

Sign-ups for girls interested in playing Ponytail Softball this season must be registered by March 6. Girls ages eight as of Oct. 1, 2005 to 13 are eligible. Fee is \$35; late registration (after March 6) is \$50. Teams will be drafted March 15 and 16.

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 9, NO. 26

50 CENTS

MARCH 3, 2006

**Don't
Miss It!**

Connect ProtectInform

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Senior Citizens Center, 90 Maple Ave. for
an informative program on protecting kids
who use MySpace.com and Internet Safety.



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Planning Board Rejects Age Restricted Housing Proposal

By Libby Barksly

By a 5 to 4 vote on Tuesday, the Planning Board rejected Celebrations' application for preliminary and final site plan approval from developer Jack Morris to build 484 age-restricted housing units on the former Tingley Rubber site located on South Ave. and Coolidge St.

Board members voting against the application were Paul Grzenda, John Mocharski, John Pabst, Peter Smith

and Frank Salerno. Charlie Butrico, John Pappas, Jack Pedersen and Kathy Thomas voted for the project.

"It was too much in one place," Mocharski said about the 484 units planned for the site. From the start of the hearings, resident Frank Mikorski emphasized the density of the proposed plan as a potential health and safety problem, especially if a fire occurred.

During the Feb. 28 meeting, (Continued on page 8)



Joseph Abbruzzese was sworn in as South Plainfield Fire Official and Fire Sub-Code Official by Council President Dennis Cerami at a recent Council meeting. Proudly looking on as he receives his badge are Joe's wife Donna, brother John, daughters Staci and Gina and father, Dominick. Joe is an active member of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department, serving as fire chief for five years. Members of the Piscataway, Edison and Plainfield Fire departments attended the ceremonies, as well as South Plainfield High School Principal Dr. Ken May and many other dignitaries and friends.

Figueiredo Reinstated After Challenging BOE

By Libby Barksly

Brian Figueiredo was reinstated as South Plainfield High School assistant JV girls softball coach after a prolonged public session during last week's Board of Education meeting. Coaches, parents, students and Figueiredo himself spoke on his behalf, requesting that Board members reconsider and reappoint him as coach of this season's JV softball team.

Initially, the Board's agenda listed the position and names of the high school spring coach appointments only. Donald Panzarella was named as head coach for softball

and the three positions for assistant coaches were listed as TBA (to be announced).

According to Board President Steve Bohn, the Board pulled the assistant coaches names in order to consider naming a female assistant coach, especially to be in the locker room at the end of school.

During the public address portion and before the Board voted on personnel, Figueiredo made his appeal to the board to revisit its position on appointing another coach to replace him. Figueiredo said that as a coach for Rahway soccer and baseball, he had seen the SPSHS teams in action and wanted to be on the SPSHS side. So when there was an opening for a Phys Ed teacher, he applied and left a tenured position in Rahway. As softball coach he led the JV team to an undefeated season in which the team won all 23 of their games—the first time they had a shutout season. "I have a commitment to this (softball) program. To learn I can't continue is puzzling. Look at the example it sets for the students. It's contrary

to every thing taught—to work hard, deliver results, enjoy success—and then be released as coach. It doesn't make sense," said Figueiredo.

In his remarks, Don Panzarella said that in his 27 years as head coach there were no incidents in the locker room because of the professionalism of the girls. If this issue is a concern, it was not raised. Panzarella also commented on the timing of Figueiredo's notification of his dismissal only two weeks before the softball season starts. "It gives him no time to seek another position," he said.

After Panzarella, assistant Softball coaches Nick Scullo and Joe Blondo both endorsed Figueiredo and praised him for his mentoring of team work and fair play.

Debbie Boyle, Grant School PTO president, read letters endorsing Figueiredo from former players Leann Roudi and Lauri Matticola-Venutucci. Both returned to coach the softball team.

Parent Richard Little, a local electrical contractor with two daughters in the program, wanted an accounting from the Board on its protocol of hiring coaches. Ken Fry, another parent whose child is in the program, asked for an explanation "on why there will be a change?"

Christina Schuetz, wearing the shirt Figueiredo gave the team members to commemorate their win, told of the needed equipment, as well the special dinner and shirts he had provided the team, which

(Continued on page 7)



After Brian Figueiredo was reinstated as assistant softball coach, 2005 team members Carlie Kazimir, Patty Cameron, Donna Garcia, Lacy Santone get a group hug.

State of New Jersey Testing Program

The months of March and April will be busy for most students in the South Plainfield School District regarding the state mandated testing program. Students in grades three through 11 will be administered tests developed to monitor growth and development, while proficiency on the 11th grade HSPA is required to receive a high school diploma.

The High School will operate a half-day schedule on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, March 7, 8 and 9. Students in grades 9, 10 and 11 will report to assigned testing areas and seniors are to report to the gym at 8:10 a.m. Dismissal for all students will be at 12:35 p.m.

On Friday, March 10, high school students in grades 10 and 11 are to

attend at regular time and report to assigned testing areas starting at 8:10 a.m. Students in grades 9 and 12 have a modified schedule whereby they report to school at 9:10 a.m. Ninth graders report to the auditorium and seniors will report to the gym.

The Grade Eight Proficiency Test (GEPA) will be administered to eighth grade students on March 13 through 16. Normal daily schedules are planned with students attending during normal school hours.

During the week of March 20 through the 24, the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJASK) will be administered to students in grades three and four. A normal daily schedule is in effect.

In early April, students in grades

five, six and seven will be administered the NJASK five, six and seven for the first time. April 4, 5 and 6 are the scheduled dates for testing with regular daily schedules again planned for students in Grant Elementary School and the Middle School.

Four to Run for 3 BOE Seats

Four candidates will run for the three open seats on the Board of Education in April. None of the four candidates are presently serving on the Board.

Running for seats this year are Ernie "Jim" Giannakis, Randi Gregorio, John Markham and Donna Rann. Only John Markham has previous

experience as a board member, serving on the board for three terms from 1978 to 1988.

All three incumbent members whose seats are up for election chose not to run. They are Sue Peck, Patrick Kelly and Dan Smith, who was appointed to fill the position vacated by Michael English, who resigned last year.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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southplainfieldnj.com
for the latest meeting agenda

council meetings

Meets twice a month on the first and third Tuesday

Borough Hall Council Chambers • Questions? 908-226-7605

Date	Agenda Meeting	Public Meeting
March 7	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
March 21	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.

All meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Avenue.

planning board

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

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

March 14, March 28, April 11, April 25, May 9, May 23, June 13, June 27, July 18*, Aug. 15*, Aug. 29*, Sept. 12, Sept. 26, Oct. 10, Oct. 24, Nov. 28, Dec. 12 and Dec. 26.

zoning board of adjustment

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

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

March 9, March 23, April 13, April 27, May 11, May 25, June 8, June 22, July 13, July 27, Aug. 10, Aug. 24, Sept. 14, Sept. 28, Oct. 12, Oct. 26, Nov. 30* and Dec. 14.

board of education meetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted

Com. of the Whole, Tuesdays 7 p.m. - March 14 and March 28.

Regular Meeting Tuesdays 8 p.m. - March 21 and April 4.

taxpayers advisory group

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

site plan sub-committee

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

March 21, April 18, May 16, June 20, July 18, August 15
Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21 and Dec. 19.

recreation commission

Meets once a month on the second Tuesday of the month, except July and August
PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7716

March 14, April 11, May 23*, June 13, July and Aug.

No scheduled meetings, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14 and Dec. 12.

environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)

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

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

business advisory group

Meets once a month (first Wednesday)

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

traffic safety advisory commission

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

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

board of education curriculum/technology meetings

Meets once a month on Mondays at 8 p.m. in the 2nd floor conference room at Roosevelt Administration Building on Jackson Ave.



- Sewer bills have been mailed to all residents.
- Payment is due March 1 with a 10-day grace period.

South Plainfield Observer

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(908) 668-0010 • FAX (908) 668-8819

NANCY GRENNIER
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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in the South Plainfield Observer:

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

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: spsobserver@comcast.net or fax 908-668-8819. Letters should not exceed 200 words. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. It is the editor's discretion to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject. The opinions expressed in "Letters" do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Observer. All letters must be submitted with name and phone number, for verification.

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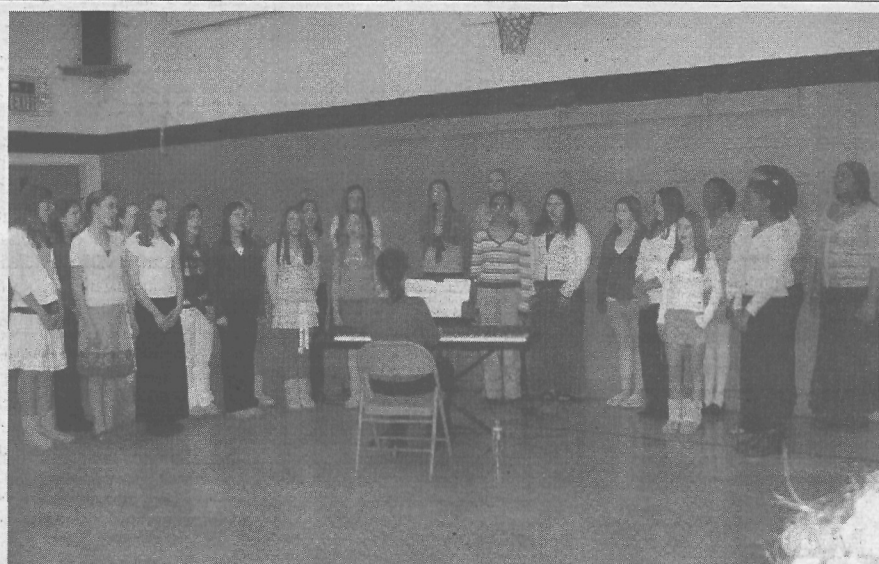
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Twenty eight members of the Middle School Gems Chorus perform under the director of Dona Markiewicz at last week's Board of Education meeting.

IN YOUR OPINION

To the Editor,

I recently visited the South Plainfield High School's media center, where the opening of a photographic exhibit, "Surviving the Plan" was celebrated. That may seem an odd word to use, celebrated, but it was to me a triumph of knowledge, force of will, desire for the truth and acknowledgment of the evils that man overcome.

Sixteen holocaust survivor stories accompanied the photographic journey of Jerry Casciano through the concentration camps of Poland. Each photograph of a survivor had a synopsis of an incident accompanying it. Between each photograph was a montage of camp images. All done in black and white, the imagery was memorable.

Several of the participants related stories or voiced their hopes for the future to the audience. Students from Fran Flannery's Holocaust Studies class made presentations of their own poetry and essays; along with topical readings from Shakespeare and a Rwandan survivor boy. Students have met with these survivors numerous times and have been told their stories. They will pass them on to the visitors at the exhibit for the next month while it remains at the high school.

The resolve in these students, to continue the fight to stop the horror of genocide was a moving and marvelous thing to behold. That they have become aware of, and are willing to work toward, the cessation of genocidal practices is a tribute to them and their teacher.

CAROL M. BYRNE

To the Editor,

I'm writing this letter with the fear that I will get punished for it. In South Plainfield High School they claim to use disciplinary actions when they believe it is needed. The fact, however, is that a part of the administration takes action at the wrong time to the wrong people.

Two incidents have taken place, which, as a student, terribly upsets me. In our bathroom at school, girls are constantly smoking. I have personally watched someone throw cosmetics at a smoke detector to try and knock out the battery to disable it. I have gone in to use the girls' bathroom and had to use the nurse's instead, due to all the ashes burned onto the seats and the smoke moving throughout the air. It reeks to high heaven in those bathrooms. Why should people have to breathe in that smoke? When I question certain South Plainfield High School administration members about this, they say that a person would have to actually catch the smokers with the cigarette in their hand or they talk about the privacy act. Well, I have the right to breath smoke-free air in school. No smoking in school is not only a school rule, but it is also a State law. As of April 15, 2006, there will be no smoking in restaurants, bars and any other public facility, but will this also apply in our school?

The other incident, which was largely ignored, was one which took place about three weeks ago. In the parking lot at the high school many students have noticed nicks and dings on their cars. People actually hit someone's car and drove away and the people whose cars were hit did not come forward and report it to the ad-

Submit Letters to the Editor:

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

Letters may be submitted to the Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or fax 908-668-8819 or by email: spsobserver@comcast.net. Deadline is Monday, 5 p.m. Letters must be accompanied by a name and telephone number for verification. Please limit letters to no more than 200 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.

ministrators, because they do not believe any action would be taken. Cars are constantly getting things thrown at them such as food, drinks and other trash. It's not fair to the people who have to clean everything off their car. This shouldn't even be an issue in the first place. Students go to school for a positive educational experience, not for their property to be vandalized. Police should monitor the parking lots during all lunches. Maybe then cars would not get vandalized, trash wouldn't get thrown all over the parking lot and students would not smoke on school property.

Disciplinary actions need to be enforced more. Hopefully, I am not penalized for what I am writing. I'm just trying to get my point across as I have been trying to do for the last month or so. I'm not asking for trouble or to be looked down upon by the administrators. This letter is clearly just an opinion, but it is an opinion that needs to be addressed for the good of all South Plainfield students.

REGARDS,
JESSICA HILL, SPHS STUDENT

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Pictured (l to r): Justin Lesky, Megan Cerini, Jimmy Bijani and Chelsea Ng.

Middle School Students Selected to Preform in Regional Orchestra

Four South Plainfield Middle School students were among 800 of the best music students in the area to earn a place in the Central Jersey Region II band and orchestra auditions. The Middle School hosted the auditions on Saturday, Feb. 4, where the best students from grades six through nine from Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Somerset and Union counties competed.

Trumpet player Megan Cerini and

tuba player Jimmy Bijani will participate in the regional band and orchestra auditions. Chelsea Ng and trumpet player Justin Lesky will perform with the regional orchestra on March 12 at the Central Jersey Music Education Association's musical performance at JP Case Middle School in Flemington.

These students have been preparing for this difficult audition since September.

'Open Your Heart' Casino Night Promises Excitement

Open Your Heart to Children Battling Cancer Foundation, Inc. will be hosting its first Casino Night to be held the evening of March 25 at Sacred Heart School.

Casino Night promises to be a fun filled evening of games, music and prizes. Participants can play blackjack, craps, roulette, the big wheel and poker while matching their game skills against local professional dealers from Tumbling Dice Entertainment.

With each ticket purchase you will receive \$25 in playing chips to be used for gaming. At the end of the evening your chips will be redeemed for tickets and placed in the chance raffle. You will also be able to purchase additional chips for extra chances to win prizes. You do not have to be an experienced gambler; in fact the dealers will help you learn how to play the various games.

Guests may also enjoy the music and atmosphere as entertainment is being provided by Last Call, an acoustic electric classic rock band. Wine, beer

and beverages are being provided. Guests should bring their favorite finger food or appetizers and their friends.

Fabulous community support from local businesses and individuals has enabled the foundation to offer an outstanding array of prizes for the chance raffle, including tickets to major sporting events, a selection of dining experiences and electronics such as a flat screen TV, etc. Please come out and support us for this most worthwhile cause.

Open Your Heart to Children Battling Cancer Foundation, Inc. is committed to raising funds to support pediatric cancer research and to improve the quality of life of pediatric cancer patients and their families. Dedicated volunteers support the Foundation enabling 100% of the net proceeds to be donated.

For further even details or tickets, call Andrea Lacerda at (908) 755-5300 ext. 302 or email LacerdaA@MorettiRealty.com.



Middle School principal Steve Novak presented tenure certificates to eighth grade science teacher Dana Marotto and Samia Guirguis. Assistant Principal Kelly Panuzzo and High School math teacher Paul Rafalowski, not pictured, also receive tenure.

Make College Count Program At SPHS

South Plainfield High School has announced that it has scheduled the highly rated "Making College & Career Count" in-school presentation program for its senior class. The one-hour presentation will be delivered free to students and parents at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, March 8.

The presentation is designed to help students begin to think about their next steps upon graduation and what they need to accomplish throughout the upcoming years in order to maximize their opportunities for future success. The program also addresses important issues such as time management, choosing career paths, gaining experience through internships and meaningful work experience and study skills.

"Graduation from high school is a key transition period in a student's life," said Making It Count Vice President, J.R. Cifant. "Our goal is to provide and reinforce the positive messages counselors and teachers are giving to their students during this crucial time and help students understand that anyone can be successful if they choose to be."

The Making College & Career Count program will be presented to more than 650,000 high school seniors nationwide during the 2006 spring semester.

Monster's Making It Count also provides free presentations for freshmen and juniors and has reached over 13 million students since 1999. Guidance counselors on average rated the value of the ideas presented a 9.4 on a 10-point scale.

Key content and supporting materials for the Making College and Career Count presentation can be found online at <http://www.makingitcount.com>. The website offers a wide variety of tools and resources for current and future high school students.

Music Boosters To Host Dinner Dance Fundraiser

The South Plainfield High School Music Boosters will be hosting a fundraiser dinner dance on Saturday, April 1.

The event is sponsored by the Polish National Home with a buffet dinner provided by Carraba's Restaurant in Green Brook.

The evening will begin at 6 p.m. with a cocktail hour with hors d'oeuvres, including donations from Red Lobster. Dinner and dancing to a 20-piece big band orchestra will continue through the evening until 11 p.m. There will be door prizes and a cash bar. Tickets are advance sale only and cost \$25 per person.

For tickets, contact John Roesch (908) 753-0688, Bill Seesselberg (908) 756-0539 or Diane Kuhn (908) 754-8294.

Almost Famous Players Seeking Performers

Almost Famous Players is currently seeking additional performers for their second Coffeeshouse. The first, held at the PAL in 2004 was declared a major success, it featured four acts and door prizes. This year the volunteer theatre troupe hopes to offer even more entertainment. Please respond ASAP to (908) 346-2290, or email almostfamousplyrs@aol.com.

There will be no auditions; CD, tapes or videos are welcome. Space and time is limited, call now!



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Around Town

Lenten Fish Dinners At Sacred Heart

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 April 7

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 and Sacred Heart Church, will hold their famous lenten fish dinners on March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 and April 7.

Dinners will be served in the Sacred Heart cafeteria from 5 to 7 p.m.

Menu features filet of fish (fried, broiled, Parmesan), a pasta dish each week (cheese ravioli, manicotti, linguini) pizza, fresh garden salad, rice pilaf, French fries or macaroni and cheese, cole slaw, coffee, tea, or cold drink, plus dessert.

Take out orders are available. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and \$4 for children. Pay at the door.

Stations of the Cross will be held in the Church at 7 p.m.

Kennedy Scoop Dinner

March 3

Kennedy School, located on Norwood Ave., will hold a scoop dinner on Friday, March 3. Dinner is 25 cents a scoop of each food chosen. Seniors are invited between 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. General public is asked to come between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.

Spaghetti Dinner at St. Stephen's

March 5

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church on Park Ave. will hold an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner on Sunday, March 5 from 4 to 6 p.m. A free-will offering will be received. Suggested donation is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children, (includes beverage and dessert). No reservations needed. For more information, call (908)757-4474.

Abigail Adams' to Visit the Library

March 5

On Sunday, March 5, at 2 p.m., the South Plainfield Historical Society will present a special program. Kim Hanley, of the American Historical Theatre, will be presenting, "Abigail Adams, Remember the Ladies." The program is free of charge.

South Plainfield SENIOR CENTER

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

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
UPCOMING EVENTS St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance March 11 • 6 to 10 pm * * * Hunterdon Hills Playhouse - "Charlie's Aunt" March 23 • 10am departure				
Knitting/Crocheting 9:30-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Art Class 11:30am	6 Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social 10am	7 Exercise 8:45am Computer Class 10am, 11:30am & 1pm Tai Chi Class 2pm MySpace.com Program 7 p.m.	8 Shop Pathmark 9am Tax Preparation 9-12 Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11am & 1pm Exercise Class 1:15pm.	9 BINGO 10-2pm Lunch Available Tax Preparation 9am to noon
				10 BINGO 10-2pm Lunch Available Tax Preparation 9am to noon

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Daily Events
9-11 AM Coffee & Cake
9 AM-4 PM Cards & Pool
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What's happening in
FEBRUARY

VFW Country Breakfast

March 5

VFW Post #6763 will hold a Country Breakfast on Sunday, March 5 from 8 to 11 a.m. Donation is \$5 for adults and children 12 years and under \$3. Proceeds benefit VA Hospital at Lyons. The public is invited.

For additional information, call (908) 668-9751 after 3 p.m. daily and noon on weekends.

Practical Crafting At the Library

March 6

There will be a Practical Crafting program at South Plainfield Library on Monday, March 6. There are two sessions: 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Instructor Ronda Wisniewski will lead participants in making Origami gift boxes, using paper folding techniques. Participants should bring a ruler, pencil and glue stick. Space is limited, pre-registration is required. There's a \$1 materials fee payable upon registration.

If you'd like more information, call (908) 754-7885, or visit their website at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us.

SPHS PTA Auction/Raffle

March 11

South Plainfield High School PTA will sponsor an Auction/Raffle on Saturday, March 11 to support the Class of 2006. Admission tickets are now on sale and nearly sold out. Prizes this year include: laptop computer, plasma TV, Xbox 360, Broadway Theater tickets, Yankee tickets, gas grill, variety of gift certificates, theme baskets and much more. Admission is \$10. Call for your tickets now. Call Ellen Melanson at 756-3731 or Pat Anderson at 756-6512. Limited quantity of tickets left. There will be no tickets on sale at the door.

Scrapbooking at the Library

March 13

The library will host two scrapbooking programs on Monday, March 13 and Monday, Apr. 24 at 7 p.m.

Dayel Giammarino of Creative Memories will teach participants how to perform basic scrapbooking techniques, including cropping, mounting and journaling. She will also show how to put together a "short story card" for mounting in a scrapbook.

The program is free of charge. Participants are requested to bring along three photos; all other materials will be provided. Space is limited, pre-registration is required.

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

Trip to Atlantic City

March 16

The Senior Center is sponsoring a trip to the Claridge in Atlantic City on Thursday, March 16. The cost is \$18. Bus departs the senior center at 9 a.m. and returns around 7 p.m. For reservations, please stop in at the Senior Center to sign up.

VFW Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

March 17

VFW Post #6763, located on Front St., will hold a corned beef and cabbage dinner on St. Patrick's Day, Friday, March 17 from 5 to 7 p.m. The public is invited. Donation, adult \$8, children 12 years and under \$4. Take outs .50 cents extra.

For information call, (908) 668-9751 after 3 p.m. daily and noon on weekends.

American Legion St. Patrick's Dinner/Dance

March 18

The American Legion Post and SAL Squadron #243 will hold its annual St. Patrick's Day dinner dance on Saturday, March 18 from 6 to 11 p.m. at Chaumont Post #243, 243 Oak Tree Ave. \$15 per person.

For more information call (908) 668-9414.

Franklin PTA Auction/Raffle Night

March 18

The Franklin School PTA is sponsoring their 10th Annual Auction/Raffle Night. The event will be held on Saturday, March 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the South Plainfield High School gym. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and tickets are \$10.

For tickets, call Dorothea at 753-7117 or Jennifer at 561-4958. No one under the age of 18 will be admitted. Complimentary ticket for grand prize drawing with every advanced ticket sale. Food welcomed, soft drinks available for purchase.

Out of Town

Blackrose to Perform

March 4

Blackrose, a band performing classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will perform at Season's Restaurant, located on Rt. 27 in Edison on Saturday, March 4 at 10 p.m.

NAMI Documentary

March 4

NAMI Middlesex, an affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness will present a showing of the documentary "Out of the Shadow," which chronicles the filmmaker's mother Millie with schizophrenia. The movie will be shown Saturday, March 4 at 10 a.m. in the auditorium of the University of Medicine and Dentistry on Hoes Lane in Piscataway, followed by a panel discussion and a question and answer session. Light refreshments will be served.

For free registration, call NAMI Middlesex at (908) 753-1753. Space is limited.

Health and Wealth Forum

March 4

On March 4 Central Jersey radio station WCTC 1450-AM will be hosting its annual Health and Wealth Forum at the Pines Manor in Edison from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Guidance on a variety of healthcare and finance topics will be free. The programs spotlight will be the new Medicare Part D plan, which has been met with much confusion since its introduction.

The seminar, which includes a continental breakfast and multiple raffles, is free, but attendees must register in advance. If interested, call (732) 249-2600 and dial 0 for the receptionist.

Annual Fisherman's Flea Market

March 5

Berkeley Striper Club will hold their 11th Annual Fisherman's Flea Market on Sunday, March 5 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Tri-Boro First Aid Building in Seaside Park. Admission is \$3, children under 10 are free. Food and refreshments will be sold. Door prizes will be awarded throughout the day.

Berkeley Striper Club is known for hosting one of the best Fisherman's Flea Markets in the Jersey Shore area. For more information, call (732) 280-3281.

Chinese Auction

March 5

Resurrection of Christ Church on Bound Brook Rd in Dunellen will hold a Chinese Auction on Sunday, March 5. Doors open at noon, drawing at 1:30 p.m. Huge variety of items, gifts for all occasions. Donation is \$5. Free coffee and cake, food available. Snow date is March 12.

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

Women's Club to Hold Monthly Meeting

March 8

The Metuchen-Edison Women's Club monthly meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 8 at St. Luke's Hall on Oak Ave. in Metuchen (Rt. 27). The program will include Middlesex County surrogate Kevin H. Hoagland, who will provide information on wills and estates and attorney Gary J. Hoagland. Guests and new members are welcome.

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

Middlesex E. WOWs

March 10

The Middlesex East Widows or Widowers will hold an open dance on Friday, March 10 from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. at The American Legion Hall in Carteret. Live music and refreshments. All are welcome. Admission \$8 members, \$9 guests. For information, call (732) 541-2174 or (908) 757-0515.

Fish and Chips at Oak Tree Church

March 11

An Argyle Fish and Chips Dinner will be held on Saturday, March 11 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Oak Tree Presbyterian Church on Plainfield Rd. in North Edison. Donation is \$12 adults, seniors \$10 and children \$6 and include beverage and dessert. Take outs available. For information, call (732) 549-4178.

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SUPPLIES



Middle School February Students of the Month are (l to r): Tsunami-Elizabeth Fasullo, Cyclone-Kristina Jewkas, Avalanche Eddie Sullivan, Thunder-Jenna Alexander, Lightning-Jessica Gregorio. Not pictured is Kyle Pompilio from Team Monsoon.

southplainfieldpeople Milestones

Jessica Dabrio Named to Dean's List

Jessica Dabrio, a 2005 graduate of South Plainfield High School was named to the Dean's List at Cittone Institute in Edison.

Jessica was a 2005 recipient of a full scholarship to Cittone for pharmacy technician.

Jessica is the daughter of Ron and Sue Dabrio of South Plainfield.



Lorance Earns Dean's List at Douglass

Christina Lorance, a junior at Douglass College of Rutgers University, was placed on the Dean's list for her excellent academic record for the fall 2005 semester by Dean Ambar.

Christina is majoring in sociology and criminal justice with a minor in psychology.

She is the daughter of Paul and Eileen Lorance of South Plainfield.

Christopher Omelio Become Somerset County Sheriff's Officer

In a ceremony held recently, Christopher Omelio of South Plainfield was sworn in as a Somerset County Sheriff's Officer.

Retired Superior Court Judge Samuel Chiaravalli administered the oath of office.

After six months of rigorous training, Christopher graduated from the

Somerset County Police Academy in December. He attended Somerset County Institute and also studied Criminal Justice at Raritan Valley Community College where he maintained a 4.0 GPA.

Christopher is the son of Michael and Amy Omelio, also of South Plainfield.

37th Annual District Music and Art Festival

The South Plainfield Public Schools will present its 37th Annual All-District Music and Art Festival on Thursday, March 23 at South Plainfield High School starting at 6:25 p.m. The festival will feature performances of instrumental and vocal ensembles as well as displays of art created by the district's many talented students.

The music performances will take place in the auditorium while the works of art will be displayed in the hallway. The concert will be performed in three segments separated by two short intermissions during which the High School Winter Guard will give performances in the gymnasium. The first part of the concert will be devoted to orchestral music. The second part of the program will feature vocal music performances. The concert will conclude with performances of symphonic and jazz bands. Each segment of the program will feature ensembles from Grant, the Middle School and the high school. Each of the three concert segments will

require a separate ticket.

Tickets for the orchestral concert starting at 6:25 p.m., the choral concert starting at 7:35 p.m., and the band concert starting at 8:40 p.m. are currently on sale for \$2 each and can be purchased at the Middle School until March 17. Tickets purchased after March 17 will cost \$5.

To order tickets please send a letter of request specifying which concert (orchestral, choral, and/or band) and the number of tickets needed for each. Please send your request and check, payable to South Plainfield Schools, along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Andrew Weiss, South Plainfield Middle Schools, 2201 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

If you have any questions or comments, contact Andrew Weiss, the District Music Team Leader, at aweiss@spnet.k12.nj.us or at (908) 754-4620 Ext. 378. Orders will be filled based on ticket availability. NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR!!

Adult School Class Openings

The Spring 2006 Adult School brochure will be published within the next couple of weeks. If you would like to have your name added to our mailing list, please call the Adult School at (908) 754-4620 ext. 213.

There is still space in the following late starting winter semester classes:

Instant Chord Piano on Saturday, March 11; tennis classes starting on Saturday, March 18; dog obedience on Saturday, March 18 and golf lessons at Fairway Golf Center on Tuesday beginning on March 21.

For details or to register, please call (908) 754-4620 ext. 213.

There is also space available on the following trips. For a complete listing of our current trips, call the 754-4620 ext. 213.

Manhattan Sampler Tour-Sunday April 2-price \$44.

Culinary Institute, Hyde Park, NY-Saturday, May 13-price \$95, includes lunch.

Millionaires' Mile, NY-Saturday, May 20-price \$44.

Mamma Mia!-Saturday Matinee, June 3-price \$128.

N.Y. Yankees vs. Oakland at Yankee Stadium-Saturday, June 10-price \$65.

Cape Ann, Massachusetts Thursday, July 20-22-price \$445 per person, double occupancy.

Jersey Boys-Sunday Matinee, Aug. 13-price \$130.

Niagara Falls & Toronto, Canada-Sunday, Sept. 17-20-price \$686 per person double occupancy.

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From the South Plainfield Library Bookmarks

By Jaimie Unglaub

March is filled with exciting and educational programs here at the library.

This Sunday, March 5 at 2 p.m., we will be hosting "Abigail Adams: Remember the Ladies." *American Historical Theater* thespian Kim Hanley, will appear as Abigail Adams. This one time performance is being sponsored by the South Plainfield Historical Society and is free of charge.

Monday, March 6, will be a session of our on-going *Practical Crafting* program at 10:30 a.m. You will be making origami gift boxes with instructor Ronda Wisniewski. Space is limited and there is an advance payment of \$1 material fees, payable upon registration. Ms. Wisniewski is also instructing the *Scarf Knit-Along* through out the month of March. There is no charge for this program, but registration is required. The *Scarf Knit-Along* programs will be Mondays March 13, March 20 and March 27 at 10:30 a.m. sharp.

If Monday morning does not meet your schedule you are welcome to join our free on-going Knitting Club every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. All ages

and skill level are welcome and there is no registration required. Further questions regarding this club can be forwarded to Miss Linda at (908) 754-7885 x14.

Please be advised of a change in our holding policy. We have suspended our service of holding books for patrons who have placed their name on our favorite author list. If there is a specific book you are interested in, please have your name placed on hold for it or request it through an interlibrary loan. There is a bulletin board at the middle circulation desk displaying best seller books we have or will be acquiring. You are welcome to put your name on a holding list for these books. Thank you for your understanding.

Our on-going children's programs are scheduled for this upcoming week. *Books-N-Babies*, up to ages three years old, on Friday at 10:30am. *Time for 2s and 3s* will be held Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. and Thursday at 6:30 p.m. *Story time and Craft*, ages three and up, will be on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. We look forward to seeing your little ones!

Have a great weekend!

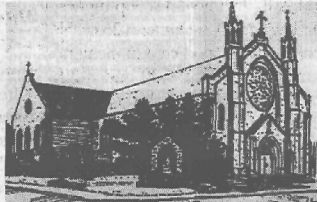
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South Plainfield, NJ

Rev. John Paul Alvarado, Pastor

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.



MySpace.com

You wouldn't let
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Don't let them surf without them either.

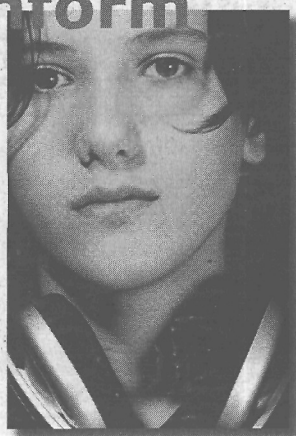
Connect ProtectInform

You know where your kids go when they walk out the door. Do you know where they go when they go online?

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Join us.....

Wednesday, March 8 at 7 p.m. at the South Plainfield Senior Citizens Center, 90 Maple Avenue, for an informative program on protecting kids who use MySpace.com and Internet Safety.



For more information, call (908) 668-0010. Sponsored by South Plainfield Observer, in conjunction with the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office (M.O.R.E.), South Plainfield Police Department, South Plainfield Board of Education and Sacred Heart School.



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Cub Scouts from Kennedy School earning their Bear Badges visited the South Plainfield Observer last week. Pictured are Jimmy Schulkes, Christian Wizda, Edward Sheaffer and Matthew Belanger.

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The March 24 Observer
will be mailed to all the
homes in South Plainfield.

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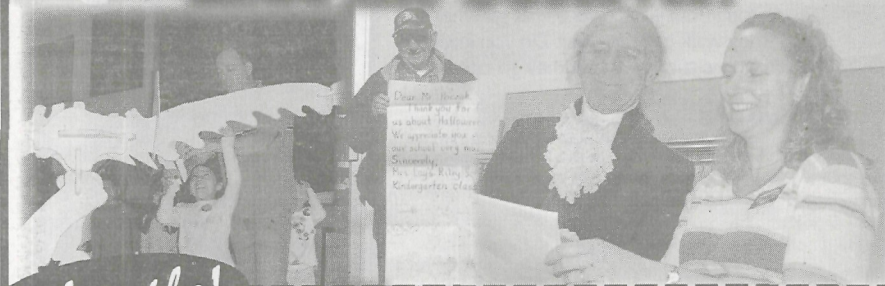
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From the Desk of Debbie Boyle...

As chairwoman of the 2007 Stokes committee, I am ecstatic about the 2007 Pasta Dinner fundraiser which drew 500 people to Grant on Feb. 22. Dinner was served from 5:30 until 8 p.m. Thank you to Bob Boyle, Roma Food vice president, for the extremely generous donation of all the food and desserts which fed 500 people. Proceeds from the dinner totaled \$2,900. Linda Lanza, Rosanne Balzer of Sodexho and Principal Leo Whalen donated countless hours preparing the food, cooking spaghetti, meatballs, sausage and meatloaf and even staying to clean up and mop the floors, which I am sure was not in their job description. You all went above and beyond the call of duty. Thank you to Dr. Rosado and the Board of Education for allowing us to fund raise and committeeman Dan Smith, SPSHS Principal Dr. Ken May, Vice Principal Errico, Grant Vice Principal Rob Richkus and Middle School Vice Principal Kelly Panuzzo, for coming out and supporting us.

The parents made garlic bread, salad and stuffed fresh cannoli shells. Thanks to all the parents who baked cookies, brownies and cakes. Karen Steingart, PTO president for Grant, Sue Murtagh, treasurer along with Donna Teller handled tickets at the door. The following people volunteered during the dinner: Rob Richkus, Kelly Buttrico, Pam Heilman, Mickey Wrubelviski, Ms. Reyes, Janet McDermott, Maria Huber, Diane Zekas, Vera Agee, Chere Glover, Tammy Smith, Tom and Laura Timmerman, Shirley Affinito, Jill Quadrel, Valerie Hunterton, Diane Hunterton, Cindy Driscoll, Stephanie Walsh, Nancy McMahon, Tracey Gratta, Frances Elsmann, Carol Macchia, Colleen Benwell, Kathy Buschay, Kathy Pittenger, Jackie Vill, Chris Sanko, Beth Graves, Karen and Kristen Forbes, Teresa Ward, Christine Dispenziere, Cheryl Papa, Jack and Eileen Brady, Jen Pellegrino and Debby DiDolce.

The following children volunteered: Kyle Brady, Patrick Boyle, Joey Affinito, Rusty Teller, Joey Skwait, Johnny DiDolce, Quinn Cochrane, Elizabeth Gratta, Megan McMahon, Nichole Benwell, Jackie McDonough and Steven Timmerman. If I inadvertently omitted anyone from the list please let me know and I will put your name in the next article.

When dinner was complete, Vice Principal Rob Richkus, Patrick and I brought four trays of food to the Keystone residents on Front St. to donate to the occupants.

Bill Cochran Jr., Stokes Committee member, presented an idea for spring 2006, to hold a tournament at the Jr. Baseball Club which would include the 2007 Stokes children. This would have been a wonderful fundraiser that we would have worked to schedule with the Jr. Baseball club. The majority vote by the Jr. Baseball Club board members was in our favor, but due to circumstances beyond Bill's control, we have decided not to hold this worthwhile tournament. Great idea Bill and many thanks for all your efforts on behalf of the children.

The Boyle Memorial Foundation supports all student activities in South Plainfield and in our school system.

We donated the pizza truck and all the supplies, hundreds of hamburgers and hot dogs for the 2005 Spring Music Festival for the SPSHS band. We donated funds to the South Plainfield Pop Warner Jr. Midgets to purchase varsity type jackets given to the players; donate signs, scholarships, the high school Peer to Peer telethon for scholarships, scholarships for graduating Sacred Heart eighth grade students, South Plainfield Soccer Club, recreation wrestling, recreation softball and the SPJBC. We will continue to support the youth in our town.

Congratulations to Brian Figueirdo who was reappointed the SPSHS softball coach. During the week of Feb. 14, Mr. "Fig" was informed that he would not be appointed to the position he held last year. Brian was devastated by this sad news. He coached the Junior Varsity High School Softball girls team during the 2005 season and had an undefeated season of 23-0. During the Board of Education meeting last Tuesday, Coaches Panzarella, Scalzo and Blondo all spoke on Coach Fig's behalf, along with parents and the members of the audience. The most touching portion was when 20 softball players came to the podium and each girl spoke about how much they admired Coach Fig. They spoke to the board members through tears, saying that Coach Fig possessed many qualities as a teacher, mentor, has an outstanding personality and his expertise in softball. One male high school student spoke about him as his teacher and how positive he is to his class. Thank you Dr. Rosado, Mr. Massaro and Board members for allowing each girl to speak, respecting their opinions, the coaches' opinions and for reappointing Coach Fig to the position of high school softball coach. Once again, it is all about the kids.

Congratulations to SPSHS Vice Principal Althea Bowman-Williams on her appointment as principal of Franklin School. I know the students will welcome you and your knowledge with open arms.

Charles Garcia, Sr., once again, thank you for donating your time and talent to weld the plaque donated by the Boyle Foundation, thanking in words, all those who helped fund and erect the Grant Elementary School sign.

Please plan to attend the seminar on MySpace that will take place on March 8 at 7 p.m. at the South Plainfield Senior Center located on Maple Ave. This is a very important seminar that will introduce the MySpace concept which many of our children are using to chat with their friends.

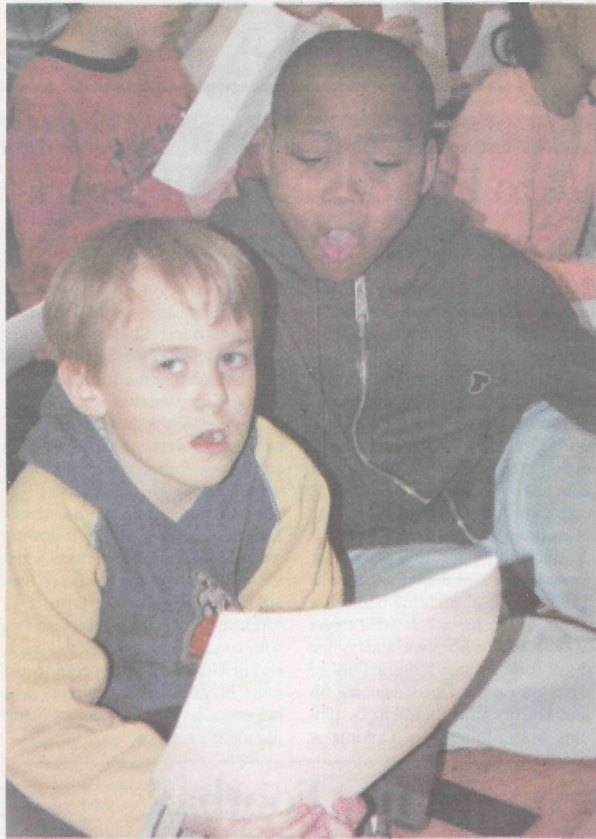
Thank you to Pat Vargo, South Plainfield Borough Court Clerk for placing the Pasta Dinner notice on the borough's website.

Thank you to Debbie, Paula, Ginny and Teri in the main office at the high school, you all are so helpful and extend yourself to all the children, parents and staff above and beyond the call of duty.

Congratulations to Rob Richkus and Kelly Panuzzo on your recent engagement. We all wish you the very best!

Debbie Boyle, Grant PTO,
SPSHS Athletic Booster Club
Trustee and parent

Franklin Students Take Kindness and Justice Challenge and Pass it On



Tommy Tarnawska and Jean Sapini sing We Are The World

Story/photos by Patricia Abbott

Franklin School recently wrapped up their Kindness and Justice Challenge and studies of Dr. Martin Luther King's beliefs with a school wide assembly. During the prior week, students listened to PA announcements each morning, noting an attribute of a kind and just person based on those beliefs. The students learned about the importance of vision, empowerment, courage, inclusion, tolerance, responsibility, respect, nonviolence and perseverance.

This year the students tried something different. Each child received a form entitled, "Franklin School Pays It Forward, How Far Can Our Kindness Go?" They listed an act of kindness they performed and then sent the form to family members and friends. The recipients noted their own acts of kindness and returned the form to the

school. The program was a resounding success with over 200 forms returned. The simple things the Franklin School youths had done saw returns from across the country, including New York, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Wyoming, Florida, Washington, Hawaii and more.

At the Feb. 15 Kindness and Justice Assembly students recited the Kindness and Justice Pledge, sang the inspirational songs, "We Shall Overcome," "All You Need is Love" and "We Are the World"—by far the most popular song. More than a dozen children were selected to read one of the responses they received. Second grade student Anirudh Iyengar told of a relative, Appi Iyengar of New Brunswick, who "helps organize bone marrow drives that have found three matches in the past two years, thus saving three lives." Brian Schillaci, grade three, received a reply from Lake Worth,

Florida, that read, "I helped find homes for unwanted and homeless cats and dogs." Jack Calvi, grade three, read a response from Tori Burke, 12, of North Carolina, "I helped make and plan a dinner for refugees sponsored by my school." Vincent Pellegrino, grade three, reported that Michael Pellegrino bought a little girl a new rabbit because the one she had died in a fire. There were far too many to read aloud. Third grader Aleasia Brown had four responses from family members. Especially touching was the reply from four-year-old Augustus Brown who said, "A little boy named Timmy at my school was crying because he missed his mommy. I told him everything was going to be alright and then I gave him a hug and he stopped crying." Kindergarten student Jagger Mendez's grandmother responded, "I bought a hat for young gas station attendant." Samantha Tercek had several responses including, "I call my elderly neighbor every morning to see if there is anything she needs from the supermarket." From John Tercek, "I helped a man in the Home Depot parking lot load his car because his items were heavy and he was by himself and struggling."

The annual program offers educators and students the chance to honor the dream of Martin Luther King, Jr. by performing acts of kindness (helping others) and acts of justice (standing up for what's right).

The KJ Pledge

During the Kindness and Justice Challenge and ALWAYS, I pledge to: act compassionately, act respectfully, act non-violent, act fairly, act honestly, act responsibly, demonstrate moral courage, serve my community, my friends, my family, my school, my neighborhood and celebrate my ability to take action to improve the world around me in both small and large ways.



South Plainfield High School Assistant Principal Althea Bowman Williams was appointed Franklin School principal effective July 1, 2006.



Carly Kensey, Student Council president, reads her K and J response as Principal, Nancy Erickson, watches.



Jack Calvi reads his "Pay It Forward" reply while Samantha Tercek, looks on.

Figueiredo Reinstated



Christina Scheutz wearing a champion T-shirt that all team members received after having undefeated 2005 JV softball season.

do we need a new coach? He inspired us and made me love the game," Schuetz said.

Ryan Miller, a student in the audience receiving recognition for fundraising efforts on behalf of the Vision 2000 Education Foundation, felt compelled to speak up for Figueiredo, his gym teacher. "I can't think of a better candidate. You owe the whole school an explanation," Miller told the Board.

Before the board went into executive session to decide on the coach appointments, Board President Steven Bohn explained, "This is not about Figueiredo's performance. This isn't about him. It's about coaching." The board returned with a newly printed addendum with Figueiredo's name listed as assistant coach. The two other assistant coaches appointed were Nicholas Scalzo and Joseph Blondo.

"I'm grateful," Figueiredo said when the Board's decision was announced. Elated with the result, parent Fry stated, "This shows that the process works by allowing everyone to express their opinion."

(Continued from page 1)

he paid for. Schuetz characterized the Board's seeking to replace Figueiredo with a woman coach as "reverse discrimination." "We spend 60 days with a coach and she is supposed to be a role model—but our role models are our parents. Why

Sacred Heart Announces Principal's List, Honor Roll

Sacred Heart School has announced the second marking period Principal's List and Honor Roll students.

Principal's List

Grade 6A—Andrea Muglia, Carla Palma and Cecelia Uche; 7A—Caresse Simmonds; 8A—Victoria Gaydos, Alfonse Muglia and Zachary Sikanowicz; 8B—Alexandra Fee and Aaron Pinkard.

Honor Roll

Grade 5A—Janee Edwards and Most Improved—Marissa Terrieri.

Grade 6A—Anthony Aguilar, Anthony Cardoso, Amanda Caruso, Kevaughn Charles, Amanda Joe, Rhel Lapitan, Christina Pokorny and Kyle Whitaker; Most Improved—William Saffold.

Grade 7A—Allyson Ricarte, Joseph Landry, Christopher Gbogi, Sabrina Douge and Siobhan Barrington; Most Improved—Damian Franklin.

Grade 8A—Julia Caruso, Kaitlin Muglia, Adrienne Novak, Richard Ortegón, Gerianna Pinto, Jordan Simmons, Jaclyn Thomas and Crystal Williams; Most Improved—Sarah Dullon.

Grade 8B—Brandi Adams, Taurien Buffaloe, Michael McHugh, Nicholas Montuori, Sean Piersanti, Patrick Ruiz; Most Improved—Vachele Wilson.

To our friends in South Plainfield
K. A. M. A. C

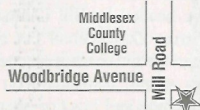
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MARCH 25, 2006
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\$40.00 PER PERSON
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Sports

WRESTLING

By RYAN HUNTER

Tigers Advance 14 to Regions, Defend District Title; Win 22nd Consecutive District Crown

It seems the momentum that the South Plainfield Wrestling Team built-up following their State Championship run last week continued as they headed into the District Tournament this past weekend in their home gym. By the tournament's conclusion Saturday night, the Tiger Wrestling Team won it's 22 consecutive District 12 Championship, doing so in its usual dominating fashion by besting second-place Watchung Hills 265-187. They also made school history by advancing all 14 wrestlers into the Region 3 tournament for the first time, fueled by eight champions.

Sweeping through the quarter final round, the Tigers advanced all 14 wrestlers into the semifinals with victories Friday night. This set the stage for the Tigers to make a run and advance all their wrestlers to the Regions.

On Saturday morning, 11 of the 14 wrestlers advanced to the finals to be held later that evening, most doing so in dominating fashion. In the consolation round, all three of South Plainfield's wrestlers (junior Mike Jakubik (135), freshman Jon Conroy (171) and senior Bill Daly (hwt.), all won their matches to qualify for the Region Tournament in Union.

The District 12 finals began at around 5 p.m. on Saturday evening with the introduction of the wrestlers underneath the "Eye of the Tiger" and with South Plainfield having already locked up the team championship. Things got moving quickly for the Tigers in the finals as Patrick Hunter defended his 103 pound title by defeating North Plainfield's Mike Sarfati by a 13-3 major decision. Next, at 112, Robert Gentile dropped a tough 1-0 decision to Matt Nobbs of New Providence. Billy Ashnault, 112 pound champion a year ago, gave up an early take down, but rallied to beat Anthony Priore of A.L Johnson Regional 6-4 in the 119 pound final. Jimmy Conroy won the fourth District 12 title of his career by pinning Michael Williams of Plainfield at 4:55, despite the toughness Williams showed keeping Conroy on the mat for most of the second period. At 130 pounds, New Providence's Mike Boccellari defeated South Plainfield's Bryan Hunt by a narrow 1-0 decision, while Nick Dorey won a tough 2-0 decision over Chris Jessen of Watchung

Hills, for his first district title.

Eddie McCray won his fourth district title with a dominating 13-1 victory over Shane Riccio of Watchung Hills and Sam Martin won his second title by defeating Johnny Granados of New Providence by major decision, 13-2. Mark Wagner had a tough outing in the 160 pound final against state finalist and four-time District 12 champion Alex Caruso of Watchung Hills, dropping a 19-6 decision to the tournament's outstanding wrestler. Kevin Criley kept it interesting in the 189 pound final, securing points late in the match for a 3-2 victory over Middlesex's Joe Bozzomo and his first district title. Preston Johnson finished the night for the Tigers, winning his first District Championship by pinning Stas Zhilinsky of Colonia at

5:40. In addition to the individual accomplishments and team victory, South Plainfield Coach Kevin McCann was again awarded the District 12 Coach of the Year Award.

The Tiger wrestlers will now prepare to compete at the Region 3 Tournament this weekend at Union High School, where the top three place winners in each weight will advance to the State Championships at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City the following weekend. Congratulations to all South Plainfield wrestlers and coaches on their accomplishments at the District 12 tournament this past weekend and we wish you all the best of luck this weekend in Union. Also, a special thanks must be given to the parents who helped make the team dinner Saturday night a great success.

Pop Warner Football Parents Hear Both Sides

Parents of Pop Warner Football players and cheerleaders filled Roosevelt school to hear the reason why their leadership voted to move to another league on Tuesday. The vote had been taken without the memberships approval.

Speaking were Ken DiGraziano, representing the Pop Warner Mountain Valley Conference, the organization South Plainfield presently plays under, and Russ Yeager from the Suburban Youth Football League, who explained the reasons parents should join his league.

DiGraziano spoke first and answered questions from the audience. He also brought along brochures for parents to read and told the group the league would be introducing a new media program to help increase the number of players, using brochures, ad, press releases and television. He answered questions on weight and age restrictions. Parents had issues with boys that were over the weight limit as well as those who are of smaller weights.

Yeager, league commissioner for seven years, explained that his league has no weight restrictions, rather boys play according to their grade level. Cheerleading parents questions concerned the fact that girls would no

longer be competing as they do in their present league. Also questions were raised about the fact that older boys would play out of town, while younger ones would play at home, leaving parents divided on where and who to watch each Sunday.

For more information on the Pop Warner Mountain Valley Conference, long onto www.mvcpopwarner.org. Information on the Suburban Youth Football League can be found on www.njsyfl.com.

Parents are asked to come out and vote for the organization that best suits the children next Thursday, March 9 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the South Plainfield Eagles Field House. You will be allowed one vote per children with bond in good standing. Bond in good standing means you completed the entire work detail, participate in candy sale and tag day and have returned your uniform.

Age Restricted Housing

(Continued from page 1)
resident William Hogan contended that the south side sewer system was overtaxed and deteriorating and would be unable to support the increased population. If the Board approved the housing, Hogan predicted a \$4 million cost to the people of South Plainfield to update the sewer system.

Judy Weinstock, staff attorney for Edison Wetlands Association, introduced a finding of contaminated concrete aggregate containing PCBs in fill Morris had installed on the site from the former Ford assembly plant. State Senator Bob Smith, attorney for Morris, said that Ford would clean contaminated fill. Although unaware of the finding of the PCBs and concerned with the contamination, Buttrico noted that no building could or would go forward without receiving DEP approval that the site was clean.

"By defeating the application the borough had lost a potential \$3M in municipal taxes," Buttrico said.

Although Smith declined to say if the Board's action would be contested in court, Buttrico had no doubts. "It'll go to court and we will have less control," he said. Board member Jack Pedersen wondered how the board could defeat the application when it followed the zoning code and the only request for a variance for sign setbacks was minor one.

By Glenn Cullen

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

Baseball try-outs for Small Fry Leagues are scheduled for March 4 at the PAL.

Small Fry baseball drafts will be held on March 7, 8 and 9. Players will be notified as to which team they have been selected by the weekend of March 12.

The next South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club Rutgers S.A.F.E.T.Y. course will be held on March 23 at the Clubhouse. Please call the SPJBC at (908) 754-2090 to register.

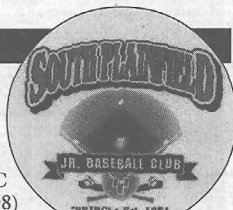
The SPJBC is looking for new volunteers to run the SPJBC Woman's Auxiliary. Applicants interested should attend the meeting scheduled with members of the SPJBC Executive Board on March 29 at 7 p.m.

The SPJBC is looking for volunteers for the 2006 season. In particular, the SPJBC needs snack stand captains. Anyone interested in being a snack stand captain is asked to call the

SPJBC at (908) 754-2090 or e-mail the club at: www.southplainfieldjbc@yahoo.com. Also, feel free to visit the SPJBC website at www.leaguelineup.com/spjbc.

Coaches Clinic

SPJBC will host a Coaches Clinic on March 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse. The Coaches Clinic will be headed by Bill Lehman from Strike Zone. Small Fry children, parents and coaches are encouraged to attend. Instruction on hitting, pitching and practice organization will all be discussed. Please come out and attend this informative session. Opening day is just around the corner.



LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its meeting held on February 23, 2006.

A. Case # 55-05/S—OmniPoint Communications, Inc. Block 115; Lot 5; 151 Morris Avenue. The applicant's request to dismiss this application without prejudice was hereby GRANTED.

B. Case # 01-06—Federal Metals & Alloys. Block 487.01; Lot 31; 4218 South Clinton Avenue. The applicant's request for a use variance to permit the site to be utilized as non ferrous metal recycling facility was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

C. Case # 02-06—Blaise T. McCarthy. Block 279; Lot 1; 205 Oakmoor Avenue. The applicant's request for front and side setback variances in order to construct a 2nd story addition matching the existing footprint and with a 23.7 ft. front yard setback from Oakmoor Avenue and a 6.7 ft. southerly side yard setback was hereby GRANTED.

D. Case # 05-06—Frank Butrico. Block 425; Lot 5; 1104 Hamilton Blvd. The applicant's request for an expansion of a pre existing valid non conforming (3) family use by expanding (2) existing decks: 12 ft. by 26 ft. and 10 ft. by 12 ft. was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Beth Khidre
Secretary/Zoning Board of Adjustment

\$45.60 March 3, 2006

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANT

(U.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO: Michelle Tillman and Mr. Tillman, husband of Michelle Tillman.

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon GOLDBECK MCCAFFERTY, MCKEEVER, A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION, plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is Suite 5000 - Mellon Independence Center, 701 Market St. Philadelphia, PA 19106-1532, phone # (856) 838-3242, an answer to the Complaint (and Amendment to Complaint, if any), filed in a civil action, in which Countrywide Home Loans, Inc. for the benefit of USB Real Estate Securities, Inc. is plaintiff, and Michelle Tillman and Mr. Tillman, husband of Michelle Tillman are the defendant(s), pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, Middlesex County, and bearing Docket No. F-19018-05 within thirty-five (35) days after March 3, 2006 exclusive of such date. If you fail to do so, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint (and Amendment to Complaint, if any). You shall file your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hughes Justice Complex - CN 971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, in accordance with the rules of civil practice and procedure.

This action has been instituted for the purpose of (1) foreclosing a mortgage dated March 30, 2004, made by Michelle Tillman as mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration System, Inc., acting solely as a nominee for Countrywide Home Loans, Inc. recorded on May 03, 2004, for Middlesex County in Book 9598, Page 274 of Mortgages for said County, which mortgage was assigned to the plaintiff, Countrywide Home Loans, Inc. for the benefit of USB Real Estate Securities, Inc., by Assignment which has been sent for recording in the office of the Clerk of Middlesex County; and (2) to recover possession of, and concerns premises commonly known as 11 Hemlock Drive, Jamesburg, NJ 08831.

If you are unable to obtain an attorney, you may communicate with the New Jersey State Bar Association by calling 1-732-249-5000. You may also contact the Lawyer Referral Service of the County of venue by calling 1-(732) 828-0053. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services offices of the County of venue by calling 1-(732) 249-7600.

YOU, Michelle Tillman, are hereby made a party defendant to this foreclosure action because you are the record owner of the mortgage premises and because you executed the bond or note and mortgage being foreclosed herein and may be liable for any deficiency thereon, and for any lien, claim or interest you may have in, to or against the mortgaged premises.

YOU, Mr. Tillman, are hereby made a party defendant to this foreclosure action because you are the husband of Michelle Tillman, the record owner of the mortgaged premises, and for any lien, claim or interest you may have in, to or against the mortgaged premises.

DONALD F. PHELAN, Clerk
Superior Court to New Jersey

\$98.90 March 3, 2006

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Ashleigh A. Chamberlain requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit a new porch. Proposed porch lacks 30' required front setback; 11'4" being proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 600 Sampton Avenue on Block 160, Lot 14 on the South Plainfield Tax 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, March 23, 2006 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.

\$35.00 March 3, 2006

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by David M. Abernathy requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit a covered patio, addition. Proposed covered patio lacks 30' required front setback; 20.3' being proposed and lacks 8' required side setback; 4.6' being proposed. Proposed addition lacks 24' required front setback; 26.8' being proposed and lacks 8' required side setback; 4.6' being proposed. Lot coverage exceeds by 99.1 sq. ft., and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 3812 Fleet Avenue on Block 498, Lot 7 on the South Plainfield Tax 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, March 23, 2006 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.

\$35.00 March 3, 2006

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Gary Toth requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit a gazebo 3 x 16 deck. Proposed gazebo lacks 20' required rear setback; 17.5' being proposed. Proposed deck exceeds lot coverage by 736.5 square feet total; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 921 Worth Drive on Block 152, Lot 89 on the South Plainfield Tax 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, March 23, 2006 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.

\$38.50 March 3, 2006

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Lisa Santoro requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit a second floor addition over existing house. Proposed addition lacks 9' required side setback; 5.9' being proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 1944 Grant Avenue on Block 167, Lot 17 on the South Plainfield Tax 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, March 23, 2006 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.

\$38.50 March 3, 2006

Rochelle M.
(McGuire) Brooks, 66

Rochelle M. (McGuire) Brooks, died on Monday, Feb. 27 at Muh-

lenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born and raised in Wilkes Barre, Pa., Mrs. Brooks lived in Fords, Edison, and Plainfield, before settling in South Plainfield in 1975.

A 1960 graduate from Miseracordia College in Dallas, Pa., Rochelle taught home economics at the Colonia Junior High School in Colonia, as well as English and science at the seventh and eighth grade levels at St. Bernard's Catholic School in Plainfield. For the past 15 years Rochelle has been managing the Closeout Corner in South Plainfield.

While raising her three children, she was very much involved in various athletic, cultural and social organizations throughout the South Plainfield community.

Surviving is her husband Randy of 43 years; three sons, William Jr. and his wife Jenifer of Manhattan, Sean of Raleigh, North Carolina and Christian and his wife Deidre of Florham Park and a brother, Jay E. McGuire and his wife Carol of Wilkes Barre, Pa. Also surviving are two grandchildren, Alexander Edward and Ashlyn Katherine.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Rochelle's name to the American Heart Association, 2550 Route 1, North Brunswick, NJ 08902 or to the American Cancer Society, 846 Main St., Fords, NJ 08863.

John V. Pellegrino, 59

John V. Pellegrino died suddenly on Wednesday, Feb. 22 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield, with his loving family at his side.

The Hillside Cemetery Association

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Obituaries

Born in Plainfield he resided in South Plainfield for many years before moving to North Plainfield in 1972.

John served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam Conflict and was a member of St. Joseph's Church in North Plainfield.

He has been working for Read Auto Parts as an auto part salesman for 12 years. Prior to that he was employed with Thuls Auto Stores in North Plainfield for many years.

John was a loving husband, wonderful father and dedicated family man, who will be missed by all.

Surviving are his wife, Lianne (Sack); a son, Jeffrey (Nichol) Pellegrino of Forks Township, Pa. and a daughter, Allison P. (George) Parapanides of Dunellen. Also surviving are two brothers, Jerry (Melodie) Pellegrino of South Plainfield and Richard Pellegrino of Middlesex.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Carmella "Dolly"
Tice, 76

Carmella "Dolly" (Lexow) Tice died Thursday, Feb. 23 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center's Hospice Center.

Born in Plainfield, she resided in South Plainfield and Edison before moving to Piscataway 18 years ago.

Mrs. Tice was preceded in death by her parents, William Lexow who passed in 1993 and Louise Lexow who passed in 1997.

Surviving is her husband, John E. Tice; a loving daughter with whom she resided, Diane Tice of Piscataway; a brother, William Lexow and his wife Liz of Louisiana; three uncles, one aunt and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at the South Plainfield Funeral Home.

Donations may be made in Dolly's name to the Arbor Hose Rescue Squad.

Betty A. Green, 81

Betty A. Green, formally of South Plainfield has died in North Myrtle Beach.

Mrs. Green was born in Elizabeth on Oct. 29, 1924. She was the daughter of the late Walter Curren and Elizabeth Delaney Curren.

Betty retired from municipal government.

She was predeceased by her brother, Walter Curren.

Mrs. Green is survived by her husband of 56 years, George S. Green of North Myrtle Beach; three daughters, Linda Pelloquin (Thomas) of South Plainfield, Judy Stoner (Larry) of Moon Township, Pa.; Barbara Harmon (Craig) of Gilbert, SC; a sister, Vivian Astheimer of Palm Coast, Fla.; six grandchildren, Tom and Matthew Pelloquin, Nicole Heasley, Kelly and Amy Stoner, Carly Harmon and one great-grandchild, Emma Heasley.

A Memorial Services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 4 at the Church of the Holy Cross in North Plainfield. Caughman-Harman Funeral Home, Lexington Chapel is in charge.

Memorials may be made to the Lutheran Hospice, 1505 Blanding St., Columbia, SC 29201.

Laurette A.
Morgan, 68

Laurette A. Morgan died on Wednesday, Feb. 22 at the home of the Petz Family in South Plainfield.

Born in Manhattan, she lived in the Bronx, Jersey City, East Orange, Piscataway and Dunellen before finally settling in South Plainfield in 1986.

Laurette worked as a senior lab technician for National Starch and Chemical Corp. in Bridgewater, retiring in 1994. During her career, Mr. Morgan created and held two patents; one in adhesive Band Aid and another in Dymo Tape.

An excellent tennis player, Laurette received a full tennis scholarship to Upsala College. During the 1950's, she became a semi-pro tennis player and at one time she worked out with Arthur Ashe and Althea Gibson.

While growing up, Mr. Morgan was a summer camp counselor in up state New York and a former volunteer for the Arbor First Aid and Rescue Squad in Piscataway. Laurette loved to fish, play bingo and cards as well as taking trips to Atlantic City.

Regarded as humble and a generous person by many, Laurette was reserved and kind-hearted and tried to enjoy life as much as one could.

Surviving is her beloved family, Theresa and George Petz and their children and grandchildren; a beloved friend, Sylvia Gleichman of South Plainfield; a brother, Robert Schowers of Las Vegas and an aunt, Gwen Govan of Yonkers, NY. Also surviving are two nieces, Dena and Casey and a nephew, Bruce.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.



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Diegnan Bill To Block Port Operations

An Assembly committee has released legislation Assemblyman Patrick J. Diegnan, Jr., sponsored to keep operations at the ports of Newark and Elizabeth from being taken over by companies owned by foreign governments.

"It flies in the face of common sense

Almost Famous Players Announce Coffeehouse

The South Plainfield's Almost Famous Players, the theatre troupe that brings Halloween chills and thrills to town via their Putnam Park Haunted Woods Tour, has announced their second AFP Coffeehouse to be held Saturday, March 25 at the South Plainfield Senior Center from 7 to 10:30 p.m. The show will feature a variety of acts ranging from amateur to professional.

Tickets are \$5 in advance, \$3 for senior citizens. All tickets purchased at the door are \$6. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Refreshments will be sold. For information call (908) 346-2290 or email almostfamousplyrs@aol.com. Seating is limited so reserve your tickets now.

to put control of any American port—and billions of dollars in cargo and economic activity—directly in the hands of a foreign government," said Diegnan (D-Middlesex). "The ports of Newark and Elizabeth lie in what terrorist experts have called the most dangerous stretch of land in the United States: Cargo terminals must be considered potential targets of opportunity for terrorists. Placing such at-risk operations in the hands of a foreign government makes absolutely zero sense."

Diegnan's bill (A-2665) was spurred by news of a billion-dollar business deal that may lead to major East Coast port operations being taken over by Dubai Ports World—a corporation owned by the government of the United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.)—as of March 2. The impending transfer has led to serious questions about security at the affected cargo terminals in New Jersey.

Operations at the ports owned by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey are currently conducted by P&O, a private British firm. That company is being purchased by Dubai Ports World for \$6.8 billion.

Ports in Dubai under control of Dubai Ports World were allegedly the

base of operations of smugglers moving nuclear technology and components to rogue nations. The U.A.E. also has been noted as one of only three nations to have recognized the former Taliban government of Afghanistan, which harbored al-Qaeda operatives and training facilities.

Under the Diegnan legislation, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey would be prohibited from allowing any marine terminal under its jurisdiction to be owned, leased, or operated by a foreign government or any foreign government-owned or controlled corporation.

Since the Port Authority is a bi-state agency, the legislation would take effect only upon New York enacting an identical measure.

"Security of our ports must be guaranteed by firms operating in full and direct partnership with our own government entities, not leased out wholesale to another nation," said Diegnan.

The Assembly Homeland Security and State Preparedness Committee released the Bill 7-0. It now goes to the Assembly Speaker who will decide if and when to post the bill for further consideration.

Cedarcroft Bible Chapel Spring Schedule

Spring is a time of new beginnings. Cedarcroft Bible Chapel at 1715 Kenyon Ave. is "springing" into a new order of services starting on Sunday, March 5 and continuing every Sunday through May 28. Our desire is to provide more opportunities for everyone to learn from God's Word, the Bible.

The new order is Meet and Greet with coffee at 10-10:20 a.m. and Family Bible Hour 10:30-11:30 a.m. The whole family will be together for the first half hour for praise songs, special music, announcements and prayer. At 11 a.m., fourth graders and up will remain together to hear a challenging and practical message from God's Word. Kindergarten through third grade will go to a Children's Bible Time. A nursery will be provided for infants and preschoolers.

From 11:30 to 11:40 a.m. is transition to Sunday School; 11:40 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. is Sunday School for everyone ages two through adults. Once again a nursery will be provided for infants. There will be four adult classes on the following subjects: A Bible Book Study of Nehemiah, The Case for Faith, based on the book of

the same name by Lee Strobel, Living as Christians with Each Other and Why We Do What We Do at CBC. These classes will encourage input and discussion.

At 6 p.m. each Sunday there will be optional activities as well: First Sunday-prayer requests, Second Sunday-video night, Third Sunday-a service entirely led by our young people and Fourth Sunday-fellowship and food.

All will receive a friendly welcome at any or all of these services. We look forward to meeting you and making you feel at home.

For further information, call Kingsley Baehr at (908) 757-7598 or email him at kbahr@verizon.net.

Connect Protect Inform

Join us... March 8, 7 p.m. Senior Citizens Center, 90 Maple Ave. for an informative program on protecting kids who use MySpace.com and Internet Safety.

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Business Assoc. Plans Golf Outing in May

The South Plainfield Business Association is sponsoring their 9th Annual Golf Outing on Tuesday, May 2 at the Cranbury Gold Club in West Windsor.

Entry fee includes the 18-hole event; use of locker room, green fees and cart; continental breakfast; complimentary beverage cart; hot dog and chips "at the turn;" open bar (beer, wine and soda) and a BBQ luncheon. Casual attire. No metal spikes may be worn on the greens.

Prizes will be awarded for hole-in-one, the longest drive, closest to the pin (two holes), low gross, low net and the most honest golfer.

The day starts with registration and a continental breakfast from 8 until 8:45 a.m. The shotgun start will begin at 9 a.m. and the open bar begins at 2 p.m. The BBQ luncheon starts at 2:30 p.m. and the day comes to a close with the 3:30 award ceremony.

The entry fees are as follows: Corporate-Eagle (includes foursome/flag/tee) \$1,000, Birdie (includes twosome/tee) \$500; individual golfer \$125 and BBQ luncheon only is \$50.

police report

- On Feb. 21 Cedric S. Casey, 22, of Plainfield was arrested for speeding and two outstanding warrants.

- On Feb. 22 North Bergen Rex on Roosevelt Ave. reported the theft of two trailers from Roosevelt Ave.

- On Feb. 24 Christian D. Camacho, 18 of South Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license, no registration, a brake light out and an outstanding warrant.

- On Feb. 26 Mokbel M. Elsayed, 41, of Piscataway was arrested for driving while intoxicated, speeding, reckless driving, consumption of alcohol in a motor vehicle, no license, driving while suspended and possession of an open alcoholic beverage container.

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Life
By Danielle Schaaf

Junior Journalist Corner



Flashbacks of the past
Childhood memories from long ago
Thoughts soaring through my head
Time after time deciphering the good from the bad
To come to the conclusion that everything happens for a reason

Looking now in the present stage we see who we've turned into
The people we've helped, the people we've hurt, and the people we cared about
Think, is this who you wanted to be?

Visions of the future
What do you see yourself as?
Now be careful not to take a wrong turn because the future revolves around the past and the present

As you live your life the little things come into play too, so take the Time to lead your future
Don't let your future lead you!

Danielle Schaaf, Seventh Grader, Named "Junior Journalist"



Language Arts teacher Betsey Veiss with Danielle Schaaf and Assistant Principal Kelly Panuzzo.

Danielle Schaaf, Middle School seventh grader, is this week's winner in the Junior Journalist Program. Her poem, "Life," has earned her dinner for her family, courtesy of Hometown Heros.

Students should submit their original written works to their teachers, school principal, Hometown Heros located on Hamilton Blvd. or the Observer office.

Winners and their families will receive a catered dinner from Hometown Heros and will be honored at a year end banquet.

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

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