



Celebrate! Today is St. Patrick's Day!

*****CAR-RT LOT#C013
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Meet the BOE Candidates

Roosevelt School PTSO is sponsoring a "Meet the Candidates Night" on Thursday, March 30 at 6:30 p.m. in (the new) Roosevelt School Gymnasium. Come out and meet the candidates for the upcoming school board elections on April 18.

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 9, NO. 28

50 CENTS

MARCH 17, 2006

Missing Resident Found in Fla. Canal

The Palm Beach County, Florida Medical Examiner's Office positively identified the body of missing South Plainfield resident, Kenneth Conceicao last Friday. His body was found inside the cab of the truck he was driving in a canal near South Bay, Fla.

Conceicao was last seen on Jan. 20 near Boca Raton picking up a load of mulch on his way to help the clean up



Kenneth Conceicao and Melissa Glick

efforts after the hurricane season.

Conceicao's girlfriend, Melissa Glick, had kept in constant contact with him and reported him missing after she stopped hearing from him on the 20th.

The truck was found by workers from the South Florida Water Management District. Authorities had searched that area unsuccessfully.

"We believe the semi did not navigate the back end of the bridge as it made a turn, the back end skidded off and the whole rig just went in the water," said Boca Raton Police Detective James Giumenta.



In recognition of Girl Scout Week, girls from Troop 17 attended the Borough Council meeting last week. Mayor Gallagher read a proclamation in honor of the annual celebration and the scouts led the "Pledge of Allegiance." Pictured above are Angela DeSantis, Michelle Miller, Jayme Bishop, Joanna Bosse and Ellen Zinsky. Not pictured are leaders Lauren Zinsky and Joanne Miller.

Boys Middle School Basketball Team Ends Season With 19-3 Mark

The South Plainfield Middle School Boys Basketball Team ended its season last Saturday night as champions with a 48-46 victory against Springfield in the 55th Annual Dunellen March of Dimes Tournament. The Tigers ended their season with a 19-3 record, winning their last nine games in a row.

As members of the Greater Middlesex Conference Middle School League the Tigers competed against teams from East Brunswick, South Brunswick, North Brunswick, Piscataway, Perth Amboy, North Plainfield, Sacred Heart, Sayreville, Ridge, Freehold, St. Frances, Long Hill and Wardlaw-Hartridge.

Tyreek Watkins. Brandon Downes, Troy McNair and Jake Salerno are the seventh graders on the team. Statisticians, Samantha Maiorino and Jennifer Gregorio, were with us the entire season and were great supporters and did a tremendous job with a very difficult task.

The basketball team has practiced since the Nov. 28 tryouts. The team focused on fundamentals and having each player know their responsibility in the scope of the team. They learned the importance of the team concept, being student-athletes and the value of sportsmanship. They have improved daily by working on

dropped off their sons at various times throughout the season and have given their emotional and physical support at all of the games. The championship game against Springfield was dominated by the supportive and vocal parents, friends and family of the players.

The faculty, administrators and custodial staff are to be thanked for their support and assistance throughout the year, especially Mr. Novak for his support of the players throughout the season and his attendance at the championship game on Saturday night. Thanks also to Ms. Panuzzo, Mrs. Plate, Mrs. Kirchofer for relaying



The Middle School Basketball Team were champions at 55th annual Dunellen March of Dimes Tournament.

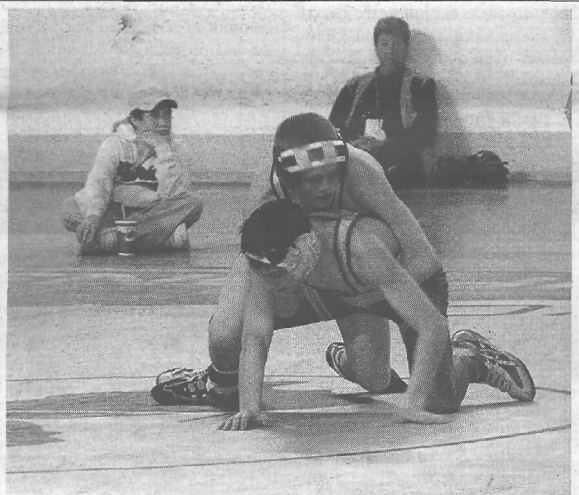
Richard Fonti and Joseph Bennett coach the Tigers. The team consists of captains Malcolm Austin, Mark Benak and Dontae Johnson. Eighth graders included Matt Cesare, Matt Cooper, Gagan Dhalival, Tyler Drisco, Charles Merryman, Iyanosa Ogbevoen, Robert Pasternak, Kishan Patel, Carlos Ruiz, Ryan Smith, Gerry Squier and

individual and team shooting and defensive drills. Over the past four months these individuals have become a highly successful team.

Coach Fonti and Coach Bennett would like to thank the parents who traveled with us to all of the away games, supported the team at all home games, picked up and

messages throughout the season. Abel and the night custodial staff for the first rate and tremendous job they did preparing the gym for the games. We have, by far, the cleanest and best facility of any middle school in the county. The students who supported the team throughout the year were a vital

(Continued on page 7)



Patrick Hunter controls Derek Valenti of Kittatinny in the State consolation finals. Hunter won 12-4 for third place. (Story on page 8)

Education Stressed at Internet Safety Program

Parents got a reality check last Wednesday at the South Plainfield Senior Center. Teachers, administrators, parents and local officials attended the *Observer* sponsored seminar on Internet safety. A slide show depicted how kids use the web to communicate with each other and how they present themselves to others on their personal sites. More than 125 people attended this very successful program.

South Plainfield Police Department Captain Paul Brembt served as the master of ceremonies for the seminar. He introduced the many dignitaries in attendance, including Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan, Mayor Dan Gallagher, Councilmen Dennis Cerami, Charles Butrico and Ray Petronko, Superintendent Dr. Robert Rosado and Director of Technology Russ Mattoon.

Several employees of the South Plainfield Library also attended and

"If your child minimizes the computer screen whenever you walk into the room, you have a problem."

-Investigator Laura Callahan, Middlesex County Out-Reach & Education Unit (M.O.R.E.)

wanted parents to be aware that the computers in the library do not utilize filtering software and are often used by adolescents and teenagers.

Investigator Laura Callahan, from the Middlesex County Out-Reach and Education Unit (M.O.R.E.), began the presentation by displaying an innocent looking MySpace.com profile of a 20-year-old male, who is also on the list of registered California pedophiles. Callahan stressed that while the Internet can be used safely, parents and children should be aware of its pitfalls. Identity thieves and pedophiles use the Internet to seek victims, so it is important to ensure that children are educated on safety.

Her advice to parents was simple. "If your child has a computer in their room, remove it. If your child minimizes the computer screen when

(Continued on page 12)



Junior Journalist Corner

SPHS Senior Named "Junior Journalist"

Shaunique Cisson, SPHS senior, is this week's winner in the Junior Journalist Program. Her poem, "I am the Eyes," 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.



SPHS Senior Shaunique Cisson and Creative Writing teacher Fran Flannery.

I Am the Eyes By Shaunique Cisson

I am the eyes of all genocide survivors
Red, Bloodshot capturing all horrors
From death marches to the hideouts found
Witnessing all accounts of containment

I am the feet of all slaves
Worn, tired, and barefoot
Running, trying to escape Master
But slowed by his whip and threats of rape

I am history
I am history
I am history

I am the ears of all racism and prejudice
That listens molding perpetrators taught by their fathers

I am a Darfur victim
A victim, of yet another genocide watched by all nations

I am the conscience of all bystanders
And their limited involvement
With overwhelmed regrets

I am history repeating
I am history repeating
I am history repeating itself over and over again

I am the last generation
The generation who holds tremendous responsibility
The generation to tell all victims stories of all egregious acts.

I am promise to all victims in the past
I am hope to all victims in the present
I am the rescuer to all persons in the future.

South Plainfield Observer

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in the South Plainfield Observer:

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

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.

To the Editor:

As long as I have served as your Mayor, I have always believed that the Board of Education budget is best left to the board and the voters. If the budget is defeated, we carry out the will of the people and make cuts. I have always been reluctant to affect the outcome because I know our residents are intelligent and informed and they will do what is best for our kids and our borough as a whole.

However, I must make an exception this year. As you know, the Board of Education submitted a proposed budget last week, which includes a 21-point tax increase. When coupled with last year's 34 point tax increase our residents will be required to pay 55 additional tax points which equates to a \$825 increase on a home assessed at \$150,000. Last year our residents supported the Board of Education budget because we all believed that would put the budget on sound footing for the long term. It is unconscionable to expect our hard working homeowners to once again support such a high tax increase. South Plainfield's student population is stable. This type of increase will never pass muster.

In an effort to avoid the inevitable, I ask the Board of Education to revisit the budget and reduce the proposed tax increase to single digits at most. Even that will be burdensome but a case can be made to support it. If they do not and the budget is submitted to the voters, we all know it will be soundly rejected. With that in mind, I will ask the council's support to retain a financial expert experienced in board of education budgets to start reviewing the budget with the direction of making reductions.

I know that this statement may have a negative political effect on me, but I must answer to my conscience. As Mayor my only concern is to keep South Plainfield a great and affordable place to live. I am asking nothing more from the Board of Education than I expect from the governing body. We must keep taxes at a level our residents can afford or it will be the death knell of South Plainfield, as we know it.

Again, on behalf of the taxpayers of our borough, I ask the board of education to review the budget as proposed and make prudent cuts to reduce the proposed tax increase to a maximum of nine points. I know it will be a difficult job, but it's better that you reduce your own budget than force the Mayor and Council to do it for you.

MAYOR DAN J. GALLAGHER

Dear Editor,

I know I speak not only for myself but for wrestling fans in South Plainfield and around the State of New Jersey when I say how proud I am of the achievements and outstanding success of SPHS senior Jimmy Conroy. I truly believe that Jimmy is the greatest wrestler South Plainfield has ever produced.

In his freshman year, Jimmy defeated Rahway freshman Darion Caldwell, to place third in the consolation finals. In his sophomore year Jimmy captured the state title at 103 pounds. In Jimmy's junior year, he advanced again to the finals against his nemesis, two time state champ Mike Grey, placing second in the state. This year Jimmy advanced all the way to the state finals and again placed sec-

IN YOUR OPINION

ond against Mike Grey, who became the first four time state champion. After their match, Grey was quoted as saying that, "You can't take anything for granted with Jimmy. He's tough." That comment speaks volumes of the respect Jimmy has earned among his peers.

Jimmy's overall record during his four years of competition was an impressive 144-8; he was the only four time state place winner, earning Jimmy the best record in SPHS wrestling history. He has much to be proud of and I for one want to congratulate him and thank him for four years of exciting wrestling. It has been a real joy to watch Jimmy grow and accomplish so much. I wish him continued success at the University of Pittsburgh. Thanks Jimmy!

#1 SPHS FAN, ROBERT GRAF

To the Editor,

My name is Ernie "Jim" Giannakis. I am a candidate running for the South Plainfield Board of Education.

I am a 20 year resident of South Plainfield and am self-employed. My wife Linda and I have three children, two of which attend our schools.

I have been a member and coach for the Jr. Baseball Club for nine years. In addition, I have been a PTA member and served as a chaperone for many class trips and activities.

I am seeking election because I believe our children should be first and foremost, while trying to keep our taxes status-quo.

I am not seeking this spot for just a title or to satisfy me ego. I understand the time commitment this requires and the tough choices and decisions, but I know I will do the job to the best of my ability. I bring dedication, ethics, business skills and drive to give our kids the best education possible. On April 18 vote line "4".

THANK YOU,
ERNIE "JIM" GIANNAKIS

To the Editor,

On March 12, Cub Scout Pack 324 held their annual Blue & Gold Ddinner at the VFW on Front St. The dinner,

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.

along with awards and a magician was a great success.

We would like to thank the following organizations that made very generous donations to our pack: 1-800 Flowers, Party Pros, Stop & Shop, Costco and the VFW. We would also like to thank Flanagan's, who did a wonderful job catering our dinner.

Last but not least, we would like to thank all of the den leaders and parent volunteers who worked tirelessly to make the day possible. Thanks to everyone involved!

NANCY PAULS

Dear Editor,

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all of the families for your donations, dedication and support in the Pennies for Patients fundraiser. All of your hard work made a difference. We were able to contribute a total of \$1,442.22 to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society!

The money you helped raise will help patients in Northern New Jersey by supporting research, advocacy, community service, patient aid, public and professional education. Because of this kind of support, modern treatments have greatly improved cure rates or remission duration for some patients and leukemia and offered more hope than ever before to those affected with blood cancers.

Many thanks to you for making a big difference in the lives of those af-

(Continued on page 10)

Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield, NJ

Rev. John Paul
Alvarado, Pastor

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Mass Schedule:

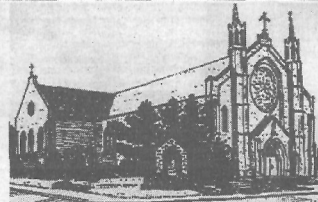
Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 p.m.

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.

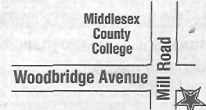
Holy Days 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m. and 7 p.m.



To our friends in South Plainfield K.A.M.A.C. REFLECTION Beauty Salon

has moved to our new location in the The Mill Plaza
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Members of the Senior Men's Forum have attended several of the Board of Education's work sessions on the school budget. We could not participate in the proceedings, but we could listen to the dialogue of Board members, the Superintendent and Business Administrator on what avenues were available to reduce the proposed budget, otherwise there would again be a substantial tax increase.

It became increasingly clear to us that the budget has revenue and a cost side: revenue includes property taxes, State aid and Federal aid. In years 2004/2005, taxpayers contributed almost \$7,000,000 in property taxes. State tax aid for the period produced little help during those years. Federal aid has been flat or lower. Thus, a major portion of funds needed to operate the school system comes from you. It is obvious that our taxpayers have produced more than their share to educate our children and thus assume a significant financial burden.

As a result of Abbott Burke legislation, \$6B in State aid is funded to 31 Abbott districts who receive almost 60% of that allocation. The other 580 districts, which includes South Plainfield, receive 40%. South Plainfield receives about 17% State aid. The Abbott districts receive 60 to 90% of State Aid. You, through your property taxes, pay approximately 75% of the education cost. In a recent *Star Ledger* report, Newark was shown to fund 9% of its tax burden; Camden 3%; Asbury Park 7%; Trenton 8%; Passaic 7%; Paterson 8%; Perth Amboy 11% and likewise for the other of the 31 districts. You may wonder why the State so unfairly distributes State aid for education? It is because a number of years ago the Supreme Court, in a case known as Abbott Burke, said the State should provide money (your money) to these districts so they can spend as much as the wealthiest school districts. Some results include Newark, which spends \$15,796 per student; Camden-\$15,091; Paterson - \$12,660 and Perth Amboy-\$13,109. You in South Plainfield spend \$9,822 per student.

Obviously, this is not fair to our taxpayers and students. You should write to your Assembly and Senate representatives in the State Legislature and demand that the share of education state dollars be distributed more fairly. Just imagine how we could reduce our reliance on property taxes if we received 35% State aid instead of 17%. If your legislature tells you that their hands are tied, remind them that it is the legislators' responsibility to establish tax and education policy not the judiciary. If the legislators refuse to do this, vote them out of office and you can!

On the Federal revenue side, the Individual Disability Education Act of 1967 stated the Federal Government was to fund 40% of the cost to special and handicapped students. They only provide 15 to 18%. Again, write

FROM THE Senior Men's FORUM

By Walter J. Pasacrita,
Chairman

to your Federal Senators and members of Congress and tell them to fund 40% as the law requires. Congressman Ferguson has proposed such legislation. It passed the House, but failed the Senate. Call Senator Lautenberg and Menendez and tell them to do their jobs.

So you see, there are some actions you can take to increase the revenue side. The other side of the equation is the cost side—65% to 70% of the budget is for salaries and benefits. With the rest available for books, special programs, supplies, utilities and maintenance, it became clear to us at the work sessions that there was little left for the board to discuss regarding reductions. Whenever the major portion of the budget, salaries and benefits were mentioned, we were reminded that these are part of labor agreements subject to negotiation.

Teachers and staff in your district receive hospital, medical, dental and prescription drug coverage and they do not pay any part of premium cost either for themselves or their dependents. The health care premium increase included in the tentative budget is 14.2% or \$816,993. How many of you get free health care or contribute to coverage? We refer to these issues because you, the taxpayers, have demonstrated your support of education through increased property taxes of almost \$7,000,000 from '04/'05 to projected '06/'07. Isn't it about time for those in the education community to do their fair share?

Since the teachers and the Board are now in negotiations, why should we not expect them to make some sacrifice for their own benefit. We believe that 1% of salary for single coverage and 2% of salary for family coverage is a fair contribution for the benefits they receive. On the salary side, the last agreement provided increases of 4.75%, 4.5% and 4.5% and eligibility for healthcare was improved. For the current year the salary increase is 4.4%.

Since the salary schedule for teachers and staff provide automatic increment increases based on passage of time (these increases range from 1.2% to, in some cases, 5%), perhaps in view of the budget crises with substantial proposed tax increases, it may be time in the first year of the contract to only provide increment increases, no general increase. This approach would help to absorb cost and not force cuts in programs, supplies, maintenance and services. We offer these suggestions after witnessing the efforts of the Board to reduce the budget and the tax impact on you, the taxpayers. Think about it.

Seniors interested in learning more about the Senior Men's Forum may call Walter Pasacrita at (908) 754-7410.

Editors Note: Walter Pasacrita is chairman of the Senior Men's Forum of South Plainfield. If you would like to know more about the group, call (908) 754 7410.



Borough Council members, along with Superintendent of Schools Dr. Robert Rosado, joins executives from Big Lots in cutting the ribbon at the grand opening of their newest store in the Golden Acres Shopping Center.

Final BOE Budget Adoption Set for March 28

The Board of Education will hold a special public meeting on Tuesday, March 28 at 8 p.m. to adopt the final 2006-2007 school budget.

At last week's meeting the board made cuts in personnel in the tentative budget and was expected to vote

on the final budget adoption at the March 14 Committee of the Whole Meeting on Tuesday night. Board member Carol Byrne said the vote for the final adoption of the budget was removed from the agenda because the amount of state aid would not be known until March 23 and changes to the budget may be necessary.

As it stands the tentative \$50,475,623 budget for the 2006-2007 school year would include \$40,212,967 to be raised by taxes bringing the tax rate to \$2.73 per

\$100 of assessed valuation or an additional \$237 for owners of \$117,000 home.

In other business, Board member Jeff Seider suggested a change in the regular and COW Board meetings from Tuesday to Wednesday because their is a conflict with the Borough council now that it meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month.

After discussion the Board decided to leave any change in meeting schedule to the incoming Board after the new members are elected.

Big Lots South Plainfield Store Now Open

Customers can save up to 70 percent off one-time treasures and everyday values as the nation's largest broad line closeout chain expands.

From dining room sets to diapers and everything in between, South Plainfield residents have gained a convenient new source for bargains as Big Lots officially opened a new store at 686 Oak Tree Ave. in the Golden Acres Shopping Center on March 5. As part of the grand opening celebration, Big Lots made a \$5,000 donation to the South Plainfield Public Schools during its ribbon-cutting ceremony.

"We are committed to making a difference where it matters—in the communities we serve," said Rob Claxton, senior vice president of marketing for Big Lots. "By providing a donation to South Plainfield local schools, we are empowering young people to realize their dreams and their potential. We hope this small gift will provide support to local educators."

Big Lots, the nation's largest broad line closeout retailer, typically sells items for 20 to 40 percent less than discount stores and up to 70 percent below traditional retailers.

At 20,600 square feet, the new Big Lots features more than 700 always-in-stock items including essentials like toothpaste, batteries, diapers and household chemicals.

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**South Plainfield Post Office is
Hosting Passport Fair!!**

March 18, 2006 8:30 AM-6:00 PM

South Plainfield, NJ Acting Postmaster George Caswell and his staff are hosting a Passport Fair at the South Plainfield Post Office at 114 Oak Tree Avenue to make it more convenient for postal customers to obtain a passport. The fair will be held on March 18 from 8:30am-6:00pm. Postal officials will be on hand to accept Passport Applications. Light refreshments will be served and goodie bags for children will be handed out.

***Helpful tips for applying for a passport:**

- 1) Fill out the passport application (DS11), before you come to the Post Office. You can download it from: http://travel.state.gov/download_applications.html
- 2) Bring proof of US citizenship and current photo identification with you.
- 3) South Plainfield postal officials can take the passport photographs. You can also have them taken at any local pharmacy.
- 4) Have all your documentation with you when you apply for a passport.

All information on passport applications, procedures and fees can be obtained by contacting the South Plainfield Post Office or on the World Wide Web at www.usps.com (click on the government links page then click on get a passport). A representative will be available to explain about usps.com and all the internet services it provides. Don't forget to ask about Business Connect!

Events

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 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.

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.

Troop 228 To Hold Blood Drive

March 18

Members of the South Plainfield Girl Scout Troop 228 will be holding a blood drive on Saturday, March 18 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the South Plainfield PAL Building on Maple Ave.

Call Sharon Snogans at (908) 755-7481 to make an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome. Free t-shirts!

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.

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 Hunterdon Hills Playhouse - "Charlie's Aunt" March 23 • 10am departure *** Overnight trip to Baltimore w/Dinner Theatre April 29 and 30				
Knitting/Crocheting 9:30-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Art Class 11:30am	Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social 10am Lunch Available	Exercise 8:45am Computer Class 10am, 11:30am & 1pm Tai Chi Class 2pm Listening to Children 10am	Shop Pathmark 9am Tax Preparation 9-12 Computer Class 11am & 1pm Exercise Class 1:15pm AARP Meeting 12:30	BINGO 10-2pm Lunch Available Tax Preparation 9am to noon
20	21	22	23	24
TO SIGN UP FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER, VISIT THE CENTER.				

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

What's happening in
FEBRUARY

Knights Announce St. Patrick's Party

March 18

The Knights of Columbus will hold their annual St. Patrick's Day Party on Saturday, March 18 at their hall on Hamilton Blvd. from 5 to 9 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person. Dinner includes corned beef and cabbage (chicken breast), potato soup, red potatoes, dessert and beverages. A DJ will be playing 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 p.m. at Chaumont Post #243 on Oak Tree Ave. Cost is \$15 per person. Call (908) 668-9414 for info.

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.

Puppy Behavior Seminar

March 21

A seminar on puppy behavior will be held at the Plainfield Animal Hospital on Tuesday, March 21 at 7 p.m. Admission is \$35, paid in advance or \$45 at the door. Call (908) 755-2428 for reservations and information.

Trip to Hunterdon Hills

March 23

The Senior Center has a trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse planned for Thursday, March 23 to see the hilarious comedy, "Charlie's Aunt." Cost is \$53 per person and includes transportation, a luncheon and the show. For reservations, stop by the Senior Center. This trip is open to the public. You do not need to be a member of the Center to participate.

'Open Your Heart' Casino Night

March 25

Open Your Heart to Children Battling Cancer Foundation, Inc. will be holding a Casino Night on Saturday, March 25 at Sacred Heart School. Doors open at 6:30, play begins at 7 p.m. Cost is \$40 per person and includes wine, beer, soda and playing chips. For information, call (908) 755-5300, ext. 203.

Almost Famous Players Coffeehouse

March 25

South Plainfield's Almost Famous Players will hold their second AFP Coffeehouse on Saturday, March 25 at the Senior Center, 7 to 10:30 p.m. The show will feature a variety of acts. Tickets are \$5 in advance, \$3 for Senior Citizens. Tickets purchased at the door are \$6. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Refreshments will be sold.

For more information call (908) 346-2290 or email almostfamous-players@aol.com. Seating is limited.

Celebration of New Orleans Culture

March 25

The South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission invites you to a Celebration of the Culture of New Orleans with an evening of Blues, Jazz and Gospel, featuring renowned Blues vocalist, Sweet Georgia Brown, on Saturday, March 25 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Wesley United Methodist Church Hall, located on Plainfield Ave. Admission is free. Refreshments will be served.

For info, call (908) 226-5335.

Planning an event?

Send it to spobservers@comcast.net

— Out of Town —

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.

Da Vinci Code Discussion

March 19

The Oak Tree Presbyterian Church will be offering a four-week class entitled "Beyond The Da Vinci Code" following its 10 a.m. worship service beginning Sunday, March 19. The class will examine the contents and the controversies surrounding this publishing phenomenon. Participants should read the book before the first class.

For information please call (732) 549-4178. The church is located at 445 Plainfield Rd. in North Edison.

Shoppers Welcome!

March 20

Join our First Annual Mommy Vendor Day on Monday, March 20 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at The Heritage at Clara Barton, third floor activities room, 1015 Amboy Ave. in Edison. Some cash/carry, all orders accepted. Represented will be Avon, Laura's Creative Designs, Silpada Designs, Southern Living at Home and Tastefully Simple.

For more information, call Mara at (908) 447-0804.

A Taste of Kindness Fundraiser

March 20

A soup kitchen fundraiser, A Taste of Kindness, will be held on Monday, March 20 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Pines Manor on Rt. 27 in Edison.

The event will feature soups from Central Jersey's finest restaurants, plus breads, desserts, doorprizes and raffles.

The event is sponsored by Women Aware, Inc. Middlesex County's Abused Victim's Services Agency.

Tickets are \$40 in advance and \$45 at the door, call (732) 937-9525. All proceeds are applied directly to "ELVES" (Empower the Littlest Victims to Emerge Strong).

Family Arts Festival

March 25

The Family Arts Festival will be held on March 25 from 1 to 4 p.m. at Arline and Henry Schwartzman Courtyard, Robert Wood Johnson Hospital in New Brunswick. It is open to children ages three to 12 and the special adults in their lives.

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. For information and registration visit us at www.iahnj.org or call (732) 220-1600.

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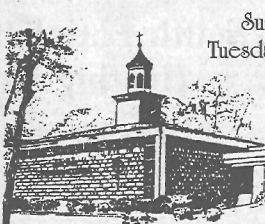
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Supper/Communion
Service 6:30 pm
Easter Celebrations
9:30 am / 11 am

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Milestones

Aboosamara Named Cadet of the Month

Lee Aboosamara, son of Mrs. and Mrs. Leon Aboosamara of South Plainfield, has been named Cadet of the Month at Valley Forge Military Academy.

Lee was accepted as a freshman to Valley Forge after passing an entrance exam in April. Upon entering the school Lee had to go through six weeks of plebe training, which is a rigorous combination of mental and physical challenges. During this period he was only allowed to write home and wasn't allowed to see his parents until he became a full-fledged cadet. During that same period Lee tried out for the varsity football team and the varsity soccer team making both. He decided to play soccer and competed all season as a varsity starter. As a freshman this was certainly an accomplishment.



Lee Aboosamara

In February 2006, Lee's parents were informed that he was named Cadet of the Month for December and January.

From the Desk of Debbie Boyle...

The Grant School PTO met on Tuesday, March 7. The cultural arts program performed by Joanne's Dance Studio was enjoyed by the staff and students. The PTO made a donation on behalf of Joanne's Dance Studio to the Autistic Foundation.

The box top collection is still ongoing. There is a collection box in the entrance of the school. Please send in the box tops in a baggie with your child's name on the bag.

The 2007 Stokes fundraisers are moving right along. The Curves fundraiser is still ongoing. If you need tickets please contact Donna Kasmer. Tickets are \$10 each, which include 10 visits per customer, but can only be used for the initial 10 visits. Each person is allowed one ticket.

A vendor night is upcoming in June, so if there are any vendors interested in purchasing a space should contact Debbie DiDolce. Our 50/50 Raffle is still available for upcoming drawing in May 2006. Please contact

Maria Huber. A yearbook is still available for purchase for \$12. Send in your order with your child. The \$25 activity fee which is still being collected for fifth and sixth grade students helps to pay for cultural arts program, the fifth grade DARE picnic and sixth grade end of the year picnic. The activity fee helps to alleviate the need to do general fundraising. This fee does not go toward the Stokes trip. Please remember that the 2007 Stokes Committee needs the help of each fifth grade student and their parents to volunteer whatever time they can in the fundraising process.

The next PTO meeting will be held on April 5. Dr. Rosado will be there to present a BOE budget presentation. Please try to attend these budget hearings. There are currently eight staff cuts proposed in the budget, whether it passes or fails. If the budget does not pass, there will be cuts in student assistant counselors, elementary computer labs, world language teachers and

sports program. Once again, it is imperative for all residents to support this year's budget. The school budget vote will be April, 18 from 2 to 9 p.m. You must be registered to vote by March 21. The final date to apply for an absentee ballot is April 11. If you are unsure of your voting center, contact the County Clerks Office at (732) 745-3005. Come out and vote. The PTSO's and PTO's will be holding activities for the children on voting day so that parent/guardians will be able to come out and vote.

On March 30 Stephanie Walsh, president of the Roosevelt Elementary School PTSO, will be hosting a meet the Board of Education candidates night at the new Roosevelt School gym at 6:30 p.m. Come out and greet candidates Donna Rann, Randi Gregorio, John Markham and Ernie "Jim" Giannakis. Stephanie Walsh is requesting dessert donations from all PTSO's and PTO's for that evening.

The Myspace seminar held on March 8 at the Senior Center was hosted by the South Plainfield Observer in conjunction with the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office, the South Plainfield Police Department, the Board of Education and Sacred Heart School. Township and school officials were in attendance, along with approximately 125 residents. It was an extremely informative program along with a slide presentation. Pamphlets were available from the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office.

The Project Graduation Auction/Raffle was held on March 11. Congratulations to all who were involved in the auction/raffle and to those who attended this wonderful event—Debbie Boyle

Middle School Announces Second Quarter Honor Roll

7th Grade High Honor Roll

G. Bjorn DeLaCruz, Brandon Downes, Lauren Keane, Michael Krusinowsky, Tara O'Day, Ruchi Patel, Kyle Pompilio, Cindy Ruiz, Michael Simone and Ellen Zinsky.

7th Grade Honor Roll

Taylor Adorna, Rachel Alexa, Bacilio Alvarado, Christopher Anyamene, Carly Ashnault, Jayme Bishop, Cheyenne Britt, Joelle Butrico, Kenneth Calderoni, Amanda Chen, Chelsey Colucci, Lauren Conrad, Jeffrey Conroy, Kayla Cottle, Christopher Cupo, Dina Doumas, Glenn Edridge, Nicole Firmin, Michaela Fore, Connor Gillis, Jenae Goodson, Elizabeth Gratta, Kaitlyn

Graziano, Aaron Guiang, Jaclyn Handwerger, Michelle Hernandez, Charles Huber, Riley Hubner, Joseph Ifrach, Iris Ivaniuc, Amizan Jaleel, Taylor Jarema, Kristina Jewkes, Megan Kaczka, Brigitte Kelly, Alexander Khidre, Hieu La, Marina Lam, Patrick Landy, Paul Leepin, Justin Lesky, Cory Limone, Ryan Lind, Matthew Little and Thalia Lopez.

Chante Martin, Jennifer Martinez, Sarah McCarthy, Dylan McDermott, Jamie McLean, Lindsay McMahon, Megan McMahon, Michelle Miller, Michelle Nguyen, Joseph Nicasastro, Eric Niemeyer, Erin O'Connor, Pearl Paguntalan, Kishan Patel, Raja Patel, Shruti Patel, Jason Pattison, Kelly

Pauls, Vincent Phan, Amanda Pileggi, Jeffrey Praul, Cassandra Prendergast, Samantha Pukash, Christopher Richard, Sarah Roibal, Joana Isa, Claudia Salazar, Jake Salerno, Karly Sanko, Jennifer Saravia, Katelyn Scarinci, Danielle Schaaf, Michele Schuetz, Rosa Spallieri, Daniel Stico, Edward Sullivan, Matthew Sward, Shana Tom, Danielle Ihamutola, Julie Tran, Kristin Treslar, Agupunam Ufodu, William Whitefleet and Kerry Yorkanis.

8th Grade High Honor Roll

Jenna Alexander, Ashley Aya, Elizabeth Balon, Stephen Coppi, Bianca DiDolce, Matthew Galinsky, Steven Gzenda, Alexander Horn, Arham Jain, Thomas Loalbo, Daniel Smith, Jonathan Sukenik and Bryant Villamarin.

8th Grade Honor Roll

Juliana Agrillo, Freddy Almanzar, Brittany Alvarado, Angela Ang, Brian Babinetz, Stephen Balzer, Morgan Bethea, Jimmy Bijlani, Aleksandra Blazewicz, Dorsey Britton, Liseth Calderon, Megan Cerini, Kevin Coffey, Natalie Colucci, Kristie Crilly, Marilyn Cruz, Justin DeOliveira, Gaganjot Dhaliwal, Christian DiCarlo, Thuy Trang Doan, Tyler Driscoll, John Duran, Elizabeth Fasullo, Ryan Flanagan, Alana Franco, Kyle Freuler, James Gorman, Logan Green, Jaimie Handwerger, Ryan Harrington, Jenna Heckel, Nicholas Heilmann, Sheena Higgins, Kyle Hughes, Courtney Irber, Dontae Johnson, Kyle Kaczka, Jenae Keith, Kelly Kline, Andrew Kovalevich and Steven Kovalevich.

Dung Le, Frank Licato, Philip Longo, Kevin Lopez, Karthik Marpadga, Christopher Marrone, Nicole McDonough, Amber Miller, Parin Mody, Andrew Muhlgeier, Felicia

Mulhearn, Jessica Napolitano, Christine Nau, Chelsea Ng, Andrew Nguyen, Ashley Nguyen, Christopher Oprysk, Kristina Palazzo, Brian Palma, Dylan Papa, Kairav Parikh, Aesha Patel, Kishan Patel, Emily Piekarski, Ashley Pierce, Kayla Prins, Donta Rice, Natalie Rittinger, Ryan Sacco, Alexandria Santos, Matthew Santos, Courtney Schaefer, Matthew Schaefer, Alyssa Scudato, James Seyffart, Manraj Singh, Alexandra Skula, Nicole Slatky, Italia Spallieri, Julie Stilo, Michael Sullivan, Gareth Teece, Tyler Whalen, Andre Williams, Sara Wojewodka, Heba Younes, Thomas Zazzara and Kaitlyn Zielinski.

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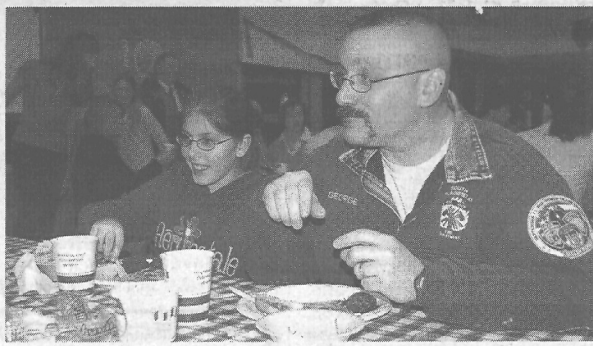
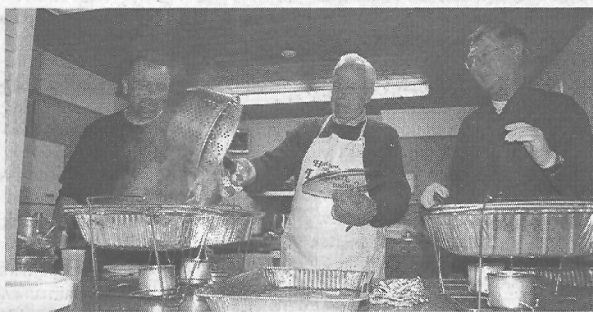
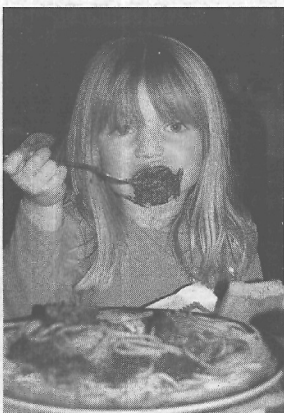
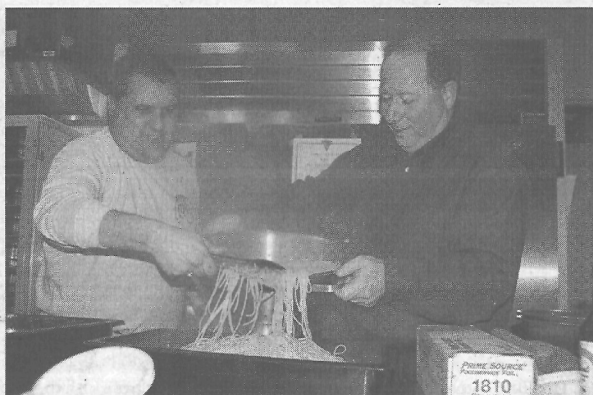
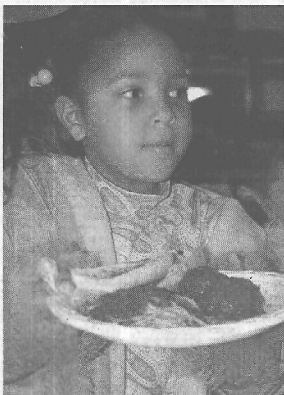
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The Knights would like to thank each and every person who either helped out and attended this event, without your support this event would not have been as successful as it was. Just a reminder, the Knights will be running this dinner every quarter and remember their slogan "Don't Cook on Friday."

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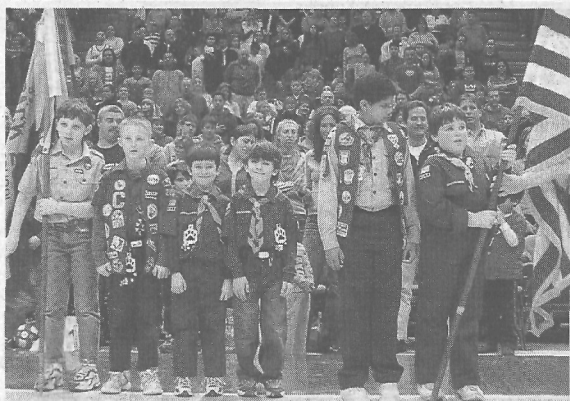
No. of Tickets _____ Total amount of this order: _____

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Sports



Franklin School Pack 207 was well represented at The Harlem Globetrotters Game on Presidents Day at Continental Arena. It was an honor when they presented their Pack Flag and the great flag of our country during the National Anthem. The Cub Scout Color Guard consisted of the following scouts; Christopher Markey, Zachary Henderson, Alex Peaz, Sam Smith, Anthony Austin and James Markey.

By Glenn Cullen

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

The South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club's Executive Board would like to thank the nearly 50 volunteers that helped rake leaves, spread in-field dirt, clean-out dugouts and pick up garbage this past Saturday. It was a terrific turn-out, and the Board thanks all of those moms and dads that participated. On Saturday, March 18, nine year-old and 14 year-old parents have field duty at 8 a.m.

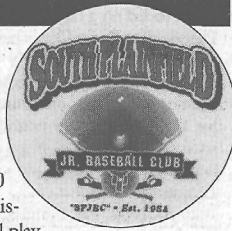
Snack stand sign-ups are scheduled for Wednesday March 22 at the clubhouse. Sign-ups are on a first come first serve basis from 6 to 9 p.m.

The next SPJBC Rutgers S.A.E.E.T.Y. course will be held on March 23. In order to coach you need to have certification as well as be a club member. Call the SPJBC at (908)

754-2090

to register. All players should have received notification by their manager regarding team selections. Opening day is just three weeks away. Happy Saint Patrick's Day!

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.



Bicycle Helmet Law Changes

The New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety has announced that effective March 1, New Jersey's Bicycle Helmet Law has changed. Young people under the age of 17 will be required to wear an approved helmet when cycling, roller skating, in-line skating, or skateboarding. The law currently affects riders under the age of 14. We urge you to share this information with your residents.

Each year, bicyclists are killed or injured in New Jersey due to bicycle crashes. Many bicycle deaths result from bicycle-motor vehicle collisions. However, injuries can happen anywhere, including parks, bike paths and driveways, and often do not involve motor vehicles.

Head injury is the most serious injury type and the most common cause of death among bicyclists. The most severe injuries are those to the brain that cause permanent damage. Bicycle helmets can prevent or diminish the severity of these injuries.

The Division of Highway Traffic assists county, municipal and law enforcement agencies with education, public awareness and enforcement of the bicycle helmet law and other bicycle safety issue.

For more information on the new law and other bicycle safety issues, please go to The Divisions website at www.njsaferoads.com.

Boys Middle School Basketball Team

(Continued from page 1)

part of the team's success and the players and coaches appreciate their commitment to the team.

Coach Fonti would like to thank the players for making this a special season and the most enjoyable in his last 20 years of coaching. He wishes them the best of luck in the future. Managing to coach 18 players would not have been possible without the assistance of Joseph Bennett who did an exceptional job preparing the players.



Picture: Kneeling L to R: Phuong Trinh, Jaclyn Kukuch, Lindsey Murtagh, Gina Curcio, and Katie Yon. Standing L to R: Coach Ralph Fech, Beverly Jamieson, Jessica Vasquez, Lindsay Hunsicker, Angelique Rualo and Assistant Coach Lori Gerstl.

Highlights of the SPHS Bowling Season

- 1—Ranked #17 in the State Star Ledger Ranking 2/2/06
- 2—Overall Record (12-15-2)
- 3—Upset JP Stevens; State finalist Piscataway and State ranked East Brunswick in regular season play.
- 4—Upset East Brunswick—again—in the first round of the GMC playoffs.
- 5—The Lady Tigers were tournament tough finishing in the top ten in four out of five major tournaments.
 - Bishop Ahr Holiday Classic 12/29
 - Westfield Invitational 8/15
 - Joe Romer Memorial 10/21
 - Central Jersey Winter Classic 8/32
 - Central Jersey All-Groups Sectional 8/32
- 6—Won the White Division Sportsmanship Award

Grade	Name	#Game	High Game	High Set	Avg.
12	Capt. Beverly Jamieson	81	229	616	170
	GMC Individual 11 th place/200 MVP				
9	Jaclyn Kukuch	83	206	520	152
	Rookie of the Year				
12	Capt. Angelique Rualo	82	210	538	151
10	Katie Yon	68	198	537	143
9	Gina Curcio	58	192	479	137
12	Lindsay Hunsicker	53	178	475	136
9	Lindsey Murtagh	47	173	406	125
11	Jessica Vasquez	12	187	-	119



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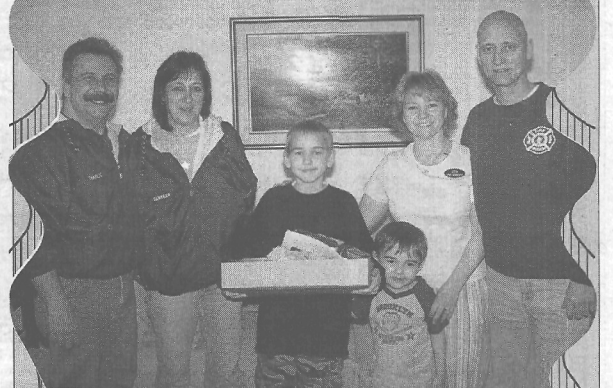
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Charlie and Debbie Kurland of Hometown Heros deliver dinner to Junior Journalist winner Dylan Thompson pictured here with mom Lisa, dad Walter and brother Shaun. Congratulations Dylan!

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Sports

WRESTLING

By BOB HUNTER

Tiger Wrestlers Strong at State Tournament, Winning Four Medals

A memorable wrestling season ended this past weekend at the Atlantic City Boardwalk Hall, with Tiger wrestlers showing both success and disappointment. South Plainfield sent a tournament high of nine wrestlers to the big show, with four wrestlers finishing amongst the top four in their respected weight classes and walking in the "Parade of Champions" on Sunday afternoon in front of a record crowd of 11,700.

The action started on Friday evening with the preliminary round that saw those wrestlers who finished second and third in the Region tournaments looking to avoid elimination, followed by the pre-quarter finals. First up for the Tigers was Jimmy Conroy (125), who defeated Kyle Packer of Cherokee by major decision 11-0. Bryan Hunt kept his memorable run at 130 going by winning an 8-4 decision over Steve Makuka of North Burlington. Mike Jakubik (135) came out on fire and scored an 18-9 major decision over Mike Fedele of Haddonfield. Eddie McCray, who has had rough luck in Atlantic City over

the past few years, broke the spell when he went on to defeat Kirk Kiriazis of Maple Shade 12-9 in his 145 pound preliminary. Prior to that McCray was 1-6 in the state tournament. Mark Wagner faced off against Pete Simon of JFK Iselin at 160, who defeated Wagner in the GMC tournament 14-13, looking to avenge that earlier loss. After giving up the first takedown, Wagner quickly escaped and as Simon went in for the takedown slammed Wagner's shoulder into the mat causing Wagner to take an injury timeout. Wagner in obvious pain continued the match and lost by tech-fall 18-3. At 189, Kevin Criley, recovering from sickness the week prior to the tournament, won his match 4-2 over Joe Sangiardi of St. Joseph's-Montvale.

With the start of the pre-quarterfinal round, the pack was narrowed to 16 in each weight and was now double elimination. Patrick Hunter, (103), was up first for the Tigers and wasted very little time with Rich Lavorato of Caldwell, pinning him in 1:14. Billy Ashnault (119) defeated T.J. Mitchell

of Raritan 8-4 and Jimmy Conroy kept his title hopes alive with a 7-4 decision over James Beshada of Christian Brothers Academy at 125. Bryan Hunt had a tough time with Nick Murray of Bound Brook. The eventual third place winner dropped a 11-0 major decision, while Mike Jakubik lost a heartbreaker to John Barnett of Jefferson 3-2. Nick Dorey, Region 3 champion at 140, did not have much luck in the draw, as he pulled Region 2 champion Daryl Cocozzo of River Dell and dropped an 8-1 decision. Eddie McCray then faced Kason Jamison of Absegami and cruised to an 11-6 decision. Kevin Criley, feeling the effects of illness, dropped a 13-7 decision to Mac Mancuso of Holy Spirit.

With four wrestlers heading into the quarter final round and four in the wrestle back round, the Tigers looked good to advance all four into the semi-final round. But that was not to be, as Patrick Hunter dropped a 3-2 decision to Derek Valenti of Kittatinny for his first loss of the season and sending him to the wrestle back round. Billy Ashnault then

dropped a 5-3 decision to Joe Trause of Bergen Catholic, the eventual 119 pound champion. Jimmy Conroy returned to the semifinal round with a 4-0 victory of Mario Lynn of Central Regional. Bryan Hunt's memorable run to Atlantic City ended with a 7-3 loss to John Renard of Kingsway in the first round of wrestlebacks. Mike Jakubik rebounded from his tough loss in the quarterfinals with a 5-4 victory over Bishop Ahr's Hector Gonzalez, whom he defeated to win the GMC crown in February. Nick Dorey also stayed alive with a big 10-4 victory over Tom Tuminelli of Howell. In the 145 pound quarterfinal, Eddie McCray dropped an 11-4 decision to eventual champion Scott Winston of Jackson Memorial. The quarterfinal and first round wrestlebacks ended on a high note for South Plainfield, as Kevin Criley pinned Phil Takacs-Senske of Sparta at 4:48. In the next round of wrestlebacks, Patrick Hunter once again got things going for the Tigers at 103 pounds with a successful rebound from his loss earlier in the day with a pin over Joey Langel of Howell in 5:06. At 119, Billy Ashnault was eliminated after a tough 3-1 loss to Chris Luna of Egg Harbor. In the 135 pound wrestleback, Mike Jakubik dropped a close 4-3 decision to Mike Eagan of Morris Knolls. Nick Dorey was soon eliminated as well after losing Anthony DeTroia of West Essex 6-3. Jakubik, Dorey and Ashnault were all just one match short of securing slots as place winners. Eddie McCray looked for, and got, his revenge for his loss against Shane Riccio of Watchung Hills in his first wrestleback. Riccio dealt McCray his first loss of the season in the Region 3 finals a week prior, but there was no upset this time as McCray scored a fall in 4:43. Kevin Criley continued to fight off both his opponents and his sickness by pinning Derek Shelsky of South Brunswick in 1:04.

The semifinal and next two rounds of wrestlebacks began at 5 p.m. on Saturday evening at Boardwalk Hall with a sense of electricity in the air. Patrick Hunter stayed in the game by quickly pinning Gabe Ramos of Hopatcong in 1:05. Jimmy Conroy sought to make history in his semifinal bout against Kris Sigafos of Delaware Valley in a rematch of last year's 119 pound semifinal. Conroy defeated his friendly rival 3-1 to reach his third state final match, the third South

Plainfield wrestler to do so. Eddie McCray scored an 8-5 victory to reach the wrestleback semifinals and Kevin Criley did the same by defeating Drew Ives of Bridgewater-Raritan 6-2. In the wrestleback semifinals, Patrick Hunter remained focused with a strong 11-4 decision over a tough Matt Oliver of Toms River North. Eddie McCray also earned a spot in the consolation finals by pinning Mike Morganstern of Williamstown in 5:02. Saturday night ended for the Tigers on a high note as Kevin Criley went into action in a rematch against Mac Mancuso of Holy Spirit. In what was one of the most unusual matches of the tournament, Criley held firm and dominated Mancuso, who began losing his cool and going after Criley, the referees and even his own coaches. But Criley remained focused and reversed his earlier loss by securing a 12-5 decision to be the third Tiger wrestler to earn a spot in Sunday morning's consolation finals.

While McCray and Criley both scored payback victories enroute to the consolation finals on Saturday, Patrick Hunter sought his on Sunday morning in the consolation finals. His opponent once again was Derek Valenti of Kittatinny whom he suffered his first, and what would be his only, loss 24 hours earlier. Hunter's strong run in the wrestlebacks concluded just as strong with a dominating 12-4 major decision for a third place finish. Hunter finished the season with a 44-1 record with the last victory avenging his only loss. Eddie McCray was up next for the Tigers in the 145 pound consolation final against Corey Bleaken of Clifton, dropping a 5-0 decision to finish fourth with a 36-3 record in his senior year. Criley's memorable run in Atlantic City ended with a 10-5 loss to Jamelle Jones of Winslow Township for a fourth place finish and a 37-7 record.

The 125 pound finals saw two of New Jersey's most winning wrestlers go at it once again. Jimmy Conroy faced off against his archrival Mike Grey from Delbarton for the second time in a week and a rematch of last year's 119 pound final. Though it sounded like most of the people wanted Grey to become the first four-time champion in state history, just as many wanted to see Conroy knock him off. But once again Grey was victorious by a score of 13-7. But that should not take anything away from Conroy's accomplishments. Conroy set a South Plainfield and Middlesex County record with 144 wins against only eight losses, currently ranking fourth in New Jersey history. He is the only wrestler from South Plainfield to place in the state tournament four times (all in the top three), one of only five state champions, and three three-time finalists. In addition, he helped lead the South Plainfield wrestling team to two consecutive Group III State Championships.

Another memorable season for South Plainfield wrestling has come to a conclusion, with a number of highs and lows. But in the end it was yet another season that was beyond successful, with the Tigers winning county, district, section and state titles again, sending 14 wrestlers to the region tournament, nine to the state tournament and placing four there. Congratulations to all Tiger wrestlers on their strong performances this weekend and good luck to those who will be competing in the sophomore, junior and senior nationals in the coming months. Thanks to all for your get well wishes after my cervical spinal surgery two weeks ago. Special thanks, to my son Ryan for writing the wrestling news in my absence.



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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 March 9, 2006.

A. Case # 57-04/S/V—Villani Builders. Block 3; Lot 3; 1336 West 7th Street. The applicant's request for preliminary & final site plan approval was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

B. Case # 84-05/S/V—South Plainfield Day-care, LLC. Block 528.01; Lot 46.09; 3000 Hadley Road. The applicant's request for a use variance to permit an adult medical day care use, a variance to reduce the number of parking spaces, the continuation of the existing non-conforming lot coverage together w/ preliminary & final site plan approval was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

C. Case # 08-06—Christian G. Mele. Block 195; Lot 68; 126 Lee Place. The applicant's request for an easterly side yard setback variance in order to construct a rear dormer was hereby GRANTED subject to (1) additional voluntary condition.

D. Case #09-06—ZZZ Corp. t/a/ Flanagan's. Block 187; Lot 1.01; 2501 Plainfield Avenue. The applicant's request for a front yard setback variance from Lane Avenue in order to erect an awning was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

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

\$47.50 March 17, 2006

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Obituaries

Edmund J. Alparone, Sr. 79

Edmund J. Alparone, Sr. died on Friday, March 10 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield. Born in Bound Brook, he lived in New York City and the Central Jersey area before settling in South Plainfield 50 years ago. A veteran of the US Navy, he served during WWII as a seaman first class. Mr. Alparone was employed as the general manager for the former Markey Bag Co. of Plainfield. After its closing, he worked for the University of Medicine and Dentistry in New Brunswick as the shipping manager before retiring at the age of 65. A creative and artistic person who enjoyed painting, he also had a great sense of humor and especially enjoyed his grandchildren and his two great granddaughters. He was also a New

York Giants fan who loved to travel, play bingo and take trips to Atlantic City. He is survived by his wife, Carmella (Erime) Alparone, two sons, Glenn J. DeAngelis Sr. and his wife Mary Ann and Edmund J. Alparone Jr.; a daughter, Helena A. Alparone and two grandsons, Glenn J. DeAngelis Jr. and his wife Clair and Anthony J. DeAngelis. Also surviving are his two adored great granddaughters, Holly and Devon DeAngelis. Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Joseph Masanet, 77

Joseph Masanet died suddenly on Friday, March 10 at home. He was born in Newark and grew up there until moving to South Plainfield in 1957. Mr. Masanet served in the United

States Navy during WWII. He was employed as a chemical engineer with Engelhard Corporation in Newark for 42 years before retiring at age 65. He is predeceased by his parents George and Catherine and his sisters, Eleanor Aquino and Elizabeth Lang. Surviving are three nephews, John Aquino, James Aquino and George Lang; two nieces, Linda Aquino and Mary Hrenack and a sister, Anna Hrenack. Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Charles J. Sadevich

Charles J. Sadevich of Valrico, Fla. died on Sunday, Jan. 1. Born in Pennsylvania, he resided in South Plainfield for 43 years. He had been involved with little league and Pop Warner Football. He moved to Florida five years ago. Charles was also a member of Nativity Catholic Church. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Helen; two sons, Kevin and his wife Nami and C.J. and his wife Linda; three grandchildren, Emi, John and Rachel; three sisters, Josephine, Frances and Alice. Funeral services were conducted on January 5.

Joan R. Mormile, 59

Joan R. Mormile of South Plainfield passed away peacefully on Saturday, March 11 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center at The Haven Hospice Unit in Plainfield surrounded by her loving family who she adored more than words can say. Mrs. Mormile was born in Camden and lived in Medford Lakes before moving to South Plainfield in 1973. Joan was a 1968 graduate of Miscorigia College. Mrs. Mormile was an Elementary School Teacher at Sacred Heart

School for 15 years and retired in 2000. Joan was a member of various organizations such as Sacred Heart Church where she participated in the Altar Rosary Society, the Body of Christ Prayer Group and Saint Francis Cathedral in Metuchen. Mrs. Mormile was truly devoted to her family, friends and students who were all so special to her heart and for which words can not express. The love and kindness that Joan showed towards everyone and how she touched their lives will be treasured forever. Joan enjoyed collecting dolls and teddy bears and had a special collection of them. Mrs. Mormile leaves behind her beloved family, who she extremely adored, consisting of her parents Elmer and Rita Heimach; a husband of 34 wonderful treasured years, Louis E. Mormile, Jr. of South Plainfield; two daughters and son-in-laws, Maria and Robert Dolan of South Plainfield and Michelle and Jeffery Sauvigne of Pipersville Pa.; two sisters, Jane and her husband William Macauley of Holbrook, NY and Joyce Chestnut of Medford Lakes, NJ and three cherished grandchildren who were so special to her heart Michael, Amanda and Matthew Dolan in addition to 10 nieces and nephews. Mrs. Mormile will be sadly missed and the fond memories of her will be treasured for eternity by all those she is survived by, including her students and numerous friends she made along life's journey. Although it was short, the value in which she impacted those she knew and encountered in truly priceless. Funeral services were held at the South Plainfield Funeral Home. The family kindly requests that those wishing to make memorial contributions do so in the name of Mrs. Mormile to the Haven Hospice at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center, Park Ave. in South Plainfield NJ 07080 or the American Cancer Society, 600 First Ave. in Raritan, NJ 08869. Online condolences are extremely appreciated and can be completed by accessing www.southplainfieldfuneralhome.com.

Lillian W. Jankoski, 71

Lillian W. Jankoski died on Mon-

day March 13 at her home. Born and raised in South Plainfield, Lillian had resided in Manville and settled in Bridgewater in 1997. Before retiring, she had been employed by Muhlenberg Regional Medical in Plainfield as a secretary for the House Keeping Dept. for 19 years. A long time member of Our Lady of Czestochowa R.C. Church in South Plainfield, she loved playing bingo and crocheting. She is predeceased by her sister Sophie Jersek and her brothers, Theodore, Frank J. Sr., Louis, Anthony, Edmund, and Stanley. Surviving are her three sisters Jennifer Daly, Helen D'Amico and Rose Citro and her brother Charles Jankoski. Also surviving are many nieces and nephews including Theresa Leitgab, Thomas Daly, Vincent, Frank, Michael, James and Kenneth Jankoski, Dolores Stanislaw and Dian, Robert and Michael D'Amico. Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Marilyn Grace Thompson, 78

Marilyn Grace Thompson died on Sunday March 12 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville. Born and raised in Jersey City, she settled in South Plainfield 55 years ago. Employed as a payroll clerk for Muhlenberg Regional Medical in Plainfield, she retired in 1992. She is a member of St. Francis Episcopal Church in Dunellen, the South Plainfield Senior Citizens and the Eastern Star. In addition, Marilyn loved bingo and had a great affection for animals, adopting pets in need. She is predeceased by her husband, Arthur G. who died in 1989. Surviving are her daughter, Kathy Petrocelli of South Plainfield; a son, Russell W. and his wife Gail Thompson of Massachusetts and two grandchildren, Thais and Kevin Petrocelli. Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home for Funerals. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Plainfield Humane Society, 75 Rock Ave., Plainfield, NJ 07060.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE


Request for NJDEP Freshwater Wetlands/General Permit #1, #7 and #10A, Special Activity Transition Area Waiver for Linear Development, and Stream Encroachment Permit. Take Notice that the Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail) is applying to the Land Use Regulation Program at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) for a General Permit #1, #7, and #10A/Transition Area Waiver under the Freshwater Wetlands Protection. Act rules (N.J.A.C. 7:27A), and a Major Stream encroachment Permit under the Flood Hazard Area Control Act (N.J.A.C. 7:13) for the development described below: Applicant Project Name: Consolidated Rail Corporation North Jersey Terminal Capacity Improvement Infrastructure Project: Lehigh Valley Double Track- C.P. Potter to CP Bound Brook Project Description: The project area consists of a 10.5 mile long corridor along the Lehigh Line in the Township of Edison, the Township of Piscataway, the Borough of Middlesex, and the Borough of South Plainfield, Middlesex County, and the Borough of Bound Brook, Somerset County, New Jersey. The alignment runs from Inman Avenue in the east to just east of Interstate 287 in the west. All of the development within the corridor consists of Conrail structures that are associated with the rail or roadways. The project consists of adding one additional track in the corridor and realignment of sections of the existing track. The Flood Hazard Area regulations pertain only to a culvert extension in Middlesex Borough north of the tracks and South Avenue on the Piscataway Township Border. Project Street Address: Inman Avenue, Edison Township to Bound Brook Borough Blocks: Various Lots: Various Municipalities: Middlesex Borough, South Plainfield Borough, Edison Township, and Piscataway Township Bound Brook Borough Counties: Middlesex Somerset

The application can be reviewed at either the office of the Municipal Clerk, or by appointment at NJDEP's Trenton office. A 30 day public comment period or a fact finding public hearing will be held on this application in the future. A public hearing will be held only if the Department determines that, based on public comment or a review of the project, its scope and environmental impact, additional information is necessary to assist in its review or evaluate potential impacts and that this information can only be obtained by providing an opportunity for a public hearing. Individuals may request that the department hold a public hearing on this application. Requests for a public hearing should be made writing within 15 days of the date of this notice and shall state the specific nature of the issues proposed to be raised at the hearing. Hearing requests should be sent to: New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Land Use Regulation Program P.O. Box 439 Trenton, New Jersey 08625 Attn: Charlie Welch \$129.00 March 17, 2006

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Mr. and Mrs. John Tanzola requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit a (7) bulk variances: (1) use. 1) expansion non-conforming (2) family in a single family zone. 2) Proposed deck lacks 30' setback from Ten Eyck; 7' proposed. 3) Shed lacks front and rear setbacks; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 912 Maple Avenue on Block 201, Lot 3 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, April 13, 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 17, 2006


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IN YOUR OPINION

(Continued from page 2)

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**MS. FERRARO AND MRS. MOSLEY,
STUDENT COUNCIL ADVISORS,
ROOSEVELT ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL**

Dear Editor,

Attention all parents and guardians of children with IEP's and 504 plans. Mark Monday, March 27 on your calendars. In case you haven't received your letter from Dr. Rosado, Dr. Kathleen Rotter, who did a comprehensive audit of South Plainfield's Special Education program and services, will share her findings with us. The report is highly critical of our Special Education program and services in South Plainfield. I urge every parent, guardian and teacher that deals with children that have disabilities to attend this meeting.

Dr. Rotter will discuss the report and inform us of what Special Services needs to do to rectify all of the problems she has found. If you would like to familiarize yourself with a copy

of this report before the meeting, you can obtain a copy at the Administration Building from the Superintendent's office or Special Services. For the parents who want to attend but will be away on the Stokes trip, please try and see if you can get a relative or friend to go so you may be informed of the reforms Special Services are going to have to make.

The meeting starts at 7 p.m. and will be held at the Roosevelt Administration Building gymnasium and Jackson Ave. For all of our children's sake and their futures, please be there!

GWENN KURILEW

Letter to the Editor:

The South Plainfield Education Foundation (SPEF) has been planning our annual Emil Leporino Golf Outing for April 24 at the Heron's Glen Golf Course in Ringoes. We are in need of golfers and donations in the form of tee flags, tee signs and corporate banners as well as donations for our raffle at the end of the evening.

The education foundation raises funds throughout the year not only for scholarships for graduating seniors, but for incentive programs throughout the district. One that we are very proud of is the Gold Card Program at

the high school. This program is for all students at the high school. It rewards students that make the honor roll and are involved with at least two extra curricular activities. The card provides discounts to them throughout the town at participating businesses (such as movie theaters, pizza parlors, etc.).

Please consider joining us for a fun day of golf, lunch and dinner on April 24. Contact Marge Reedy at work at (908) 561-5800 ext. 302 or home at (908) 561-3951 if you can attend or if you can provide raffle prizes for the golf outing.

We hope to continue this fundraiser to keep a scholarship going yearly in Emil Leporino's.

**THANK YOU, MARJORIE M. REEDY,
PRESIDENT - SPEF**

Parents Votes to Stay in Pop Warner League

The South Plainfield Eagles will remain in the Pop Warner League by a vote of 113 to 43. The membership vote took place last week.

The Pop Warner leadership had proposed a move to the Suburban Youth League, but members rejected the idea after hearing from both leagues during a special presentation.

District Music and Art Festival Next Thursday

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 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.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Andrew Weiss, district music team leader, at aweiss@spnct.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.

Celtic Musical Program at Library

The musical program "Celtic Music Journey" will be presented at the Library on Sunday, March 26 at 2 p.m.

New Jersey musician Heather Mulvey will perform during the program. She'll also give a brief history behind the songs she performs. Everyone is invited to attend and audience participation is encouraged throughout this 45-minute program. This program is being presented free of charge.

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

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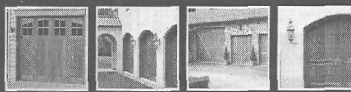
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From the South Plainfield Library Bookmarks

By Allan M. Kleiman

Believe it or not, spring is just around the corner. Time to open up the windows, clean away winter's dust and grime, and get rid of the clutter. Start your spring cleaning adventure at the library with some of these titles available in the New Books area: "Buy, Keep or Sell? The Insider's Guide to Identifying Trash, Treasure or Tomorrow's Antiques," *House Beautiful's*, "Small Space Decorating Workshop," and "Renovation." We have dozens of other titles for you to look at as well. Check it out at your library!

The library has a small but growing collection of materials on South Plainfield history. Recently added to our collection is a new title, "Looking Back at South Plainfield," a series of articles by Larry Randolph. These articles were originally published in "The Reporter" from 1986-1990 and edited with an introduction by Richard F. Viet, Department of History, Monmouth University. This title has been printed and distributed by the South Plainfield Historical Society. This title would be a "good read" not only for long time residents of the borough, but newcomers as well.

Have you visited the library on Sundays? Our hours are 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. This is a good time to stock up on your weekly reading. Unfortunately, due to increased use, the library is no longer able to offer Notary Public services. Sorry! We still offer them from Monday thru Saturday. It is always a good idea to call ahead at (908) 754-7885 to see if the Notary is in and available.

Woman's Day magazine wants to learn how the library has changed lives. The magazine announced the editorial initiative in its March 7 issue, which reached subscribers last week. In the issue, the magazine declares that "libraries are magical places" and asks readers to submit their stories in 700 words or less. Stories can be sent to womansday@ala.org from now until May 10, when the promotion closes. Four of the submissions will be featured in an upcoming issue of *Woman's Day*.

Congrats to library staff member, Allan M. Kleiman. Allan is the 2005 winner of the Margaret Monroe Award for Services to Adults from the American Library Association. He

was singled out this year for his long-time advocacy for promoting library services to older adults. He was recently featured in a profile in the Union County section of the *Star-Ledger*. Allan will receive his award at the annual conference of the American Library Association in New Orleans in June.

The Literacy Volunteers of Middlesex County continues to look for adults interested in becoming a tutor to help someone learn to read English. Tutor volunteers are trained and scheduling is flexible. To find out more about the next tutor training workshop, call (732) 432-8000.

Do you want to see civic engagement in action? Then think about attending the monthly meeting of the Library Board of the South Plainfield Library. The Library Board is the governing body of the library and sets the policy and mission. Monthly meetings are held in the library on the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:30 p.m. South Plainfield residents are welcome to attend.

The South Plainfield Public Library has something for everyone 24/7. Visit our newly designed website to renew a book, do homework, search our extensive collection of databases or to download a book to listen to. We're always open at: www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us; or by telephone, (908) 754-7885, or to renew a book with Elvis, (908) 757-3280.

The South Plainfield Public Library—your community resource close to home!

Internet Safety Program

(Continued from page 1)

you walk into the room, you have a problem." Her presentation included steps everyone should follow when using the Internet. She stressed that educating kids is far more productive than punishing them.

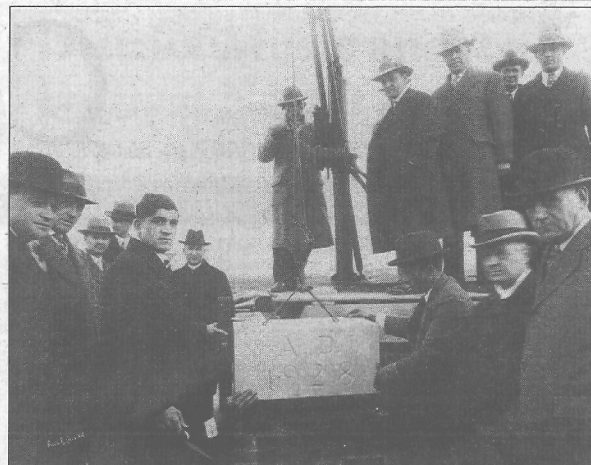
Police Captain Michael Grennier presented a slide show displaying sites of local school-age children on *MySpace.com*, a popular website intended for use by those over the age of 15. The slide show showed kids, as young as 10-years-old, drinking and partying. Some photos included teenagers in provocative poses. All faces and identities, were purposely blocked out.

Both Callahan and Grennier stressed importance of always knowing what children are doing when they are on the Internet and advised parents to check out their children's *Myspace* profiles and gave instruction on how to access the sites. They also suggested checking children's sites on a regular basis to ensure that they are not providing personal information or inappropriate photos. If parents suspect their child's safety is at risk, they can borrow software from the police department that will allow them to examine their computers for sites visited and for inappropriate downloads.

Callahan provided handouts and she and Grennier answered questions from the audience.

For information on safe Internet use, parents can go to www.wiredsafety.org, or www.msnbc.com; keyword: MySpace.

The *Observer* also has copies of some of the printed material, which parents can stop by and pickup.



A.D. 1928. The cornerstone of Roosevelt School is laid as Board of Education members, Borough officials and local clergy look on. Mayor William Hamilton is on the right in the first row.

In Search of Local History

By Dorothy Miele, Pres., South Plainfield Historical Society

In a few weeks, the South Plainfield Historical Society will open The Center for Local History at its new headquarters in the Roosevelt School Administration Building, 125 Jackson Ave. The center will house a large collection of photographs, oral histories, newspapers and artifacts from South Plainfield collected since the society's incorporation in 1977. The headquarters will also be used for monthly membership meetings and special events.

The room at old Roosevelt School ends a long struggle to centralize the non-profit organization's local history collections previously stored in the High School and in members' homes. One artifact, a pot belly stove which warmed the switchmen of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, had been "temporarily" stored in Tilio Capparelli's shed for decades. Once the move began the first week of January, an appeal to the membership for donated furniture netted several tables and chairs, a bookcase, two glass showcases, two-computer systems and a TV. Yet to be acquired are donations of a VCR, DVD player and a copy machine.

The Center for Local History is located on the lower level with access by stairs at east and west entrances. An elevator, a feature the first board and first borough officials could have hardly imagined when laying the cornerstone inscribed A.D. 1928, allows access to all three floors.

Roosevelt was the first school built

by the Borough of South Plainfield after it separated from Piscataway Township in 1926. South Plainfield inherited three schools—Grant, Willis and Columbus—but the growing population on the southside soon put a strain on the educational facilities. Four temporary barrack-type school buildings (called "The Portables") were installed on Camden Avenue to handle the overflow. Former students recall the only source for water was an outside hand pump, and bathroom facilities were simply outhouses, a scary place for many children. For Annie (Mrs. Walter Bozek) Mieszkalski, the outhouses posed no problem. When nature called, she would sneak out a window and dash home to use the family's indoor facilities, then return to school—once again through the window. When Roosevelt was completed (at a cost of \$67,558.28), its halls were filled with 425 truly grateful students who now had indoor plumbing.

To learn more about South Plainfield's history, log on to our website: <http://geocities.com/sphistoricalociety>

The History Center will be open to the public on weekdays only. Days and hours of operation will be posted in this column and on the South Plainfield Historical Society website. Email comments, suggestions or questions to sphistoricalsoc@cs.com or write SPHS, Post Office Box 11, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Next installment: Four generations of Randolphs present local history

Volunteers Needed For Litter Clean-up Week

There's snow on the ground, but the birds have started singing. Start thinking about spring, by putting Volunteer Litter Cleanup Week on your calendar!

The South Plainfield Clean Communities Advisory Board will sponsor a Borough-wide cleanup the last week of April. The main clean-up event will be on Saturday morning, April 22. Volunteers will meet from 9 to 10 a.m. in the Borough Hall parking lot at 2480 Plainfield Ave. to collect equipment and clean-up assignments. We will target roadsides, parks, streams and vacant lots. All volunteers will be invited back to Borough Hall at noon for a free pizza pickup picnic, complete with environmentally friendly door prizes. Residents are welcome to organize a crew, or to come on their own.

Call Alice Tempel, the Clean Communities Coordinator, at (908) 226-7621, or e-mail: atempel@south-plainfieldnj.com for information.

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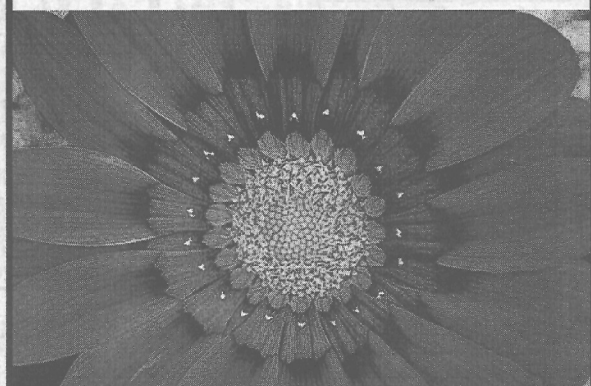


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