club. Her community service projects include Relay for Life, Angel Tree Project, Alzheimer's Walk, Habitat for Humanity Walk and America Red Cross. She was nominated for the court by the Class of 2006.

She is also a graduate of South Plainfield High School.

Local Student a Soprano with College Choir

Melissa Sticco is a freshman member of the Lycoming College Choir. Melissa, a graduate of South Plain-

Melissa, a graduate of South Plainfield High School, sings soprano. She is a resident of South Plainfield.

Lycoming College is a private four year liberal arts college in Williamsport, Pa. The Carnegie Foundation has rated Lycoming as a national liberal arts college.

SPORTS FAN?

The Observer is looking for a reporter to report on high school sports. This is a great opportunity for a high school student who likes to write. Contact Nancy at the Observer (908) 668-0010.

USA pageant.

This is a rare and exciting opportunity for Jacqueline. The winner will represent the State of New Jersey in the nationally televised Miss Teen USA pageant on NBC television and will be seen by millions of people.

The 2006 miss New Jersey Teen USA pageant will be staged Oct. 28, 29 and 30 at the Hilton Parsippany Hotel. We wish Jacqueline the best, as she prepares to compete against nearly 200 contestants for the title of Miss New Jersey Teen USA.

Jacqueline would like to thank the following people for making this possible: McCriskin Home For Funerals, Stagnato & Fox LLC, American Legion, Buy-Rite Auto Stores, Café Everest Diner, Aunt Pookie and Family and Mom and Dad.

Share Your Good News... Send us yourMilestones!

Email:spobserver@comcast.com Fax: 908-668-8819

Jaime Novak's, "Three Steps To End Clutter," Presented at Library

"Clutter," according to Webster's New World Dictionary, is defined as "a number of things scattered in disorder, jumble."

Everyone recognizes clutter-junk drawers, overstuffed garages and basements, closets unable to be opened because they are filled with mostly outdated clothes, papers covering every available space on the dining room table.

Professional organizer Jaime Novak of Expert Organizing Solutions explained how clutter can be conquered to 17 residents during a recent talk at the South Plainfield Public Library.

"Anything you don't need or love is probably clutter," said Novak. "Clutter is anything without a home. Everything you own needs a home," she added.

Clutter arises when you see something out of place and instead of putting it away when seeing it, you say "Pll do it later," or when sorting out items—clothes, linens, tools-finding something then thinking, "but—it's still good" and keeping the item instead of passing it on to a charitable organization.

Novak suggested the following three steps to begin clearing your home of clutter.

1. Sort what you have. At this first, you needn't make great decisions; you do what any two-year-old does-you sort-like with like-for instance, if it's paper, place bills with bills, magazines with magazines, etc. Use a timer for 18 minutes each time you start the sorting process and dive into one area for a minimum of once a week. Novak suggests putting those items like children's drawings, cards, into a memory box and also boxing the items that need repair or a craft that is unfinished and set a time to return to them.

2. Put away what you use and what you love. For instance, if there is a drawer full of t-shirts, it's easy to find those that are ready for the rag pile and ready to be tossed and those that you love to wear and want back in the drawer. But there are also those you



haven't worn for months. Give the stack to a someone who needs it (a charity). If you are still in the "But it's still good, I'll wear it someday state of mind." Novak suggests packing up those items in a box, labeling the box with contents listed and the date. In six to 12 months come back and if the box is still unopened, don't open it, give the box away, it's time to part with these items.

3. Maintain order by seeing that everything has a place to go. Novak cautions her listeners not to go out and purchase "organizing materials" before they first see what they may already have in the home. She also suggests that before a file or storage box is bought, take measurements under the bed or against the wall to see if the item will fit there. Novak does endorse using a file box with hanging files to immediately sort mail and establish a

place where bills, checks and important papers will be kept and not lost as they come into the house. She suggests that all mail be kept vertical before being sorted, because if left lying on a table, it will get covered and that important check could be lost. Another suggestion: to avoid excessive paper coming into the home is to stop junk mail and unwanted credit card applications. To stop credit card solicitations, call toll free 1-888-567-8688 an automated line open 24 hours a day. To stop junk mail write a letter and list the many ways your name and address are used when addressed to you. Send your signed letter to: Direct Marketing Mail Preference Service, P.O. Box 643 Carmel, NY 15012-0643.

Contact www.JaimeNovak.com for more information about Jaime Novak and where she will be giving workshops in the area.

Elks Selling Entertainment Books



The South Plainfield Elks Veterans Committee is selling the Entertainment book for \$25. Contact Lou Peralta at (908) 756-6406.

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SP Eagle Cheerleaders Compete



The South Plainfield Eagle Cheerleaders at the Mountain Valley Conference.

The South Plainfield Eagle Cheerleaders participated in the Mountain Valley Conference competition on Saturday, Oct. 22 at Bridgewater-Raritan High School. All four squads put on an exceptional show!

The Flag cheerleaders shook their poms-poms right into everyone's hearts! Performing for Flag were Mary Abate, Cady Abood, Hannah Arntz, Jacquelyn Battista, Cara Capone, Erica Cieszkiewicz, Karli Colapietro, Lindsey Diamant, Jenna Dickerson, Hanna Leigh Dunn, Alexa Gentile, Jennifer Grasso, Allison Graves, Jenna Karcher,

Yvianna Lipke, Christina LoBosco, Allianna Makowski, Haley Passarelli, Kaylah Ruiz, Angela Sanchez, Camryn Schaeffer, Sydney Shaw, Kimberly Sheedy, Shariya Simpson, Natalie Stilo and Annabella Vetuchi. The Mitey Mites stunned the audi-

The Mitey Mites stunned the audience with their "boot-scootin" style! Performing for Mitey Mites were Katie Addario, Danielle Bowbliss, Taylor Brinks, Nicole Bythell, Alyssa Capone, Alexis Cavaliere, Amanda Cavaliere, Katherine Cooper, Amanda Courtney, Gina Cummings, Brittany DellaSala, Lauren Dicellis, Jamie Do-

McCriskin Home for Funerals To Host Third Grief Seminar

The McCriskin Home for Funerals will be hosting their third grief seminar entitled "Coping with Grief During the Holidays" on Dec. 4, at 1 p.m. at the South Plainfield American Legion Chaumont Post #243, 243 Oak Tree Ave.

The program will be presented by Jessie Flynn, certified grief specialist. Refreshments will be served immediately following the program.

Come join us and learn about some steps for grieving which will ease your pain and make the season more enjoyable.

All are welcome. For more information, please call (908) 561-8000 or email us at info@mccriskinfuneral home.com.

nato, Shannon Fonti, Ashley Franchack, Nicole Geradi, Kyrsten Grabinisky, Ashley Gruver, Shayna Hodge, Chelsea Housel, Danielle Lapolla, Angela LoBosco, Taylor Maistickle, Kayla Massaro, Sarah Oehler, Jessica Ortiz, Taylor Parajon, Diana Pender, Angela Ruhnke, Emily Smith, Briana Spinella, Zoe Strong, Sarah Walsh and Lauren Zekas.

The Junior Pee Wee squad placed second in the Small Novice category with an outstanding performance and will be advancing to the State Qualifiers on Sunday, Oct. 30 at Sovereign Bank Arena.

Performing for the Junior Pee Wees were Ashley Annetta, Amanda Dolan, Taylor Donato, Caitlyn Driscoll, Lauren Hill, Zoya Hodge, Shannon Hogan, Taylor Jankoski, Nicole Jones, Alyssa Liszewski, Diamond Pender, Jessica Pietschker, Gerianne Scarpitto, Kaitlyn Sheedy, Meghan Skelly, Emma Slotterback, Nicole Visaggio and Kimberly Walsh.

The Junior Midgets took first place in the Large Novice category with a flawless performance and will be advancing as well to the State Qualifiers. Performing for the Junior Midgets ere Rachel Alexa, Lauren Annetta, Carly Ashnault, Alena Brady, Joelle Butrico, Alexis Cargill, Chelsey Colucci, Jamie Glavasich, Nicolette Hanley, Laine Harris, Crysta Hay, Tori Huber, Brigitte Kelly, Brianna Kizmann, Gabriella Lewis, Meghan Makowski, Michelle O'Sullivan, Kimberly Petronko, Cassie Prendergast, Deanna Ranger, Jessica Scarpitto, Alyssa Scrudato, Rachel Scrudato, Stephanie Sherwood, Amanda Steger, Amanda Tjong, Kathleen Vincent, Nina Visaggio, Caitlyn Whalen and Sara Wojewodka.

Please join us as we wish the Junior Pee Wee and Junior Midget squads good luck as they move on to the State Oualifiers on Sunday!

Blood Brothers at Restored Edison Valley Playhouse

By Patricia Abbott

The recent grand opening of the Edison Valley Playhouse was cause for celebration for the theater community in our area. The restored theater recently began a three-weekend run of one of Broadway's greatest musicals, *Blood Brothers*.

The show tells the tale of twin brothers separated at birth by their working class mother. With seven children, she is no longer able to afford her brood. She secretly gives up one of the twins to the woman she works for, who is unable to have children. The boys meet in early childhood unaware they are related and become fast friends. Upon discovering they share a birthday, they forge a bond as blood brothers. The emotional plot takes the audience on a roller coaster of highs and lows that includes laughter and tears. Director Anthony J. Cantalupo said, "It would be incredible to open a show to start with, but to open a show and reopen a theater at the same time. . . words can not de-

The show is directed and co-produced by Cantalupo of Edison. Last year he directed *Blood Brothers* at the George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick. The result was a string of sold out performances. Anthony said, "The rush that I got every night when the audience rose to their feet cheering after the 'Tell Me It's Not True' finale was exactly the reason I was so eager to recreate the show at Edison Valley Playhouse."

The cast includes James L.

Brewster of Kenilworth as narrator, Arlene Britt of Edison as Mrs. Johnstone, mother of the twins. Anthony and his brother Christopher Cantalupo, both of Edison, appear as the brothers Mickey and Eddie. Mary Lynch of Maple Shade is Mrs. Lyons, Michael Ross Feingold of Somerset is Mr. Lyons. Lia Tamborra of Whippany is Linda, the object of the twins affections. Patrick Lithgow of Edison is Sammy, Mickey's older brother. The ensemble includes Evan Figueras of Sewell, Laurel Kornfeld of Highland Park and Sadie Pepitone and Scarlett Pepitone of Edison. South Plainfield resident Katie Noonan appears in various small

With the help of assemblymen Patrick Diegnan and Peter Barnes, the theater received a \$25,000 grant from the State of NJ. In December of 2004 Edison Township designated Edison Valley Playhouse a Local Historic Landmark.

Vice President Bill Seesselberg said, "Edison Valley Playhouse is proud and excited to have a full-scale musical back on its stage. Blood Brothers not only is an achievement by Anthony and the cast, crew and musicians, but also marks a second step on our journey to return EVP to its tradition of regularly presenting a wide variety of shows."

For more information call the

For more information call the playhouse at (908) 755-4654 or visit their website, www.evplayhouse.com.

The theater is located at 2200 Oak Tree Rd. Edison.



225 Maple Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080



Everyone at All About You join together to cut the ribbons at their grand opening celebration

All About You Holds Grand Opening Gala

South Plainfield residents Danielle Bongard and Ana Rene Rodrigues recently held a ribbon cutting cer-emony for their new full service salon, All About You, during their grand opening celebration.

Despite torrential rain, approximately 125 friends, customers and relatives attended the evening event.

Guests enjoyed a wide assortment

of food and beverages, while admiring the modern salon. Some were lucky enough to win one of the many raffle drawings throughout the evening, but those who attended had a great time.

A highlight of the evening was the formal ribbon cutting ceremony, where everyone from All About You participated in cutting the ribbon.

Also participating were Metuchen Councilwoman Marion Price and Metuchen Chamber of Commerce members Steve Epstein and Carolyn Woodruff, who commented that it was the largest ribbon cutting cer-emony they have ever had.

Joining Danielle and Ana at All About Your are South Plainfield residents Tom Egan, who worked with them in a salon for many years and Susan Corrado.

All About You is located at 285 Central Ave., Metuchen. Their phone number is (732) 516-0155.

Attention SPHS Class of 1996!

The Class of 1996 is in the process of planning the 10-year class reunion for March 2006.

In order to make the reunion a great night and success, we still need to locate more members of the graduating class.

If you or someone you know is a member of the SPHS Class of 1996 and are interested in attending, please contact Joe at (908) 510-7919. It is sure to be a great night for all.

We look forward to hearing from

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Bishop Bootkoski Reinstituting "The Red Mass"

After a lapse of many years. Metuchen Bishop Paul G. Bootko-ski has decided to reinstitute the Diocese's Red Mass. Honoring all lawyers, judges and others involved in the judicial system. The Red Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 6 in the chapel of the John Neumann Pastoral Center, Piscata-

Following the Red Mass a brunch will be held in the Pastoral Center. Tickets are \$25 per adult. For more information on the Red Mass, call (732) 562-2461.

The Bishop will be the principal celebrant at the Red Mass. Rev. William H. Stetson, director of the Catholic Information Center, Washington, D.C., will deliver the homily.

From the South Plainfield Library

By Chris Grasso

It is not too late to decorate for Halloween. To help you we have books on pumpkin painting and carving, costume creation (including The No-Sew Costume Book), Hocus Pocus!: Halloween Crafts For a Spooktacular Holiday, and The Halloween Handbook (which includes 447 costumes for adults!) and many more. Plus we have audio CDs of spooky sounds. So let us help you with your Halloween parties.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, Nov. 6, to meet author Feather Schwartz Foster at the Library at 2 p.m. She is the author of Ladies: A Conjecture of Personalities. Although a work of fiction, this book is constructed as a series of letters by American First Ladies from Washington to Eisenhower, discussing every thing from chores to houseguests to customs. And all the letters are based on facts. So this is should be a very interesting afternoon. Again this is a free program and no registration is

And making a return appearance is South Plainfield's own Practical Craft-

ing Instructor Ronda Wisniewski. On Monday, Nov. 7, she will be presenting her Photo Candle Workshop. This is a great opportunity to make some truly personal gifts for the upcoming holiday season. She will be having two classes: 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 7 to 8 p.m. There is a \$2 charge payable at registration for materials, and participants are requested to register as soon as possible.

Snakes-n-Scales-n-Turtle Tales are returning to the library with another of their great Mammal Mania programs on Wednesday, Nov. 16 at 6:30 p.m. They feature mammals from around the world and discuss their habitats, behaviors, personality traits, and whether or not they make good pets. Both children and adults have a lot of fun at these programs. The program itself is free but please register so we know how many guests will be coming.

Please remember our regular storytimes/craft times are Tuesday at 10:30, Wednesday at 6:30 and Thursday at 1:15. All these are drop in programs for three-year-olds and up so there is no need to register.

See you at the Library!

MOMS Club Open House Brunch

The MOMS Club of Edison, which serves Edison, Metuchen, South Plainfield, Piscataway and Highland Park is looking for new members and will hold an open house brunch on Wednesday, Nov. 16 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at The Heritage in Clara Barton on Amboy Ave. in Edison.

Come meet our members and see

what we're all about. Refreshments

The MOMS Club is a national support group for mothers who stay at home with their children.

For information come to our open house or check us out at http://ww momsclub.org. Call Kristin at (908) 755-9114 for more info and to RSVP.

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Anesh & Bengivenga Challenge Dems | Democrats Respond to to Offer Positive Agenda For the Future | Misleading Republican Plan

Candidates note how opponents have yet to offer a single idea to control spending, bring back open government, help seniors, or stop overdevelopment. Council candidates Matt

Anesh and Rob Bengivenga this week called upon their Democratic opponents to at least offer some type of plan for South Plainfield's future. Both candidates hope that in the last week of the campaign their opponents will stop the negative campaigning and start talking about

"Our opponents haven't offered a single new idea for making South Plainfield more affordable, for bringing back open government, for helping seniors, or for stopping overdevelopment," explained Bengivenga. "This election is about the future, not the past."

"In last week's paper, rather than say how they would control spending or what they would do to reform the ethical mess at Borough Hall, the Democratic candidates took pot shots at my running mate by making things up about him," said Anesh. "This isn't the healthy debate on the issues we need."

"We've been trying to engage Kubala and Thomas in a debate on the issues, but they won't budge from their canned script," added Bengivenga. "It would be nice if they could come

up with at least a few ideas before Election Day."

"By contrast, Rob and I have a detailed blueprint for improving our town," Anesh explained.

Here's a recap of just a few of our proposals:

 Making South Plainfield More Affordable -Our plans include cutting newly created patronage jobs, immediately creating a library foundation, cutting contract costs by eliminating nobid contracts, forming an economic development commission, and developing a shared-services program with the schools

• Helping Seniors - We'd spearhead the "South Plainfield Volunteer Corps" to help seniors maintain their homes and property (things like fixing a fence, raking leaves, etc.). This idea received such great response that the Dems are trying to adopt it as their own by announcing a similar plan at the last council meeting. We also want to make sure seniors are given a variety of housing options, not just stick them on an industrial site near the highway owned by a campaign contribu-

tor.
• Reforming Ethical Standards - The council



should immediately stop giving contributors. Dual office holding and nepotism should be prohibited, and there should be a twoyear ban on council members tak-

ing administrative jobs with the borough after leaving office.

 Dealing with Traffic and Overdevelopment Extending Hollywood Ave. would take truck traffic away from the residential areas on Hamilton Blvd. and Roosevelt School. We also have to stop catering to the big builders, like Democratic contributor Jack Morris. Studying re-opening "old" Hamilton Blvd. one way into the center of town for cars would also make sense. This would take the pressure off the intersection by the lake and by Church St.

• Restoring Open Government - Meetings should be convenient to residents (not the same night as school-board meetings) and should be public. Developer disclosure requirements would let residents know if zoning applicants made political donations hoping to "ease" their way through the process. We should also ban "secret settlements." The public should know how its tax dollars are spent, and public officials should not be able to hide alleged misconduct.

• Improving Quality of Life – There's no reason not to open the compost area for a few hours on Sundays. The town should also take tax and sewer payments over the Internet. Finally, we need to pick up the pace on preserving targeted open space areas. While 150 acres have been preserved in South Plainfield, the county average is 240

"Other than listing new ways to spend our money (whether it be local, county or state tax dollars) the other side has offered very little in the way of a positive agenda for the future," added Anesh. "They offer the same stale list of undertakings year after year. With fresh leader-ship on the council, we can take South Plainfield farther than most people would imagine. That's why we need two-party government."

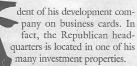
Democratic Council members Ed Kubala and Kathy Thomas have responded to the Republican plan for South Plainfield as published in last week's Observer.

Councilmember Kubala said, "Finally, after 10 weeks of throwing mud and innuendos, Republican candidates Anesh and Bengivenga have put together a four point plan for South Plainfield. It is so factually inaccurate that it would actually be funny if they didn't want to be leaders of our great borough." Kathy Thomas expanded on her running mates comments, "Normally we don't respond but the Republican plan is so outrageous, it's important that the voters know the truth. Therefore Ed and I will set forth the facts in the same

order as the Republican campaign release."

1. Proposal: Extend Hollywood Ave. as part of the Helen Street Extension: Answer: The extension of Hollywood Avenue has always been included in the Helen St. design. In fact as part of the Hamilton Blvd. reconstruction, which is now underway, a traffic light is being placed at Ryan St. which connects up with Hollywood Ave. This is all part of the ultimate design to get traffic off Hamilton Blvd. and direct it towards Helen St.

2. Proposal: Stop Giving Special Treatment to Big Builders: Answer: We can see why the Republicans waited to the end of the campaign to bring this one up. Talk about "Do as I say and not as I do." One of the biggest builders in the history of the borough is candidate Bengivenga's father. The Bengivengas own dozens of developable parcels all over town. In fact, Robert Bengivenga, Sr. just lost a lawsuit against the borough where he wanted to develop a tract he owns in the center of town at a density of 100 units per acre which would be 25 times normal zoning. It is quite possible he will appeal the decision after Election Day. Robert Bengivenga Jr. lists his job as asset manager of his father's businesses and he is listed as co-presi-



3. Proposal: Reopen "Old Hamilton Blvd." Answer: The

Department of Transportation has a statewide directive to close as many rail crossings as possible for safety reasons. They have a written policy not to reopen grade crossings. That old extension crosses two lines of tracks and a switching station. It is reckless to even suggest reopening it. It would be a waste of taxpayer's money to hire the experts necessary to make such a fruitless application. This is an example of the Republican candidates not even taking the time to find out the simple facts before

making a campaign promise.

4. Proposal: Revise the Zoning Ordinance to Sensibly Limit development. Answer: By state law the Planning Board will this year be reviewing the master plan and the borough's zoning ordinance. You can rest assured that with Ed Kubala and Kathy Thomas on the Borough Council, the center of town will not be rezoned to allow development at a density of 100 units per acre, regardless of who owns the property.

Kathy Thomas set forth the Democrats position, "As most voters already know, the South Plainfield Democratic Party prides itself on always running positive campaigns. We are proud of our accomplishments, stand by our record, and do some research before making a proposal." Ed Kubala concluded "Hopefully this response will show the Republicans that it is important to get the facts straight because the voters of South Plainfield are intelligent and focused and they will remember on Election Day. When you look at the facts you will agree that there is only one team that has a real plan for South Plainfield's future, Ed Kubala and Kathy Thomas for Borough Council."



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Polls are open 6 am to 8 pm

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LEGAL NOTICES

An appeal has been filed by Vitterio Ravi Jr. requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit a rear dormer. Proposed dormer lacks 8' required side setback, 5.6' being proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 566 Franklin Avenue on Block 167, Lot 34 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hear

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, November 10, 2005 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

The maps and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Building inspector's Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Friday, between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

October 28, 2005

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by David and Mary DeLair requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit an existing garage removed due to damage; wants to rebuild in same location. Proposed garage tacks 8 required side setback, 5 being proposed; and other variances that may be required, said properly being located at 517 East Crescent Parkway on Block 79, Lot 14 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

74, Lot 14 on the South Plainfield 1ax Map.
For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, November 10, 2005 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

The maps and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Building Inspector's Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Friday, between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.



LEGAL NOTICE

WHEREAS the Borough of South Plainfield wishes to build a walkway and footbridge connecting the municipal complex up with the Monument Park, the Fireman's Memorial and the Senior Center; and

WHEREAS CME Associates has submitted a proposal to perform said work at a cost not to exceed \$39,806.00; and

\$39,806.00; and
WHEREAS this contract is being awarded without
competitive bidding as "Professional Services" in
accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a); and

000-255.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that authorization is hereby given to enter into a Professional Services contract with CME Associates to perform design and bid services for the proposed footbridge project at a cost not to exceed \$39,806.00.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized said

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

October 28, 2005

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE 1714 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLE-SEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ord. 1714 entitled: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIAT-ING \$35,000.00 FOR

ING \$85,00.00 FOR RENOVATIONS TO BOROUGH HALL AND THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BUILDING AND FOR LANDSCAPING AT PUTNAM PARK was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield on Tuesday, October 18, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ATTEST: Vincent Butţiglieri/Municipal Clerk





SOCCER

U13 Spirit Stays Strong

This past weekend, the U13 Spirit traveling soccer team faced off against two opponents in their flight. The first game on Friday evening, took place at our home field on Kenneth Ave. under the lights. Despite the wet grass and chilly weather, the field was in excellent condition.

By the first half, Spirit had already scored twice. Ryan Hutchison sunk a perfect head goal, while Edwin Molina cleverly kicked one past the opposing goalie. Before the game was over, Edwin managed to score once more as result of a direct penalty kick. Our goaltender for the evening was Nicholas Tuyp. The boys played nearly flawless and thanks to great defense and passing, the game ended with a 3-0 score over the South Brunswick Rays.

On Sunday afternoon, Team Spirit hosted once again, but because of wet fields at the club, the game was moved to Riley School. They faced off against the Montclair Meteors for what proved to be a highly competitive game with an extremely well matched team. Goaltender Nicholas Tuyp protected the net once again, and refused to let any ball get past him. The final score ended in a tie of 0-0.

The coaches would like to congratulate the boys for their hard work. Playing this weekend was: Jesse Allen, Ryan Billich, Edgar Callejas, Michael Dispenziere, Ryan Hutchison, Joseph Krawiec, Cory Limone, Ryan Lind, Denzel Mensah, Edwin Molina, Marc Paez, Jason Pattison, Andrew Sanchez, Nicholas Tuyp and Daniel Zwatschka. Our next game is scheduled away for October 30. Hopefully, Matias Palma will be back to join us after being out from an injury that occurred early in

Submitted by Michele Billich



Grand Knight Joe Scrudato (far right) and John LoBosco (far left) are pictured with the winners of the Knights' Soccer Challenge at an awards ceremony.

Knights Soccer Challenge Winners Named

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 held there First Annual Knights Soccer Challenge on Oct. 1 at the South Plainfield Soccer Field on Kenneth Ave. This event was held for youths from the ages of 10 to 14.

According to the rules, children had to kick a soccer ball from a penalty shot line to marked goals in the soccer net and received points ranging from easy to difficult. On Oct. 18 the Knights invited the winners and their families to attend a special ceremony at the Knights council to receive participation certificates and

trophies. The Knights would like to thank every child who participated in this event, your participation made this youth event a great success.

The 2005 Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge winners for the boys were: 10-year-old-Taylor Born, 11-

year-old-Alex Valladares, 12-year-old-Devin Evans, 13-year-old-Michael Carrion and Anthony Baldasarre (tied) and 14-year-old-Joe Gonzalez. For the girls: 11-year-old-Jamie Quail, 12-year-old-Samantha Pauls and 13-yearold-Faryn Evans.

Meals on Wheels Drivers Urgently Needed

The Jewish Family & Vocational Service of Middlesex County urgently needs caring volunteers to perform a valuable mitzvah (good deed) by delivering meals to homebound clients.

There is an immediate opening on Thursdays delivery route. Volunteers are asked to commit a minimum of two 90 minute delivery dates per month from our Edison office at 10 a.m. If you are unable to drive you can work along side the driver or sign on as a substitute

Call E.J. Berman to set up a meeting at (732) 777-1940 ext. 122.





Rutgers Fall Hoop Basketball Festival

Rutger's Fall Hoop Festival will oe held on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 10 and 11 at the RAC in Piscataway. Boys and girls in grades two to eight are invited to the clinic which will include drills, lectures motivation, academics, games, and individual instruction. The program cost is \$85, which also includes a Fall Hoop Festival t-shirt and tickets for the Dec. 9 and Dec. 17 Rutgers basketball games. For information, call (732) 445-4291 or (732) 445-4251

SPJBC Raffle Drawing-Nov. 5



Come down to the SPJBC and witness the drawing for the 2005 **Mercedes Benz** and three other fabulous prizes!

Saturday, Nov. 5 • Doors open at 6:30 pm The SPJBC Clubhouse Admission

Snacks and beverages will be available 50/50 drawing during the evening Car Raffle drawing will take place approx. 8pm

FREE for raffle ticket holders. (Please b)

Raffle tickets are still on sale and will be at the available from 6:30pm to 7:30pm on Nov 5.

Call the clubhouse at 754-2090 or contact any board member for details.

Admission will be 85 for those who would like to attend but have not purchased a raffle ticket.

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The SPHS Girl's Varsity Gymnastics Team pictured (I to r) Heather Ray, Beverly Jamieson, Gulie Kay, Michelle Kobilis, Dani Butrico and split is Gaby Abon on their way to the GMC Championships, held in South Brunswick. They held carwash and bake sale fundraisers to provide new uniforms for themselves. T-shirts were designed by the team.

Girls Gymnastics Team has Strong Showing at Competition

SPHS Girls Gymnastics team surprised everyone but themselves by finishing a strong third in the eight team GMC Championships held at South Brunswick High School on Thursday, Oct. 20. Not expected to place in the top four, an inspired Tiger squad, urged on by coach Meredith Murowski, battled gallantly through all four

Heavily favored Bishop Ahr and South Brunswick finished first and second, with 112.6 and 104.4 points respectively. South Plainfield scored a season high 100.275, besting both Old Bridge and East Brunswick, despite having less depth and experience. The 50 girl field featured some of Central Jersey's top "club" gymnasts

SPHS freshman Michelle Kobilis turned in her most spectacular perfor mance of the year. Her all -around score of 36.3 was her personal best. Kobilis dazzled spectators with a 9.25 on vault (second place), 9.075 on bars (fifth place), 9.325 on floor (sixth place) and 8.65 on balance beam (fifth She finished fourth in the all-

Junior Heather Ray's clutch vault (8.60, seventh place) in the last event was instrumental in propelling the Tigers from fourth place into third. Ray and teammates Beverly Jamieson, Danielle Butrico and Gabi Abon all contributed heavily to the Tigers strong performance.



Public Service Announcement

Want to have a great hobby - - -Help your Community & Neighbors

Amateur Radio Operators Being Sought

Looking for residents who may be interested in obtaining a Technician Class FCC License to help our borough in time of need and for special events. Age and Gender are not issues, only the desire to participate. Depending on response, (8) week course is planned for Jan. 2006, meeting (2) hours per week.

If interested contact the Observer at (908) 668-0010 or e-mail at spobserver@comcast.net by Nov. 11, 2005.

Public Service Announcement

Acorns are Not Just Collected By Squirrel's

The South Plainfield Glitterbugs met in the Highland Woods Nature Preserve for a fall acorn collection re-

The acorns they collected were do-nated to the New Jersey Division of Forestry's Today's Acorns = Tomorrow's Tree's program.

The acorns collected each fall are

planted. The seedlings are distributed throughout the state where tree's are needed. These acorn's, or seedlings, can possibly replace a burned forest, or end up at a school tree planting.

The children also participated in a litter clean-up while they collected the

Coordinator Marie Markey presented a forestry work shop where children learned the importance tree's have on the environment. Other forestry facts were shared, including identification of New Jersey's state tree the Golden Oak.

South Plainfield's own Dr. Alice Tempel identified many of the items the children collected. They included: a red bellied salamander, wood frogs, a pregnant crawfish, many bug cocoon's and so much more.

The Glitterbugs are a children's group coordinated by the South Plainfield Clean Communities Advisory Board.

To learn more about the Glit-

terbug's and for information on joining the group, call Marie Markey at (908) 755-3213.



Above, members of the Glitterbugs get ready to collect acorns; below Dr. Alice Tempel identifies the many items children collected.





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Roosevelt teacher Michael Bertram and Principal Charles Ford participate in the "Fun in the Gym" Hurricane Katrina fundraiser.

Roosevelt Rallies for **Hurricane Katrina Victims**

On Friday, Oct. 7, the students and faculty of Roosevelt Elementary School, spear headed by Physical Education teacher Lisa Murray, rallied in the gym to raise money and supplies for the Red Cross to help victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Students brought in school supplies such as notebooks, pencils, glue, crayons, and they donated a dollar each to participate in the "Fun in the Gym."

The program ran from 3 to 6 p.m

on Friday after school. The event was able to collect two huge boxes of supplies and raise a total of \$547. The school PTO and Murray each donated \$200 and the students raised \$147. Roosevelt Elementary wanted to do their part to help the victims of this

Thanks to the students, faculty, Murray and the PTO, this event was a great success and the proceeds will benefit a good cause.

Century 21 Moretti Agents Attend **National Educational Conference**

accompanied by four of the firm's top producing agents, received advance training in real estate at the STAR POWER® Annual Conference held recently in San Francisco. Husband and wife team Andrea and Jesse Lacerda along with John Cole and Maryann Lisewski joined over 1,800 of the most progressive, forward-thinking professionals in real estate today to share best practices.

Founded by internationally re-nowned educator and trainer Howard Brinton, STAR POWER® is the premier provider of real estate education in the country. "In an ever changing environment impacted by new technology and increasing competition, consumers need to have confidence in the ability of their agent and the company behind him/her," commented Moretti. Century 21 Moretti agents who achieve Century 21 Centurion and Double Centurion recognition for sales production are awarded the opportunity to attend this annual event to hone their knowledge and skills.

During the three day conference, seminars and workshops were presented by 170 top-producing real esone percent of all realtors in North

"This Conference and the STAR POWER® Systems have armed us with the best tools available to provide the highest quality of service to our clients and keep us on the cutting edge of the industry," noted Lisewski. "In addition, we have expanded our

network enabling us to refer our clients to the best agents all over the country when they are considering a move or looking to buy a second home in another area," added Cole and the Lacerdas.

Century 21 Moretti Realty ranks among the top ten Century 21 offices in the State of NJ. In business over 25 years, the company has been affiliated with the Century 21 system for the past nine years. Located on Maple Ave., Century 21 Moretti Realty is a full service, multi-lingual brokerage firm with 60+ active agents providing real estate services throughout central New Jersey.

Sweepstakes Offers \$1,000 Prize to Help Homeless Pets

People for Animals, a nonprofit animal welfare organization serving New Jersey, is selling sweepstakes tickets to raise funds for its Pet Rescue & Adoption Program. A \$1 donation is requested for each sweepstakes ticket. To order tickets, call (908) 964-6887 and dial ext. 314. Leave your name and telephone number and a volunteer will return your call and arrange to mail

The winning ticket will be drawn

on Saturday, Dec. 3, 2005. This year the prize is a \$1,000 gift certificate to any Simon Mall, such as Menlo Park, Livingston and more. The State of New Jersey Games of Chance Department approves this sweepstakes.

With financial help from New Jersey residents last year, People for Animals adopted over 700 pets and rescued nearly 1000 abandoned and/or

Obituaries

Horvath Memorial Service at Wesley Methodist Church

A memorial service for James Horvath will be held at Wesley United Methodist Church on Sunday, Oct. 30

Horvath was the organist, choir irector and director of the handbell choir for the past eight years until his untimely death in April. He was also an elementary school music teacher in Irivington.

The memorial service will celebrate Horvath's life and all he gave to us through his music by "singing and ringing" to the glory of God. All are

Julia Mozda, 83

Julia Mozda died Wednesday, Oct. 19 at JFK Hospital in Edison. Born in Simpson, Pa., Mrs. Mozda resided there until moving to South Plainfield in 1957.

She was a communicant of Our Lady of Czestochowa R.C. Church in South Plainfield. Julia was also a member of the Polish National Home in South Plainfield.

Mrs. Mozda was predeceased by her husband, Stanley Mozda, who passed in 1957; a grandson, Ronald Mozda Jr., two brothers, Paul Ference and Michael Ference and two sisters, Anna Myroniuk and Celia Turpack.

Surviving are three sons; Stanley Mozda and his wife Bonne of Piscataway and Ronald Mozda and his wife Jean of Boca Raton, Fla. and Richard Mozda of South Bound Brook; seven grandchildren, Elizabeth, Gary, Susan, Richard Jr., Monique, Jackie and Connor; a brother Frank Ferene; two sisters, Mary Sladicka and Irene Turpack and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at the South Plainfield Funeral Home.

Lewis E. Rinker, 84

Lewis E. Rinker died on Monday, Oct. 17 at his home.

Born in Scranton, Pa., Mr. Rinker has resided in various towns in the Central New Jersey area before settling

in South Plainfield 35 years ago. A veteran of WWII, he served with the 82nd Air Borne Division in the United State Army. He is a life member of the South Plainfield Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Post #6763 and a member of the South Plainfield American Legion Chaumont Post

#245.

Mr. Rinker was employed as a truant officer for 18 years at the Piscataway High School before his retirement in 1996. Working as a printer prior to the school system, he was the owner/operator of the former Commercial Signs Company in Plainfield.

Lewis was a man who loved his job. He spent his spare time gardening, trout fishing and reading. He was also a talented artist.

He is survived by his wife, Rose-mary (Montino) Rinker; a son, Lewis Rinker of Burbank, Calif.; a grand-daughter, Ashlee Rinker; two nieces and a nephew, Diane and Time Eagle of Va., Michael Mastrobattista of Caand Janis Mastrobattista of ewater, Arlene and Harry Cook and Mary and Art Frounfelker, all of Scranton, Pa.; three great nephews, Myles Mastrobattista and Brendan and Bryan Eagle; a sister and brother, Joe and Fran Mastobattista and his aunt and uncle, Josie and Charles Cuzzo.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Ruth (Yanusz) Wenzel, 58

Ruth (Yanusz) Wenzel died on Saturday, Oct. 15 at home in care of her loving family.

Ruth was born in Bound Brook and grew up in Dunellen, where she spent most of her life before moving to

South Plainfield five years ago. In 1964 Ruth graduated from Dunellen High School and two years later married John Wenzel, whom she spent the past 39 years with.
Up until 1998, Mrs. Wenzel worked

as a bookkeeper for Pastor Refrigera-tion in South Plainfield. Prior to her employment at Pastor Refrigeration,

Ruth worked as a bookkeeper for various companies throughout Central Jersey for many years.

In 1991, Ruth and John renewed their wedding vows in front of many friends and relatives and this past July, Jacqueline Dickerson, Mrs. Wenzel's loving daughter, threw a family party that was attended by many relatives and friends in which Ruth cherished.

An avid gardener, Mrs. Wenzel adored roses, loved to shop, especially for her grandchildren, and she was devoted to her home. Ruth enjoyed mak-ing her house a home to her children, grandchildren, and to all who knew her.

In addition to raising her loving daughter Jacqueline Dickerson, Ruth raised a loving son, John, who passed away in 1997.

She is survived by her husband of 39 years, John; her daughter and her husband, Jacqueline and Scott Dickerson of South Plainfield; a brothers. John Yanusz and his wife Helen and their two children, John and Michelle of Tenn, and Benjamin Garneckl and his wife Carol and their two children, Christopher and Jennifer of Dunellen. Also surviving are her two beautiful grandchildren, Kyle and Jenna.

Private funeral arrangements were under the direction of the McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Mary A Bengivenga, 89

Mary A Bengivenga died on Satur-

Hillside Cemetery

Scotch Plains ~ 908.756.1729

www.hillsidecemetery.com

day Oct. 22 at Holmes Medical Center in Melbourne.

Born in Bridgeport, Conn., Mrs. Bengivenga had resided in Westfield, Plainfield and South Plainfield before moving to Oldsmar, Fla. in 1996. She settled to the Life Care Center of Melbourne, Fla. in 2004. Employed as a seamstress for G.O.

Kellers Dry Cleaners of South Plain-field for 10 years, she retired in 1973.

Having been a member of the Plainfield Rescue Squad Ladies Auxliary, she was also a member of the Plainfield Chapter of the Catholic Daughters, the Plainfield Chapter of Deborah and a former member of St. Bernard's Church in Plainfield, and the church's alter rosary society. Mary loved spending time doing crafts and playing cards and bingo.

Her husband, Joseph Bengivenga, died in 1993.

Surviving are three daughters and sons-in-law, Lena Rose and John Vecchioli of Odessa, Fla., Joann and Law-rence Grenevicki of Rockledge, Fla., nd Diana and Donald Schmidt of Oldsmar, Fla and eight grandchildren, Joan Salzman, Beth Vecchioli, Dr. Lance Grenevicki, Joseph Vecchioli, Mary Obermair, Dana Abernathy, Michael Vecchioli, and Darn Schmidt. Also surviving are seven great grand-children, Rachel, Nathan, Matthew, Robert, Natalie, Michael and Anna.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday Oct. 29 at 9 a.m. at McCriskin Home For Funerals, followed by a funeral Mass at 10 a.m. in St. Bernard's Church, Plainfield.

Entombment will follow in St. Gertrude's Good Shepherd Mausoleum,

Visitation will be held on Friday, Oct. 28 from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m.

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(Continued from page 6)

We need some solutions for traffic now. That's why I agree with Matt Anesh and Rob Bengivenga's plan to control traffic. Let's stop talking about traffic and do something about it-now.

Elect the people who will finally get something accomplished, Matt Anesh and Rob Bengivenga. GEOFFREY CHAMPION

To the Editor,

The residents of South Plainfield are proud of their hometown Assemblyman, Patrick Diegnan, and rightfully so.

In less than four years working for us, Patrick has secured two hundred thousand dollars for a Police Department communication system, a transportation grant for curbs and sidewalks on Maple Ave., a Department of Community Affairs grant for lights and signs on Hamilton Blvd. and a walkway bridge from our Senior Center to Borough Hall.

Most importantly, he has personally secured extraordinary aid in excess of five hundred thousand dollars to offset municipal taxes.

Working for our children, he per-

sonally presented a bill which guaranteed the continuance of the Future Stars program and argued for and won the reimbursement of two hundred thousand dollars for the Board of Education.

With Senator Buono and Assemblyman Barnes, Patrick Diegnan has earned our respect and support for re-election to the Assembly.

MAYOR DANIEL GALLAGHER,

Dear Editor,

For the past several weeks Demo-crats Kubala and Thomas have been telling readers what a great job they have been doing controlling spending, especially compared to other towns in Middlesex County. I was skeptical, but I had little proof otherwise. Well, this week's Star-Ledger (10/23) shed some light on the truth, and here it is.

According to the Ledger, municipal spending per person in South Plainfield (in other words, not including the school board) was \$2,859. That's higher than the Middlesex County av-

erage, which is \$2,733.

We're actually spending above the average. In addition, the amount of state aid and miscellaneous income (which includes grants) we receive is no

better than the other towns in the

In fact, 14 out of 25 towns in the county received more state aid than we did. Apparently our hometown Assemblyman has not been doing as great a

job as he says he is.

We're not doing that well in preserving open space either. Another article in the Star Ledger the same day said Middlesex County has preserved 6,000 acres of open space. Since there are 25 towns in the county that's an average of 240 acres per town.
Yet according to the Kubala and

Thomas's own column last week. South Plainfield has only preserved 150 acres of open space. That's much less that the other towns. Why aren't we getting our fair share?

These figures show the huge gap between what the Democrats say they did and what the Democrats actually did.

JAKE CATALDO

To the Editor,

When I came home from work the other day, I found a flyer in my door from the local Republican candidates. As I read through the information, I saw that one of the candidates, Rob Bengivenga, lists his occupation as a

business and property manager. Then I remembered where I had heard that name before.

The Bengivengas are one of the largest developers and landlords in South Plainfield. Talk about a conflict of interest! How can someone sit on the council and make decisions about development and zoning issues, when his livelihood depends on the outcome of those decisions? How would he be able to make unbiased decisions regarding the building department, code enforce ment, fire inspectors and zoning code official when these departments affect his businesses on a daily basis?

When one of the biggest issues fac-ing South Plainfield and all of New Jersey for that matter, is overdevelop ment. Do we want a developer on the Borough council? I for one, do not.
NICOLE PALMERE

Dear Editor,

On Election Day, the voters of South Plainfield should just look at a few simple facts to see why Ed Kubala and Kathy Thomas deserve to be reelected to the Borough Council.

Their conservative fiscal strategies

have kept our municipal tax rate as one of the lowest in Middlesex County. This

is a remarkable change in the way our borough government is run when you consider that the previous Republican administration borrowed millions of dollars for everyday expenses. These sensible fiscal policies demonstrate that government can provide excellent services without mortgaging our children's future. Just look at all of the improvements around town that have been accomplished without massive borrowing, over 130 roads repaved, new senior housing a new senior recreation center, over 150 acres of open space preserved, the reconstruction of Hamilton Blvd. and the new curbs on Maple Ave.

The Kubala-Thomas record of ac complishment demonstrates that Ed and Kathy are dedicated public servants who put the interests of the residents of South Plainfield first on every issue They have shown the creativity needed to allow our borough government to provide top rate services on a lean budget. They have also shown the courage to make the tough decisions on cutting the budget.

On Election Day, look at the record and vote for Ed Kubala and Kathy

Thomas for Borough Council.

MARY AGRISTA

(Continued on page 16)

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Hams Seeking New Members

The Amateur Radio Operators (AROS) would like to increase the number of operators who would be available for community needs, and will conduct a course for interested residents which would enable them to earn a Technician License. Completion of the course would prepare an individual for the FCC Exam. The AROS will provide instructors and mentors

South Plainfield Office of Emergency Management has a volunteer group known as CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) that are trained to lend assistance as needed. Part of the team consists of amateur radio operators who can augment com-munications as needed i.e., emergen-

inimatuous as needed i.e., emergencies, parades, races, shelters, searches (missing persons), etc.

It is anticipated that the course will consist of eight, two-hour weekly meetings. The course would start in January 2006 and end at March 2006. Established took is \$20 for the credit person. mated cost is \$20 for the study manual and \$15 for the FCC exam.

AROS are asking existing AROS who are not part of the CERT unit to participate. If interested, call (908) 668-0010 or e-mail spobserver@com cast.net with name, address and phone number by Nov. 12. If you have questions, you will be contacted. The first meeting is Nov. 19.

HELP WANTED

P/T RECEPTIONIST WANTED FOR South Plainfield Chiropractic office. Eves. Mon, Wed & Fri. Experienced or will train. Must be mature & people oriented. Computer literate a plus, but not required. Must be able to multi-task. Call

(908) 755-1117. LOOKING FOR HIGH SCHOOL/ college student to do office mainte after school in No. Edison. Call Chris

(732) 494-2985. P/T ACCOUNT ASST. NEEDED. MUST have reliable vehicle for errands, be able to assist in office paperwork. Willing to train. 25 hrs. per week. Call Chris. (732)

TEACHER'S AIDE WANTED IN South Plfd. Pre-school. Hours 9am-1pm. \$6.50/hr.Call Michele (908) 561-3278.

DELI COUNTER & GRILL HELP FOR bagel shop and deli. Mon-Fri 7am-4pm.
Call (908) 222-4010 ask for Milt.

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Warm, loving person needed to care for my child in my home, Mon-Fri 6:30 to 9 a.m. & drop off at school. Must have own trans. Call (917) 930-1179 leave message.

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dresser, mirror chest & nite stand. Retail \$3800, sacrifice \$1475 new in box. (732) 259-6690. DINING ROOM-DOUBLE PEDESTAL

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W SWEET

Reach every household in South Plainfield in the December 2 issue of the Observer.



(Continued from page 14) To the Editor

On Election Day, vote for the team of Patrick Diegnan for State Assembly and Ed Kubala and Kathy Thomas for

Borough Council.
With Ed's and Kathy's leadership, the council has adopted good financial policies and practices that have kept South Plainfield's municipal tax rate as one of the lowest in Middlesex County and decreased the Borough's debt dramatically. They have done this while still making dramatic improvements all over town. Just look at the recreation center, the expanded PAL, the improvements to the community pool, the improvements to Putnam Park, the lights at the soccer complex, a new commu-nications center for our police department and the senior housing units on Morris Ave. Ed and Kathy have worked together with Pat Diegnan to secure State grants for many new projects such as the Maple Ave. reconstruction, the Durham Ave. reconstruction and the new police detective/juvenile facility.

This is a great team working for So. Plfd.'s future and I urge everyone to vote with me for Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan, Councilman Ed Kubala and Councilwoman Kathy Thomas on Election day.

SHERRY BRUNO

Dear Editor,

It's time for a change in South Plain-field! Twelve years of Democratic rule in our town has brought South Plain-field lower than many thought possible. The budget is up \$1.2 million this year alone and the never ending building spree is resulting in higher school taxes and exploding traffic.

The Democrats have turned a blind

eye toward their ethical shortcomings and open government is but a memory. In fact, over the past few years the council created three new patronage jobs and it awarded lucrative no-bid contracts to campaign contributors at

every opportunity.

To top it off, after being sued for sexual discrimination, the council hid from us, the taxpayers, how it settled the suit, something we as voters have a right to know. All this happened un-der the "watchful" eye of Ed Kubala and over the past year, Kathy Thomas. South Plainfield deserves better. While Kubala and Thomas say they

want what's best for our town, their actions don't live up to their words. If so, they would stand up to their party and fight for what's right. Instead, they're caved to the party bosses, voting to allow no-bid contracts, voting to the party by the property of the party to be seen to to give special favors to Democratic contributors like Jack Morris and voting to increase spending year after year. South Plainfield has become an ex-

tremely troubled town under Demo cratic control. If you want more of the same, vote for Kubala and Thomas. But I suggest you send a message and demand something better by supporting Anesh and Bengivenga on Nov. 8.

PAOLA R. CUADROS

Dear Editor.

Ed Kubala's and Kathy Thomas' record of achievement on the Borough Council is outstanding. These are people who bring energy and ideas to our borough government. Just consider all of the improvements that have occurred in South Plainfield over the past few years such as the 130 repaved roads, the preservation of over 150 acres of open space, the senior recreation center, the expanded PAL, the improvements to the community pool, the improvements to Putnam Park, a new fire truck, the lights at the soccer complex, a new communications center for our police department and the senior housing units on Morris Ave. This impressive list demonstrates that Ed Kubala and Kathy Thomas understand that the primary obligation of our elected officials is to improve the quality of life for the residents of South Plainfield

Please vote for Ed Kubala and Kathy Thomas on Election Day. Through their hard work, they have earned it

A member of Atlantic

WALTER KALMAN

policereport

• An employee of Sodexho reported that several buildings at the Frank Jose Field had doors pried open or shutters had been smashed open. Several items in the concession stand had been knocked over the cash draw was on the

floor. Nothing was taken.

• Exxon on Park Ave. reported that a customer had driven off without paying for \$20 worth of gas and a pack of cigarettes.
• A Smith St. resident reported that

a racial slur had been written on his vehicle in shaving cream.

On Oct. 18 Reuben G. Washing-

ton, 53, of No. Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license, a brake light out, speeding and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

· On Oct. 17 a No. Plainfield resi-

dent reported that Kraftman tools, CD case with CD's a Craftman wrench set. a Kenwood amplifier and car radio and stereo speakers worth \$3,425 were taken from the cab of his truck that was parked at Superseal on Helen St. Entry was gained through a driver side door that had a broken lock.

• Jones Curtis, 27, of Irvington was arrested for driving without license in possession, expired inspection sticker and an outstanding warrant at a mo-

tor vehicle stop.

• Franklin Ryan Andrew, 34, of iscataway was arrested for failure to exhibit a driver's license and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

• A subcontractor for PSE&G on Hadley Rd. reported the theft of his 2000 Nissan Maxima that had been left

in the parking lot for six weeks while

away on business.

• A Clinton Ave. resident reported that first floor bathroom window was open and a Playstation 64 and two handguns were taken from the home.

• On Oct. 19 Game Stop on Stelton

Rd. reported that a customer grabbed a Sony PSP gaming system worth \$250 and ran out of the store.

 An employee of Montrose Mold-ers on St. Nicholas Ave. reported that someone had made an attempt to pry open the drivers side door molding of his vehicle. No entry was gained.

 A Central Ave. resident reported that the ignition of their unlocked vehicle had been damaged and the vehicle's registration had been taken.

· On Oct. 20 a No. Plainfield resi-

dent reported the theft of his unlock Huffy mountain bike from the front of his father's residence on O'Keefe Ln.

 On Oct. 21 a Delmore Ave. resident reported that his backhoe parked on Spicer Ave. had it's rear window

• On Oct. 22 Ramon Torres, 35, of So. Plainfield was arrested at Home Depot for shoplifting pliers and wire cutters worth \$34.

 A Highland Park resident reported that a debit card and \$60 in cash had been taken from their unlocked vehicle parked at Best Western Hotel.

 On Oct. 23 Rafael A. Perez, 40, of Plainfield was arrested for failing to observe a traffic signal and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.



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