

The South Plainfield Historical Society's History Center is now welcoming visitors at their new home in the Roosevelt Admin. Building. The center is open on Tuesdays, 2-8 p.m.

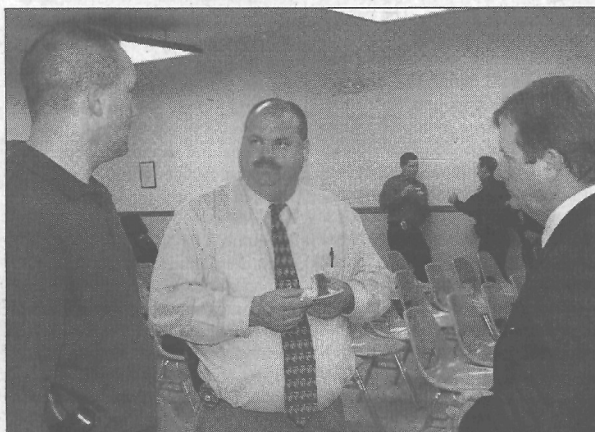
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South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 9, NO. 34

50 CENTS

APRIL 28, 2006



(Ret.) South Plainfield Police Captain Michael Grennier with Lt. Charles Siedenburgh, left, and Captain Paul Brembt at a party held in Grennier's honor.

Capt. Grennier Retires

By Jane Dornick

After serving the citizens of South Plainfield for more than 25 years, South Plainfield Police Capt. Michael Grennier bid farewell to friends and colleagues at a retirement party held in his honor on April 6 in the courtroom at Borough Hall.

Grennier was raised in South Plainfield. He attended Sacred Heart School and is a 1980 graduate of St. Joseph's High School in Metuchen. While attending Middlesex County College studying computer science, he was encouraged by good friend and Office of Emergency Management Director Mike Zushma to take the civil service test.

At 19 he was offered a job with the South Plainfield Police Department and entered the Essex County Police Academy.

Grennier rose through the ranks and was promoted to captain in July of 2005. He has taken on many responsibilities in the department over the years. As captain, he managed the Staff Services Division, which included the 911 dispatch system, the security system for the department, the Records Division, crime reporting, archiving and evidence tracking and storage. He was also in charge of the DARE program, community

policing, departmental training, fiscal management, purchasing, contracts, leases, grant applications and bids for services. In 1987 he helped obtain the department's first computer-aided dispatch system (CAD).

In 1985, when computers were still in their infancy, Grennier gained international attention when he helped South Plainfield Det. George Green track down juvenile computer hackers. Seven teenagers called around the world for free, used other people's credit cards and forced the Pentagon and a telephone company to check for security breaches. The youths were exchanging information on a computer bulletin board that contained information on false credit card numbers, instructions for making a letter bomb and directions for making devices that trick the phone company into charging calls to other parties. They also gained access to AT&T manuals with corporate secrets and the computer system of a credit rating company and medical library where they were able to obtain thousands of dollars worth of goods and services for free. They also had access to the private numbers of Defense Dept. officials, including top generals and could even change the position of satellites. The youths were eventually charged with juvenile

(Continued on page 11)

SPHS Fight Results in Injury, Arrests

On Monday afternoon South Plainfield Police were called to South Plainfield High School on a report of a fight in the parking lot. Upon arrival, police encountered a large group congregating in the student parking lot.

School officials reported a fight involving approximately 15 female students. Along with the students were several adults who were also involved in the altercation. The cause of the disturbance was a dispute between two female students which had

occurred earlier in the day.

During the assault, two school officials sustained injuries. William Lewis, 61, head custodian for the school, was struck in the chest by Llewelyn Johnson, a family member of one of the involved students. Assistant Principal Ralph Errico was hit in the back of the head while trying to break up the fight. He was later transported to JFK Hospital in Edison with head trauma.

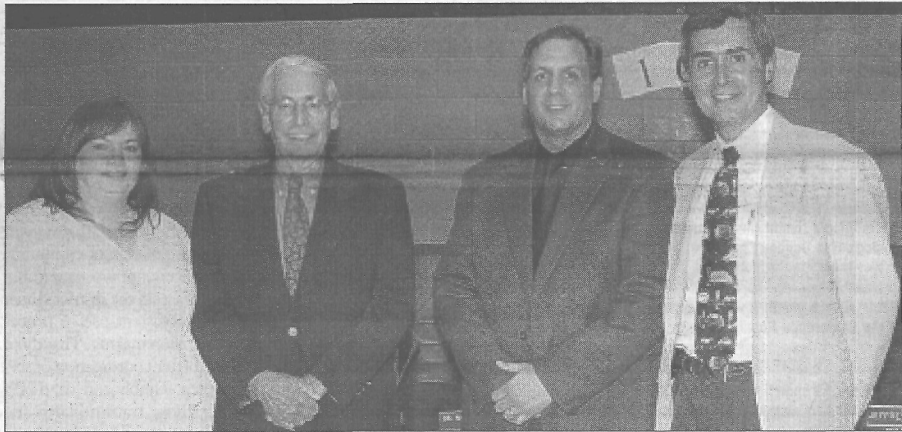
Several individuals involved were arrested and charged with assault,

including a 17-year-old juvenile charged with obstruction. Those arrested include Allante Talbert, 18, of South Plainfield for aggravated assault, Llewelyn Johnson, 23, of South Orange for aggravated assault and Sahquita Renee Cooper, 22, of Irvington for obstruction.

The investigation is ongoing. Police have increased their patrols at the school.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Detective Darby at (908) 226-7662.

Three New BOE Members Take Seats



From the left are Donna Rann, John Markham and Ernie "Jim" Giannakis who were welcomed to their new positions on the South Plainfield School Board by Dr. Robert Rosado, superintendent of schools.

The three newly elected BOE members took their seats after being sworn in at the Board of Education reorganization meeting held Monday evening.

Board Secretary/Business Administrator Donna Tolley began by reading the official election results, including the vote count on the budget and the funding question, which were both defeated. The new members then took the oath of office. They are Ernie "Jim" Giannakis (1,256 votes), John Markham (1,238 votes) and Donna Rann (981) votes. Of the three, only John Markham has previous experi-

ence as a board member.

The board voted to change their meeting date from Wednesdays to Tuesdays, allowing those who would like to attend both the school board and council meetings to do so.

The board then voted unanimously to appoint Jeff Seider president and Tim Morgan vice president.

A short discussion followed about the defeated budget. Dr. Rosado reminded those with questions on possible budget cuts, that is up to the Borough Council. Board members will meet with the council later this

week, but no date was announced.

The board also voted on several appointments for the year, including Dr. Nicholas Celso, III as board attorney, Integrity Consulting as broker of record, A.H.E.R.A. Consultants as asbestos consultant, Grinspec-Lee Nestel as broker of record for property liability insurance, Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer as bond council and McManimon & Scotland as bond council for the Roosevelt School construction project. Also appointed were Steven Senz as treasurer and Educational Data Services for bidding services.

Pay-to-Play Ordinance Introduced

An ordinance regulating political contributions, also known as "Pay-to-Play," was introduced at last week's Borough Council meeting. The vote for the ordinance was unanimous; however, Republican Councilmen Matthew Anesh and Robert Bengivenga, Jr. questioned some wording and contribution amounts.

Both the Republicans and the Democrats began the new year promising to introduce and pass an ordinance this year which would regulate political contributions. Councilman Robert Bengivenga, Jr. submitted a draft of an ordinance earlier this year for consideration. Mayor Gallagher explained that Borough Attorney Pat Diegman was already drafting an ordinance, but he would submit Bengivenga's draft to Diegman.

One of the items in the ordinance forbids any professional business that

submits a bid or enters into negotiations or a contract with the Borough for professional services to contribute more than \$300 for a primary election or \$300 for a general election. The same applies to any individual or professional business entity doing business with the Borough, including banking and insurance coverage services and consulting services.

In addition, any group of individuals forming a professional business entity may not annually contribute in excess of \$2,500 to borough candidates and office holders. Bengivenga proposed to change that amount to \$900.

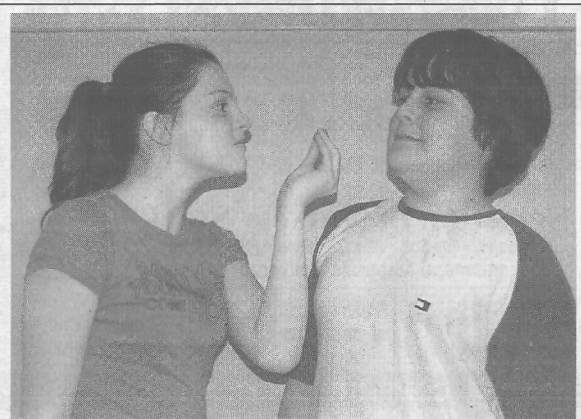
The ordinance also states: "Any individual or business found to knowingly fail to reveal or misrepresent a monetary campaign contribution will be subject to penalties. An individual or professional business found to be in violation will

be disqualified for eligibility for future contracts for four years."

According to Bengivenga, the ordinance is not specific enough. He feels it does not go far enough in limiting contributions on the local level and wants to include all Middlesex County political party committees. He will ask that some of the wording be changed before he decides how he will vote.

Councilman Charles Butrico explained that the ordinance was written to be consistent with most ordinances already passed in Middlesex County. He feels it is a good ordinance and plans on giving it his full approval next Tuesday.

The council will vote on the ordinance at their next meeting on May 2 after a public discussion. The meeting will be held in the council chambers at 8 p.m. Residents are invited to attend.



Marissa Colon makes a point to Richard Rotella in the Middle School production of "Peril on the High Seas or... Let's Get Together and Do Launch." See story and additional photos on page 6.

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for the latest meeting agenda

councilmeetings

Meets twice a month on the first and third Tuesday
Borough Hall Council Chambers • Questions? 908-226-7605

Date	Agenda Meeting	Public Meeting
May 2	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
May 16	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.

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

planningboard

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month, *except where noted.
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641
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.

zoningboardofadjustment

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month, *except where noted.
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641
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.

boardofeducationmeetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted
Committee of the Whole, Wednesdays 7 p.m. -May 3, June 14, July 12, Aug. 9, Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, Dec. 13, Jan. 10, Feb. 14, March 14 and March 28.
Regular Meeting Wednesdays 8 p.m.-May 10, June 21, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Dec. 20, Jan. 17, Feb. 21, March and April 4.

taxpayersadvisorygroup

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

siteplan-sub-committee

Meets once a month on the third Tuesday of the month, 8 p.m.
May 16, June 20, July 18, August 15
Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21 and Dec. 19.

recreationcommission

Meets once a month on the second Tuesday of the month, except July and August
PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7716
May 23*, June 13, July and Aug.
No scheduled meetings, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14 and Dec. 12.

environmentalcommission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)
Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7621
May 10, June 14, July 12, Aug. 9, Sept. 13
Oct. 11, Nov. 8, Dec. 13 and Jan. 10.

businessadvisorygroup

Meets once a month (first Wednesday)
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 5 p.m. • Questions? 908-757-8100

trafficsafetyadvisorycommission

Meets once a month (fourth Wednesday) at 7 p.m.
in the Conference Room, Borough Hall (No Meeting in August)

boardofeducationcurriculum/technology meetings

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

South Plainfield Observer

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NANCY GRENNIER
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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.

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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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Dear Editor:

I would like to thank all the voters in South Plainfield who went to the polls and showed their support for a change in the South Plainfield Board of Education. Education of our children is the main focus of any BOE and South Plainfield seems to have strayed from that main focus.

Residents of South Plainfield, you have made the right decision in the election of your newest board members. I will do my absolute best to "Put the Children First" ...change for our children is on the horizon.

THANK YOU
DONNA RANN

To the Editor:

I would like to add some important information to Libby Barsky's article published on April 14 regarding the plan to improve special education in our district.

What Dr. Rotter went over with us at the meeting was correctly reported, but there were other improvements that I feel need to be addressed as much.

Dr. Rotter discussed what had to be done to improve the paperwork that is involved with IEP's and the retraining of teachers and case managers. I agree with what she said about parents feeling something wasn't right if the paperwork isn't clean, but there are also other areas that make a parent feel things are not right. Many parents that attended the meeting on March 27 had not received a copy of Dr. Rotter's report until that evening. The reports were not mailed out with the letters inviting us to hear her findings, so many had not had a chance to read the 21 page report and ask questions about her other findings.

The other findings I find disturbing and need to be addressed just as much as the paperwork are:

Child study team members cited that there was lack of communication across the district, across teams, across teachers and between all involved people. Because of lack of communication teams were not working in the same manner across the district which results in inconsistent use of procedures and decision making. That there needs to be better coordination of services between schools and the IEP's written for those transitional years. These IEP's often include programs that do not exist in the next school. Many of the case workers expressed the feeling that they aren't supported by the director of special services and that they feel he does not advocate enough to the Superintendent regarding their concerns.

Teachers cited that sharing case workers across buildings was very difficult. IEP's offer programs that don't exist. IEP's are based on services available, not what a child needs. Teachers would like the case workers to observe the classes more often. Several teachers stated that there is a need for a study

skills class at upper levels. They identified a need to coordinate services, procedures and methods across the district. Many of the teachers stated that it is difficult to get clear answers from the director of special services and asked for more frequent district-wide special education meetings to share information. They felt the need for a clearer leadership message from the director. The teachers described him as knowledgeable and having his heart in the right place, but there was a perception that he accommodates whatever the superintendent wants.

The parents cited that their children were being passed forward and that they recognized the learning problems before the teachers did. The parents were repeatedly encouraged to wait before requesting an evaluation. Parents felt rushed during IEP meetings and that while they may participate, they are not being listened to. Their children are often placed into classes in what they believe are a money-saving effort and teachers are unprepared to teach their children. Parents expressed concern that their children may not be receiving services as the IEP is written based on faulty IEP's and broken promises they have encountered. Parents expressed extreme frustration with special education services and they felt that money is driving the decision-making. They feel their children are not getting what they need to succeed. Parents are having to fight to get what their children are entitled to. Some parents reported being lied to by building administrators, child study teams and/or the director of special education. They expressed a real distrust of child study team members and the director of special services. The parents do not believe what they are told and reported being promised things that later did not happen. They also expressed a desire that case managers be more of an advocate for their children.

These are just some of the things that I feel need to be addressed. The report is very thorough and lengthy. There are many more items than the above that should eventually be taken care of. Dr. Rotter did a very good job of addressing the many issues that brought her to audit our special education records. I am hoping that when Dr. Rotter has her next meeting with the parents she will be able to help monitor some of the other problems our special education program has.

Dr. Rosado, who was present at this last meeting, has repeatedly told us how much special education costs the district. As parents of special needs children we certainly do know how much it costs. We did not wish for our children to have disabilities and our wallets are affected every time we have to seek out doctors, therapists, psychologists, psychiatrists, neurologists, etc. Being there are very few programs our district has to offer, we end up paying

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.

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for these services. When your insurance company only pays a percentage of these bills, it is very costly, but you do what you have to do because you want to help them. Until someone walks in our shoes day after day, they could not possibly know the emotional and also the financial problems that families with special needs children face.

If you have not received a copy of Dr. Rotter's report, you may pick one up at the administration building. It's important that the problems are fixed so our children get the proper education and all the help they deserve. Remember parents, you are your child's biggest advocate, don't let them down.

GWENN KURILEW

To Our Friends & Relatives:

Bob and I wanted to thank all our friends and relatives that recently donated to the South Plainfield Rescue Squad in memory of Robert T. Neumann. We appreciate the donations and know that they will be put to good use in helping South Plainfield.

LUCILLE AND BOB NEUMANN

Dear Editor,

Last year, Councilman Matt Anesh and I ran for Borough Council on a platform that included bringing back two-party government, restoring open government, and enacting ethics reform. While surely other issues were pivotal in our election, these important goals resonated with voters and were something we were proud to support.

An important part of our platform was pay-to-play reform. Pay-to-play, as most people now know, is the much-criticized practice where government contractors give campaign contributions to elected officials, who in turn award the contributors more government contracts. As of December, the Citizens' Campaign, a non-partisan reform group, reported that 65 towns had enacted ordinances banning pay-to-play. Sadly, South Plainfield was not one of them.

Despite this, Matt and I were encouraged when at our swearing in the mayor announced that the council was now on board and wanted to enact

(Continued on page 5)

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Before the South Plainfield Rescue Squads monthly meeting, a plaque was presented to Stilo Paving for outstanding generosity and assisting the squad when they needed help. Mr. Stilo donated his mens' time and equipment to the squad at no cost. Thanks again! Pictured (l to r): Rescue Squad President Brian Anderson, Building Committee Chairman Tim Kelly, Stilo Foreman Ken Shaw and President of Stilo Paving Robert "Bobby" Stilo.

South Plainfield ELKS are Making a Difference

"Elks Care, Elks Share" is the motto of The Benevolent and Protective Order of ELKS. For those unfamiliar with the organization, it is steeped in tradition, charity, patriotism, belief in God, and is committed to serving others. Their purpose is to practice four cardinal virtues: Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity. In addition to its many programs, the ELKS represent camaraderie of friends and volunteers who enjoy socializing with their fellow members while serving the lodge.

South Plainfield Lodge #2298 established their charter in 1964. It was founded by John Kormendy PER (Past Exalted Ruler), who led the organization from its inception and became the first Exalted Ruler and currently holds the #1 membership card. Today, membership continues to grow with each new member from all walks of life. Together, they bring their backgrounds and expertise to facilitate and support the many programs Elks are known for.

As a charitable organization, the lodge's donations support disabled children, veterans, Americanism, youth activities, scholarships, drug awareness, community welfare and the National Elks Foundation. Most recently, the lodge's annual ball raised money for the Army of Hope, which assists soldiers who have been injured in the war in Iraq, as well as families who have lost a soldier to the war. The annual Miracle Run brings together our motorcycling members in an effort to raise money. In addition, officers will attend the dedication of a new electronic scoreboard donated by the lodge to the local baseball association.

We also recognize those outside of our organization for their contributions to the community. On March 25, Dan Uken PER and District Chairman of Americanism, organized our Annual Citizen of the Year awards dinner held at the Edison Elks Lodge. The recipient from the South Plainfield Elks Lodge #2298 was Connie Besser. A lifelong resident, Besser has given of her time and leadership serving as an officer, trustee and assistant tournament director for South

Plainfield Wrestling Club; officer and trustee for the Pop Warner Eagles and also a former president of the South Plainfield Booster Club.

In addition to the lodge's sponsored committee events, social events such as Polish Nite, karaoke, NASCAR Sundays and bus trips provide our members with fun activities and long-lasting friendships.

On April 8, the South Plainfield Elks installed their new officers for the 2006-2007 fraternal year. The new Exalted Ruler is Arthur Sabino, Sr. PER. Arthur is a lifelong resident of South Plainfield and has been married to Marge for 43 years. He has been a member of the ELKS for 18 years and served as Exalted Ruler in 1993-1994. He is a retired chemical operator from Hurl's in Piscataway and was a former member of the South Plainfield Rescue Squad. He has been affiliated with the Edison Moose and the Italian American Club. Arthur (or "Mr. Artie" as the children call him), is a custodian for Sodexo working in the Riley School. Arthur's officers for the fraternal year are: Esteemed Leading Knight Debra Czech, Esteemed Loyal Knight Debra Shuleski, Esteemed Lecturing Knight Sharon Reuter, Lodge Esquire Barbara Muller, Inner Guard William Reuter, Tiler Frank Naccio, Lodge Secretary Bob Eckenstein and Treasurer Sandi Smith.

Several awards were also presented. Esteemed Leading Knight Debra Czech was awarded Officer of the Year. Debbie is actively involved with the veterans, community welfare, handicapped children and house committees. She recently appeared with Bill Turner and Blue Smoke as lead vocalist entertaining the veterans at Menlo Park Soldier's Home and Lyons Hospital. Under her direction, Polish Night was a complete sellout in two hours.

Peter Smith, PER, trustee and district chairman for Hoop Shoot was awarded the Exalted Ruler Award for his dedication and service to the lodge. Pete keeps himself actively involved with the Elks, most notably as a past exalted ruler, chairman of youth activities, drug awareness and convention committees. Pete is always on

Unity Bank Partners With March of Dimes Walk

Once again Unity Bank is proud to partner with the March of Dimes WalkAmerica on Sunday, April 30. Our customers, employees and top management have been most supportive over the years and we all would like to encourage you to support this most worthwhile cause.

The March of Dimes' campaign to fight premature birth and birth defects is well into its fourth year. All of Unity Bank's 14 branches throughout Hunterdon, Middlesex, Somerset, Union and Warren counties are involved and accepting donations.

hand for lodge activities and can be frequently found behind the grill on seafood night and many pancake breakfasts.

In addition, the Elks Grand Lodge Awards for dedication and service were presented to Dale Finn and John and Barbara Muller for their combined efforts for the lodge. Dale is our resident cook and is currently our picnic chairperson. John Muller, PER has been a lodge member for over 20 years and is currently our house committee bar chairman. He is also a retired South Plainfield Police Chief. His wife, Barbara Muller, is our lodge esquire and was recently presented with several awards placing her in the top third in the Central District as lodge esquire, and for her 100% word accuracy performance during our annual ritual. Barbara has been a long time member and is our parades and NASCAR chairperson. Barbara and John chair our scholarship committee; have run karaoke events, numerous fundraising activities and most recently, the annual charity ball, raising money for the Army of Hope.

Longtime member Lynn Thompson won the National ELKS Foundation Outstanding Service Award for her outstanding achievement in garnering a successful overall percentage of pledges from our lodge to the National ELKS Foundation. She is also our National Foundation Scholarship and Sickness and Distress Chairperson.

We are proud of our members and are hopeful that others will share in our vision for the future. Have you been wondering what to do with your spare time? Have you been thinking of volunteering somewhere, but just didn't know where? Look no further than your local Elks. The South Plainfield lodge is seeking new members to expand their membership.

Contact the lodge at (908) 668-9750 or see any one of our officers or members for a tour of the lodge and an introduction to the many beneficial programs which support the community.

Submitted by: Debra Czech

Council Passes Openness in Government Ordinance

Last Monday, April 17, the Council unanimously passed an ordinance which will make it easier for residents to find out what volunteer positions in the Borough are available and to apply for them.

The idea of the ordinance is to promote openness of government by providing residents with the information needed to volunteer for various municipal positions that may exist in the Borough. It explains the procedure for a resident to indicate his or her desire to serve in a particular appointed position, such as a board or commission. It also provides a notification process so that residents who have indicated their desire to hold a

desired position to be notified when that position is under consideration and ultimately notified when any action is taken.

The Borough Clerk will maintain a list of volunteer positions in the Borough and it will be available on the Borough's website and at the Municipal Building. Positions will include the title, a brief description of the position, special credentials needed, length of the term, name of resident currently holding that position, when that person's term expires and the number of vacant seats on the board or commission. Also the dates, times and frequency of any meetings which the position requires.

Any resident interested in a volunteer for a position can send in a signed application and include their name, address, telephone number, email address, the appointed position desired and their qualifications. You can file anytime and you can also withdraw your name at any time.

The borough clerk will be required to review each application and notify the applicant when a vacancy on the board or commission they requested is available. The appointing authority will conduct a review, including interviews and when a decision is reached, notify those who submitted an application on who they have chosen for the position.

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Around Town

Girl Scouts Fair, Flea Market

April 29

The South Plainfield Girl Scouts will hold a Family Fun Fair and Flea Market on Saturday, April 29 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the PAL on Maple Ave. This fundraiser will benefit more than 50 girl scout troops in the Washington Rock Girl Scout Council.

For more information, call (908) 755-7884.

Tricky Tray Raffle

April 29

The Sacred Heart Home School Association is sponsoring a Tricky Tray Raffle on Saturday, April 29 in the Sacred Heart School cafeteria. Items include: baskets, sports memorabilia, gift certificates, bikes, color TV and much more.

Doors open at 6 p.m.; drawing starts at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$10 and includes five raffle tickets. You must be 18 years of age or older.

For tickets call (908) 755-0891.

Business Assoc. Golf Outing

May 2

The South Plainfield Business Association is sponsoring their ninth annual golf outing on Tuesday, May 2 at Cranbury Golf Club in West Windsor. Entry fee includes the 18-hole event, use of locker room, green fees and cart, continental breakfast, complimentary beverage cart, hot dog and chips "at the turn," open bar (beer, wine and soda) and a BBQ luncheon. Casual attire.

For information, call Bob Longo at (908) 753-7004 or Ed Koznowicz at (908) 754-8900.

Music Boosters Meeting

May 3

The SPHS Music Boosters will hold their monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 3. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. in the chorus room. All chorus, band and orchestra parents are welcome to attend. Nominations for next year's board are still being accepted. Please join us!

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 NJ Tax Preparation Program, 10am-noon, 1-2pm) 90's Birthday Bash - May 17 * * * Overnight trip to Baltimore w/Dinner Theatre (Date Changed to September 30-October 1)				
Knitting/Crocheting 9:30-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Art Class 11:30am	1 Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social 10am Lunch Available	2 Exercise 8:45am Computer Class 10am, 11:30am & 1pm Line Dancing 10am Tai Chi Class 2pm	3 Shop Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11am & 1pm Exercise Class 1:15pm NJ Tax Program 10am-noon & 1-2pm	4 Bingo 10am-2pm Lunch Available Passports at Borough Hall
				28 Bingo 10am-2pm Lunch Available
				5 Bingo 10am-2pm

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

Elks S.O.S. Breakfast

May 7

The South Plainfield Elks Lodge 2298, located on New Market Ave. is holding an S.O.S. Breakfast on Sunday, May 7 from 8-11 a.m. Breakfast consists of beef in white sauce on toast, eggs any style, potatoes, Italian potato noodles, orange juice, tea or coffee. Cost is \$6 adults, \$4 for children.

Benefit for Alyssa Marie Ricciardi

May 7

Friends and family of two-year-old Alyssa Marie Ricciardi are sponsoring a dinner in her honor to help the family with costs associated with her battle with cancer on May 7 from 5-9 p.m. at the American Legion Post, 243 Oak Tree Ave. Tickets may be purchased from Twin City Pharmacy, Our Town Deli, Sals Spirit Shoppe or at the door. Tickets are \$40 for adults and \$10 for children under 12.

For more information, call (908) 464-0498 or (908) 561-0982.

Breakfast at the VFW

May 7

VFW Memorial Post #6763 lo-

cated at 155 Front Street, is hosting a breakfast on Sunday, May 7 from 8-11 a.m. All are welcome.

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

Fire Dept. Concert

May 12

The South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department has scheduled its annual benefit concert for Friday, May 12 at 8 p.m. The show will be held at the South Plainfield High School Auditorium.

This year the entertainment will be provided by 1960's recording group, The Vogues.

For more information, call the sales office at (908) 412-6559.

Elks Mother's Day Breakfast

May 14

The South Plainfield Elks Lodge 2298 on New Market Ave. will hold an all you can eat Mother's Day breakfast on Sunday, May 14 from 8 a.m. to noon. Breakfast consists of eggs, bacon, pancakes, sausage, french toast, home fries, coffee, tea and juice. Cost is \$6 for adults, \$4 for children.

VFW Dinner

May 19

The VFW Memorial Post #6763, 155 Front St., will hold a dinner on Friday, May 19 from 5 to 7 p.m. The public is invited.

For additional information call (908) 668-9751 after 3 p.m. daily or after 12 p.m. weekends.

Baltimore Trip

September 30

Join us for a weekend of fun on Saturday, Sept. 30 through Sunday, Oct. 1. Trip includes: transportation by private deluxe motorcoach, overnight accommodations at Best Western & Conference Center, sightseeing tour of Baltimore, dinner and show at Toby's Dinner Theatre, hot buffet breakfast on Sunday morning, free time on Sunday at the Inner Harbor for sightseeing, shopping and lunch. Cost is \$190 per person double occupancy, \$245 single or \$185 triple.

Make reservations as early as possible. Space is limited to 44.

For information, call the Senior Center at (908) 754-1047.

What's happening in

APRIL/MAY

town Newark, or the NJPAC web site at www.njpac.org.

Pro Wrestling Fundraiser

April 29

Manville Boy and Cub Scout Troops presents National Wrestling Superstars presentation fundraiser at the Manville VFW Hall, 600 Washington Ave. in Manville on Saturday, April 29 at 7:35 p.m. Souvenir show posters will be given away to the first 175 fans. Tickets are \$18 adults, \$15 children and seniors.

Order tickets online at www.doubleplaytix.com or call (908) 725-1015, or to charge tickets call (732) 888-1704.

Firefighters Mass

April 29

Diocese of Metuchen will celebrate a Firefighters Mass on Saturday, April 29 at 7 p.m. at the St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral in Metuchen.

For information visit the Diocese's website at www.diometuchen.org or call (732) 562-2461.

Sierra Singles Parent/Teen Bowling

April 29

Sierra Singles parent/teen bowling night on Saturday, April 29 at 8 p.m. at Strike 'N Spare Bowling on Rt. 22W in Green Brook. Cost is \$15 per person for three games and shoes.

Call (973) 364-7573, ext. #8 or email AngelButterfly37@aol.com.

Life Line Screening

April 29

Life Line Screening, LLC will offer vascular/osteoporosis screenings at the YMCA of Plainfield, 232 East Front St., Plainfield on Saturday, April 29. Each screening requires 10 minutes or less to complete.

For information or to schedule an appointment, call (877) 237-1344.

College & Career Fair

April 29

NAACP Metuchen-Edison Area Branch will host a College and Career Fair on Saturday, April 29 at the Edison Job Corps Academy, 500 Plainfield Ave., in Edison from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Representatives from colleges, universities, technical schools and trade schools will be in attendance.

For information, call Glenn Williams at (908) 705-6672, or Alvin Mallette at (732) 684-6605, email alvin.mallette@gmail.com.

Out of Town

Edison Arts Society Art Exhibit

April 28-30

Edison Arts Society presents the Fifth Annual Gardens of the Garden State Art and Photography Exhibit at Menlo Park Mall, Nordstrom wing, on April 28, noon-5 p.m., April 29, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. and April 30, noon-5 p.m. For information, call the Edison Arts Society at (908) 753-2787.

Blackrose Performs

April 29

Blackrose, a band playing classic rock and roll music as well as today's hits, will be performing at Season's Restaurant, Route 27, in Edison on Saturday, April 29 at 10 p.m.

Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company

April 29

Choreographer Nai-Ni Chen and composer/performer Joan La Barbara present the world premiere of their collaboration, American Landscape, with the Nai Ni Chen Dance Company and an eight-piece orchestra at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center for one performance only on Saturday, April 29 at 7:30 p.m. in the Victoria Theater. Tickets are \$32 and may be purchased by telephone at (888) 466-5722 at the NJPAC Box Office at One Center Street in down-

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Milestones



James Garcia and Nicole Riley and daughter Deona Elizabeth Garcia.

Garcia and Riley Welcome a New Daughter

Congratulations go out to James Garcia and Nicole Riley on the birth of their daughter, Deona Elizabeth Garcia, who was born on April 16, Easter Sunday. Deona weighed in at 7 lbs. 4 ounces and measured 19 inches long.



James Garcia, a 2002 South Plainfield High School graduate, and Nicole Riley of Yonkers, NY, and baby Deona are all doing well.

The proud grandparents are James and Judy Garcia of South Plainfield and Billy and Liz Riley of Yonkers.

Kyrsten Grabinsky Selected State Finalist, National American Miss New Jersey Pageant



Kyrsten Grabinsky

Kyrsten Grabinsky of South Plainfield has been chosen as a State Finalist in the National American Miss New Jersey Pageant to be held Aug. 18-19 at the Hilton Hotel in East Brunswick. The pageant is held for girls seven through nine years of age.

Miss Grabinsky, who is nine years old, participates in gymnastics, cheerleading, girl scouts and softball. She also enjoys swimming, writing stories, dancing and school.

Miss Grabinsky's sponsors include family, friends and Arnold Dubinsky.

Kyrsten is the daughter of Donald and Laurie Grabinsky.

Kravetsky Receives Service Award from Stoudsburg University

Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania has awarded Matthew Kravetsky of South Plainfield the President's Outstanding Service Award during a ceremony at which more than 185 awards were given to students for service to the community, to campus life or as university student employees.

Faculty, staff and community members nominate students for the President's Award.

Kravetsky was awarded the Student Employee Service Award. Students nominated for a President's Outstanding Service Award are recognized for unique or genuinely outstanding service, or for service performed under special circumstances. The awards were presented Wednesday, April 19 in a ceremony held in the Keystone Room in the university's Center for Hospitality Management.

ESU's Student Senate and the Residence Hall Association have sponsored the Student Recognition Awards for the past 16 years, according to Resident Director Todd Benson, who with John Robinson, advisor to the Student Senate, coordinated the program.

ESU President Dr. Robert J. Dillman presented the Student Employee Service plaque to Matthew Kravetsky of South Plainfield.

IN YOUR OPINION

(Continued from page 2)

pay-to-play reform in South Plainfield. Granted, they were coming to the table belatedly, but that's better than not at all, and they deserved credit.

Given the Democrats' new-found desire for reform, Matt and I were eager to support a plan once it reached the council. In fact, to get the ball rolling a little more quickly, in February I proposed an ordinance banning pay-to-play, and I circulated it to the mayor, council, and borough attorney in an attempt to build bipartisan support. The borough attorney is a powerful player in this process, because he is also the Democratic Party chairman.

Recently the Democrats came back with their version of reform. To say Matt and I were disappointed is an understatement. While over two pages long and chock full of legal language, the ordinance would do nothing to improve the current situation. The problem we now face, namely, contracts being awarded to political contributors, will continue if changes are not made. To put it bluntly, the ordinance is a farce.

After consultation with the Citizens' Campaign, Matt and I proposed several changes that would actually put some teeth in the ordinance, but unfortunately the Democratic majority,

led by Council President Cerami and Councilman Buttrico, has rejected our suggestions. They say their proposal will work, and they refuse to acknowledge the obvious: the ordinance is so riddled with holes that it will be hopelessly ineffective.

I urge the other council members to reconsider their positions and join Councilman Anesh and me in supporting real reform. Ethics reform is too important an issue with which to play politics. Faith in our local government and in our local elected officials is what's at stake. Let's enact an ordinance that means something, not simply one that creates an illusion of accomplishment.

COUNCILMAN ROBERT BENVINGA, JR.

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Almost Famous Players I would like to thank everyone involved for helping to make the AFP Coffeehouse 2006 such a success. Special thanks to the South Plainfield Senior Center; Joanne, Sandy and Angelo; the *Observer* for all their help and support, John Bundy for the loan of a spotlight and Sue Wolfson for her sound system. An extra special thank you goes to Debbie Boyle for donating a much needed street banner.

Performers included: Justina & the Day Breaks; Wolfson, featuring Vonorn and Lady Sue; Those three guys—Chris Abbott, Tim Barkalow and Mike Martin. Also Davonna Approvato, Cassie Krajcik, John Roesch and members of his Jazz Orchestra, senior citizen Ken Reisch and North Jersey's The Same Effect. I would like to thank all of you for donating your time and talent.

About 60 people attended the event. The evening was emceed by Almost Famous Players members Jackie O of Bound Brook and Rocco "Sonny Boy" Severini.

After Hours Formal Wear of Piscataway graciously donated the tuxedo worn by Rocco. Door prizes were courtesy of: Carousel, Bella Grotto Pizza, Edison Valley Playhouse, Hometown Heros, Red's Sports Heaven, Port Africa, European Hair Design and Debbie Boyle.

Finally, I have to thank my friends and family who helped organize and run the Coffeehouse: Lisa Flammer, Mike Martin, Chris Abbott, Joan "Mama" Abbott, Patti and Bob Ambicelli, Kathy Winner, Julie, Shannen Rivers, Rob, Bill Seesselberg, Jeff Seesselberg, Sarah, Max, Joe Matos and Tim Barkalow.

**PATRICIA ABBOTT
ALMOST FAMOUS PLAYERS**

Funeral Home to Host Bereavement Support Group

The South Plainfield and Piscataway Funeral Homes are pleased to announce they are supporting a Bereavement Support Group. The sessions are held each month beginning on Monday, May 1, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the South Plainfield Funeral Home, 2456 Plainfield Ave.

The groups are facilitated by Carol Burner, MA, certified grief recovery specialist.

One of the least acknowledged and

least addressed concerns in our society today is grief, the normal and natural reaction to loss.

If you have experienced a loss and want to learn more about some steps for grieving which will ease your pain and help you to "Move Beyond Your Grief," please call the South Plainfield Funeral Home at (908) 756-2800 or Carol Burner (732) 562-8565 for additional information or to register for the group.

If you need a helping hand, come and join us. All are welcome.

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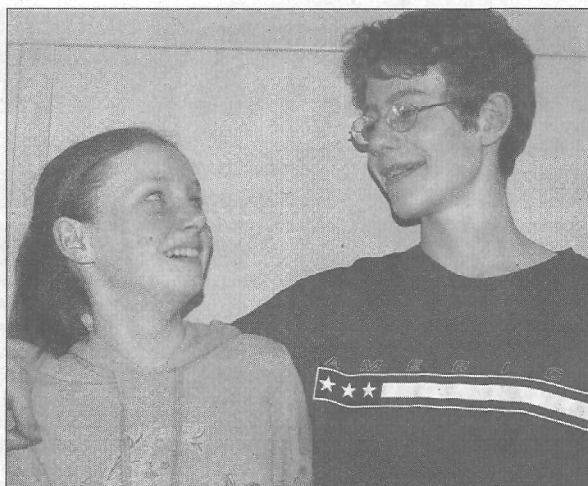
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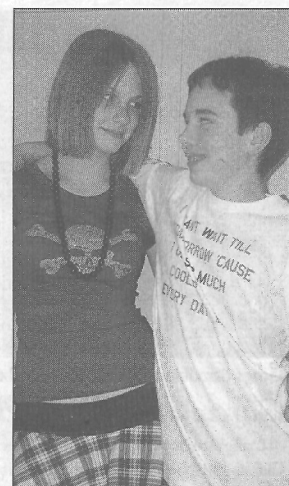
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can do it, you
can too!"
Marsha



Sarah DeLair and Patrick Landy.



Natalie Madurski and Mike Parello.

Middle School Sets Off for "Peril on the High Seas"

The South Plainfield Middle School "On the Edge of Your Seat Players" are proud to present the melodrama *Peril on the High Seas or...Let's Get Together and Do Launch* by Billy St. John. The show runs for two nights, Thursday and Friday, April 27 and 28. Curtain time is 7:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale at the Middle School, \$2 for students and \$5 for adults. The comedy is directed by Dale Salisbury, Ellyn Schwartz is assistant director and SPHS freshman Rocco Severini is student director.

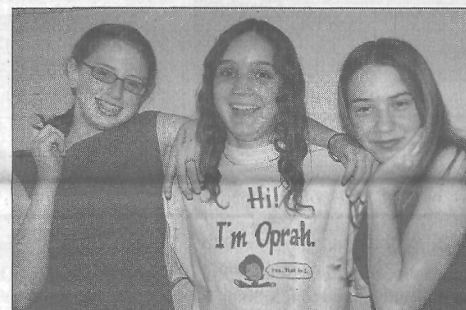
Peril on the High Seas or...Let's Get Together and Do Launch is a

good time for the whole family. The Pioneer Drama website has this synopsis of the show: All aboard the H.M.S. Majestic for a riotous adventure in this full length melodrama set in the roaring twenties! Little does our heroine, the heiress Merry Ann Sweet, know that she is the intended victim of the villainous Snively Swine's kidnapping plot. With his partner, the slinky and exotic Aracnia Webb, Swine disguises himself as Sir Reginald Rottentot, a British nobleman, in order to gain the confidence of Merry and her flapper friends, Mitzi, Ritzy and Ditzzy. But Merry

falls for the handsome waiter, Cary De Mille. Poor Cary—he loves Merry, too, but ship's policy says he can't get involved with a passenger. Must these two ships pass in the night? Not if Merry's flapper friends can help it! Together, they transform Merry from a shy young lady into a red-hot jazz baby. Meanwhile, Swine launches his kidnap scheme. It's sink or swim for Cary. Can he save Merry and stay out of Aracnia's clutches? It's up to the passengers—movie star Mary Pickaxe, gossip columnist Hedda Hooper, detective Willy Ketchum and more—to help Cary put the damper on Swine.

Cast

Mitzi... (flapper) Erin O'Conner/Taylor Schone
Ritzy... (flapper) Alyssa Aiello
Ditzzy... (flapper) Holly McDeed
Hedda Hooper Christine Nau
Mary Pickaxe Carla Scala
Wanda Ketchum Marissa Colon
Willy Ketchum Richard Rotella/Joseph Ifrach
Merry Ann Sweet Natalie Madurski
Bea Goode Ellen Zinsky/Sarah DeLair
Aracnia Webb Kelly Kline
Snively Swine Ryan Lind
Skeet Suiter Matt Brazza
Cary De Mille Mike Parello
Cpt Barney Kuhl Patrick Landy



Erin O'Conner, Holly McDeed and Taylor Schone.

FROM THE DESK OF DEBBIE BOYLE

I continue to urge all Middlesex County residents to contact their senators requesting support of Senator Barbara Buono's bill that is seeking reevaluation of the Abbott Districts' funding which comes from thousands of our tax dollars, by logging on to spnet.k12.nj.us and noting your comments. I have received replies from Peter J. Barnes, Jr. Assemblyman, 18th district and Patrick J. Diegnan, Jr., Assemblyman stating that they are introducing a similar bill (A-2814) and they are also supporting Senator Buono's bill. Please continue to forward your comments in favor of their bills for funding K-12 education for the entire State of New Jersey to correct this inequality.

Congratulations to the 2006 SPHS Players Drama Club and Director Gloria Naso on the presentation of the magical *Cinderella* production. Everyone in attendance did believe that "impossible things are happening every day." King Jeff Seesselberg and Chris Seesselberg, it feels like it was yesterday that you performed for the Riley School Drama Club and here you both are, once more, with your wonderful performances. *Cinderella* Katie Noonan, Prince Darren Kaczowski, Queen Cassandra Krajcik and Fairy Godmother Susan Mott, your voices were outstanding. The creativity for the scenes from the huge lighted carriage to the unique horses was brilliant. The entire cast and crew performed a tremendous feat, along with the help of the many teachers and parents and Peer to Peer Leadership. Be proud, we all are.

The Teachers' Appreciation Luncheon, sponsored by the Grant PTO, was

held on April 20 at Grant Elementary. It was our way to give a special thank-you to Principal Whalen, Vice-Principal Richkus, Guidance Counselor Young, all the teachers and staff members. Thank you so much to Cheryl Papa and Diane Ranger for all the "above and beyond help"—you always take the time to give from the heart. Thank you to Cherece Glover, Diane Zekas, Nancy McMahon and Lori Esposito for volunteering your time and to all the parents who baked all those yummy desserts and to Karen Steingart for all the planning.

The 2007 Grant Stokes Committee is holding a School Spirit Wear fundraiser. Information went home via the backpacks on April 17. The sale will continue until May 1. If you have any questions, contact me at (908) 791-9439. Imprinting on the gym shorts is possible for an additional \$3 for anyone interested.

Thank you to Janet McDermott and your volunteers for holding the "snack day" sales for the children during the half-day sessions. The children look forward to snack day, which is held approximately five times during the year and, from the large amount of participants, so do the parents.

Please watch for the 2007 Grant Stokes wall-ball tournament which includes grades one through sixth. A future notice will be forthcoming from the Wall-Ball Chairman Bill Cochran.

Thank you to Eileen Brady and Yvonne Davisson who helped Debby DiDolce, chairperson for the Yankee Candle Fundraiser, pack and distribute the candle order on April 19. We packed over 50 orders, and once again, thank you to all who partici-

pated in this Stokes Fundraiser.

Thank you to the South Plainfield Observer staff for always trying to be in two places at once covering the many activities and events all over town. You do a tremendous job week to week with only days between papers. If you are interested in what's going down in town, then read the Observer.

I was looking forward to watching a SPHS Girls' Lacrosse game on Saturday, but the rain poured down. This team is really full of spirit. Best wishes to the coaches on your upcoming events. I see many residents at the various events in school and at the fields watching baseball, softball and track meets. It is a great feeling to those participating to know that they have the positive support of the people who live and work in South Plainfield. Positive support reaffirms team spirit.

The Tiger 24 (hour) run/walk benefit for South Plainfield Children's Charities will take place on Friday and Saturday, April 28 and 29 from 4 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the track at Jost Field behind the PAL building. Please pledge a participant for this wonderful event. This third annual event is in conjunction with Sodexo Food Services and the Peer to Peer Leadership program, under the direction of Mrs. Martko, Mr. Baker, Mr. Hajduk, Ms. Vandemark, Ms. Zurka, Mr. Encinas and freshman advisor Ms. Raimondo. Many events will be going on during the Tiger 24 (i.e. volleyball and frisbee tournaments) and you can also pledge a flat amount.

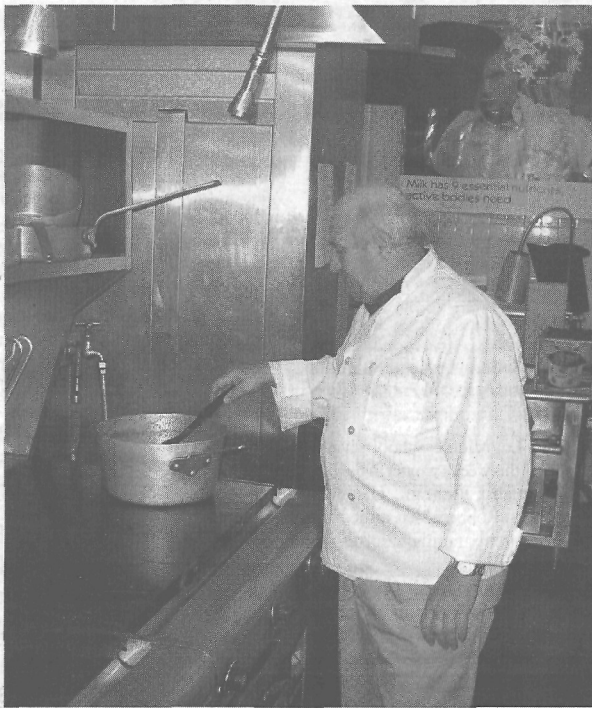
The SPHS Athletic Booster Club needs volunteers to work in the snack stand. Thanks to the Peer to Peer leadership group for your hard work and support for this event.

Lions Pancake Breakfast Another Success

Every year on Palm Sunday, the South Plainfield Lions Club hosts its annual Gourmet Pancake Breakfast at the South Plainfield High School. This event helps the club raise money to improve the quality of life in the community as well as provide support to various Lions approved projects throughout the state.

One of the club's statewide projects is its support of Camp Marcella, the New Jersey State Camp for Blind Children, located on 192 wooded acres in Rockaway Township in Morris County. Through monetary donations and services, in kind, the Lions help to improve and maintain the camp. The beautiful grounds, facilities and camping programs are designed to provide a safe and exciting summer camping experience. At the camp, children with visual impairments learn important life-skills every day, while having fun. The camp also offers two, one-week sessions during the season for children with multiple handicaps who may have needs requiring very specific attention. All programs have been adapted to allow all campers to participate regardless of the extent of their handicaps. Activities include swimming, boating, nature discovery, arts and crafts, physical education, music, life management, safety skills, computers and much more. Participants who attend the camp do so at no charge.

This year's Lions pancake breakfast was a huge success and the Lions thank



Lion Larry Massaro prepares for the expected crowd at the Lions' annual Palm Sunday breakfast.

the members and the members' children and grandchildren who helped out this year and the many businesses that donated services and goods for use at the breakfast.

Finally, yet most importantly, the

South Plainfield Lions Club extends a big thank you to all who attended to help make the breakfast a success so that they may continue to serve and help those in need. We will see you again next year.

Adult High School Brochures Delivered

Brochures have been delivered to area residences outlining upcoming trips and classes offered through the South Plainfield Adult School. This spring the school is continuing the very popular series of informative tours of various districts of New York City led by Tony Grifa, a licensed tour guide of "I'll Take Manhattan Tours."

On Saturday, May 6, the bus will leave the South Plainfield High School for a visit to Manhattan from uptown to downtown, with stops at Central Park, Little Italy and Ground Zero. The price is \$44.

On Saturday, June 3, there will be a Manhattan Hi-Light bus tour with off the bus junkets to Grand Central Terminal, Grant's Tomb and Sakura Park, among many other interesting places. Admission to St. John the Divine, the World's Largest Gothic Cathedral, is included. The price for this trip is \$50.

There are still spaces available on our trip to the Culinary Institute of America, Hyde Park, NY on Saturday, May 13. The price is \$95, which includes lunch in the American Bounty Room at the Institute. After a leisurely

lunch there is a tour of Locust Grove, the 150-acre estate of Samuel E.B. Morse, which overlooks the Hudson River. Price includes restaurant gratuities. Gentlemen are requested to wear jackets.

To sign-up for any of these trips, or to be added to our mailing list, call (908) 754-4620, ext. 213.

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Is proud and honored to be sponsoring a **Cut-A-Thon** on Saturday, May 6 from 3 pm - 6 pm on behalf of **Jonathan Verges** and his cause.

Salon owners **Ana Rodrigues** and **Danielle Bongard**, along with their staff, will open doors to anyone wanting a professional haircut only. The haircuts will be at a discounted price of only \$15 in which **100%** of the proceeds will go directly towards **Jonathan's Cause, "Metuchen Pulls Together."**

You can assist us in making a difference for Jonathan and other young people with significant challenges. Your support can ensure that. Please consider becoming a part of the **"Metuchen Pulls Together Team."**

Food, drinks, fun and music (hosted by **Jonathan** himself) will be part of the fun filled afternoon. Please come join us at **All About U Salon & Spa** located at **285 Central Avenue, Metuchen.**

For additional information, contact **Ana or Danielle** at **All About U Salon & Spa** (732) 516-0155.

junior Journalist **WINNER**

Debbie and Charlie Kurland of Hometown Heros deliver dinner to Joanna Marston, Junior Journalist winner, pictured with parents Sue and Steve and brother Ryan. Congratulations Joanna!

The Recreation Department has discount tickets available for area theme parks. For information, call (908) 226-7713 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

policereport

- On April 18 Bhupesh Handa of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, consumption of alcohol in a vehicle and having an open container of alcohol in a vehicle.
- An Orchard Dr. resident reported that his vehicle's windshield was chipped.
- On April 19 a 16-year-old South Plainfield juvenile was arrested at CVS on Oak Tree Rd. for shoplifting three boxes of Visine worth \$15.
- A custodian at the Middle School reported that the door lock striker on an exterior door had been removed.
- On April 20 Donna R. Sopko, 47, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, reckless driving, no insurance, failure to exhibit documents and failure to change the address on a license.
- A Melrose Ave. resident reported the theft of his son's bike that was left unlocked in front of Rudolfo's Pizzeria on Sampton Ave.
- St. Stephen's Church on Park Ave. reported that the glass door to the church had been broken and \$39 worth of postage stamps were taken.
- On April 21 a Plainfield resident reported the theft of her wallet while riding the bus from Hadley Center.
- A Chambers St. resident reported the theft of a spare tire that was left unattended on his lawn.
- A Clark Ln. resident and an Oakland Ave. resident reported that eggs had been thrown at their vehicles.
- On April 22 Sven Saarse, 41, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, driving on an expired license and reckless driving.
- On April 24 Julius Frederick Shaw, 26, of Scotch Plains was arrested for driving while intoxicated, driving on a suspended license, speeding and reckless driving.
- Lydia L. Sabino, 43 of South Plainfield, was arrested for driving while intoxicated, no insurance and reckless driving.
- Bravo Supermarket on W. 7th St. reported the theft of a carton of Newport cigarettes by a male who fled the store on a bicycle.
- An Elizabethtown Ct. resident reported that their vehicle had been keyed and dented while parked in the high school parking lot.
- A W. 8th St. resident reported that two of their vehicle's tires had the air let out and another one had been slashed.
- On April 25 Sacred Heart reported that a window on the south side of the school had been smashed. Nothing was taken.

NEWS

Suburban Woman's Club

Amanda Hargula and Daria McCall have been chosen as delegate and alternate, respectively, to attend Girls' Career Institute at Douglass College sponsored by the South Plainfield Suburban Woman's Club. The incoming seniors of South Plainfield High School, along with almost 200 rising seniors from all parts of New Jersey, will stay in Katzenbach Dormitory on the campus of Douglass College and attend workshops about various career choices, including pediatrics, performing arts, oceanography, State Police, publishing journalism, computer science and engineering.

Throughout the event, there are opportunities to be part of an orchestra, a chorus or a mini fashion show. The New Jersey State Federation of Woman's Club of GFWC, founder of Douglass College, has held the GCI since 1947. The local woman's clubs pay to send a student to the four-day event to help her plan for her post-high school years.

We have announced the officers for our club for the 2006-2007 year. Our new president and vice president will be Mary Ann Iannitto and Marge Reidy, respectively. Congratulations Mary Ann and Marge!

Unfortunately, the yard sale which was scheduled for April has had to be rescheduled for May 6, due to the recent weekend of rain.

Our guest speaker on May 4 will be Jessica M. Aleman. She has been a registered dietitian at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center for four-and-one-half years. Aleman is also a certified EMT and personal trainer. She works with cardiac rehab and bariatric patients. We are looking forward to meeting Aleman and receiving the knowledge she will share with us to help us improve our lifestyle.

Again, the yard sale has been rescheduled for May 6!

Submitted by Gloria M. Breuning, Publicity Chairman

Junior Journalist Corner

Sang Le Named "Junior Journalist"



Sang Le with his teacher, Barbara Jewkes and Assistant Principal Kelly Panuzzo.

Sang Le, Middle School seventh grader, is this week's winner in the Junior Journalist Program. His short story, "First Robbery," has earned him dinner for his family, courtesy of Hometown Heros.

The Junior Journalist Contest will end next week. Winners and their families will receive a catered dinner from Hometown Heros and will be honored on May 24.

First Robbery

By Sang Le

Getting money was a serious job. My name is Jay Mickey. I am 21 years old living in a complete cheap apartment. I am an orphan, but my roommate is like a brother to me. His name is Jim. Our favorite thing to do is to play card games. He is 35 years old. But he looked more like in the 20s. Well, as you can see, my boss fired me for flirting with his daughter. And so now my wallet is empty and the owner of the apartment is getting angry with me for not paying the fine that I owe. I went over to Jim and told him about the money problem. "If you want the money, you have to earn it!" But instead he said, "If you want the money, you have to steal it from them!" And that is why I am planning a first robbery.

"Freeze!" I shouted. Everyone in the bank screamed in panic, as I held up my fake water gun. "Get down on the floor," shouted Jim. Jim walked up to me and said, "I never did this for a long time." When I looked at him, he was all excited and full of energy! But I was really nervous and scared. I threw the bag to the owner of the bank. And pointed the fake gun at his face. "Put the money in the bag!" I shouted. The owner looked at me and

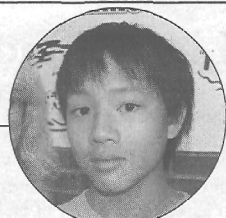
said, "How much?" I could tell that he was scared, by the way he was shivering and sweating. I didn't need that much money, so I said, "5,000 dollars?" Then Jim did a weird looking face at me. "5,000 dollars?" said Jim with a sigh face. He went over to me, shoved me and pointed his fake gun at the owner. "Put all the money in the bag!" said Jim. While the owner was putting the money in the bag, I was watching the people being frightened. Then I heard a noise, it sounded like a police car. I ran down and went over to Jim. "We're doomed!" I screamed. "Why, what's wrong?" said Jim. "COPS!" I screamed. I yelled so loud that the whole city probably heard it.

"Calm down Jay, just calm down!" said Jim, and then I twitched as if I was a sick dog. He came over and slapped me. "What was that for?" I asked. He paused for a minute. "I don't know, I saw it on TV," Jim said. They ran to the window. The cops were everywhere surrounding the bank. Then he looked at me. "We need a hostage!" he said. I looked at him and was thinking, what am I going to do in jail. So I said, "Are you crazy?" He went over and grabbed the little kid. "Here's the plan," he said. "For 10 minutes, we were planning how to get the money in the car. 'Ready?' I asked. 'Yeah,' said Jim. I ran out holding the kid and a fake gun. 'Make any move and this kid is going to have a bullet in his head!' I yelled. There was a huge gasp in the crowd full of policemen. So Jim and I slowly walked to our car holding the kid. We put the money in the back with the kid and started the car. 'Don't forget to put your seatbelt on' said the kid. Jim and I looked back. 'Why?' Jim said. I sighed. "Just do it Jim," I said. We drove off and the police didn't start following us. But it didn't matter because Jim and I made it out alive.

"So where are we going?" said the kid. I looked back. "Mexico," Jim said. "What are we going to do with the kid?" I asked. He laughed. "We can train him to be our little minion," he said. The little kid gasped. "What's your name kid?" I asked. "Dave" Dave said. "And how old are you Dave?" I asked. "I am eight years old now, today is my birthday" Dave said. I looked

back at him quickly. "Your birthday?" I said with a funny face. "Yup," Dave said. "Stop the car," I said silently. "What?" Jim said. "Stop the car!" I screamed. Jim stopped the car and accidentally crashed into a light post. Jim looked up and said, "What Jay..." When I look back, the kid was fine. But the car isn't. "Let's drop off the kid somewhere," I said calmly. Jim's eyes opened wide. "No, we still need him to be our hostage," Jim said. "It's his birthday, for peeps sake!" I yelled. Jim did an evil eye at me. "We could kill him?" My eyes opened wide, and then I passed out. I was dreaming of something, of me being rich, owning a mansion. But then came the cops. I woke up. It seemed that I ended up in a toy store covered with fluffy toys and dolls. Jim was sitting there reading the 18 and above only magazine. And Dave was playing with a toy car. "Are we in Mexico yet?" I said with a groan. He looked at me and said, "Nope, we're just getting a present for Dave." I stood up in pain. "And the car?" I said. "You ask too many questions Jay, chill and relax" Jim said. I started stretching and trying to get ready. "Well let's get going," Jim put down his magazine and said, "We can't, the car is jammed." I paused and thought, "Let's go hitchhiking then." I said. We started to walk in the woods. We saw a house; we knocked on the door to see if anyone was inside. The door opened slowly. "Yes?" a man said. It was a tall huge man. He had sideburns and an ugly face. He made Dave laugh so hard. "I am sorry to bother you sir, but can we borrow your phone?" Jim said. The tall man came closer. "Sure! He said with an excitement. "Cute kid, is he your son?" Jim smiled. "Yes, he is my son," Jim said. We went in the cabin. I was studying the cabin, and I found two shotguns hanging up on the wall and some huge giant bear rug on the floor. The cabin looked like an office. "My name is Ranger Joe, I will get you boys some coffee." The giant man went inside the room. I grabbed Jim's arms. "He's a cop!" I whispered. Jim shoved me. "Don't worry, he doesn't know that we are criminals," he said. While Jim and I were whispering, I heard a noise. There were broken glasses everywhere on the floor. It seemed that Dave was reaching for a piece of candy and accidentally knocked down a glass vase. "Great, real smooth Dave," I said when I walked over to Dave. Officer Joe got an email from the police. There was a photo of the criminal that robbed the bank. Joe came back with coffees. "Now where did those two boys run off to?" he said. Jim and I were running as fast as we could. We ran so far. We ended up in New York. We dropped off the kid at the police station. The kid was safe and happy. But for Jim and I, well, we opened the bag. All we found was a bag full of papers that had the word "losers" written on them.

And that's when Jim and I learned a lesson. "If you want the money, you have to earn it."



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Eagles Registration

Registration for Pop Warner football and cheerleading will be held on May 3, 4 and 5, 6 to 8 p.m. at the field house on Kenneth Ave. Children between the ages of five and 14 as of July 31 are eligible to register. Visit our website at www.speagles.com for more information.

Sports

By Glenn Cullen

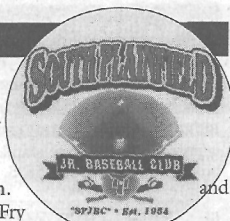
JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

The South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club would like to thank all of the parents, coaches and kids who assisted in tarping the fields over the weekend. Games that have been rained out over the past two weekends are currently being rescheduled.

The next monthly managers meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 1 at 7:30 p.m. at the SPJBC clubhouse.

This weekend's field duty assignments are Small Fry C Yankees and Small Fry B White Sox on April 29 at

7 a.m. Small Fry Astros and Pony A Braves on Sunday, April 30 at 8 a.m. Preparations for the SPJBC Memorial Day Tournament and SPJBC Father's Day Classic are being made. Volunteers for snack stand duty and snack stand captains are needed. Please contact the SPJBC at (908) 754-2090 if interested.



Calling All High School Senior Girls - It's Scholarship Time

As you may or may not know, the Parent's Ponytail (Softball) Association is sponsoring three \$500 college scholarships. Applications 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 four years and South Plainfield Ponytail All-Stars 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 SPHS 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.



South Plainfield Junior Baseball Pony B League.

Photo by Bill Brooks

Help Wanted: 9-10 year old Athletes!!

The South Plainfield Soccer Club Rockets are looking for you to help us represent South Plainfield next Fall/Spring. If you were born after Aug. 1, 1995, can run, kick a ball and want to learn soccer, we can help! Tryouts for other teams, both younger and older, are also being held.

Traveling Soccer teams represent South Plainfield by playing a full calendar year: 10 games in the fall and 10 in the spring. Last fall season, the Rockets recorded eight wins, one tie and one loss. Candidates for this team must be able to play both in the fall and the spring. However, you can also play other sports in the spring, as long as you commit to playing soccer games on Sundays. We are willing to

train the right players, so don't worry if you've never played on a recreation or traveling soccer team before.

All we ask is a commitment to learn in an enjoyable environment. If you want to see what we do, come to a practice on any Tuesday or Friday night at Veterans Park from 5:30 to 7 p.m. If you want to see the Rockets in action, we are playing at the Kenneth Ave. Fields on Friday, April 28 at 6 p.m. or Sunday, April 30 at 11:30 a.m.

Tryouts for the 2007 Rockets U-11 are at 6 p.m. on May 15 and 17 at the Kenneth Ave. Fields. For a tryout application or questions, please contact Michael Grennier at (908) 757-4894 or our website at www.sopflid.soccerclub.com.

Ponytail Softball Batters Box



Come one, Come All! Ponytail All-Star tryouts will be held this

Saturday. Age 10 and under will start at 4 p.m. Age 12 and under will start at 4 p.m. and age 14 and under will

start at 6 p.m. All tryouts will be held at Pitt Street fields. Raindate: To be announced.

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LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANT

(L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO: Vittina Votto; Joseph Cognato; Joseph Parisi; Mrs. Joseph Parisi; Karen Parisi; Karen E. Hynes

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED to serve upon GOLDBECK MCCAFFERTY & MCKEEVER, A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION, plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is Suite 5000, Mellon Independence Center, 701 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106-1532, phone # (850) 859-3242, an answer to the Amended Complaint (and Amendment to Complaint, if any), filed in a civil action, in which Countrywide Home Loans, Inc. is plaintiff, and Vittina Votto, Joseph Cognato, and Joseph Parisi, and Mrs. Joseph Parisi, wife of Joseph Parisi are the defendant(s), pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, Middlesex County, and bearing Docket No. F-18847-05 within thirty-five (35) days after April 28, 2006 exclusive of such date. If you fail to do so, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Amended Complaint (and Amendment to Complaint, if any). You shall file your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hughes Justice Complex-CN 971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, in accordance with the rules of civil practice and procedure.

This action has been instituted for the purpose of (1) foreclosing a mortgage dated March 12, 2003, made by Vittina Votto, as mortgagor, to Countrywide Home Loans, Inc. recorded on June 10, 2003, for Middlesex County in Book #8524, Page 811 of Mortgages for said County, which mortgage has not been assigned; and (2) to recover possession of, and concerns premises commonly known as 335 Sunset Ave., Old Bridge, NJ 08857.

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

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

YOU, Joseph Cognato, are hereby made a party defendant to this foreclosure action because you were one of the record owners of the mortgaged premises at the time Vittina Votto executed the bond or note and mortgage being foreclosed herein and may be liable for any deficiency thereon, and for any lien, claim or interest you may have in, to or against the mortgaged premises.

YOU, Joseph Parisi, are hereby made a party defendant to this foreclosure action because you are the record owner of the mortgaged premises and may be liable for any deficiency thereon, and for any lien, claim or interest you may have in, to or against the mortgaged premises.

YOU, Mrs. Joseph Parisi, are hereby made a party defendant to this foreclosure action because you are the wife of Joseph Parisi, the record owner of the mortgaged premises who may be liable for any deficiency thereon, and for any lien, claim or interest you may have in, to or against the mortgaged premises.

YOU, Karen Parisi, are hereby made a party defendant to this foreclosure action because of a child support judgment entered in Superior Court of New Jersey on August 5, 1996 known as J-140506-1996 and Case No. 62081866A in an amount of debt that varies from date to date, and for any lien, claim or interest you may have in, to or against the mortgaged premises.

YOU, Karen E. Hynes, are hereby made a party defendant to this foreclosure action because of a child support judgment entered in Superior Court of New Jersey on December 2, 2004 known as J-322062-2004 and Case No. C5620818 66B in an amount of debt that varies from date to date, and for any lien, claim or interest you may have in, to or against the mortgaged premises.

DONALD F. PHELAN, Clerk
Superior Court of New Jersey

\$138.60 April 28, 2006

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by James DeTala requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit a 12 x 16 patio enclosure. Proposed patio enclosure lacks 30' required front setback for Field Ave.; 15' being proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 200 Thomas Street on Block 123, Lot 8 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, May 25, 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 April 28, 2006

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\$38.50 April 28, 2006

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Capt. Grennier Retires

(Continued from page 1)

were eventually charged with juvenile delinquency in a conspiracy to gain access to computers without proper authorization. The case received world-wide media coverage and Grennier was interviewed by *Nightline* and *Time* magazine. From then on he was known as the "computer guru" of the police department.

In 1986, Grennier was named Officer of the Year by the department and again in 1994. In the same year he received an honorable mention as Police Officer of the Year from the International Association of Chiefs of Police for computerizing the South Plainfield Police Department. In 2002 he was appointed to the NJ State 911 Commission and is currently the NJ State Vice President of the National Emergency Number Association. He was the lead observer for Middlesex County in the April

2005 National TOPOFF Exercise, a terrorism response exercise sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security.

At his retirement party, Councilman and police liaison Dennis Cerami said Mike has always been honest and loyal to South Plainfield. "I know you will always be there for the community. I'm sorry to see you go," said Cerami.

Police Chief John Ferraro, who has worked with Grennier for 25 years, gives him full credit for the current 911 system and the computer technology in the department. "You will be missed here," said Ferraro.

Grennier will continue to volunteer his time with the South Plainfield Office of Emergency Management and training of new CERT members. Zushma said, "Thank you for the experience of working with you and thank you for the time you've put in."

After some much needed time off with his family-wife Carol and two sons, Jonathan and Joseph-Mike will be starting a civilian job on May 1 in computer forensics with ICG International Crime Group in Princeton.

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From the South Plainfield Library Bookmarks

by Chris Grippo

It is hard to believe but this week begins the merry month of May. And we all recall the old saying, "April showers bring May flowers," so now is the time to head over to the library to check out books on gardening.

The Dewey Decimal System devotes a whole number (635) to gardening. In our collection you can find books on seed starting (Gardener to Gardener Seed Starter Primer and Almanac) to pruning (The Pruner's Bible). There are also books on annuals and perennials, specific flowers such as roses, fuchsias, orchids, etc., evergreens, lawns and native plants. In fact, whatever type of plant, whether indoor or outdoor, you need information on you can find it at the library. And don't forget the Internet. Sites such as www.gardenweb.com and www.garden.com will answer your questions, and if you don't have a computer you can always come to the Library and use one of ours. Also if you visit www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us and click on "Useful Databases" (under the heading "helpful

information") you will find the link "Home & Garden." If you click on that link it will take you to pre-selected sites chosen for their usefulness by one of our librarians. So there is no reason why you can't have a beautiful garden this summer.

On Monday, May 8, Practical Crafting Instructor Ronda Wisniewski will have two programs. At 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. she will teach t-shirt painting. Thus you can transform your generic tee into a distinctive, personalized fashion statement. And the cost is only \$1. So hurry up and register as Ronda's classes are always fun.

Miss Linda will be restarting her storytime/craft times this week. They are Tuesday at 10:30, Wednesday at 6:30 and Thursday at 1:15 for children three years old and up. There are programs on Wednesday at 10:30 and Thursday at 6:30 for two year olds and on Friday morning at 10:30 we have Books'n'Babies.

Should you need to contact us our phone number is (908) 754-7885 and we are located at 2484 Plainfield Ave. next to Borough Hall.

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Obituaries

Bhogilal "Pop" C. Patel

Bhogilal C. Patel, known to many as "Pop" from Paul's Stationary, passed away on Wednesday, April 19 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick.

Bhogilal "Pop" Patel

Born in India, Mr. Patel came to the United States in 1985. He joined his family already living in South Plainfield after retirement in India and has resided here ever since.

He was a familiar face at his son's store on Hamilton Blvd. in downtown South Plainfield.

Surviving are his wife, Jasumati Patel; four children, daughter Leena Patel of Pa., Parshuram of South Plainfield, Bipin of South Plainfield and Muresh of Arizona. Also surviving are eight grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the Mausoleum Chapel of Franklin Memorial Park, with visitation at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Fausto Fabian Ramos, 51

Fausto Fabian Ramos died on Saturday, April 22 after being fatally struck by a marked police cruiser.

Mr. Ramos came to the United States from Ecuador 22 years ago. He had lived in Plainfield for nine years, then moved to North Plainfield where he has resided for the past 13 years.

Mr. Ramos has worked for 19 years in construction with the Garden Homes Company in Short Hills. He was a communicant of St. Joseph R.C. Church in North Plainfield.

He is predeceased by his parents, Fausto Ramos and Ercilia Mites. He is survived by his wife, Teresa Ayala Ramos; five children Leny, Tatiana, Santiago, Maria F. and Pete; two brothers; one sister and two grandchildren.

To send condolences go to www.higginsfuneralhome.com.

Funeral services were held at the Higgins Home For Funerals.

Joseph Milito, 88

Joseph Milito died Saturday, April 22 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Born in Newark, he was one of nine children raised and living on a farm in Liberty Corner. He entered the military and then later resided in South Plainfield before moving to Piscataway 27 years ago.

A veteran of the United States Army, he enlisted in 1942, serving with the 102nd division 9th army as a squad leader. Joe and his eight men fought in Germany and France.

Charged with direct fire on the enemy, he fought in the Battle of the Bulge, Rhineland, Bastogne and others. He was awarded a number of medals and ribbons before his discharge in 1946.

Employed as a union truck driver, Joe had worked for Moore's Trucking of Piscataway before his retirement over 20 years ago in 1983. He was a member of the Teamsters Union Local #478 of Union.

Joe was an active member of the Piscataway Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #7504. He had served as a line officer and was named Grand Marshal in 2005.

Joe was a "gentle man" and was well loved.

He is predeceased by three sisters, Lucy Milito, Antoninette O'Rourke and Chris Tutela and one brother, James Milito.

Surviving are his wife, Ida (DeLorenzo); a daughter, Jody Provenzano of Piscataway; a son, Neil and wife Sharon of Colorado; four grandsons, Peter Provenzano and finance Faith; David and wife Mariel; Matthew and Patrick; granddaughter, Emma; a brother, John Milito; three sisters, Connie LaRue, Philomena DeSantis and Jacqueline DeMarco and many nieces and nephews including Debbie, Denise, Bobby and Ronald.

Funeral services were held at the New Durham Chapel with visitation at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Gloria A. (Ashton) Neal, 79

Gloria A. (Ashton) Neal died on Saturday, April 22 in the Haven Hospice Unit of Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born and raised in Plainfield, Mrs. Neal has been a resident of South Plainfield for the past 56 years.

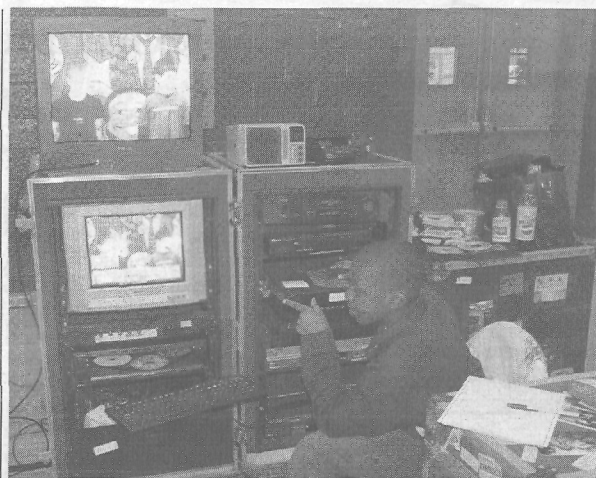
She was employed as a billing clerk for Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center for 23 years before her retirement.

Mrs. Neal had enjoyed many trips with her late husband to Atlantic City and Monmouth Park Race Track.

Her husband, Richard M., died in 1980 and a daughter, Catherine Warner Neal died in 1983. She is also predeceased by five sisters and a brother, who was killed during WWII.

Surviving are a daughter, Mary E. Neal; a son, Gary and wife Gita all of South Plainfield; a sister, Jeanne Gavazzi of Bridgewater and ten nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.



Fourth grade students helped to edit the footage shot during the day.

Kennedy Students Learn About TV Production

By Jane Dornick

Mobile Ed Productions recently presented its Lights, Camera, Action! portable television show to students at Kennedy Elementary School recently. Students were exposed to a demonstration of a digital state-of-the-art television studio and how it works. They were shown the different pieces of equipment used such as a chroma key, character generators, video and audio dubbing and how simple special effects can be used to create a completely different picture on TV. There

was lots of audience participation during this show. Youngsters stood in front of a "green screen" and pretended to do a weather report and stayed dry doing some water skiing, which was then animated on TV monitors to look like the real thing. Students were also flying and floating and swimming underwater using special effects.

At the end of the day several fourth grade students were chosen to participate in a special editing session with all of the footage that was shot. The school was then left with the final tape of the production.

Riley Kindergarten Orientation

John E. Riley School Kindergarten Orientation sign up will be Friday, May 5 from 2-3:30 p.m. and 7-8 p.m. in the Riley School lobby.

The cost for this program is \$3.00 which covers the supplies for one craft and snack time for all three days.

Children entering John E. Riley School Kindergarten in September 2006 are welcome to join us to explore the school, meet the teachers and

staff and take a brief bus ride in town.

The program offers two sessions: the a.m. session runs from 9-11 a.m. and the p.m. session runs from noon-2:30 p.m. The program runs for three consecutive Wednesdays as follows: Wednesday, May 24, Wednesday, May 31 and Wednesday, June 7.

If you have any questions, please call Joan at (908) 757-5212 or Stephanie at (908) 756-0401.

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