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Kindergarten Enrollment

Kindergarten enrollment for the 2006-2007 school year will be held April 18 through 27. Kindergarten enrollment packets are available in the enrollment office located in the Roosevelt Administration Building, 125 Jackson Ave. Enrollment is by appointment only. Call (908) 754-4620, ext. 222, for information and to schedule an appointment.

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 9, NO. 27

MAR 10 2006

50 CENTS PUBLIC LIBRARY

MARCH 10, 2006

BOE Grapples With School Budget Increased Taxes and Staff Cuts are Proposed

By Libby Barsky

The Board of Education has approved a tentative budget of \$50,475,623 with \$40,212,967 of that amount raised by property taxes. This will mean a 20.2 point school tax increase, or approximately \$237 a year, for homeowners with a home assessed at \$117,000. The Board will vote next Tuesday, March 14, to make this tentative budget official and send it to the county superintendent, even though the amount of state aid, which has not increased for the past six years, might be less this year. The state amount will not be known until March 28.

After weeks of grappling over what cuts to make in the 2006-2007 school budget, the Board of Education decided to cut eight positions during Tuesday's work session. Positions cut include one in central administration, with the assistant superintendent and the curriculum director merging into one position, a secretary, two world language teachers, two computer teachers and two SAC's (student activity counselors).

In earlier workshop sessions there

was a proposal to have voters decide on separate questions to keep some of the positions, along with putting in a new boiler in Kennedy school and bleachers in the high school—two projects not covered by the capital outlay portion of the budget.

At this week's work session Board member Jeff Seider noted that it was up to the Board and not the public to make the decision about school personnel and it should not be in a question decided by the public. Seider proposed that the Middle School sports program be eliminated as it duplicates many programs ongoing at the PAL and other organizations in the borough. He proposed that the \$94,000 for the sports program be used to retain the two computer teachers and to place the Middle School athletic program on the ballot.

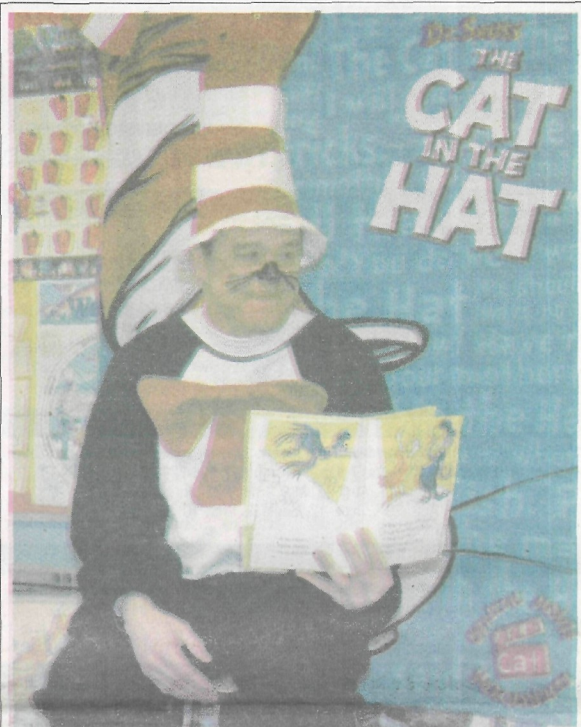
Superintendent Dr. Rosado explained that computer teachers spend half their time teaching computer to K-4 students and the other half working on basic math skills for the students needing remediation. With the elimination of two teachers, the

remaining elementary school computer teachers would concentrate on basic skills.

Board members Pio Pennisi, Pat Kelly and Steve Bohn spoke of the need for continuing and maintaining the athletic program. Rosado noted the need of the Board to vote unanimously to show voters they all endorse the budget. When the Board split over placing Middle School athletics as a ballot question, a motion was made to keep the athletic program and make the personnel cuts recommended in the start of the budget process.

As a separate ballot question, the public will be asked to vote whether to spend an additional \$175,000 on a Kennedy School boiler and a high School bleacher section.

Dr. Rosado's budget presentations are as follows: Athletic Boosters, March 15 at 7 p.m. in SPHS cafeteria; High School, March 16, 7 p.m. in media center; Middle School, April 3, 7 p.m.; Franklin, April 3, 7:30 p.m.; Grant, April 5 at 7 p.m.; Roosevelt on April 5 at 7:30 p.m. and the Senior Center on April 6 at 1:30 p.m.



Kennedy School Principal Fred Oberkehr reads Dr. Seuss to students as part of "Read Across America" last week.

Local Teens "Starved" to Fight World Hunger



First Baptist Church youth who participated in World Vision's 30 hour famine.

When a typical American teen comes home from school, quite often the first words you'll hear are, "I'm starving!" But some local kids have a different take on hunger.

On Feb. 24 and 25, nine young people from the First Baptist Church of South Plainfield participated in World Vision's 30 hour famine because of their concern about what hunger means for children living in poverty.

Brett Adoptante, Gregory Cabanas, Lindsey Cabanas, Ryan Flanagan, Christian Grimando, Matthew Grimando, Stephanie Grimando, Jesse Nietzer and Danny Sticco learned firsthand that more than 29,000 children die every day from hunger and other preventable causes. But it takes

only \$30 to feed and care for a hungry child for a month and \$360 to feed a child for a whole year. The Federal Government will also make a matching grant for every \$360 raised.

Youths asked for sponsor donations as they went for 30 hours without food. They experienced real hunger and participated in activities that helped them to better understand life in developing countries. The young people banded together with 100 other teens representing eight churches from six different denominations. The teens also took part in contests, games and community service projects to help others in Middlesex

and Union counties.

World Vision is a Christian relief and development organization dedicated to helping children and their communities worldwide reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty. They work in nearly 100 countries, serving more than 100 million of the world's poor, regardless of a person's religion, race, ethnicity or gender.

The nine youths will continue to collect donations until the end of March. Anyone interested in making a donation may contact the church at (908) 753-2382. All donations are tax deductible and receipts are available.

Judge Reinstates OPRA Suit

Middlesex County Superior Court Judge Vincent LeBlon recently reinstated the GOP's suit under the Open Public Records Act (OPRA) seeking documents regarding a discrimination suit against the Borough. The suit had been dismissed in December and the judge's decision corrects what Republican leaders had all along called an administrative error.

According to Borough Clerk Vincent Buttiglieri, the borough has not received any word on the latest appeal decision and could not comment.

In January Judge LeBlon had dismissed the Pinto lawsuit because the Republican Organization did not appear for depositions in December. At that time Mayor Gallagher reported that he been given permission to release all the depositions in the case. The Republicans went back to court to seek a reversal of

the decision to dismiss.

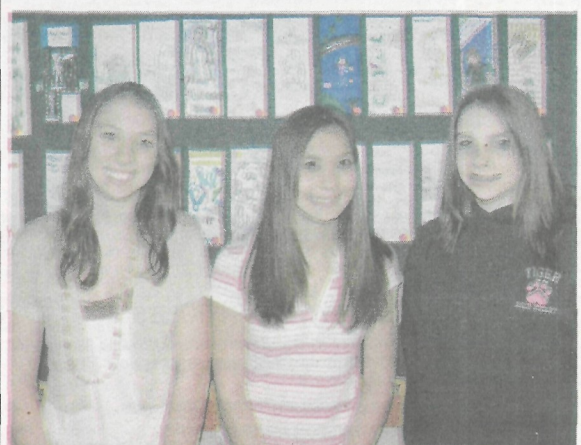
Now that the suit is reinstated, the GOP plans to ask the court to find the Borough in contempt for not complying with a Nov. 14, 2005 order requiring the town to produce copies of a settlement agreement in the suit. The order required the town to produce the document within 20 days, but to date the Borough has not complied.

"Our attorney has prepared and is filing a motion asking the judge to find the town in contempt for not complying," GOP Chairman Bob Jones announced this week. "Normally a litigant would ask for sanctions in this situation, but we've instructed our attorney not to do that, because it would hurt taxpayers, not the people who are at fault. Instead, we're asking the court to enforce its order by requiring the town to immediately comply."

The Republican Organization first asked for the documents last spring and at that time the Borough refused to release them. Since then, the organization filed suit under OPRA, claiming the town had no right to keep them secret.

Joseph Buttafuoco, attorney for the Borough, would not comment on the case.

Mayor Dan Gallagher has repeatedly said he would like all of the information on the lawsuit revealed, not just the settlement amount. However, to do so both sides must agree. In January, Pinto's attorney, Dan Fleming of Wong & Fleming, said that Mrs. Pinto would comply with whatever the judge rules, but felt disclosing the information contained in the confidential settlement violates her privacy rights, which was one of the points in the original suit.



Middle School Bookmark Contest Winners

South Plainfield Middle School chose the winners of their annual Read Across America bookmark contest on Thursday, March 2. Each student drew a picture of their favorite character on a bookmark. Pictured (l to r) in front of the bookmarks entered in the contest are second place winner Megan Cerini, third place winner Jessica Scarpitto and first place winner Jamie McLean.



A fire broke out on Jackson Ave. at an assisted living home owned by St. John's Community Services around 5 p.m. last Wednesday. The house belongs to St. John's Community Services and houses mentally challenged adults.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Log on to
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 21	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
April 4	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
April 17	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m. (Monday)

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 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.

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 spobserver@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: spobserver@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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IN YOUR OPINION

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to express how grateful we all were over all the expressions of sympathy at this very sad time - the death of my son, Richard Lee.

Your kindness shown by the overflow of Mass cards, sympathy cards, phone calls, flowers and house visits were truly welcomed and all to the extent of knowing that each and everyone of you cared to take the time. To all, thank you. You all amazed me.

Many of you have heard me say over and over again that we have nice people in South Plainfield and each and everyone of you truly showed off!

May you all be blessed everyday for your warm and heartfelt way. I am truly grateful. God Bless.

MARGE SHELTON AND FAMILY

To the teachers, staff and administrators:

It is with heartfelt thanks, gratitude and respect I wish to acknowledge the teachers, staff and administrators that have helped to shape my children into the persons they have become over the past 15 years.

Those teachers who disciplined, and taught my children how to deal with conflict.

Those teachers who gave one-on-one support and assistance, taught my children where there is a will there is a way.

Those teachers who taught by using the book taught my children to be accountable for their actions.

Those teachers who closed the book taught my children to open their minds and explore possibilities.

Those teachers who challenged, taught my children how to move beyond set parameters and explore unknown possibilities.

Those teachers who befriended, taught my children camaraderie and mutual respect.

Those teachers who frustrated, taught my children how to trouble-shoot and amend.

Those teachers who coached, taught my children discipline and the values of team effort.

Those teachers who questioned, taught my children how to think rationally.

Through the diversity, commitment and dedication of all teachers and support staff here at South Plainfield, my children have evolved into well-rounded, intelligent adults who are more than prepared to take the next steps into adulthood. It is with deep gratitude and respect I wish to acknowledge all those who played a role in their lives and the lives of hundreds of children growing up here in South Plainfield.

It truly does take a community to raise a child, from the love and support of family and friends to the hard work and dedication of teachers, school staff and administrators. It is with sincere thanks and gratitude I thank each and every person who has touched my children's lives, from the lunch aids who opened their juice boxes to the teachers who opened their minds, to the guidance counselors and administrators who helped with plans for their futures beyond high school. Thank you to each and every one of you.

**WITH HEARTFELT THANKS,
SANDY SEVERINI**

Dear Editor:

Last week, South Plainfield Planning Board, in a surprise decision, voted 5-4 to kill Jack Morris's plan to put almost 500 age-restricted housing units on the Tingley Rubber site. I want to thank the members of the planning board who voted to turn down site-plan approval.

I give the members who broke ranks with the Democratic Party and voted against the project a great deal of credit. They did the right thing. It's no secret that lots of South Plainfield residents

were against this plan and for lots of reasons.

For example, we all read in the *Star-Ledger* about how 4,500 tons of PCB-contaminated fill had been trucked onto the property. But aside from the contamination, which I realize will be cleaned up, it's simply the wrong location. It's an industrial area next to a major highway, truck terminals and the gas pipeline that exploded decimating Durham Woods only a decade ago. Is this where we want our seniors? Also, do we need 1,000 more cars on Durham Avenue?

It also sets bad precedent. The density was sky high, and it opens all our industrial areas up to residential development. If Tingley goes, it will be the first of many dominos to fall.

But unfortunately, Democratic mega-contributor Jack Morris wants to build there. And so the Democratic Party lined up lock step to support the plan. It's amazing how this man gets whatever he wants throughout Middlesex County. I'm especially disappointed that Councilman Charlie Butrico and former Councilwoman Kathy Thomas voted to support the project. This was not a good plan for our town and I wish they had realized the mistake they were making by first voting to change the zoning and then voting for the plan.

The zoning for the site is still age-restricted because of the council's rezoning early last year. So Morris will be back. In the meantime, I encourage the council to re-examine its decision to make the site residential. I also encourage it to look at ways to make sure PCB-contaminated materials are not once again trucked into our town. Regardless of who is responsible, South Plainfield should not be anyone's dumping ground.

JAKE CATALDO

To the Editor:

I think this move to turn over the seaports of our country is one step

Submit Letters to the Editor:

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

Letters may be submitted to the Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or fax 908-668-8819 or by email: spobserver@comcast.net. Deadline is Monday, 5 p.m. Letters must be accompanied by a name and telephone number for verification. 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.

from treason.

Why should we give these Arabs the right to come and go as they please and control what may be moved in or out?

Millions of our citizens died to defend these shores, so why should we give away our defenses now?

Will "George the Second" hand them the keys to the White House next?

It seems to me that this country is at the top of a very slippery slide and the only ones with a safety net are the big money boys.

We sing that very patriotic song, *God Bless America* with many people just mouthing words. The next time, sing it the way it was meant to be a prayer.

WILLIAM TUTHILL (WWII MARINE)

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Last Friday at approximately 12:45 p.m., a tractor trailer driven by a Niagara Falls, NY man for Paragon Leasing misjudged a right hand turn at the intersection of So. Clinton and New Market avenues. The driver snapped off the traffic signal pole and dragged it on top of the trailer for a short distance until he noticed it hanging. Traffic was tied up for nearly two hours as crews worked to repair the signal.

NOTES FROM The Senior Center

No one likes to talk about it but, as we age, accidents, falls and sudden illness are more common than we care to admit. And for seniors who live alone or are alone during the day when family members are at work or school, a medical emergency can be life threatening without immediate help. There comes a time when seniors and their families need to consider a safety net to help protect against the risks of illness or injury when they are alone in their home. It may be time to consider a Medical Alert medallion.

The benefits of a medical alert medallion or bracelet are many. Seniors can enjoy their independence while knowing that they are connected to emergency assistance if needed. Seniors and their families can rest easier knowing that help is available at the push of a button. Medical alert medallions give personalized, 24 hour service that is there when no one else can be.

By wearing a small, medical alert pendant around your neck or wrist, you will have instant access (from any room of your house) to the button that will summon the paramedics. Simply press and the pendant uses radio frequencies to tell the base station a problem has arisen. The base dials our monitoring center, staffed by trained professionals every day of the year. The monitoring center then talks directly to you, turning your entire house into a loud speaker phone. The monitoring station can then summon the paramedics, or call your family, per your wishes.

If you would like to learn more about Medical Alert, please contact the South Plainfield Office on Aging at (908) 754-1047.

As a side note, here is some very helpful information on what to do in case of a heart attack. If you are having a heart attack and there is no one around to help, there is something you can do before you can get assistance. Cough repeatedly and very vigorously and take a deep breath before each cough. The cough must be deep and prolonged. The breath and cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let up until help arrives or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again. The deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and the coughing squeezes the heart and keep blood circulating.

Hunterdon Hills Playhouse

The Senior Center is planning a trip to the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse planned for Thursday, March 23 to see the hilarious comedy, *Charlie's Aunt*. Cost is \$53 and includes transportation, a luncheon with a lavish dessert buffet and the show. For reservations, stop in at the Senior Center, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The trip is open to the public. You do not need to be a member of the Center to participate.

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South Plainfield, NJ 07080

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Facsimile: (908) 769-7774
www.ps-legal.com

Yard Waste Site To Start Spring Hours

The South Plainfield Yard Waste Site at the end of Kenneth Ave. will go on its spring/summer schedule beginning Tuesday, March 21. Yard Waste will be open noon to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays.

A current Yard Waste/Compact Decal must be posted on the vehicle for access. Decals are available from the Municipal Clerk in Borough Hall. Bring the registration of the vehicle you will be using.

The Recycling Drop-off Center on Kenneth Ave. is open noon to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

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



South Plainfield High School Principal Dr. Ken May with the Edison Rotary Club Students of the Month, Amanda Veinott and Ryan Smith. They were recognized by the Edison Rotary Club on Feb. 8.

A Taste of Kindness Fundraiser Announced

The "Soup Kitchen Fundraiser: ...A Taste of Kindness" is scheduled for Monday, March 20 at the Pines Manor in Edison.

The fundraiser is an event for which members of the Central Jersey community enjoy dining on gourmet soups from many of the areas finest restaurants. Local establishments donate breads, cheeses and desserts, which tantalize the palates of the attendees. Door prizes and raffles round off the events of the evening.

"Soup Kitchen Fundraiser...A Taste of Kindness" fundraiser was so named for one of the effects that domestic violence can often have on its victims—homelessness.

Domestic violence affects nearly one out of every two women nationwide. In fact, 76,109 cases of domestic violence were reported in New Jersey alone in 2004. Children were involved or present during 35% of all domestic offenses reported in 2004.

Women Aware, Middlesex County's only agency for domestic violence victims and their children provides shel-

ter to women and children who are enduring the nightmare of violence in their daily lives. In addition to shelter, the agency provides: a 24 hour hotline, outreach center for legal advocacy and individual counseling, support groups and domestic violence education and training programs.

The agency provides services for over 12,000 battered women annually and over 170 women and their children seek shelter yearly. Through their community education program which is provided to various civic, religious organizations, police and hospital staffs, Women Aware makes at least 195 presentations a year, reaching more than 15,000 citizens of the county.

The Pines Manor in Edison has graciously allowed the use of their main

ballroom for this 14th annual event. Last year with the support of various individuals and businesses, Women Aware received supplies, stamps, stationery, utensils, free publicity, door prizes, printing services, baked goods and, of course, great soups which made the fundraiser a huge success. They raised over \$40,000 in cash donations.

All monies raised support Women Aware's effort to continue its comprehensive program for children from violent homes. The ELVES (Empower the Littlest Victims to Emerge Strong) Program includes services to "empower" each child to discuss their feelings and resolve the fears that have resulted from living in a violent home.

For more information, call Yvonne Hook at (732) 249-4900.

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LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE 1723

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ord. 1723 entitled: AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING LEFT HAND TURNS FROM THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 628 LOT 47.08 (presently White Castle) ONTO STELTON ROAD was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, March 7, 2006 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$30.40

March 10, 2006

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE 1724

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ord. 1724 entitled: AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT MUNICIPAL TAX COLLECTOR AND ESTABLISHING SAID COMPENSATION FOR POSITION was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, March 7, 2006 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$24.50

March 10, 2006

Junior Journalist

WINNER

Charlie and Debbie Kurland of Hometown Heros deliver dinner to Junior Journalist winner Amy Ramjatan. She is pictured here with mom Naomi, dad Vijai and brother Mark. Congratulations Amy!

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Around Town

Lenten Fish Dinners At Sacred Heart

Fridays, thru April 7

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 and Sacred Heart Church, will hold their famous lenten fish dinners on March 10, 17, 24, 31 and April 7 in the Sacred Heart cafeteria from 5 to 7 p.m.

Menu features filet of fish (fried, broiled, Parmesan), a pasta dish (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.

Boy Scout Troop 207 Spaghetti Dinner

March 11

Boy Scout Troop 207 will hold a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, March 11 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Sacred Heart School cafeteria. Dinner includes salad with choice of dressing, spaghetti and meatballs, bread and drinks (coffee, tea, soda or water). Cost is \$5 per person. Take out is available. Bring the family and join the fun!!!

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. Tickets are now on sale and nearly sold out. Prizes 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 Programs at Library

March 13 and April 24

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

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

13

Bingo 10am-2pm
Ladies Social 10am
Lunch Available

14

Exercise 8:45am
Computer Class
10am, 11:30am & 1pm
Tai Chi Class 2pm
Listening to Children 10am

15

Shop Pathmark 9am
Tax Preparation 9-12
Practical Crafts 10am
Computer Class
11am & 1pm
Exercise Class 1:15pm
AARP Meeting 12:30

16

BINGO 10-2pm
Lunch Available
Tax Preparation
9am to noon

17

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

Dayel Giammarino of Creative Memories will teach 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 should bring three photos; other materials will be provided. Space is limited, pre-registration is required. Call (908) 754-7885 for info.

Historical Society Monthly Meeting

March 14

The next meeting of the South Plainfield Historical Society will take place on Tuesday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m. sharp at our new headquarters in the Roosevelt School Administration Building, on Jackson Avenue.

Trip to Atlantic City

March 16

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

AARP #4144 Meeting

March 16

AARP Chapter 4144's next meeting is at the South Plainfield Senior Center on Maple Ave. on Thursday, March 16 at 12:30 p.m. Entertainment provided by the Roxies Dance Troop from the Bridgewater Senior Center. Needlecrafters meet Wednesdays from 1 to 3 p.m. They knit for DYFS and Muhlenberg Hospital. To join call Jean at (732) 752-0358.

VFW Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

March 17

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

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

Corned Beef Dinner At the Elks

March 18

The South Plainfield Elks Veterans Committee will hold their annual corned beef and cabbage dinner on Saturday, March 18 from 4:30 to 9 p.m. All you can eat, includes soda. Adults \$8, child \$5. The Elks is located on New Market Ave. Any questions, call Lou Peralta (908) 756-6406.

Knights Announce St. Patrick's Party

March 18

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus will hold their annual St. Patrick's Day Party on Saturday, March 18 at the Knights hall on Hamilton Blvd. from 5 to 9 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person. Dinner includes corned beef and cabbage (chicken breast for those who don't like corned beef), potato soup, red potatoes, dessert and beverages. A DJ will be play classic Irish music. Take-out dinners available. Contact Robert Smith at (908) 755-4331 for tickets.

American Legion St. Patrick's Dinner/Dance

March 18

American Legion Post and SAL Squadron #243 will hold their annual St. Patrick's Day dinner dance on Saturday, March 18 from 6 to 11

What's happening in FEBRUARY

— Out of Town —

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.

Blackrose to Perform

March 11

Blackrose, a band performing classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will perform at Tim Kerwin's Pub on Rt. 28 in Middlesex on Saturday, March 11 at 9:30 p.m. No cover charge.

Rainbow Academy Plans Open House

March 18

Rainbow Academy Child Care Center on Oak Tree Rd. will hold an open house on Saturday, March 18, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for summer camp and September 2006 enrollment.

Those interested are also invited to meet the staff and visit the center for a tour during normal operating hours (7 a.m.-6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday). For directions and more info, visit www.rainbowacademy.com or call (908) 769-3224.

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Thurs.-Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until noon

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



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Sunday Worship-10am
Tuesday Night-"Soup & Prayer"
6:30 pm
Maundy Thursday Soup
Supper/Communion
Service 6:30 pm
Easter Celebrations
9:30 am / 11 am

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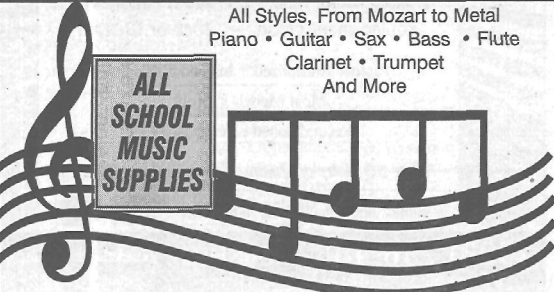
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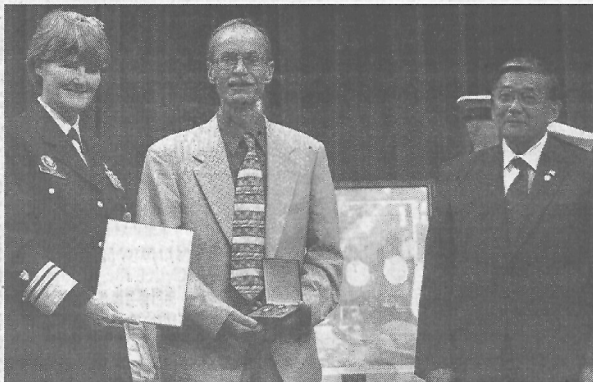


Resident Honored With 9/11 Award

By Jane Dornick

After receiving what looked like another piece of unsolicited letter in the mail, South Plainfield resident Gene Boehm placed the letter aside and didn't give it much thought. It wasn't until he mentioned the letter in passing to his daughter, Genevieve, who works for the NJ Dept. of Transportation, that he realized how important it really might be. Boehm was among a long list of businesses and facilities that were being recognized by the US Dept. of Transportation at a prestigious award ceremony to be held in New York City. He was to receive the award for his part in securing numerous all terrain vehicles that aided in the rescue and recovery efforts after 9/11.

While corresponding via email with his daughter, a maritime specialist, several days after the World Trade Center tragedy, her mail also included a general plea to vendors for help in obtaining resources such as cutting torches, golf carts and other tools that could aid in the recovery efforts. Boehm decided to make some random calls to local golf courses for assistance, but came away without any results. He then spoke with a Honda motorcycle shop in the area



Gene Boehm, center, pictured with the US Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta and U.S. Coast Guard Vice Admiral Vivian Crea.

looking for some all terrain vehicles. They suggested calling John Deere in Virginia, who manufacturer six wheel drive "gators," which are made to climb over anything. There tires are indestructible. Boehm said the John Deere Company was more than willing to provide their "gators" and sent 19 to New York City and 15 to Washington, DC. The "gators" were ultimately used to move equipment, utility stretchers and firefighting material.

The 9/11 Maritime Medal Awards ceremony took place on Sept. 17,

2005 at the World Financial Center Winter Garden in New York. Boehm received an Extraordinary Service Award plaque which read "for his contribution to the coordinated distribution of critical relief supplies, emergency service personnel and equipment helping to speed the recovery efforts in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, DC." He also received two service ribbons, a book with photos from 9/11 and a lithograph of a coast guard vessel.

"I feel pretty unworthy," said Boehm, "I was glad that I could help."

Plainfield Animal Hospital Open House Celebrates National Pet Dental Month

Story/photos by Patricia Abbott

The Plainfield Animal Hospital recently celebrated National Pet Dental Health Month in February with their eleventh annual Pet Dental Fair. Over 40 pet owners brought their cats and dogs to the event for free dental screenings to assess their oral health. This was the first Pet Dental Fair held in the new hospital.

In addition to the screening, owners were able to learn proper brushing techniques and how to keep their pet's mouths healthy at home. Tours of the new hospital were offered as well. Dr. Scott Linick, Fellow of the Academy of Veterinary Dentistry and director of the practice, spoke about the latest innovations in advanced specialized dentistry. Visitors received free samples of dental products, and discounts on future dental services for their pet. There were refreshments, door prizes, raffle baskets and a dog biscuit guessing game.

Guests were introduced to the



Ursula, owned by Robyn Jacobs of Metuchen, grins for Dr. Scott Linick.

Help-A-Pet Fund, Inc. Brochures described the nonprofit organization that is a funding source for financial assistance to veterinarians and pet owners seeking financial aid for veterinary care for sick or injured pets. Eligibility falls into two categories: financial hardship for low-income in-

dividuals or families and Good Samaritan cases, assistance to support cases where no owner can be found. The fund is for needed medical care only.

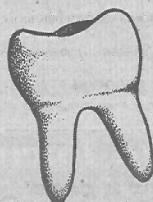
Debbie and Ken Tomaro of Dunellen and their dog, Mandi, were among the guests. They said, "We've gone to different vets over the years. Between their facility, hours of availability and staff, the P. A. Hospital is very impressive. We've dealt with doctors Otero, Linick and Loomis, and like all three of them. They are very knowledgeable, gentle with the animals and they never rush you along. We're satisfied with the facility." In addition to Mandi they have Buster, a Boston Terrier, age 10, and Sophie, a Pug, age five.

Karen Gordon of South Plainfield won a dog gift basket, Marcia and Rennie Gionsalves of Westfield won the cat gift basket and Debbie Tomaro of Dunellen won the 'guess the number of nuggets' and received a dog and cat gift basket.



Registering guests were Dr. Linick's daughter Erica and Susan Mott.

Protect Your Pet. The Facts of Dental Health



- Oral cancer is one of the major cancers affecting dogs and cats.
- Too much bacteria in the mouth can lead to gum disease. The bacteria can also travel throughout the body and damage the heart, kidneys and liver.
- You can help prevent periodontal disease in your pet by learning proper

brushing and making appointments for your pet to receive routine teeth cleanings.

- Some of the signs that your pet may be experiencing mouth or tooth pain are blood-tinged drooling, difficulty eating or reluctance to eat, refusal to eat hard foods, red or swollen gums, tipping/tilting the head when eating, and a change in mouth odor.

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Schools Celebrate Dr. Seuss and Read Across America



America

The National Education Association (NEA) has honored Dr. Seuss's birthday, March 2, with +. Originally created as a one-day event to get kids excited about reading NEA's Read Across America is now a nationwide initiative that promotes the joy of reading every day of the year.

Last week local schools celebrated the program which coincides with the birthday of Theodor Geisel, the famous children's book author.

The first Read Across America was held in 1998 and since then has become a national tradition. Last year more than 45 million adults and children participated in reading events that ranged from green eggs 'n ham breakfasts and pajama parties to reading extravaganzas featuring public officials, sports stars and celebrities.



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Observer

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**Around Town
events**

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Time again for more news from the South Plainfield Library.

There's still time to register for two programs this Monday. First, there's the "Knit-Along" adult craft program. "Practical Crafting" instructor Ronda Wisniewski will lead the class. Participants will learn the basic skills needed to knit a scarf. There will be three sessions on three consecutive Mondays (March 13, 20 and 27) at 10:30 a.m. These programs are being presented free of charge. Space is limited, so you must pre-register. You'll receive a list of needed materials when you sign up.

The second program is a class on basic scrapbooking, led by Dayel Giammarino of "Creative Memories". Participants for this program will learn techniques like cropping and mounting, and will learn how to create a short story card. There will be two sessions of this class on Monday, March 13 and Monday, April 24; both classes start at 7 p.m. There's no charge for this program, either. Pre-registration is required; you can sign up for one session or both. Participants are requested to bring three photos with them for the project.

We'll follow our usual schedule of children's programming next week. For those of you who walked in late, here's what that means: our Storytime programs for children ages three and over are held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30, and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. The "Time for 2's & 3's" programs, for children ages two and three, are held on Wednesday morning at 6:30 and Thursday evening at 6:30. And our "Books-N-Babies" program, for children up to ages three, is held on Friday morning at 10:30. You don't need to sign up for these programs; each one lasts about an hour. For more details, please contact Miss Linda.

We have two meetings scheduled for this Tuesday. The Friends of the Library will meet at 11 a.m.; both members and non-members are welcome to attend. And, at 7:30, the Library Board of Trustees will meet. Members of the public are invited to attend and get the latest details on the Library's present and future plans.

The latest group of circuit videos and DVDs is now available. Videos and DVDs may be borrowed, four at a time, for two days. Meanwhile, we're now between groups on the CD circuit. New items from that circuit will be along later this month.

Finally, a word for both parents and kids: lately, we've found that kids who

use our computers aren't content with just using them for games or instant messages or, on rare occasions, actual research. In fact, they've been making end runs around our security software and adjusting our system to suit their needs. Unfortunately, this is a real hassle for us, as it impairs other computer-based resources and inconveniences our patrons. It also costs us money to get the computers fixed, money that we'd prefer to spend on new books or videos. Make no mistake: if we catch anyone fiddling around with our computers, not only will we bar them from access (that's you, kids), but we'll bill them for the repair costs (that's you, parents). We could even make this a legal matter, but we'd prefer not to. Get the picture?

With that, we'll close out the column for this week.

If you'd like more details, please give us a call at (908) 754-7885 or visit the library's website at www.south-plainfield.lib.nj.us. See you next Friday.

police report

• On Feb. 28 Zhu Fen Chen, 37, of New York, NY was arrested for no registration, failure to turn and an outstanding warrant.

• Amir Rual Martin, 21, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license, driving on an expired license, fraudulent inspection sticker, hindering apprehension and an outstanding warrant.

• Lucas Paving of Morganville reported the theft of two traffic signs from Montrose Ave.

• On March 1 Darrell Latee Watson, 24, of Plainfield was arrested for maintenance of lamps and an outstanding warrant.

• Baker's Express on Helen St. reported the theft of a Wabash trailer containing 1,000 empty bread trays.

• On March 2 John J. Burnham, 31, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, reckless driving, no insurance, leaving the scene of a motor vehicle accident and failure to report a motor vehicle accident.

• Sharrieff Lewis Anderson, 18,

of Plainfield was arrested for receiving stolen property, fictitious plate, no license, no registration and operating a vehicle without the owners consent.

• On March 3 Myra Clary, 46, of South Plainfield was arrested for a loud muffler and two outstanding warrants.

• Andy Lee Brown, 37, of Plainfield was arrested for no insurance, driving on a suspended license, no registration and three outstanding warrants.

• On March 4 Lamar T. Reddick, 37, of Plainfield was arrested for failure to exhibit vehicle documentation and an outstanding warrant.

• Sal's Spirit Shoppe on Park Ave. reported the theft of 1 pint of Baccardi 151 worth \$10.99.

• On March 6 a Barnosky Ct. resident reported that the drivers side door lock of his vehicle had been damaged and two Pioneer subwoofers and a Kenwood amplifier had been removed from the trunk.

UNICO Collecting Gifts for Troops

On Saturday, April 1 from 9 a.m. to noon, the Plainfields Chapter UNICO will conduct a Gifts for Troops collection day at the South Plainfield Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave.

Gifts may be left at the tables situated in front of the building. Parking will be available at the rear of the building.

The following is a list of desired gifts: AIT prepaid phone cards global only, dental supplies such as dental floss, tooth brushes, tooth past, mouth wash, toiletries including chap stick, eye drops, shampoo, travel size wipes, Q-tips, disposable razors, sunscreen, games, writing materials, small alarm clocks and small clock radios. Cash donations may be made by check payable to: Plainfields UNICO Gifts to Troops Fund. Donated items should be in their original packages.

Gifts may also be left from March 27-31 and April 3-7 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Licato Insurance Agency, 2325 Plainfield Ave.

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Last Two Chances To see "The Last Five Years"

"The Last Five Years" at Edison Valley Playhouse has two remaining performances on March 10 and 11.

The Home News Tribune raves about Samantha Hahn and Ian Moore in Jason Robert Brown's musical, "The Last Five Years," portraying an actress and a writer who tell the story of their relationship from the first meeting through the marriage-and back again. Others who saw the show also had great compliments about the production. Directed by William Biach and Anthony J. Cantalupo, with musical direction by Andrew Maciowski, this contemporary musical should not be missed. Show time is 8 p.m. Ticket prices are \$20 for adults and \$18 for students and seniors.

For reservations, call (908) 755-4654 or send an email to L5YReservations@evplayhouse.com or visit www.evplayhouse.com

Sports



Ponytail Softball Batters Box

By Sharon Miller

Dates to remember- Ponytail Softball registration ended on March 6. Registration was open to all South Plainfield resident girls between the ages of 8 and 13 as of Oct. 1, 2005. The fee of \$35 per person was required after March 6, there is now a late fee of \$50 per person in effect. No exceptions and no refunds.

The next parent's Ponytail Softball meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the PAL building (off of Maple Ave.). The meetings are the fourth Tuesday of each month. Mark your calendars and try to attend. It's all about your kids. We welcome new faces and fresh ideas. Hope to see you there!

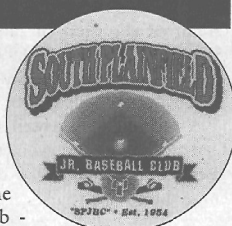
By Glenn Cullen

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

All Small Fry drafts have been completed. Players should be receiving team notifications immediately. Field duty for 8 year-old and 13 year-old players is scheduled for Saturday, March 11 at 8 a.m. at the clubhouse. Bill Lehman of Strike Zone will put on Coaches Clinic on Tuesday March 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse. All Small Fry players, parents and coaches are encouraged to attend. All new parents to the SPJBC should attend a parents orientation on Wednesday, March

15 at 7 p.m. at the clubhouse. The next SPJBC Rutgers S.A.R.E.T.Y. course will be held on March 23. Please call the SPJBC at (908) 754-2090 to register.

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](mailto:jbc@yahoo.com). Also, feel free to visit the SPJBC website at www.leaguelineup.com/spjbc.



WRESTLING

By RYAN HUNTER

Nine Tigers Advance to States in AC Ashnault, Dorey, Hunter Win Region Titles

It was yet another successful weekend for the South Plainfield Tiger wrestlers this past weekend at the Region 3 tournament at Union High School and, as usual, they did it in an overpowering fashion. Tiger dominance was exemplified on Friday night as eleven out of eleven wrestlers advanced to the semifinal round, with eight of those wrestlers reaching the finals. At tournament's end, South Plainfield had advanced nine wrestlers, with three championships, to the NJSIAA Championships this weekend on the Boardwalk in Atlantic City.

The Region 3 action began last Tuesday with the pre-quarterfinal elimination round of action, which saw the second and third place medal winners from the District tournaments compete. That night South Plainfield's Mike Jakubik (135), Bryan Hunt (130) and Mark Wagner (160) all advanced to the quarterfinals to be held on Friday night.

When the action continued Friday, Patrick Hunter started things up for South Plainfield by scoring a major decision over Watchung Hills' Chris Valerio at 103. Billy Ashnault then scored a fall over Jimmy Provence of Cranford at 1:46 in the 119 pound quarterfinal. At 125, Jimmy Conroy pinned Sean Kane of Brearley in 1:43. But the highlight of the evening, and quite possibly the tournament, came during the 130 pound quarterfinals when South Plainfield's Bryan Hunt, seeded eighth, went up against Rahway's undefeated top seed Ryan Wilson, who was last year's 112 pound state champion. Giving up an early takedown, Hunt later scored a reversal to knot the score at two at the end of the first period. Wilson rode Hunt out through most of the second period before Hunt escaped to gain a 3-2 lead at period's end. As the entire crowd at the Louis Retino Gymnasium watched on, Hunt managed to counter every one of Wilson's escape attempts and nearly turned him to his back on several occasions. With the large local contingent urging him on, Hunt held on to score the biggest upset of the entire tournament. Hunt's huge win sparked a fire in the Tiger wrestlers almost immediately, as Mike Jakubik scored an upset 9-7 victory over Madison's Frankie Davis at 135 pounds. Nick Dorey then pinned Tom Corigliano of Parsippany Hills in 1:48 at 140. At 145, Eddie McCray pinned Cranford's Jeb Dennis in 51 seconds. Sam Martin scored

then scored a 12-4 major decision against Anthony Evans in the 152 pound quarterfinal and Mark Wagner defeated Eric Bergman of Seton Hall Prep 6-0. Kevin Criley won a 11-3 major decision over Conor Shannon of Brearley at 189 and Preston Johnson won a 10-7 decision over Trevor Martin of New Providence at 215 pounds.

When wrestling resumed at 9:30 the next morning, South Plainfield had 11 wrestlers in the semifinal round and there was little question what school was going to be named the top team in Region 3 later that afternoon. Once again, Patrick Hunter got South Plainfield started at 103 with an 18-3 tech fall over Colin Hayes of Delbarton to reach the finals. Billy Ashnault was down 4-0 early in his 119 semifinal before taking the lead and scoring a fall in 5:15 over Tom Eidel of Seton Hall Prep. Jimmy Conroy advanced to the 125 final by scoring a solid 3-0 victory over an extremely tough Paul Gallipeau of Parsippany Hills. Bryan Hunt's momentum continued from his big win the night before as he looked for payback from Mike Boccicari of New Providence following his 1-0 loss in the District 12 finals a week earlier. With the entire gymnasium once again focused on his match, Hunt got his payback by winning a thrilling 2-0 decision with two seconds remaining in the fourth and final overtime period. Mike Jakubik also got payback by avenging his loss in the District 12 semifinals to Rob Coughlin of Gov. Livingston with a dominating 13-4 major decision victory. At 140, Nick Dorey rolled to a 11-4 win over Michael Trippler of Morristown, followed by Eddie McCray pinning Andrew Schaffer of Westfield in 1:33 at 145. Sam Martin dropped a tough 3-1 decision to Seth Podheretz of Millburn at 152 and Mark Wagner once again faced off against Watchung Hills' powerhouse Alex Caruso at 160, dropping a 15-6 decision to the eventual champion. Kevin Criley was the last Tiger wrestler to advance to the final round with a 6-1 victory over Parsippany Hills' Alex Kociski in the 189 pound semifinal. In the 215 pound semifinal, Preston Johnson overcame an early 5-0 deficit against Brearley's Jesse Boyden but fell short, dropping a tough 8-6 decision. The wrestling back round saw Martin and Johnson both eliminated by close decisions, but Mark Wagner stood firm

and won two matches, including his third victory of the year over Seton Hall's Bergman by a score of 6-3, to earn him a third place medal and a trip to the state championships.

The Region 3 finals saw the Louis Retino Gymnasium packed to capacity as the wrestlers lined up for introductions. Like the GMC and District 12 tournaments, it looked like South Plainfield versus everyone else with eight Tigers in the finals. So it didn't shock anyone when it was announced that South Plainfield finished the year as the number one team in Region 3 once again. Hunter again started the Tigers off at 103 against Kenny Knapp of Brearley. Hunter scored an early takedown and never relinquishing control as he rolled to a 5-0 victory and his first Region crown. Ashnault then followed suit at 119, earning his first Region title with a big 9-2 win over Anthony Priore of A.L. Johnson. Ashnault beat Priore 6-4 for the District 12 title a week earlier. At 125 lbs., South Plainfield's all-time win leader Jimmy Conroy faced off against his archenemy Mike Grey of Delbarton. Grey, the all-time state victories leader and three-time state champion, last faced off against Conroy in the 119 pound state finals last March and scored a 9-4 victory. This time around, despite scoring a late takedown to narrow the score, Conroy dropped a 14-7 decision. Grey and Conroy could very likely meet up again next Sunday in the state finals. Bryan Hunt lost in the 130 pound final to Trevor Melde of Delbarton and Mike Jakubik lost a 9-2 decision to Tyler Riccio of Watchung Hills at 135.

In what was the most exciting of the championship matches, South Plainfield's Nick Dorey was an underdog against Pat Mineo of Scotch Plains-Fanwood in the 140 final. The period and a half saw Mineo leading the contest, but Dorey came back by scoring a takedown late in the second and gaining a 5-4 lead. Mineo got a reversal as time ran out to regain the lead and managed to escape to increase his lead to 7-5. But as the halfway point of the third period neared, Dorey shot in on Mineo sending him to his back at the edge of the mat in what looked to many as a pin. Mineo called for injury time as Dorey got his three back points and a three-point lead. When the action resumed, Mineo tried to get back into the match but was cradled up and put to his back by Dorey for the remainder of the period. In the end, Dorey scored an exciting 13-7 victory and his first Region 3 championship. The crowd in Union was shocked to see Eddie McCray drop a close 4-2 decision to Shane Riccio of Watchung Hills at 145 for his first defeat of the year. Kevin Criley lost a tough 7-4 match to Chatham's Tim Lutke in the 189 final.

In the end, the Tigers put forth an exceptionally strong performance in Union, sending nine wrestlers to the season's main event in Atlantic City. In doing so, this year's South Plainfield wrestling team has cemented its spot as one of the greatest our town has ever produced. The ill-luck that traditionally surrounds Tiger wrestlers at Union High School in early March dissipated into relatively good fortune this year in preparation for an exciting weekend of wrestling down the Shore. As always, best of luck to all Tiger wrestlers and coaches in their final competition of this memorable season and, as always, you've got every body in your corner.

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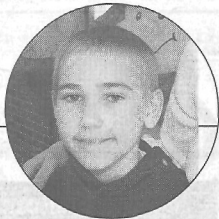
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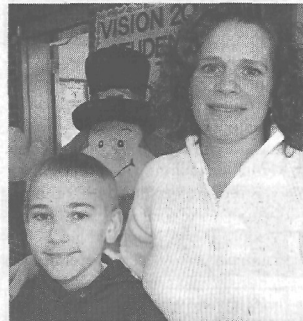
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Junior Journalist Corner



Dylan Thompson, Riley School Fourth Grader, Named This Week's "Junior Journalist"



Riley Elementary fourth grade student Dylan Thompson, with teacher Christine Dispenziere.

Dylan Thompson, fourth grader at Riley School, is this week's winner in the Junior Journalist Program. His story, "Being Physically Fit" has earned him dinner for his 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.

Being Physically Fit

By Dylan Thompson

Do you like to be physically fit? I sure do! You get healthier and even stronger! Eat healthy foods and lift weights those make you healthier and stronger. If you want to be fast then jog a lot and if you don't want to be lazy then jump rope! It's fun and you're not lazy when you do it. Doing all of these things will make your body healthy and that's why you should be physically fit! You could try sports like basketball, baseball, soccer, and hockey. Soccer is my favorite.

If you don't know what kind of food is healthy, then try these: apples, carrots, corn, lettuce, broccoli, and peas too. These are all good foods. Come on get active don't be lazy! You can do many things if you are strong and healthy then your brain is healthy and you will be more intelligent. When you're intelligent you can answer a lot of questions. I do all of these things that's why I'm strong and have a healthy body. It can be tiring but you can do it. In the beginning, some things can be tough but if you practice you will do great. So please be physically fit. You can do many things when you are physically fit.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

The Borough of South Plainfield invites sealed bids for:

Renovations to the Community Pool

Bids will be opened and read by the Borough Administrator/Municipal Clerk at the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey on Tuesday, March 21, 2006 at 10:00 AM prevailing time. All bids must be addressed and delivered to the Purchasing Agent on or by the designated hour.

Bid documents may be obtained from the Borough Administrator/Municipal Clerk's Office in person or by calling 908-226-7605. A fee of \$50.00, payable to the Borough of South Plainfield, must be received by the Borough prior to the release of any bid packages.

Bids shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed to the Borough Administrator/Municipal Clerk, Borough of South Plainfield, Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080. The name of the bid must be printed on the face of the envelope.

Bids shall be made upon the Standard Proposal Form. Any bid guarantee required will be so specified in the bid documents for that item.

Attention is called to the Federal requirements regarding employment non-discrimination and safety and wage rates.

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$53.20 March 10, 2006

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 1725

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ord. 1725 entitled: AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING CERTAIN INTERSECTIONS AS STOP INTERSECTIONS AND PROVIDING A STOP SIGN AT SAID LOCATION was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, March 10, 2006 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Tuesday, March 21, 2006 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ORDINANCE NO. 1725

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING CERTAIN INTERSECTIONS AS STOP INTERSECTIONS AND PROVIDING FOR A STOP SIGN AT THESE INTERSECTIONS.

WHEREAS Hamilton Boulevard is under total reconstruction and a detour plan has been implemented to help move the traffic through the Borough with the least amount of inconvenience as possible; and

WHEREAS the municipal engineer of the Borough of South Plainfield after investigation of the circumstances and under his seal as a licensed professional engineer has certified to the municipal governing body that the designation of these intersections as a stop intersection and the erection of a stop sign at said intersections is in the interest of safety and the expedition of traffic and will conform with the current standards prescribed by the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices as adopted by the Commissioner of Transportation of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS the Mayor and Council support said designation in the interest of public safety;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 39:4-140 that the intersections described below are hereby designated as a "STOP" intersection. "STOP" signs shall be installed as provided.

Intersection "Stop" Sign On	
Day Street at Jackson Avenue	Day Street
Matis Street at Jackson Avenue	Matis Street
Hillside Avenue at Beatrice Place	Hillside Avenue
Jackson Avenue at Garfield Avenue	Jackson Avenue
Garfield Avenue at Arlington Avenue	Garfield Avenue

FURTHER BE IT ORDAINED that a certified copy of this ordinance shall be transmitted to the Commissioner of Transportation of the State of New Jersey as required by law.

This ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication in accordance with the law.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$114.00 March 10, 2006

Viola Cipriano Costa, 90

Viola Cipriano Costa died on Monday, Feb. 28 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield. Born in Kearny, she lived there before moving to South Plainfield in 1990.

Mrs. Costa was employed by Dupont in Kearny in the physical testing lab before leaving to raise a family.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Kearny where she belonged to the United Women's Fellowship, taught Sunday School and was a liaison for English and Spanish speaking services. She also attended Scotch Plains Baptist Church.

She was also a member of Liberty Chapter #88, Order of the Eastern Star in Kearny; AARP Chapter 4144 in South Plainfield and "Traveling Seniors" in South Plainfield.

She was predeceased by her husband, James, who died in 1993.

Surviving are two sons, James Costa of Baton Rouge, LA and Charles Costa of South Plainfield; a daughter, Joan Pagano of Fanwood; a brother, Charles Cipriano of Lake-wood; a sister, Mae Prete of Kearny and two grandchildren, Samantha Costa and Stephen Pagano.

Funeral services were held at the Memorial Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Scotch Plains Baptist Church, 333 Park Ave., Scotch Plains, NJ 07076.

Frederick J. Scott, 86

Frederick J. Scott died on Monday, March 6 at his home.

Born and raised in Bayonne, Mr. Scott had resided in Plainfield before settling to Scotch Plains 47 years ago.

A veteran of the United States Army, he served during WWII in the

Army Infantry earning the Good Conduct Medal and Purple Heart for his actions.

Beginning a long career with the former General Cable Corporation, now known as Pirelli Cable Corporation in Bayonne, Frederick grew with the company through various positions and a merger before his retirement in 1982. He retired as plant superintendent after 40 years of service with one company.

Mr. Scott enjoyed his time traveling, model railroads, shelling (gathering sea shells) and woodworking.

He is predeceased by his wife, Nora (Bunfield) Scott who died in 1998.

Surviving are his daughter, Patricia and her husband Bill Gunderson of South Plainfield, two grandchildren, Krista and Scott Gunderson and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, March 11 at the McCriskin Home For Funerals, 2425 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield.

Interment will follow in Hillside Cemetery, Scotch Plains.

Visitation will be held on Friday from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. in the funeral home.

Richard E. Morgan, 96

Richard E. Morgan died on Saturday, March 4 at his home in South

Plainfield.

Born and raised in Hoboken, Mr. Morgan lived in Jersey City, Linden, and Florida prior to moving back to Linden for sometime. He finally settled in South Plainfield 11 years ago.

For more than 30 years he worked at Manufacturer's Hanover Trust Co. in New York City retiring in 1972. A former parishioner of St. Elizabeth's RC Church in Linden, Mr. Morgan was past president of the Holy Name Society, served as a church usher, and also worked at the weekly bingos.

A volunteer for Linden's Meals on Wheels program, Rich served as Treasurer for the 5th Ward Democratic Club, also in Linden for many years. Mr. Morgan also enjoyed taking trips to Atlantic City.

He is predeceased by his wife, Mary, who died in 2000 and by all of his brothers and sisters.

Surviving are his two daughters, Eileen Butler of South Plainfield and Mary Dolores Morgan of Manhattan; a son, Richard and his wife Carol of Fresh Meadows, NY and seven grandchildren, Eileen, William, Elizabeth, Michael, Richard, Diana, and Lori. Also surviving are his 11 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

The Hillside Cemetery Association

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LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

Note To Bidders

The Borough of South Plainfield invites sealed bids for:

Fire Department Ford Pickup (Brush/Utility) Vehicle

Bids will be opened and read by the Borough Administrator/Municipal Clerk at the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey on Monday, March 20, 2006 at 10:00 AM prevailing time. All bids must be addressed and delivered to the Borough Administrator/Municipal Clerk on or by the designated hour.

Bid documents may be obtained from the Borough Administrator/Municipal Clerk's Office in person or by calling 908-226-7605. A fee of \$25.00, payable to the Borough of South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080. The name of the item being bid must be noted on the envelope.

Bids shall be made upon the Standard Proposal Form. Any bid guarantee required will be so specified in the bid documents for that item.

Attention is called to the Federal requirements regarding employment non-discrimination and safety and wage rates.

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$45.60 March 10, 2006



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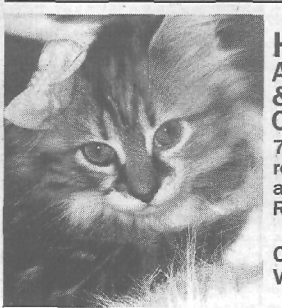
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From the Desk of Debbie Boyle...

The Rotary Club of South Plainfield will be holding various fundraisers to benefit the newly proposed building which will replace the one that burned to the ground at Jost Field. Please help support these fundraisers which will be advertised.

Superintendent Dr. Rosado will be presenting the school budget for the upcoming year. What better time then now to attend one of the meetings and have your questions answered. The PTO's at various schools will be hosting these presentations. Remember, knowledge is power.

Congratulations to the South Plainfield High School Girls Varsity Basketball Team, who had a winning season of 22-4. You were not only teammates, you were all friends who constantly supported each other and the camaraderie you showed night after night which resulted in your many wins. Darice Bishop and Shaunique Cisson, graduating seniors, best wishes in your future endeavors. Shaunique, your pep talk to the team at the end of the March 4 game was the best and if you didn't know, you know it now! Every one of you on the team has an extreme love of the game, don't ever let anyone take that away from you. Thank you to all the girls' parents and friends who came to the March 4 game to support the team. You are wonderful!

Cate Bonanno, thank you for donating your personal time to work along with us at the Grant School kitchen during the 2007 Stokes Pasta Dinner fundraiser. It was greatly appreciated.

The SPHS Peer to Peer Leadership Program "Heroes and Cool Kids" attended their second seminar at Monmouth College on bullying and sportsmanship. The "Heroes and Cool Kids" made their second presentation to the sixth grade classes at Grant on Friday, March 3 and once again the students enjoyed the program and flooded the presenters with question after question. They did not want the program to end. Thank you again to advisors, Mrs. Martko, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Boettger, Mr. Hajduk, Ms. Vandermark, Ms. Zurka and Mr. Encinas for your outstanding program. The high

school teachers should be very proud of these young people, because through these types of programs, academics and extra curricular activities, they all become well rounded individuals.

The Gertrude Hawk Candy 2007 Stokes fundraiser is underway, along with a fundraiser hosted by Donna Siepmann of Custom Creations on South Plainfield Ave., with a percentage of sales going towards the Stokes trip. Watch for these flyers in your child's backpack. Stoke committee member Donna Teller suggested that a tally of each fifth grade student who fundraised be kept. The committee decided that the amount of funds from fundraising be given to every fifth grade student. It is very important that each fifth grade student who

plans to attend the 2007 Stokes trip try to participate in the fundraising process. Two thousand dollars has to be used for entertainment on the trip and for any who encounter financial difficulties. Anyone has financial difficulties should contact the Grant School principal confidentially. A t-shirt, spring jacket and small backpack type bag fundraiser is upcoming, along with a car wash in the late spring and a Yankee candle sale for Mother's Day.

Congratulations to all the South Plainfield High School wrestlers. You did an outstanding job and best wishes to the nine wrestlers who will be going to Atlantic City March 10-12.

Best wishes to all the upcoming spring events in our school system.

Calling all High School Senior Girls- It is Scholarship Time

As you may or may not know, the Parent's Ponytail (Softball) Association is sponsoring three \$500 college scholarships. Applicants are currently being accepted and can be obtained from the South Plainfield's High School guidance office.

To qualify for the scholarships, the applicant must be a high school senior graduating this June and a current resident of South Plainfield. To qualify for one of the two recreation scholarships, applicants must have played for a minimum of four years in the South Plainfield Recreation Department's Ponytail Softball League. To qualify for the Ponytail All-Star scholarship, applicants must

have played South Plainfield Recreation softball for a minimum of three years. All-Star players may apply for both the recreation and All-Star scholarships; however, a player is eligible to receive only one scholarship.

The application must be received no later than May 5. All completed applications can be mailed to SPPPA Scholarship, P.O. Box 441, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or returned to the South Plainfield High School guidance office in a sealed envelope labeled SPPPA Scholarship.

Verification of school enrollment is required prior to funds being awarded. Get your applications as soon as possible. Best of luck to all of you.



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