



# South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 9, NO. 36

50 CENTS

MAY 12, 2006

## Budget Talks End Abruptly

*Council to Make Decision Next Monday*

The Borough Council held a joint meeting with the School Board on Monday night to ask questions and gain a better understanding of this year's school budget. The 2006/2007 budget was defeated by the voters in April, and it is now the Borough Council's job to either make cuts or let the budget stand.

The council had asked for a joint meeting with just the finance board, but the board decided to include the full board make it a open public meeting. More than 200 people, mostly teachers, employees and students, jammed the gym in the Roosevelt Administration Building.

Representing the Borough were Councilmen Charles Butrico and Ray Petronko, CFO Glenn Cullen, as well as Gary Higgins and Anthony Lamarco, CPAs hired to study the budget and make recommendations.

Butrico began by saying that the council had not come to any conclusion or recommendations on cuts to the budget. He added that it was

not the council's intention to cut any teachers or aides, but to instead look in other areas of the budget, including administrative, to make cuts.

According to Higgins, the budget called for a tax increase of \$217 for a home evaluated at \$117,000. He added that the budget represents a total cost per pupil of \$11,514. He then proceeded to ask Business Administrator Donna Tolley questions about surplus estimates, as well as several account increases, some of which totalled more than 30%. When discussing books, Tolley said that in addition to our payment on leased books, the board is also purchasing books for next year and that is why there was an increase. Questioning went on for more than an hour on this theme, mostly discussing line items that were transferred and/or increased.

The public was asked to comment, and all speakers were in favor of not cutting anything from the budget. They asked the council to make no  
(Continued on page 10)



Athletes gather at Carteret High School for the 2006 Regional Special Olympics.

## Athletes Earn 41 Gold Medals at Special Olympics

On May 6 the South Plainfield Special Olympics took to the track and field once again and competed in the 2006 Regional Special Olympics at Carteret High School. With the help of a beautiful day, the athletes once again made their coaches proud by giving it their best while showing exceptional sportsmanship and determination.

This year's competition included numerous veteran athletes on the

team as well as one new athlete, Kevin Abreu. When the athletes took the track to compete, the experience from the team was obvious as one by one all of the athletes earned gold medals. In the end, the team compiled a total of 41 gold medals to go with the 14 silver medals on the day. This is the first time that a team from South Plainfield ever placed no lower than second in any event. The athletes should be proud of

what they accomplished as individuals, as well as a team.

Our first year Special Olympian, Kevin Abreu, got things rolling early in the day for South Plainfield as he quickly grabbed two gold medals in the softball throw and tennis ball throw. Kevin's hard work in practice was obvious as his throws were his all time best! The coaches cannot wait to see what he  
(Continued on page 10)

## Future Stars' Ewing to Retire After 26 Years

By Libby Barsky

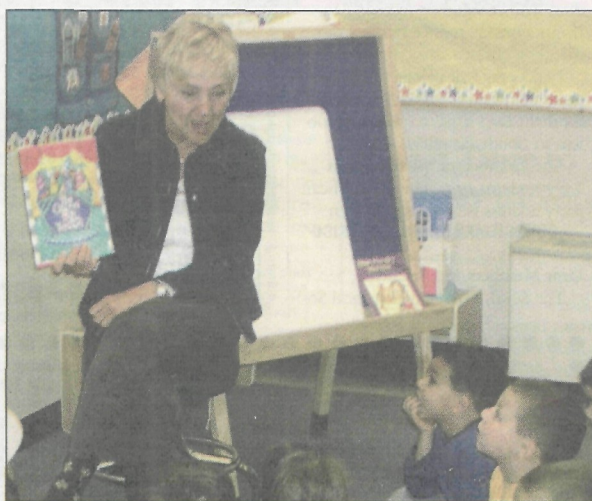
Dorothy Ewing, who has been in the district's pre-school program, Future Stars, since its inception 26 years ago, will retire at the end of the school year.

"I've dedicated 26 years to teaching pre-school in South Plainfield," said Ewing. Most of that time has been in the Future Stars Program, but even before the program began, Ewing was interested in making school more comprehensible and enjoyable to pre-schoolers.

She initiated a kindergarten orientation program in the 1970s with Franklin School principal Thomas Lenahan where students, after being enrolled in kindergarten, had weekly visits in their future class. The orientation program was then adopted by all the elementary schools in the district and is still in effect.

Before coming to South Plainfield, Ewing was a speech therapist in her hometown of Belleville for four years. Becoming a speech therapist hadn't been her first choice of careers. A graduate of Belleville High School, she had been active in high school plays and was interested in training as an actress when she graduated high school.

"I really wanted to go to drama school after high school, but my father said I had to go to college for a year and once I start something, I end up finishing it," said Ewing. So instead of starting drama school, Ewing went



Dorothy Ewing reads to a class at Future Stars Preschool.

to Montclair College and majored in speech, drama and speech correction.

Ewing rediscovered her dramatic skill when she enrolled her son Glen in a co-op nursery in Westfield, where parents were expected to contribute their time. "I've always loved storytelling. I feel I excel in storytelling. I really love pulling the kids into a story and that's their most attentive part of the day," she said.

Because she was a teacher, the co-op nursery asked Ewing to substitute and she "loved it." She soon became certified through classes at Kean College.

"After my family moved to South

Plainfield, I learned of the Saturday Scene program and began teaching a three-year-old class. When Grant School became the administration building in 1980, James Lenox, then director of the Adult School program, started the Future Stars program and asked me to teach a class for him," she said.

During her years of teaching in Future Stars, Ewing has always welcomed change, expanding the curriculum. In 2000, to make the transition of pre-school students from the "Sunshine" handicapped children program into kindergarten smoother, the district  
(Continued on page 12)

## SPHS Students Start Local Arm of 'Help Darfur Now'

Last month, Ryan Miller didn't know where Darfur was or of the genocide of an estimated 300,000 to 450,000 African Muslims by militias backed by Sudan's Arab government.

Now Ryan, a South Plainfield High School junior, spends his time telling other students about the genocide and the importance of standing up and trying to do something about it by joining the Help Darfur Now chapter currently being organized at South Plainfield High School.

"I feel something has to be done about people dying. It is because too many people these days think along the order of race and country, but we are all people and we should try to help our fellow man. I want people to think outside of borders and more on a global basis," said Ryan. "The plans of the Help Darfur Now group are to raise awareness anywhere we can and try to make people aware, because as we speak people are dying."

Ryan is aware that not everyone believes as he does. "A lot of people think that no one really will get anywhere by standing up. I have had people say to me 'nothing really gets done if you stand up,'" explained Ryan. But

Ryan points to the recent rally held in Washington D.C. on April 30 which he attended with tens of thousands of concerned individuals. Perhaps moving a peace plan along will enable a UN peacekeeping force with assistance from NATO to be effective in stopping the fighting. Not all rebel parties signed onto the agreement with the government of Sudan, but as Ryan said, "Something got done, maybe very little, but something got done."

The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and the American Jewish World Service founded the Save Darfur Coalition (multi-ethnic) in 2004, and this year the student group Help Darfur Now was started by Arielle Wisotsky of Ridge High School in Basking Ridge and Eric and David Messinger of Millburn High School as a nonprofit organization to raise awareness and funds for the victims of genocide.

Through contacts made during the Holocaust Photo Exhibition of Auschwitz and portraits of survivors held earlier this year in the SPHS Media Center, teacher Fran Flannery, along with senior Steven Tietjen, began the process of organizing Help Darfur  
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**"The plans of the 'Help Darfur Now' group are to raise awareness anywhere we can and try to make people aware, because as we speak people are dying."**

—Ryan Miller, SPHS junior



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Log on to  
southplainfieldnj.com  
for the latest meeting agenda

### Council Meetings

Meets twice a month on the first and third Tuesday

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

Date	Agenda Meeting	Public Meeting
May 16	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
June 6	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.

May 16 ..... 7:00 p.m. .... 8:00 p.m.

June 6 ..... 7:00 p.m. .... 8:00 p.m.

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

### Planning Board

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

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

May 23, June 13, June 27, July 18\*, Aug. 15\*, Aug. 29\*

Sept. 12, Sept. 26, Oct. 10, Oct. 24, Nov. 28, Dec. 12 and Dec. 26.

### Zoning Board of Adjustment

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

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

May 25, June 8, June 22, July 13, July 27, Aug. 10, Aug. 24, Sept. 14, Sept. 28, Oct. 12,

Oct. 26, Nov. 30\* and Dec. 14.

### Board of Education Meetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted

Committee of the Whole, Wednesdays 7 p.m.-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.-June 21, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov.

15, Dec. 20, Jan. 17, Feb. 21, March and April 4.

### Taxpayers Advisory Group

The Taxpayers Advisory Group (TAG) meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at

Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave. at 7 p.m. Questions? 908-769-0786.

### Site Plan Sub-Committee

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

May 16, June 20, July 18, August 15

Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21 and Dec. 19.

### Recreation Commission

Meets once a month on the second Tuesday of the month, except July and August

PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7716

June 13, (No meetings July and Aug.) Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14 and Dec. 12

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

### Environmental Commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)

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

June 14, July 12, Aug. 9, Sept. 13

Oct. 11, Nov. 8, Dec. 13 and Jan. 10.

### Business Advisory Group

Meets once a month (first Wednesday)

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

### Traffic Safety Advisory Commission

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

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

### Board of Education Curriculum/Technology Meetings

Meets once a month on Mondays at 8 p.m. in the 2nd floor conference room at

Roosevelt Administration Building on Jackson Ave.

## South Plainfield Observer

The South Plainfield Observer is published every Friday

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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 Mohr'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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### To the Editor:

I would like to thank the residents of South Plainfield for putting their trust in me by electing me to the Board of Education. I assure you I will serve to the best of my ability for the children and taxpayers of our community.

Once again, thank you for supporting me.

**JIM GIANNAKIS, BOE MEMBER**

### Dear Editor:

In January of this year, Governor Codey signed into law legislation which permits local municipalities to regulate the amount professionals can contribute to campaigns. These are generally called 'pay to play' ordinances. I am proud to say that on May 2, South Plainfield became one of the first towns in New Jersey to pass such an ordinance. In fact, our pay to play ordinance is the strictest one I have seen anywhere.

When the ordinance was introduced the Republican members of the council called it "excellent" and voted for it on first reading. Sadly, when the ordinance was on the agenda for adoption, Republican mayoral candidate Robert Bengivenga, Jr. and his running mate voted "no" on this important reform measure. What happened between 'excellent' and 'no'?

Considering the fact that the local Republican chairman orchestrated a political assault on the ordinance and encouraged members of the Republican organization to attend the council meeting to oppose it, it is clear that political posturing was more important to the Republican council members than supporting campaign reform.

If the Republican Party had its way, based on their 'no' vote, there would not be a 'pay to play' ordinance in South Plainfield. Simply stated, I am disappointed and I think our residents have a right to expect better from their elected officials.

On a positive note, I am happy to report that, although reluctantly, Republican candidate Bengivenga agreed with my proposal that each party report every penny that they raise in their campaign on a monthly basis on each of our individual web sites. This includes monetary and 'in kind' contributions, such as leasing a campaign headquarters from a relative for less than market value or receiving campaign signs at reduced cost from a friend or business associate.

I encourage all of our residents to visit these sites each month and decide for themselves if 'pay to play' is a problem in South Plainfield.

The Democratic party address is: [www.spdems.org](http://www.spdems.org). The Republican party address is: [www.spgop.com](http://www.spgop.com).  
**COUNCILMAN CHARLIE BUTRICO**

### Dear Members and Friends:

The South Plainfield Historical So-

ciety reached a milestone on April 25 with the opening of the History Center at Roosevelt School Administration Building, located at 125 Jackson Ave. The center will be open to the public on Tuesdays from 2-8 p.m.

Docents are needed to staff the room on additional days. Contact me at (908) 754-3073.

While we have succeeded in achieving our number one goal-opening a public headquarters-the work continues.

1) The Society launched the Educational Outreach Project in 2005, reproducing "Looking Back at South Plainfield" and two volumes of oral histories, and is now in Phase II, creating a Local History and Heritage Activity book for third and fourth graders.

2) The Borough is receiving its first two historic markers from the County of Middlesex. Two more are expected to be approved. Four more sites have to be researched and submitted to MCCHC for consideration.

3) By the end of the year, our long-sought Civil War Memorial Stone will be dedicated in Monument Park. Help will be needed to plan a special ceremony that will include relatives of the honored soldiers and present-day Civil War re-enactors.

### 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.

4) Town History Day IV is scheduled for Oct. 29 with a revised format possibly reflecting the heritage of the community. Have some ideas? We need input to make each and every Town History Day special.

The South Plainfield Historical Society is a proactive, goal-oriented and viable group of dedicated volunteers from all walks of life. Plan to attend our next meeting. Take pride in your community-its past, present and future.

Log on to: <http://geocities.com/sphistoricalociety> for more information.

**SINCERELY,  
DOROTHY MIELE**

### HOME TIP:

Familiarize yourself with the main shut-off valves for the water, gas, and electricity sources. If you smell a gas leak, leave your house immediately and call the gas company from another location. Please call if I can be of service to you.



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The Chemical Prodigies team holding their first place trophies after winning the Grant School Academic Bowl. Left to right are: Zachary Noll, Christina Ferrer, Payal Sindha, Maggie McLean and Kevin Belanger.

## Grant School Academic Bowl Holds Playoff Contest

Since the end of February, 26 Grant School students have been honing their academic skills in all subjects, getting ready for the Academic Bowl, which was held on April 27 at Grant School.

"This is an excellent opportunity for these children to show what they have learned here at Grant School," said Rebecca Gross, club advisor. The fifth and sixth grade students joined the Academic Bowl Club and have spent a couple of hours a week preparing. They also learned strategy as well.

The students chose the names for the teams. Team members were: Chemical Prodigies—Kevin Belanger, Christina Ferrer, Maggie McLean, Zachary Noll and Payal Sindha; Cocoa Pops—Corey Harrell, Zova Hodge, Maggie Jainarine and Kathleen Vincent; Pop Tartz—Aund Guerrero, Angelica Magpile, Jade McDonough and Elizabeth Rue; Pure Energy—Jasmine Aquinaldo, Angela Brown, Jesse Deffler and Aubrey Nastarowicz and Ultra Sound Waves: Alexis Cargill, Matthew Manning and Jesse Masters.

Jesse Doyle, Zachary George, Hiren Roma and Matt Ward, who worked consistently as student club members, were unable to compete because of other commitments and received hon-

orable mention.

The students wore t-shirts with the name of all the teams on the back and their team on the front.

After going through three different rounds judged by Judy Dias, Joanne Haus and Linda Rodino, the five teams ended up with close scores, Pure Energy—30, Pop Tartz—28, Cocoa Pops—26, Ultra Sound—27 and Chemical Prodigies—30.

The last round was a play-off between the highest scoring teams, Pure Energy and Chemical Prodigies, with the trophy going to Chemical Prodigies. Each member of Chemical Prodigies won a trophy and all students on each team received medals.

The Academic Bowl program was started four years ago by former principal Janice Burchell, explained club advisor Rebecca Gross, who took over running the Academic Bowl last year.

The Academic Bowl was sponsored by the PTO, who supplied the medals. Trophies were provided through a Middlesex County grant for after school club activities.

Gross thanked Grant School Principal Leo Whalen and Assist. Principal Richard Richkus, who set up the microphones and tables for the event, for their "unlimited amount of support from the very beginning."

## Gear Up for Annual Police Bicycle Rodeo!

On Saturday, May 13, the Borough of South Plainfield Police Department will host a bicycle rodeo. This event will be held in Spring Lake Park from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Featured will be an obstacle course presented and conducted by volunteer employees of State Farm Insurance. Proper riding techniques and rules of the road will be emphasized during this phase of the program and an On Bike Skills Development course will be conducted. Helmet wearing cyclists will negotiate a moderately challenging course of cones to improve their riding abilities.

For cyclists 17 years of age and younger, who do not have bicycle helmets, a limited supply of helmets, donated by the South Plainfield Traffic Safety Advisory Commission, will be provided to them. Those participants wearing their own helmet to the rodeo, and register their bicycle with the South Plainfield Police Department, will be entered into a drawing to win a new bicycle. Ron Sward, the director of the Physical Therapy Center of Woodbridge has donated a bicycle for this event.

Safety oriented literature supplied by various sources will be provided to all participants. Halls Fast Motor Freight and Warehouse, Haagen-Dazs Ice Cream, Canada Dry, Roma Foods, McCrisky's Home For Funerals, Rita's Italian Ice and Freihofer's Baking Company have all donated refreshments.

In conjunction with our bicycle safety program, a unique bicycle registration/theft prevention program will be available to the public. The "Baron Von Pedaloff" program, designed by retired South Plainfield Police Officer William Frink, is specifically designed to reduce bicycle thefts. By encouraging bicycle owners to register their bicycle and taking anti-theft precautions, we can reduce the number of bicycle thefts that occur in South Plainfield. "Baron Von Pedaloff" literature will be provided in an effort to remind all those in attendance not to give anyone the opportunity to "pedal off" with their bicycle.

Bring your bicycle and your helmet on May 13 and be ready for a fun-filled day. Any questions? Contact us at (908) 226-7678.

## Last Time to Register to Vote

The last day to register to vote for the upcoming Primary Election will be Tuesday, May 16 the Borough Clerk's Office, which is located at 2480 Plainfield Avenue will remain open until 9 p.m. to accommodate those residents who wish to register to vote.

This year, the Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, June 6.

## BJ's Wholesale Club Joins Elks for Fundraiser

The South Plainfield Elks is currently running a fundraiser, in conjunction with BJ's Wholesale Club, from now through Friday, May 19. This fundraiser not only assists the Elks, but also gives back something to the community by providing BJ's memberships and renewals at a reduced price.

Help the Elks to continue providing worthy service programs for our veterans, handicapped children, community welfare, Army of Hope, drug awareness, youth activities and many more valuable projects.

How can you help? BJ's Wholesale Club is partnering with the Elks

to save you money and to raise money for Elks programs. For a limited time, you can join BJ's Wholesale Club or renew your current membership and receive: \$10 off your \$45 annual membership fee, free additional three months of membership and a free second membership card for a household member. Plus, BJ's will donate \$5 of your membership fee to: South Plainfield Elks B.P.O.E #2298.

Applications are available at the Elks, located on New Market Ave. If you have any additional questions, contact Debbie Czech for details at (908) 668-9750.

## County Sponsors Birthday Parties for Residents Over 90

The Middlesex County Department on Aging will once again hold Birthday Bashes for senior citizens over age 90 as part of its National Older Americans Month celebration.

Two lunchtime events are scheduled this year. The first was held May 4 at the Old Bridge Senior Center and the second will be held May 17 at the Piscataway Senior Center. The event will begin at 11 a.m.

"These birthday lunches have been extremely successful through the years and we expect this year's events to be as well," said Freeholder Blaquita B. Valenti, chair of the County's Hyman Services and Again Committee. "All county residents who are over 90 are

invited so we can celebrate their lives and accomplishments."

"This is one way we can offer our best wishes to the most senior among us," said Freeholder Director David B. Crabel. "It's also a chance for the invitees to enjoy a pleasant afternoon held in their honor."

Traditionally, 130 to 160 seniors over age 90 attend each lunch. Each celebrant is invited with one guest. A few spots remain for this year.

The Singing Senior Harmonettes and Lillian Anderson on the piano will entertain guests in Piscataway.

Students from the Sayreville Middle School Student Council helped serve and assist at the Old Bridge event.

Members of the Piscataway Senior Center will assist at the event there.

"We are happy we can give these special seniors a chance to enjoy the 'limelight' with the recognition luncheon and entertainment," said Margaret Chester, executive director of the County's Department on Aging.

Seniors wishing to attend who need transportation to the event should check with their local senior centers or with the facility in which they reside. They also may call Middlesex County Area Transit (800) 221-3520 to make a reservation.

For information or lunch reservations, call (732) 745-3295.

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# Around Town

## Edison Valley Playhouse Presents... Through May 27

*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* is on stage at the Edison Valley Playhouse until May 27. Show dates are Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. and a Sunday matinee on May 14 at 3 p.m. On Mother's Day receive a free ticket with two paid admissions. Prices are \$15 for adults and \$12 for students and seniors. For information and reservations call (908) 755-4654.

## Fire Dept. Concert May 12

The South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department's annual benefit concert is Friday, May 12 at 8 p.m. The show will be held at the SPHS auditorium. Entertainment will be provided by 1960's recording group, The Vogues.

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

## SPPD 9th Annual Bicycle Rodeo May 13

The South Plainfield Police Department will host its 9th annual Bicycle Rodeo on Saturday, May 13 at Spring Lake Park from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. cyclists 17 years and younger who do not have a bicycle helmet, there will be a limited supply of helmets, donated by the South Plainfield Traffic Safety Advisory Commission. Those wearing their own helmets and registering their bicycle will be entered into a drawing to win a new bicycle.

For more information call the SPPD at (908) 226-7678.

## Blackrose to Perform May 13

Blackrose, the band, performs classic rock'n roll music and today's hits at K.C.'s Korner, 100 Oak Tree Ave. on Saturday, May 13 at 10 p.m. No cover charge.

## 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.

## South Plainfield SENIOR CENTER

The Senior Citizen's Center is open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.  
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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>UPCOMING EVENTS</b> 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	15 Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social 10am Lunch Available Ladies Social Group 10 am	16 Exercise 8:45am Computer Class 10am, 11:30am & 1pm Line Dancing 10am Tai Chi Class 2pm 90's Birthday Bash	17 Shop Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11am & 1pm AARP Meeting 12:30pm Atlantic City 9am	18 Bingo 10am-2pm Lunch Available Bingo 10am-2pm
19	12	12	12	12

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to noon. Breakfast includes eggs, bacon, pancakes, sausage, french toast, home fries, coffee, tea and juice. Cost is \$6 for adults, \$4 for children.

## Republican Meeting May 17

The regular meeting of the South Plainfield Republican Organization will be held Wednesday, May 17 at 8 p.m. at Sherban's Restaurant. All residents are invited to attend and meet candidates Rob Bengivenga, Alex Barletta and David Sesok and bring their concerns and comments for an open discussion on solutions that could benefit South Plainfield.

## VFW Dinner May 19

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 noon on weekends.

## Comedy Show at Polish Home May 20

The Polish National Home will

present a comedy show on Saturday, May 20 from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. You are welcome to bring your own food. Cost is \$30 per person. Open bar. Call Lisa at (908) 668-9442.

## VFW Atlantic City Trip May 21

The VFW Memorial Post #6763, located at 155 Front St. is planning a bus trip to Atlantic City on Sunday, May 21. Donation is \$22, with \$17 returned upon arrival. For information call (908) 668-9751 after 3 p.m. daily or after 12 p.m. weekends.

## Elks Italian Dinner May 27

The South Plainfield Elks Lodge #2298, 1254 New Market Ave., will hold an Italian dinner on Saturday, May 27 at 6:30 p.m. Dinner consists of veal parmesan, chicken parmesan, eggplant parmesan, pasta, salad, and dessert. Cash bar. Tickets are \$15 and must be purchased in advance. Call Pete (908) 656-4011 to purchase tickets. They will not be sold at the door.

## Bowling Fundraiser June 4

The South Plainfield High School Music Boosters are sponsoring a bowling "Fun" raiser on Sunday, June 4 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Brunswick Edison Bowl, Oak Tree Rd. in Edison. Cost is \$10 per person and includes two hours unlimited bowling, shoe rental and a pitcher of soda per lane. Families, friends and groups of all ages welcome. Bumpers available upon request.

For information or to reserve a space, call Julie (908) 791-0294.

## Baltimore Trip September 30

Join us for a weekend of fun on Saturday, Sept. 30 through Sunday, Oct. 1. Trip includes: transportation, overnight accommodations at Best Western, sightseeing tour of Baltimore, dinner and show at Toby's Dinner Theatre, hot buffet breakfast on Sunday morning, time 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.

## Yankees vs. Orioles June 4

The South Plainfield Recreation Department is sponsoring a trip to see the Yankees vs. Orioles at Camden Yards on Sunday, June 4.

Tickets are on sale now. Call the Recreation Department at (908) 226-7713 to make reservations.

## Feast of Saint Anthony June 6-10

Our Lady of Czestochowa R.C. Church's Annual Feast of St. Anthony will be held Tuesday, June 6 through Saturday June 10 on the church grounds on Hamilton Blvd. Hours are: Tues. through Friday 6 to 11 p.m. and Saturday 1 to 11 p.m.

Advance ride tickets worth \$18 can be purchased for \$10. Tickets are on sale after all masses, or at the church. Tickets will also be on sale at Bagel Partry on Plainfield Ave., Corner Deli on Hamilton Blvd., David's Stationary on Sampton Ave., Oak Tree Farms in the Drug Fair Shopping Center and Sa's Spirit Shoppe on Park Ave.

## — Out of Town — Middlesex East WOW's May 12

Middlesex East Widows or Widowers will hold an open dance on Friday, May 12 from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, 1155 Roosevelt Ave. in Carteret. Live music and refreshments. All are welcome. Admission \$8 members, \$9 guests. For information call (732) 541-2174 or (908) 757-0515.

## TSANJ Support Group May 18

The Tourette Syndrome Association of New Jersey (TSANJ) will hold a support group meeting on Thursday, May 18 from 7 to 9 p.m. at JFK Neuroscience Institute in Edison. Special screening of "A Teacher Looks at Tourette" featuring Sue Connors, M. Ed., followed by open discussion.

For information call TSANJ at (908) 575-7350 or visit the web site at [www.tsanj.org](http://www.tsanj.org).

## Oak Tree Church Desert Program May 13

On Saturday, May 13, Oak Tree Presbyterian Church will host a "Night

in the Holy Land" desert program during which the church's pastor, the Rev. Rick Oppelt, will discuss his recent trip to Israel. The program begins at 7 p.m. The church is located at 445 Plainfield Rd. in North Edison. For more information call (732) 549-4178. There is no charge for this event.

## National Kidney Foundation Walk May 18

The National Kidney Foundation of the Delaware Valley is asking you to participate on Thursday, May 18 at 5:30 p.m. in the first annual Kidney Walk. The event features a walking route, refreshments, music, screenings and prizes.

Walkers of all ages are invited to join in the fun by walking individually or by forming a team. For more information, sponsor forms or to register call the NKF of the Delaware Valley at (609) 844-1001. On-site registration will be accepted as well.

## Flea Market/Yard Sale May 20

A flea market and yard sale will be held on Saturday, May 20 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the parking lot of St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church in Dunellen.

The event is open to vendors for \$25 a table. Proceeds to benefit FISH Hospitality Program.

For information contact Norma at (908) 251-5138 or (732) 968-5957.

## Ages of Love Tea May 20

The Brass Lantern, 335 Main St. in Metuchen is sponsoring "Ages of Love" tea on Saturday, May 20 from 1 to 3 p.m. On exhibit will be christening gowns and vintage wedding dresses. If you would like to share a copy of your wedding picture with us beforehand, we will have a special surprise waiting for you. Refreshments will be served. For more information call (732) 548-5442.

## Edison Arts Society Fundraiser Ball May 20

The Edison Arts Society will hold its annual Gala Fundraiser Ball "Artists by Candlelight" on Saturday, May 20 at the Sheraton Edison Hotel in Raritan Center. This elegant evening features a sit down dinner, dancing, 50/50 raffle and art sale of over 50 works. Black tie optional.

Cocktails begin at 6:30 p.m. with an open bar, dinner following. Tickets are \$150 each and can be purchased by calling the Edison Arts Society at (908) 753-ARTS.

## Family Fun Day June 4

The National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD) of Middlesex County, Inc. and the Middlesex County Substance Abuse Coalition will hold the first annual "Pedaling for Prevention" Family Fun Day on June 4.

Registration starts at 8 a.m. in Grove 4 in Johnson Park. Activities start at 9 a.m. and conclude at 3 p.m., rain or shine. Ample parking will be available. Registration fee is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. For more information call NCADD of Middlesex County, Inc. at (732) 254-3344 or register online at [www.ncadd-middlesex.com/biketour.html](http://www.ncadd-middlesex.com/biketour.html).

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# South PlainfieldScouting

## What's Happening in Girl Scouting

Residents of South Plainfield are fortunate to have a very active community. It's been a busy season for the South Plainfield Girl Scout Community (SPGSC). We've continued some of our annual events and added some new ones:

**Community Service**—Daisy Troop 883 collected coloring books and crayons for donation to Children's Specialized Hospital. The supplies will

be split between CSH's different locations based on need. Thanks to all the troops who participated!

**Activities**—Over 90 girls of all ages got together for our second annual SWAPS night (Some Whatchamacallit Affectionately Pinned Somewhere) to create 1,200 SWAPS. Each girl left with twelve different SWAPS such as SpongeBob, pinwheels, fortune cookies, smore's kits, etc. A fun

evening!

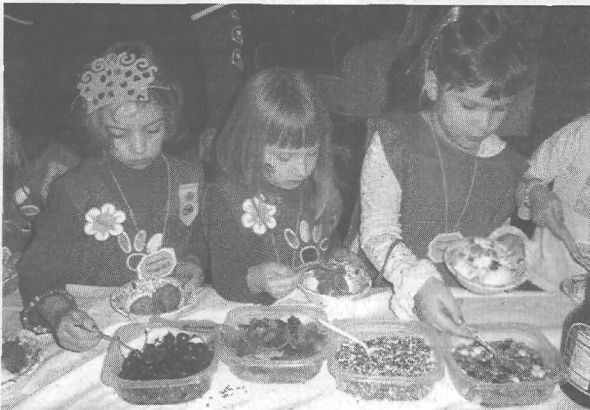
Recently, 95 Daisy and Brownie Girl Scouts attended a swim party at the YMCA/JCC in Edison. They enjoyed swimming, movies and snacks. The girls had a blast!

Daisy Girl Scouts were invited to an ice cream social held at the Elks Lodge. They heard stories, made crafts, made their own sundaes and did face painting. Older scouts were on hand to help. This was a great activity for young girls that are just starting out in scouting.

South Plainfield is one of 24 communities proudly served by Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Council, Inc. Founded in 1957, GSWRC provides the optimal Girl Scout experience to nearly 11,000 girls and adults.

For more information, call (908) 232-3236 or log on to [www.westfieldnj.com/girlscouts](http://www.westfieldnj.com/girlscouts).

*Submitted by Madeline Christilles*



Daisy Girl Scouts attended an ice cream social held at the Elks Lodge.



Tiger Scouts from John E. Riley School visited the South Plainfield Observer this week to earn a communications bead. Pictured are Owen Milan, Brett Hawn, Tommy Licato, David Shawiak and Michael McCormick.

## Local Girl Scouts Hold Fun Fair

The South Plainfield Girl Scouts recently held its Fun Fair at the PAL field. Once an annual event in South Plainfield, the event took a three-year hiatus before being revived this year. Each troop ran their own table with the profits going to benefit girl scouting in their community. The nearly 200 attendees took advantage of enjoyable activities and warm weather.

South Plainfield is one of 24 communities proudly served by GSWRC. Operating under the auspices of Girl Scouts of the USA.

The council's headquarters and full-service shop are located in Westfield. Be sure to visit GSWRC's home in cyberspace at [www.westfieldnj.com/girlscouts](http://www.westfieldnj.com/girlscouts).



Members of Pack 207 at graduating ceremonies.

## Pack 207 Graduates Scouts With Honors

Cub Scout Pack 207 held their Bridging and Arrow of Light Ceremony for the 2005-2006 graduating scouts. The Pack was proud that all of the scouts earned the prestigious Arrow of Light Award. The Arrow of Light is the highest honor a cub scout can receive. It is also one of the only awards they can take with them on to boy scouts.

Recipients of the Arrow of Light included: Anthony Austin, Christopher Markey, Joshua Coupe, Joshua

Siepmann, Matthew Frank, Andrew Atkinson, Andrew Rhodes, Joseph Spinella and Christopher Wallace.

The following boys also received their Twentier Award: Anthony Austin, Christopher Markey, Joshua Siepmann, Matthew Frank, Andrew Atkinson, Andrew Rhodes, Joseph Spinella and Christopher Wallace. This award is presented to scouts who complete all 20 pins of the Webelos program.

The scouts were joined by the fol-

lowing Boy Scout Troops as they bridged to Boy Scouts: Troop 309—Troop Master Jeffrey Pauls, Troop 207—Troop Master James Donnelson, Troop 224—George Smith and Commissioner Tony Sarao. We would also like to thank the scouts from Troop 207 who assisted.

In addition, the scouts received letters and a citation from Governor Corzine, Senator Buono and assemblymen Diégan and Barnes.

## Last Chance to Register to Vote

The last day to register to vote for the upcoming Primary Election will be Tuesday, May 16. The Borough Clerk's Office will remain open until 9 p.m. to accommodate those residents who wish to register to vote.

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# Multi-Cultural Heritage Day Celebrates Diversity

Story and Photos By Patricia Abbott



Multi-Cultural Heritage Day at SPHS is a favorite event that expands in size and popularity with each passing year. The celebration of the many cultures that make up the SPHS student body began on Tuesday, April 4 with a combination fashion show/talent production. The evening featured a wide variety of performances from countries around the world. The talent ranged from dancing and vocals to poetry reading. The fashion portion highlighted national outfits from across the globe as well as right here in the United States. Emcees for the event were Bob Diehl and Althea Bowman-Williams. On either side of the stage there were large video screens. The left side showed close ups of the action on stage and the right side offered fascinating mini history lessons on the featured country. The auditorium was filled to near capacity for this addition to the school's heritage celebration.

On Thursday, April 6 the high school library hosted the main event, an opportunity to experience the national costumes of fellow students and taste foods from around the world. There were over 800 foods, both hot and cold, to choose from. A small stage set up offered visitors the chance to see some of the performers from the Tuesday evening show. All students with a history class attended the event during their history class period. Advisors and organizers for both events were history teachers Fran Flannery and Tony Barca who were assisted by a large student committee.

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## Summer Drama Workshop Auditions

The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop has announced that auditions for their 2006 show, *Carousel*, will be held at the South Plainfield Middle School on May 22 and 23 from 5:30 to 9 p.m. and open to students completing sixth through twelfth grade and one-year post graduation.

Students should bring a non-returnable photo. A short dance routine will be taught. Please wear appropriate clothing and shoes or sneakers for dancing. Previous dance experience is not necessary. Bring a prepared song with sheet music, a tape or CD. Show tunes are suggested. Everyone will be given an opportunity

to read from the script. Those interested in crew or orchestra can register during auditions.

Parental help is always needed; more information will be available at auditions or contact Summer Drama Workshop at (908) 561-5255 or check our web site [www.spsdw.com](http://www.spsdw.com).

Show dates are August 3, 4, 5 at 7 p.m. and Aug 6 at 2 p.m. The Saturday and Sunday shows will have sign interpreters.

Staff for *Carousel* is as follows: director, Eric Hafen; asst. director, Ellen Cusick; choreographer, Emma Fulton; musical director, Joan Stasio and lighting design, Mark Reilly

This program has been made possible

in part by the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

**May 14**  
**Happy**  
**20th Birthday**  
**Christopher Abbott**  
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# southplainfieldpeople

## Milestones



Skateboarder Eric Burnham

### Burnham Takes First Place in Skateboard Competition

Congratulations to Eric Burnham who took one of two first place prizes for the "Best Trick Contest" sponsored by the Small Empire Skate Park in Flanders on Friday, April 28.

Eric competed along with 20 skaters in the 12 and under division. Four obstacle stations were set up and the judging was based on performance, landing the best trick and the style in which it was performed.

From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

Do you know what to do with all that open space spring cleaning left behind? Why not fill your shelves with new books. In celebration of spring, the library will hold its book sale on June 10 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. New and gently used books, magazines, VHS, DVDS, CDs, audio books and more will be available at low prices. Come with your hands empty to grab copies of fiction and nonfiction items, so do not forget to mark your calendars for June 10.

Whether it is updating a room or building a porch, we have the books to help you with your spring renovating projects. Some of our new renovating releases include Lyn Peterson's *Real Life Renovating* and Sarah Susanka's *Inside the Not So Big House*. Planning on doing some landscaping or gardening? Then try Michael Weishan's *The Victory Garden Companion* offering ideas and tips on creating a beautiful landscape to compliment your home.

When you are done painting the

shelf for the new books you acquired at our book sale, why not relax with a movie? Our new releases include *Flightplan*, *The Family Stone*, *Tim Burton's Corpse Bride*, *In Her Shoes*, *Greys Anatomy Season One*, *Proof*, and *Shopgirl*.

Children's programs are back to their regular schedule this coming week. *Books-N-Babies*, for newborns to three year olds, will be held on Friday at 10:30 a.m. *Time for 2s and 3s*, for toddlers, will be held Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. and again on Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m. For children three years old and older we have story time and craft on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. Any questions can be directed to our Children's Librarian, Miss Linda.

If you have any questions, contact us during our open hours at (908) 754-7885 or visit us on the web at [www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us](http://www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us). We hope you have a great weekend and look forward to seeing you.

### Local Student Honored at Lycoming College

A local student received special awards and recognition on Sunday, April 9 at the Honors Convocation of Lycoming College.

Dana Newbury, a senior mathematics major, received the Bishop D. Frederick Wertz Award presented for outstanding dedication and selfless service to others during their college career. A graduate of Bishop George Ahr High School, she is a resident of Sayreville.

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



Keira Ellen Ferrell

### Farrells Announce Birth of Daughter

Erin and Chris Farrell announced the birth of their daughter, Keira Ellen Farrell, who was born on Monday, April 10 at 9:05 p.m. at St. Peter's University Hospital in New Brunswick. Keira weighed in at eight pounds, three ounces and was 20 1/4 inches long. She joins two older brothers Colin, three, and Brady, who will be two years old this month.

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Ms. Ewing and Mrs. Blah, along with their Future Stars students, visited the Crayola Crayon Factory in Easton, Pa.

## police report

- A Ten Eyck St. resident reported that their were footprints on the hood and roof of their car.
- On May 1 Tiesha N. Smith, 29, of Whitehall, Pa. was arrested for failure to stop at a stop sign and an outstanding warrant.
- Franklin Elementary School reported that 11 windows had been shot out by a BB gun and there was a hole in the panel of a storage container.
- Mobile Storage Group on Roosevelt Ave. reported that graffiti had been painted on four storage trailers and two storage units.
- On May 3 Clarence D. Allmond, 46, of Plainfield was arrested for stealing \$1,200 worth of comforters from Classic Distributions Inc. on Kentile Rd.
- Francis J. Sokalski, 39, of Piscataway was arrested for driving on a suspended license, an equipment violation and an outstanding warrant.
- Neftali Munoz, 28, of Perth Amboy was arrested for no registration and an outstanding warrant.
- Aaron D. Chatman, 21, of Piscataway was arrested for an equipment violation, no insurance and two outstanding warrants.
- Getty Gas on Park Ave. reported the theft of a customers 1991 Toyota Camary that had been left for repair.
- Petland Discounts on Stelton Rd. reported that the rear glass doors of the building had been shattered.
- On May 4 Yara M. Mojica, 29, of Newark was arrested for an expired inspection sticker and an outstanding warrant.

- Michael Trinajstic, 31, of New York, NY was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia.
- Wayne Fredrick White, 38, of South Plainfield was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.
- Purnanand R. Persaud, 33, of Elizabeth was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.
- A Matis St. resident reported the theft of a Haro F-4 bicycle that was left unattended on Lorraine Ave.
- On May 5 Tammy Holowka, 38, of Scotch Plains was arrested for driving while intoxicated and reckless driving.
- On May 6 a Smith St. resident reported the theft of a 1995 Honda Civic from the front of the home.
- On May 7 a Clarke Ave. resident reported that their home had been hit with paint balls.
- On May 8 an employee of KSI Trading on Wade Ave. reported the theft of their license plates.
- On May 9 Jose A. Alvarado, 31, of Newark was arrested for receiving a stolen 1997 Chevy Tahoe.

## Vendors Sought

The 2007 Stokes Committee will be hosting a vendor night on Friday, June 2 at Grant School from 5-9 p.m. Vendors are needed on a first come first serve basis. A six foot table is \$35 and each vendor is asked to donate a raffle prize valued at \$20. For more information, please call Debbie at (908) 561-2320.

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# Sports

## Junior Baseball "C" League Game Summaries

• **Blue Jays vs Mets: Blue Jays**—Carl Crilli started a late rally by drilling a leadoff double. Bryan Gillen then cleared the bases with a shot over the outfielders head. A well pitched game was turned in by each Blue Jay pitcher.

• **Mets vs Red Sox: Mets**—The offensive attack was led by Patrick Evans driving in two big runs, Tom Dunn and Greg Sutton also helped the team effort with two base hits each.

**Red Sox**—Jeremy Smith smacked two strong base hits for the Red Sox followed by teammates Brian Schillaci and Justin Alfano picking up base hits of their own.

• **White Sox vs Giants: Giants**—Tommy Heim ripped a big triple to lead the Giants. Scott Pietschker and Jack Townley contributed with two base hits of their own and a fine scoreless pitching performance was turned in by LJ Scarpitto and Chris Graves.

• **Blue Jays vs Yankees: Blue Jays**—A strong pitching performance was turned in by Bryan Gillen and Thomas Appololoni. The offensive production was led with runs being driven in by Xavier Wilson and Mason Resende.

**Yankees**—Ricky Pellegrino had a day, with two big base hits and an outstanding inning from the mound for

his first attempt. John O'Sullivan had a sharply hit single to drive in a run for his first of the season.

• **Cardinals vs Dodgers: Dodgers**—Jared Marks and Ryan Walsh each pitched two excellent innings of baseball. Anthony Tschopp and Dion Pender both scored to lead the Dodgers offense.

• **Red Sox vs A's: Red Sox**—The offensive attack was led by Brian Schillaci cracking a triple with one of his three base hits. Michael Huber and Justin Alfano each contributed with singles, and last but not least, there was Nicholas Polizzano with a big double to count for one of his three hits. Nick also turned in a sparkling defensive gem with his glove at first base.



Captain Robert Barone is sworn in to his new rank of captain by Councilman Charlie Butrico, while wife Wendy and three children, Robert Jr., Nicholas and Jennifer, look on.

## Borough Promotes Two Officers

Two South Plainfield Police officers were promoted during a recent Borough Council meeting. Robert Barone was promoted to captain and James Parker to lieutenant.

Captain Robert Barone has been a South Plainfield Police officer for 19 years. He was sworn in as a patrolman in 1987. In August of 1995 he was promoted to the rank of sergeant. During his tenure, he supervised six patrol officers.

Barone was promoted to the rank of lieutenant in March of 2001 and remained in the patrol division as a watch commander. He assumed command of the Operations/Patrol Division in September, 2005, overseeing 41 officers. Barone will continue his command of the division.

Capt. Barone, a lifelong South Plainfield resident, and his wife, Wendy, have three children, Robert Jr., Nicholas and Jennifer.

Lieutenant James Parker is a 13-year veteran of the South Plainfield Police Department. He joined the department in 1993. During his law enforcement career, Parker served in both the patrol section of the Operations division and the detective section of the Service division. He has served as a field training officer, as well as a defensive baton instructor. While on assignment as a detective, Parker completed a temporary assignment with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Task Force. He is currently a watch commander in the patrol section of the Operations division.

Lt. Parker and wife June have two daughters, Julia and Caroline. Parker is a lifelong resident of South Plainfield.



Lt. James Parker, joined by wife June and two daughters, Julia and Caroline, is sworn in to his new position by Councilman Dennis Cerami.

By Glenn Cullen

## JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

The SPJBC 2006 Baseball Celebration has been rescheduled for All-Star Sunday, May 21 at noon. The next, and final, booster weekend is scheduled for May 19 and 20. If you have not volunteered, this is your last opportunity. Failure to work a booster assignment may result in the loss of playoff eligibility.

Traveling All-Star try-outs, by age group, are listed on the clubhouse bulletin board. Please see the board for dates and times. Remember there has been a change in birth date requirements which may affect a player's eligibility.

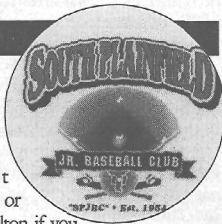
The SPJBC is preparing for its Memorial Day Weekend Tournament and Father's Day Baseball Classic. The club is looking for volunteers to work the snack stand as well as serve as ever important snack stand captains. Please

contact the club or Rick Walton if you are available.

There is only one day of field duty this weekend due to Mother's Day. The duty assignments are Saturday, May 13 at 7 a.m.: Small Fry C Dodgers and Pony A Red Sox, Saturday, May 13.

The SPJBC is looking still looking for volunteers for the 2006 season. In particular, the SPJBC needs Snack Stand captains. Anyone interested in being a Snack Stand captain is asked to call the SPJBC at (908) 754-2090, or e-mail the club at [www.southplainfieldjbc@yahoo.com](mailto:www.southplainfieldjbc@yahoo.com). Also, feel free to visit the SPJBC website at [www.leaguelineup.com/spjbc](http://www.leaguelineup.com/spjbc).

Happy Mother's Day to all the moms of the SPJBC!



## SP Soccer Tryouts for Fall and Spring

The SPSA announced tryouts for next year's teams. All tryouts will be held at the Kenneth Avenue Soccer Complex from 6 to 8 p.m.

On Monday, May 15 and Wednesday, May 17 tryouts will be held for U-9 born Aug. 1, 1997-July 31, 1998; U-11 born Aug. 1, 1995-July 31, 1996 and U-13 born Aug. 1, 1993-July 31, 1994.

On Tuesday, May 16 and Thursday, May 18 tryouts will be held for U-8 born Aug. 8, 1998-July 31, 1999, U-10 born Aug. 01, 1996-July 31, 1997; U-12 born Aug. 01, 1994-July 31, 1995 and U-14 born Aug. 1, 1992-July 31, 1993.

For complete details, visit the tryout section of our web site. Please e-mail any questions to: [tryouts@soplfsoccerclub.com](mailto:tryouts@soplfsoccerclub.com).

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## Obituaries

### Josephine E. (Sarnowski) Heron, 92

Josephine E. (Sarnowski) Heron died on Monday, May 1 at Care One-The Highlands in Edison.

Born in Newark where she had resided for many years, Mrs. Heron has resided here since 1964.

She was a homemaker and a communicant of Sacred Heart R.C. Church in South Plainfield.

Her husband, Thomas J. Heron died in 1998 and a son, John T. Heron died in 2001. She is also predeceased by two brothers, John and Chester Sarnowski, and a sister, Stephanie Sarnowski.

Surviving are a daughter-in-law, Shirlee Heron of South Plainfield; a sister, Eleanor Miller of Iselin; three grandchildren, Lisa and husband, Scott Parneg, Jim Heron and fiancé Rose Verhalen, and Ronnie and wife Kerie and four great grandchildren, Brittany and Daniel Heron and Ryan and Samantha Parneg.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

### Joseph W. Bumback, 56

Joseph W. Bumback died Tuesday, May 2 at Jersey Shore Medical Center in Neptune.

Born in South Plainfield, Joe attended and graduated from South Plainfield Schools. He later resided in Dunellen for a number of years and then Franklin Park before moving to Jackson seven years ago.

Drafted by the U.S. Army in 1970, he served during Vietnam and was honorably discharged.

He had been employed as a bag pressman for 32 years for Ronpak of

South Plainfield.

An avid bowler, Joe bowled in numerous leagues at Manville Lanes and Strike 'n Spare in Green Brook.

He is predeceased by his parents, John and Doris, and a brother, John Bumback.

Surviving are his wife of 24 years, Nancy; a daughter, Donna Kranowski of Jackson; a son, Tim and wife Stacy of upstate New York; three brothers, Russell of Manahawkin, Fran of South Plainfield and Steve of Missouri and four grandchildren, Brianna, Joelle, Morgan and Gavin.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

### Richard J. Ditzel, 68

Richard J. Ditzel died on Wednesday, May 3 at home in Bridgeville, Del.

He was born in Scotch Plains where he resided for 38 years before moving to Bridgeville in 1975.

Richard was the owner and operator of Ditzel Flower Farm in Bridgeville for the past 31 years. His flower farm was a major part of his life, his proudest accomplishment and he loved tending to it.

His favorite hobby was being a mechanic for Sprint Racing Cars. Richard was also an avid New York Yankees, Jets, Giants and NASCAR fan.

He is predeceased by his parents, Robert and Gladys Ditzel.

Surviving is a son and daughter-in-law, Kenneth H. Ditzel and Jamie Hagerbaumer of Arlington, Va.; three sisters, Doris Triplet and Joan Cantamessa, both of Piscataway, and Eleanor (Bill) Sike of Toms River and a brother, Robert Ditzel of Warren.

Funeral arrangements were made by McCriskin Home For Funerals.

### Salvatore DeLello, 70

Salvatore DeLello of Piscataway died on Wednesday, May 3 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

He was born and raised in Plainfield before moving to Piscataway in 1966.

Sal was an avid traveler and enjoyed his trips to Hawaii, Bermuda, Aruba, Canada and the Caribbean Islands and his many trips to Atlantic City. He especially loved Gettysburg, Pa.

He was a member of the Knights of Columbus Council 2455 of Dunellen and the Italian American Social Club in North Plainfield.

All who knew him will remember his love and devotion to his family and friends.

Sal was the youngest son of the late Dominick and Louise DeLello and was predeceased by brothers Nicholas, Michael, Dominick and Anthony and sisters Louise Lexow, Jenny DeLello, Elizabeth DeRose and Jean Arnold.

He is survived by his beloved wife of fifty years, Barbara (Dolly) Hendershot DeLello; three sons, Salvatore DeLello Jr., Michael and wife Robin DeLello all of Piscataway and John and wife Mary DeLello of Warren; two brothers, Henry DeLello of Plainfield and John DeLello of Piscataway; one sister, Rose Hunter of South Plainfield; eight beloved grandchildren, Jessica, Melissa, Sal III (Sonny), Dominick, James, Julia, Nicholas and Jessie; a former daughter-in-law, Roni Hurlass and devoted best friends, Joe and Lenny Cavaliere.

Funeral services were held at the South Plainfield Funeral Home.

## LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

### LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS GIVEN that a hearing before the South Plainfield Planning Board will be held on May 23, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey concerning the application of Joseph Poletti a/k/a Giuseppe Poletti, Antonio Poletti, Jole Fragassi and Anna Caruso for the property at 3131 Park Avenue, South Plainfield, Middlesex County, New Jersey (Block 222, Lot 6 on the South Plainfield tax map) to obtain the following concerning said property:

1. Approval of subdivision of the land from one (1) lot into two (2) lots, and
2. Variance approval for lot depth of one (1) or both resulting lots, lot width of one or both resulting lots, lot frontage of one or both resulting lots, and rear and/or side yard set back requirement for the accessory building (shed).

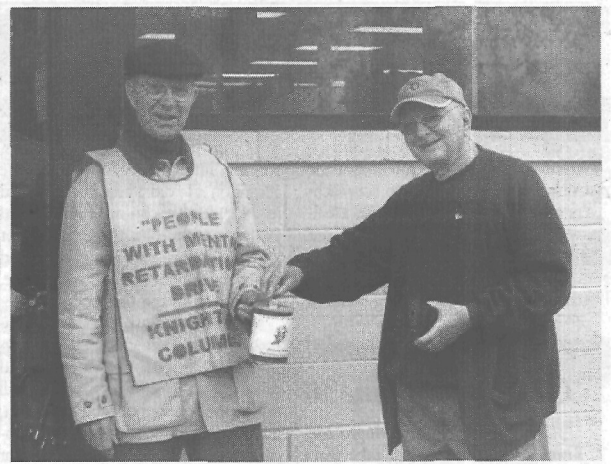
The applicant(s) may seek such other relief as the Planning Board may require. The Applicant(s) seeks to convey the resulting southerly lot to an interested person who would then construct a single-family residential dwelling thereon.

You are entitled to appear and be heard on this application. All maps and other documents for which approval is sought are available for inspection by the public in the Zoning/Planning Office of the Municipal Building at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey on any weekday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Anthony J. Mara, Jr.  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

\$61.80

May 12, 2006



Knights of Columbus member John Van Allen in front of Drug Fair.

## Knights Hold 'Special Citizen Drive'

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 ran their 2006 "Special Citizens Drive" recently. Over \$8,000 was collected during the four-day event. All proceeds were donated to three local special needs organizations: Keystone Community, Midland School and McCauley School, which is supported by the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus.

The Knights would like to thank the following businesses for their support: Drug Fair, Quick Chek, CVS, A&P, Pathmark, K-Mart, Super Stop and Stop, Bagel Pantry, Ciccio's Pizza, Dunkin Donuts, Witty's Liquor Store and Buy Rite Liquors.

Co-chairmen of this event were Grand Knight Joe Scrudato and Bill Butrico.

## International Luncheon at Franklin

To celebrate the completion of a multi-cultural unit she has been teaching, Allison Hecht, senior intern with Marie Stemmler, recently hosted an international luncheon at Franklin School. The students and their families prepared foods and desserts indicating their heritage.

James Munoz-Morales brought Mexican tostadas, while Christopher Scherer shared Italian baked ziti. Pierogis, a Polish favorite, was contributed by Dominik Jastrzebski and his grandmother.

Ravioli was made by Robert Mamone. Empanadas, a traditional Columbian dish, was brought by the

Michael Mandes family. Hecht made Austrian potato pancakes and applesauce. Mr. Parisi made Italian Caesar salad.

Liberia is the origin of Jalloff rice, prepared by Grayson Lackey. Another rice dish, a dessert, was brought by Jailine Jaramillo's parents.

Two versions of Irish soda bread came from Joseph McGeehan and Brian McCann. In addition to traditional American drinks, soda and punch, Columbian coffee was available for the adults.

Outside the classroom, a world map on the wall indicated the wide cultural diversity of children. An entertaining and educational time was had by all.



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journalist**

**WINNER**



Junior Journalist winner Alexandra Fee accepts dinner from Charlie and Debbie Kurland of Hometown Heros. She is joined by Mom Martha, sister Laryssam, brother John. Also pictured are Edgar and Ralph from Hometown Heros. Congratulations Alexandra!



## Budget Talks End Abruptly

(Continued from page 1)  
education in South Plainfield.

After the public portion, Butrico repeated his earlier statement that the Council was not looking to cut teachers or staff. "We have to strike a balance between the rejected budget and our duty," he explained.

When Councilman Petronko accused Dr. Rosado of rallying some of

the teachers and staff to attend the meeting, telling them they might lose their jobs if the Council made cuts, Rosado interrupted and denied the allegation. He did admit that he talked to 41 teachers who are non-tenured explaining the fact that he did not know what the council would do, and if cuts in the teaching staff were made, they would be the first ones to go.

When Butrico asked for a 10 minute recess to discuss the next meeting, Board President Jeff Seider instead called for an executive session and all the board members exited the room, leaving the representatives of the council sitting alone with no answer. At that point, Butrico said there would be no more joint meetings with the Board.

After the executive session, several members of the Board did meet privately with council representatives and the Wednesday night meeting was cancelled. Council members will be meeting with the Board's Finance Committee on Monday evening at Borough Hall to tell them of their decision and what, if any, cuts they will recommend. A public meeting will be held on Monday at 8 p.m. at the Roosevelt Administration Building. The Council will discuss their decision at their Tuesday night meeting. The board has the right to appeal the Council's recommendations.

## Art Muglia Memorial Golf Outing June 30

The third annual Art Muglia Memorial golf outing will take place Friday June 30 at Heron Glen Golf course located in Ringoes. This is shotgun format starting at 9 a.m. with dinner to follow. Registration and a continental breakfast begins at 8 a.m. The fee is \$125 per golfer and/or hole sponsorships are \$100.

A native South Plainfield, Art Muglia was a tireless worker in whatever he did. His motto, "If you're on time, you're late," and his love for humanity, was always evident for those who had the privilege to know him.

Proceeds from this outing will go to Art's favorite charity, The Matheny School, for people with developmental disabilities.

## Special Olympics

(Continued from page 1)  
can do at the States in June.

Each athlete was able to compete in three individual events and some of these athletes were able to sweep gold in their events. Robert Fallat, Mike Tabachnick, Jason Seay, Jason Desantis, Franchot McClean, Anthony McClean, Karen Baymen, Thelma Morgan and Kevin Abreu were all completely golden by the end of the day's competitions.

Other athletes winning three

medals were Dave Micabalo, Dave Agnew and Andy McClean. All of these athletes won two gold medals and a silver medal. Charlie Clark also won three medals in his events, securing silver medals throughout the day.

As we look back on the day's events, it is with enormous respect that we say thank you to all of the volunteers from South Plainfield. The athletes appreciate your time and support, as you continue to repre-

sent our community with pride and enthusiasm. We also say thank you to the athletes for giving us the honor of seeing you win gold and achieve your goals for the event. We look forward to your continued hard work and success when you reach The College of New Jersey on June 3. Your courage and determination are truly inspirational. Good luck at States!

-Submitted by Kevin Hajduk,  
Volunteer Coach

## Students Start Local Arm of Help Darfur Now

(Continued from page 1)

News chapter last month. An executive committee was established and includes: Amanda Alemezohu, Amanda Harzula, Sara Holbrook, Gauri Joshi, Ryan Miller, Hosnia Qayum, Steven Tietjin and Ashley Welch.

During that meeting, students learned of the rally and expressed interest in going. Four students attended: Amanda Harzula, Sara Holbrook, Gauri Joshi and Ryan Miller.

Flannery was apologetic for not having the time to make it a school

trip. "There was no way there was enough time for the kids to make it for the Sunday rally. If that rally were in June we'd have a whole bus," said Flannery.

Amanda Harzula was impressed with hearing the speeches, especially of Help Darfur Now cofounder Arielle Wisotsky.

"It was really interesting to have them speak because there was someone to relate to; they spoke on your level. They started this. They are just high school students and you can make

a difference," said Harzula, adding that the South Plainfield chapter is growing daily.

The group organized a fundraiser for Darfur and sold t-shirts, pins and bracelets during the Tiger 24 fundraiser and made \$500 with all the money going to Doctors Without Borders. The money raised from the bracelets is going to an organization called Save Darfur. Tietjin said that a sale of chocolate bars will benefit Doctors without Borders and our own funds.

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## Ewing to Retire After 26 Years

(Continued from page 1)

began two inclusion classes combining "Sunshine" four-year-olds with those in the Future Stars program. For the past six years Ewing has been teaching the two inclusion classes, with Special Ed teacher Cindy Bloch and an aide for four years, and last year with Special Education teacher Janice Early. This year she and aide Debbie Miller are teaching the immersion classes. For the past two years Ewing also embraced and varied her teaching style to incorporate the methods introduced from the "Tools of the Mind" program for pre-schoolers.

Honors have come to Ewing for her teaching in the Future Star program. In 1994, the Future Stars parents purchased a large piece of playground equipment and dedicated the improved Grant School playground to her. Unfortunately, the equipment was destroyed by vandals. It's a set back she takes in stride.

This year Ewing is being recognized for the Governor's Teacher Recognition Program as one of eight teachers from each school chosen for the honor by parents, teachers and administrators. It's an honor she also received in 1993.

Ewing finds that the most important thing in teaching kids is patience. "You also have to understand that it is important to make children feel special," said Ewing adding, "The classroom is the children's home away from home. They are still little. If they feel happy about coming to school they will learn."

It's been difficult for Ewing to make the decision to retire, because no one is encouraging her. "When parents learned of my decision, many came up to me saying, 'I can't believe you're retiring. I wanted my child to be in your class,'" said Ewing. "I feel bad. But I've had tragedy in my life. I had planned on retiring anyway and then with my husband and sister passing, I just thought life is short and I wanted to travel and spend time with the grand kids," she said. She is planning a cruise to Alaska and later a trip to Italy and the French Riviera.

Ewing has three children. Glen and his wife Joy, who live in South Plainfield. "Glen will begin an intensive 28 month training program as a nurse anesthetologist at UMDNJ and I want to help with the children, Paige, 7½ and Erica 5. My daughter, Kim and husband Joseph Blanda live in Flemington with their children Ashley, 4 and Ethan, 2½. My son Christo-

pher and his wife Dana live in Princeton with their baby, eight month old Chase.

"It's going to be hard in retirement, because my whole life has been preschool. I've met so many wonderful families and they keep in touch. I always missed the parents and the children at the end of the year and I don't know what I'm going to do without them or how I'm going to fill my days," she admits.

But don't expect Ewing to stay away for long, "I will miss the staff. We are like a family. We have always worked together as a team. I've already told the teachers I will help them set up the preschool room before September. I will come back as a substitute."

## Carlson Wagonlit Travel Recommends Giving Something to Remember

With a wide-range of holidays and life events—including Mother's Day, Father's Day, graduations, weddings and anniversaries—right around the corner, Piscataway's Carlson Wagonlit Travel has the perfect gift idea to satisfy all those hard-to-please people on your list, the gift of travel. Whether you provide a gift certificate in virtually any denomination which can be applied toward the trip of your recipient's choosing, or one of the many exciting GOGO Worldwide Vacation packages being offered throughout the month of May, you're sure to make even the most jaded loved one celebrate. Details of Carlson

Wagonlit Travel's May promotion with GOGO Worldwide Vacations—including \$100 in spending money—were announced today.

"We're advising our customers that our special GOGO Worldwide Vacation offering for May provides enormous value on five glorious nights in such tropical destinations as The Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Mexico and Netherlands Antilles. What an ideal way to celebrate your loved ones on their important life moments," noted Carmine Feola, president of Piscataway's Carlson Wagonlit Travel, with locations in Piscataway and Kendall Park. "In addition to the \$100 in spending money,

all packages include: hotel accommodations, taxes and roundtrip airport transfers. And because so many of our customers want to lock-in value upfront, they offer all-inclusive land-only packages that provide all meals, beverages, snacks and much more. Overall, we have 31 hotels from which to choose."

For more information on their inclusive trips, including Mexico, Nassau/Paradise Island, The Bahamas and the Caribbean, call (732) 981-8181, or visit Carlson Wagonlit Travel's office at 1297 Centennial Square, adjacent to Walmart in Piscataway.



## Kennedy Get Acquainted Program

John F. Kennedy School PTSO will be holding our "Kindergarten Get Acquainted Program" for all students who will be attending kindergarten at JFK in September. The purpose of the class is to familiarize the students with the school and staff. Hopefully, any anxieties the children may have about coming to a new school will be alleviated. Some of the activities during the program are visits to the school nurse, the principal, meeting other faculty and staff members, and taking a short bus ride.

Morning or afternoon sessions for the program are as follows:

Tuesdays, May 16, 23 and 30 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. and Tuesdays, May 16, 23 and 30 from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Parents may register during May in the Kennedy School main office between 9 and 11 a.m. or 1 and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. Registration must be completed by May 15. If you need any further information about the program, please call the main office at (908) 754-4620.

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