

Moms are the winners in Mohn's essay contest. See page 8.

**FIREMAN'S
MEMORIAL**
to be dedicated this
Saturday, May 20,
at 11 a.m.
The public is
invited to attend.

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 9, NO. 37

50 CENTS

MAY 19, 2006

Council Trims \$1.2M From BOE Budget

*Resolution Cites Budgeting Oversight,
Spares Jobs, Sports Programs*

Despite objections and pleas from the more than 100 teachers, board members and employees who filled the council chambers Tuesday night, the council unanimously voted to cut the Board of Education school budget by almost \$1.2M, or \$1,184,088. For the average taxpayer, this reduction totals nine points, or \$108 for a house assessed at \$117,000. The original budget would have raised the school

tax by about \$217. As a result of the cuts made, school taxes will go up by an average of \$111 per \$117,000 assessed value.

Councilman Charlie Butrico began the meeting by reading a statement explaining how the council Finance committee, with the help of CPAs Gary Higgins and Anthony Lamarco hired by the Borough to examine

(Continued on page 16)

Resident Indicted for Sharing Sex Pictures

NJ State Trooper and South Plainfield resident Christopher Johnston, 26, was indicted on two third-degree invasion of privacy charges last Friday and faces five years in prison after sharing pictures of a consensual sex act with another friend that were taken on a camera phone.

According to the Monmouth County Prosecutors Office, a 25 year-old woman, whose name has not been released, reported to authorities that a picture taken of her and Johnston on Sept. 4, 2005 at a Belmar summer residence was being shown to other individuals without her knowledge. Johnston is accused of sending a photograph to juvenile corrections officer Matthew Toranzo of New Brunswick, who then forwarded it to another person.

Johnston, a state trooper assigned

to the Somerville station since April 2005, was suspended without pay on Friday. He was a juvenile corrections officer prior to that. The incident is also being investigated by the NJ State Police Office of Professional Standards Internal Investigation Bureau.

Toranzo was also charged with one count of invasion of privacy, punishable by up to five years in prison. The indictment also accused Johnston of tampering with a witness, another third-degree offense, because he allegedly tried to make a witness give false information or withhold information.

"The primary thing to keep in mind when you have a cell phone with a camera is you have to be mindful of the privacy of people or victims when you are photographing them in a particular situation," Prosecutor Luis Valentin said. "And certainly the dissemination of that is a violation of law if done without the consent of the victim."

Both men surrendered to authorities on Friday. Johnston was released on his own recognizance and Toranzo posted the 10 percent of the \$10,000 bail set by a Freehold superior court judge. Johnston's lawyer, Charles Uliano, said "Johnston is not guilty of any of these charges." Toranzo's lawyer, Joseph A. Carmen, could not be reached for comment.



Pictured with Chris Schultz and Lisa Campoli are Middle School Alcohol and Drug Prevention Club members Miguel Mejia, Matthew Brazza, Christina Cody and Jenae Goodson around the Tree of Life.

Kids Say 'No' with the Help of Peers

By Jane Dornick

Middle School students spent the month of April learning about the affects of alcohol, tobacco and drugs through a program sponsored by the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence through Middlesex County and the help of Student Assistance Counselor Lisa Campoli.

The month kicked off with drunk driving awareness and activities with the help of the Peer Mentors and Alcohol and Drug Prevention clubs. Campoli visited classrooms and spoke about kids getting into cars with im-

paired drivers in an effort to prevent tragedies. She also explained how there are approximately 36 people killed every day in the U.S. from drug or alcohol related injuries. The clubs randomly chose 37 students throughout the day and placed an "X" on their foreheads to symbolize those killed. Students marked with the "X" were not allowed to communicate with anyone for the rest of the day to symbolize their lives being silenced.

April 5 was Kick Butts Day. Statistics show that 1,200 people die every day from tobacco related illnesses. Students and faculty filled out paper

footprints with the names of people they know that have died because of smoking, which were placed on a bulletin board in the hallway.

Throughout the month the clubs gave lessons during seventh grade health classes on alcohol poisoning and binge drinking. The clubs also participated in cross-age teaching where eighth grade students taught seventh graders the importance of what they had learned about alcohol and drug abuse. Campoli said, "Kids will listen to other kids before they listen to adults. This is why cross-age

(Continued on page 15)

BOE Endorses Amendment to State Constitution

By Libby Barsky

The Board of Education voted unanimously to endorse a resolution amending the way state aid for education is distributed at its regular meeting held on May 10.

The bill, SCR37, sponsored by state senators Leonard Lance and Robert Littell and co-sponsored by

Barbara Buono, Joseph Kirillow, Andrew Ciesla and Henry McNamara, draws attention to the "unfair and disproportionate" distribution of state aid to rural and suburban districts like South Plainfield. A majority of the aid goes to 31 urban school districts-known as the Abbott districts-in order to comply with rulings of the N.J. Supreme Court.

As a result of the court formulas used for this distribution, the burden of any increases for educational costs are picked up by local property taxpayers, "creating an unfair and disproportional property tax burden to the rural and suburban communities," notes the resolution.

The proposed amendment would have the legislature determine the appropriate manner to fund education, and districts with special needs would receive a per pupil amount based on the state average

regular education program budget per pupil.

Board member Carol Byrne attempted to place the district's resolution on the agenda of the New Jersey School Boards Association's next meeting so that body could also endorse the amendment, but did not succeed. "I'm going to try to push it for the next delegate assembly which will be in six months," said Byrne. "In the meantime, it doesn't mean we can't keep fighting for it and we will be talking to other districts," she said.

Former board member Frank Mikorski suggested that because the N.J. School Boards Association "hasn't done anything on this" (protesting the method of funding to Abbott districts), the Board should seriously consider not paying their membership dues (approximately \$30,000) to the N.J. School Board Association organization.



William Beegle, director of guidance for South Plainfield School district, participates in Tiger 24. See page 9 for story and additional photos.

Hall Of Fame Candidates Selected

A "Hall of Fame" was established at South Plainfield High School to honor graduates for achievements in business, government, academia, community service and the humanities. Acknowledging these successful graduates recognizes them as leaders in their fields and also provides current high school students with positive role models from their own community.

The candidates selected for this year are: Dr. David Austein, Louis Calderone and Michael Santoro.

The inductees will be honored on Tuesday, June 6 with a luncheon at the Holiday Inn on Stelton Rd. An induction ceremony will take place at 7 p.m. that same evening in South Plainfield High School's Joseph A. Mondoro Auditorium preceding the annual academic awards.

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
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 plans sub-committee

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

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.

IN YOUR OPINION

To the Editor:

The May 7 benefit dinner for Alyssa Ricciardi was a success. Thanks to the community of South Plainfield for coming together to support Alyssa. A special thanks to family members, friends and local merchants who sold tickets, donated food, beverages, paper goods and door prizes. A special thanks to the American Legion for hosting this event and everyone that attended.

The family is very grateful for private donations received; please continue to keep Alyssa and the family in your prayers as they are going through this tough time. Angels do exist, when they have no wings they are called "family and friends."

FAMILY OF ALYSSA RICCIARDI

Dear Editor,

The campaign season for 2006 has not even kicked off and already Charlie Butrico and the Democrats have started the mudslinging. I was hoping this year's election would take on a more civil tone, but after losing last year the Democrats are furious and will stop at nothing to win. This includes perpetrating a fraud on the public.

Yes, those are strong words. But that's what's happening. Last week, Butrico accurately pointed out that I voted "no" on his so-called pay-to-play ordinance. What he forgot to say is that the ordinance is so riddled with loopholes that it would do nothing. It's worthless.

Butrico also forgot to mention that I proposed changes that would give the ordinance some teeth. And he failed to mention that in February I gave the borough attorney (who doubles as the Democratic Party chairman) a copy of the model pay-to-play ordinance suggested by Citizens' Campaign (our state's experts on pay to play). That ordinance would have actually resulted in reform.

My suggestions were ignored, and instead, Butrico and the Democrats rammed through their sham ordinance. To call it "reform" is to make a mockery of the word.

Butrico's alleged commitment to reform might have some credibility if he and his party were not saying they want reform and at the same time taking money from borough contractors. For example, on March 9 they took \$1,500 from David J. Samuel, one of the owners of CME, the town's engineering firm.

Then, 21 days later they took \$1,650 from the attorney for the zoning board. Not to be outdone, on March 30 two other borough contractors (our planners and environmental specialists) gave a total of \$2,650.

Why take all this money if you know it's not right?

In referring to Councilman Matt Anesh and me, Butrico said residents

have a right to expect better from their elected officials. Yet Matt and I have never taken a dime from the town's contractors. No Charlie, it's you that the residents have a right to expect better from.

**COUNCILMAN ROBERT
BENVINGA, JR.**

To the Editor,

Kudos to Mayor Gallagher for his recent letter regarding the proposed obscenity, labeled a school budget. Anyone who looks at their property tax bill knows it's gone up and it's almost all due to the school taxes.

Now that the budget has been voted down, our council representatives attempted to do the responsible thing and ask some questions before deciding where cuts can be made. Instead of answers they were met by an angry mob fueled with misinformation. The attitude seems to be don't ask us where all the money has gone, just give us more!

I have a suggestion. Why not try and find the millions of dollars that seem to be unaccounted for from previous budgets. That should carry you for awhile. When that runs out how about letting your employees pay something toward the cost of their benefits like the rest of us. I'm sure we could do without a couple of \$500 a day consultants wandering the halls as well. Then we could eliminate tenure and implement merit based pay. We might even get this thing running like a business; a business designed to educate our children without taxing their grandparents out of town.

If you don't like these ideas, then give our mayor and council the information they need to do the job. I'm sure they will do their best to protect the needs of our children and break the strangle hold the teachers union has on our administration and school board.

The voters have spoken and we trust them, not you, to protect our interests.

JACK PEDERSEN

To the Editor:

Two weeks ago I attended the council meeting where the mayor and council discussed the new Pay-to-Play legislation. I don't get to council meetings very often, but I thought this was an important issue and I wanted to be informed.

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.

At the meeting, Councilman Robert Benvingha, as well as Republican Chairman Bob Jones, spoke extensively about why the proposed ordinance needed changing. They said specifically that they wanted a stronger ordinance, because the proposed one would not solve the Pay-to-Play problem. Only because the ordinance was not strong enough did Councilman Benvingha and Councilman Matt Anesh vote "no" on it.

It was clear to me why Benvingha and Anesh voted as they did. They wanted a stronger ordinance. In last week's paper Councilman Charlie Butrico made it sound like they were against Pay to Play reform. Nothing could have been further from the truth.

It makes me angry to see these types of distortions. Butrico knew full well that what he wrote was not accurate, but he wrote it anyway, because he thought he could get away with it.

I was there and I saw and heard what took place. What Charlie Butrico said in the paper was far from the truth. As our representative, he owes us all an apology.

CYNTHIA FRANK

Clarification

In the story in last week's page one story, "Budget Talks End Abruptly," regarding the school board meeting with the Borough Council, we stated that the board adjourned for executive session, leaving the council members sitting. In fact, the executive session had been planned in advance. Borough Council members were invited to, and did, attend. The meeting was called to discuss specific budgeting items.

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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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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Cindy Michael Jewellers owner Ed Colucci celebrated the store's 20th anniversary with wife, Kathy, and daughter, Natalie, on April 29. Phyllis Di Francesco was the winner of a diamond pendant that was raffled off in honor of the occasion.

Police Announce 'Click it or Ticket' Campaign

The South Plainfield Police Department will be participating in the nationwide 'Click it or Ticket' mobilization from May 22 to June 4.

During this mobilization, the South Plainfield Police Department will conduct a zero tolerance seat belt enforcement campaign. Motorists who are not buckled up will be issued a ticket. This agency will be utilizing both roving and fixed seat belt usage checkpoints throughout the Borough. This high profile law enforcement is a two pronged effort, enforcement and education, in an effort to save lives and decrease injuries through the increase in seat belt and child restraint usage.

The goal of this program is to increase the statewide seat belt usage rate to 88%. The current seat belt usage rate in New Jersey is 86% and the rate has steadily risen during the past several years.

In 2005, there were 757 motor vehicle fatalities in New Jersey. A large percentage of the motor vehicle occupants killed in traffic crashes were not wearing a safety belt.

Educational materials, such as posters and morning announcements will be provided to the South Plainfield High School.

For further information about these programs contact Lt. Kevin Murtagh at (908) 226-7679.

Special Mother's Day Program at Roosevelt

By Libby Barsky

Mother's Day came early for the 21 students in Michael Bertram's third grade class. Bertram's students invited their mothers for a special presentation they had planned since the beginning of the month.

The poems written about their mothers were the heart of the presentation. Students, with the help of Bertram, composed poems that invoked special qualities seen in their relationship with their moms.

"She's not just my mom, she's my best friend," wrote Nicole Sottiriou. Zaire Cone asked, "Who is always giving me a hug when I am feeling sour? Who is always encouraging me to try my best? Everyday, who puts a smile on my face. Who is my ticket to a better place? That's my Mom!" Inriri Goraya simply stated, "She is my mom and I need her."

Sara Kamal explored her feelings with "Mom, you are the rose that just bloomed in my heart." Het Patel reached for another image, "You are the sun and I am Mercury. Close to you together." Sporthi Jeediguna said, "My mom is the shining sun, helping me grow each day. If she isn't there, I don't grow. The second she shines is the second I start to grow."

Decorated with pink balloons, with desks pushed to the side to make space for parents, Michael Bertram's classroom was set up like a stage. A screen was set up in the front with a lectern near it for the students to stand to read their poems.

After a small introduction welcoming parents, Bertram read his poem, "Only a Mother," detailing all the actions a mother does in the course of her day. It began, "Only a mother can talk on the phone holding a baby while she cooks a meal that leaves an aroma through the house that sings songs to

your belly." Then each of the 21 students came up and read their poem. During each reading, a short film showing moms was displayed on the screen. When the reading was over, each child gave his or her mother the poem decorated, framed and laminated, with a DVD disc with the photo montage and a long stemmed rose with a quick kiss or hug.

After the presentation, as the moms were wiping their eyes, the students swarmed to the back of the room to consume refreshments the mothers had brought with them.

This is the fourth year Bertram held

a Mother's Day poetry presentation. But this year, it was more elaborate because of a \$500 grant he, along with computer teacher Annemarie Stoeckel, received. The grant was from the Board of Education for special education projects.

The grant provided the funds for a special camera that could make the pictures of mothers collected by each student into a slide show movie with sound and placed on individual DVD's.

"It's a project that combined the technology with the writing," said Bertram.

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The Sacred Heart Rosary Society held their annual May Crowning on May 8. Children who had just received their First Holy Communion were invited to participate. Pictured left to right are Abigail Pumm (who placed the crown), Danielle Powbliss, Jessica Panek, Melissa Pokorny, Robert Gwiasda (crown bearer), Madison Zieger, Zoe Nardacci, Kyle Donnelly, Mary Bach and Taylor Crews.

Keep Kids Alive, Drive 25 Campaign Resumes

The South Plainfield Police Department has announced the implementation of the pedestrian safety campaign "Keep Kids Alive, Drive 25" for the second year. This safety campaign targets the observance of the speed limit on residential streets. In most towns and cities across the United States, the residential speed limit is 25 miles per hour.

The goal of this campaign is to simply remind drivers to check their speed while driving in Borough neighborhoods, through the use of uniquely designed lawn signs. The vision of the "Keep Kids Alive, Drive 25" campaign is to unite neighborhoods across the country by creating safer streets for the benefit of all pedestrians and motorists. As the school year ends, pedestrian traffic will increase in our neighborhoods and on our roadways. The

goal is to make these neighborhoods as safe as possible. Signs will be displayed in residential neighborhoods, especially those areas used as cut-through streets to avoid traffic signals or congestion. Traffic enforcement will also be increased throughout the Borough, targeting speeding violators.

The campaign has proven to be highly successful in other states. The campaign is part of the South Plainfield Police Department's continuing effort to provide a safer Borough by raising the awareness of speed limits throughout neighborhoods where our children play and pedestrians walk. For additional information, you can go to the website www.keep-kidsalive.org.

The following businesses contributed funds for the purchase of new

lawn signs:

KLK Trucking, Bett-A-Way Trucking, South Plainfield Observer, Hall's Warehouse, Cornerstone Architects, Jack and Helen Pederson, Curves of South Plainfield, Attorney Renato Biri bin, Stillman Photography Services and Edison Heating and Cooling.

The South Plainfield Business Association has matched the donations. Seventy new signs were purchased this year. The South Plainfield Funeral Home sponsored the program last year by purchasing a roadway banner and the fifty signs that were distributed in 2005.

Residents wishing to obtain a "Keep Kids Alive, Drive 25" lawn sign are asked to telephone the South Plainfield Police Traffic Safety Division at (908) 226-7678.

North Edison

Rare Find! Prime location, 5 bedrooms, 2 baths. Partial brick front-custom built home with spacious layout, large eat-in kitchen, bay windows in living room and kitchen, formal dining room, finished basement with bar, workshop and outside entrance, attached garage with opener, brand new roof, central air, cedar closets, beautiful fenced in yard with pond and two sheds. Clean, well maintained home in move in condition. Close to Clark border, convenient access to GS Parkway and Metropark train station. Asking \$539,900

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Events

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. Prices are \$15 for adults and \$12 for students and seniors. For information and reservations call (908) 755-4654.

VFW Dinner May 19

VFW Memorial Post #6763, 155 Front St., will hold a full course roast pork dinner on Friday, May 19 from 5 to 7 p.m. The public is invited. Children 12 and under are \$4; 13 and over are \$8. 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.

DaVinci Delusion Video at Cedarcraft May 21

Cedarcraft Bible Chapel, located at 1715 Kenyon Ave., will be showing a video of the *DaVinci Delusion* on Sunday, May 21 at 6 p.m. Dan Brown, author of the *DaVinci Code* has stated that, "all descriptions of artwork, architecture, documents and secret rituals in this novel are accurate." Are they? Join us Sunday evening and find out for yourself.

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.

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
<div> <div>UPCOMING EVENTS</div> <div> <p>Overnight trip to Baltimore w/Dinner Theatre (Date Changed to September 30-October 1)</p> </div> </div>				
Knitting/Crocheting 9:30-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Art Class 11:30am	Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social 10am Lunch Available Ladies Social Group 10 am	Exercise 8:45am Computer Class 10am, 11:30am & 1pm Line Dancing 10am Tai Chi Class 2pm	Shop Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11am & 1pm	Bingo 10am-2pm Lunch Available Bingo 10am-2pm
22	23	24	25	26
TO SIGN UP FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER, VISIT THE CENTER.				

AARP Needlecrafters May 24

AARP needlecrafters meet on Wed., May 24 and every Wednesday from 1-3 p.m. at the senior center. They knit for DYFS and Muhlenberg Hospital. To join call Jean at (732) 752-0358.

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.

Long Term Care/ Insurance Seminar June 1

You are invited to attend an insurance sales presentation on Long Term Care and Long Term Care Insurance presented by Robert Abel and Jack Pedersen of Watchung Financial Services on Thurs., June 1 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the South Plainfield Senior

Center, 90 Maple Ave. This free insurance presentation will help answer some of your questions about long term care and help you decide if long term care insurance is right for you. Feel free to bring your spouse or a friend, but seating is limited. To reserve your place call (908) 756-8900. Refreshments will be served.

Vendor Night June 2

The 2007 Stokes Committee will host 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.

Bowling Fundraiser June 4

The SPHS 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 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.

VFW Breakfast June 4

The South Plainfield VFW Post #6763, located at 155 Front Street, will be hosting a breakfast on Sunday, June 4 from 8-11 a.m. Public is invited. For information call (908) 668-9751.

Woodloch Pines Oct. 30 - Nov. 3

The senior center has announced a trip to Woodloch Pines from Oct. 30 to Nov. 3. Trip includes: transportation, four night hotel accommodations, breakfast, lunch and dinner daily, hotel taxes and gratuities, resort activities and nightly entertainment. Cost is \$505 pp double occupancy, \$495 triple and \$585 single. Downpayment of \$100 required, then \$100 due the first of each month. Make reservations as early as possible.

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

What's happening in MAY

surprise waiting for you. Refreshments will be served. For more information call (732) 548-5442.

Edison Arts Society Fundraising 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 (908) 753-ARTS.

Adoption Support May 22

CHATS (Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support) will meet from 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. on Mon., May 22, at Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church on Watchung Ave. Open sharing of adoption-related stories; light refreshments. Check our web site at www.chatsnj.com or call Alyce at (732) 227-0607 for information.

Career Workshop May 24

The Women's Center, a department of JFVS, is hosting a workshop focusing on creating a career plan for "displaced homemakers" who have lost financial support through death, separation, divorce or disability of a spouse, on Wednesday, May 24 at 6:30 p.m. at the JFVS Center, 515 Plainfield Ave., Ste. 201 in Edison. For more information or to register, contact Noreen Noel at (732) 777-1940 or email: nnocl@jfv.org.

Senior Fitness Walk May 31

The Middlesex County Department of Aging is sponsoring a Senior Health and Fitness Walk on Wednesday, May 31 at Johnson Park in Piscataway. The walk is co-sponsored by the 20 municipal senior centers in Middlesex County. Check-in begins at 10 a.m. The walk will kick-off at 11:15 a.m. Rain date is June 1. Walkers may choose the length of their course, with stops at the half-mile, mile and two-mile marks. Registration, by May 26, is required. Call (732) 745-3295. Seniors should contact their municipal senior centers for transportation.

Depression/Bipolar Alliance Meeting May 31

The Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance monthly educational meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 31, at 7:30 p.m. at the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship in Morristown. For information call (973) 994-1143.

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 St. Anthony June 6-10


Our Lady of Czestochowa R.C. Church's Annual Feast of St. Anthony will be held Tuesday through Saturday, June 6-10 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 after all masses, or at the church. Tickets will also be on sale at Bagel Pantry, Corner Deli, David's Stationary, Oak Tree Farms and Sal's Spirit Shoppe.

— Out of Town — 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 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



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Knights of Columbus Announce Awards

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus, Council #6203 have announced the Knight and Family of the Quarter Awards from January through March 2006. The Knights presented these and other awards at a Communion Breakfast held at their council on April 30.

Zig Sutor won the council's Knight of the Quarter Award for his tireless work as the hall rental chairman. He also won this award for his work with the youth and church activities within our council and community. Zig has always given his time to many fundraisers the Knights run every year, including the Keystone Christmas party, Special Citizens Drive, Roses for Life sale and membership drives. In the past he was also the council's insurance salesman and membership director. Without his dedication, the council would not have won the many awards they have during the past two years. Whenever there is a need for help, Zig is there to help. He is also a 4th degree brother knight.

The LoBosco Family won the council's Family of the Quarter award for their tireless work within the council, youth, family and church activities. Some of the accomplishments for which John, Eleanor, Bianca, 11, Angela, 8 and Christina, 6, received the Family of the Quarter Award are: John is the warden for the council and is the youth activities director. In this capacity he is chairman of all youth events that the Knights run each year. The two major events he has run which were extremely successful were: the

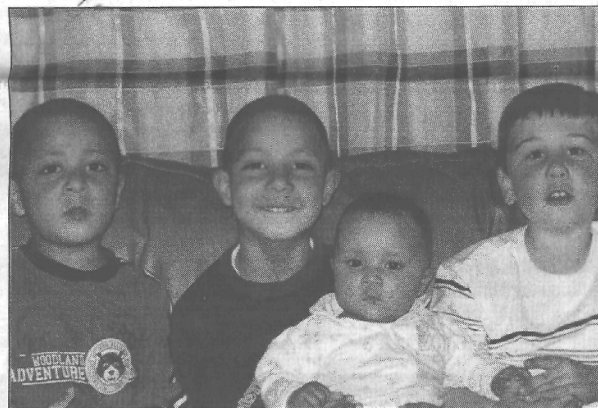


Grand Knight Joe Scrudato presents a Family of the Quarter Award plaque to the LoBosco Family.

Youth Soccer Challenge and the Youth Free Throw Basketball contest. John also ran the council's poster and essay contest on drug abuse. John, Eleanor and their children always participate in all council activities. It seems whenever there is a family event happening the LoBosco's are there supporting it. This is the true meaning of the Knights of Columbus.

Other awards presented at the Communion Breakfast included: Gerry Buttrico and Robert Barone receiving the Shining Armor Award given out by the Supreme Knights of Columbus. This award is for new members who have completed five goals within a years time.

The breakfast was prepared by Bob Walker and Bill Buttrico and emceed by Grand Knight Joe Scrudato.



Pictured are the Cabrera children: Evan, 3, Noah, 6, Leah, four months; and Ryan Purcell, who suffer from PKU.

May is PKU Awareness Month

Most people will probably ask, "What is PKU?" PKU is an abbreviation for phenylketonuria, a metabolic disorder in which the person lacks the enzyme that breaks down a component of protein in foods.

Newborns can be diagnosed with PKU and several other disorders with a newborn screening test done in the hospital with a heel prick. I don't think the awareness or the importance of this test is stressed to new parents. Without newborn screening, a PKU child can have irreversible brain damage before any symptoms are seen.

To understand PKU, one must understand that amino acids are the building blocks of proteins. Some amino acids are essential, which means the body cannot make them and they must be supplied by diet. Phenylalanine is an essential amino acid present in all foods containing protein. The enzyme that a person with PKU lacks is phenylalanine hydroxylase and this amino acid is used to break down phenylalanine (shortened to "phe" pronounced "fee") into another amino acid called tyrosine. A person without PKU will break down the large amounts of "phe" that is consumed and expel it. A person with PKU cannot break down the "phe" so the large amounts of "phe" would

build up in the body tissue and blood. Large amounts of "phe" in the blood can lead to brain damage in young children whose brains are still developing. High levels of phenylalanine, and low tyrosine levels result in poor growth and mental development. This is why people with PKU must be on a low protein diet and drink special low protein formula, containing tyrosine and all amino acids except phenylalanine.

People with PKU follow a strict low protein diet for life. Protein is in almost all food we consume. The diet must restrict meats, dairy, soy, flour and artificial substitutes. There are special flours, cheese, pastas and meat substitutes that are available to purchase. A PKU diet is rich in fruits and most vegetable which are naturally low in protein. PKU can be very hard but there are worse things in life to have and we consider ourselves lucky to have something that can be controlled by diet. PKU can affect one in 15,000 births so it does not get the funding as more common disorders.

To learn more about PKU and how to contribute to PKU research, visit www.pkunews.org/.

—Submitted by South Plainfield residents Suzanne Purcell and Betsy Cabrera

Johanna's Framing Display At Library

Johanna's Creations framing work is on display at the South Plainfield Library now until May 31. The display will feature custom-framed art prints, medals and three-dimensional objects. The display also includes picture mats with cut letters and shapes for achievement, sport, or activity minded framing. According to Johanna Salvemini, CPE, owner of Johanna's Creations, the display is intended to give patrons ideas and suggestions on what and how things can be framed, for gift giving or for their own use. "If a consumer has never sought out the opportunity to have an item of sentimental value framed before, this is an opportunity for them to become acquainted with the benefits of professional framing. If a consumer has had items framed before, this experience will reinforce the value of having their momentos framed by a professional," Salvemini said.

As part of the display, Salvemini will be at the library on Wednesday, May 25, from 7 to 8 p.m. to offer basic information on picture framing—what to expect from a framer and a comparison of materials that are used today as compared to years ago. Complimentary pamphlets will be available for attendees to take home. Johanna's Creations will also be hosting a drawing for free framing and framing products. The are no requirements to enter the drawing except that they fill out an entry form and place it in the container. The date of the drawing is Wednesday, May 31 and the winner need not be present.

Salvemini's framing studio, located in Middlesex, offers custom framing and matting with an emphasis in conservation framing. Her specialties are in memorabilia, needleart, and diplomas. She can be reached at (732) 469-3210, or at jo@johannas.com.

Cigarette Butts: No Butts about it!

- Cigarette butts are rarely viewed as a litter problem because of their size. Over 4.5 trillion cigarette butts are littered worldwide each year.
- Cigarette filters are made of cellulose acetate, which can take decades to biodegrade.
- Discarded butts are also carried by rain into our sewer systems where their chemicals can seep into our water supply.
- Cigarette butts pose a threat to wildlife; birds and fish often mistake them for food.

Did you know?

Cigarette butts can smoulder up to three hours when thrown from a vehicle. Globally, every 12 minutes a fire starts due to littering.

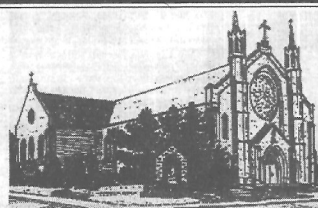
This information was brought to you by the South Plainfield Glitterbugs—a South Plainfield Clean Community Awareness Group for Children.

For additional information on the Glitterbugs, please call Marie Markey at (908) 755-3213. Current members should call to update your contact information or email marie.markey@comcast.net.

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Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.

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Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.

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

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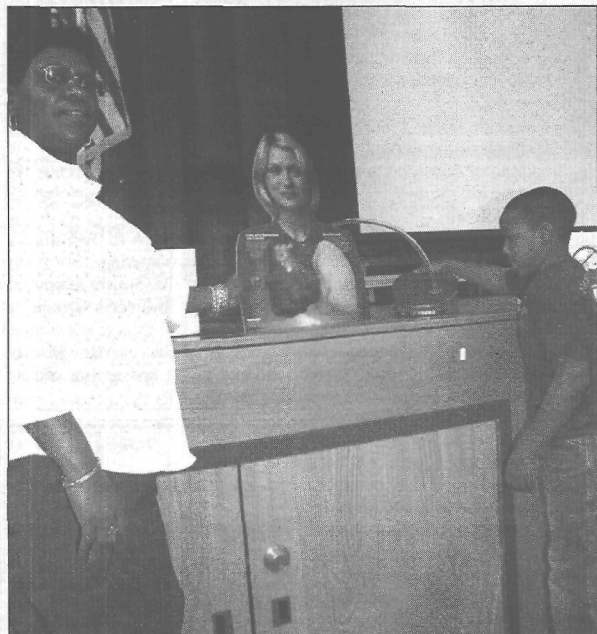
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Roosevelt Students Say No to Smoking



Middlesex County Health educator Cheryl Akins shows students a machine demonstrating the lack of lung capacity a smoker has.

By Jane Dornick

Middlesex County Public Health Department educators Twyla Paige

and Cheryl Akins helped Roosevelt School students say no to smoking at an assembly held last month. The informative program covered

many topics concerning the dangers of smoking and its effect on other people. Paige makes students aware of the pollution smoking causes, the health risks and risks to others who are around smokers. A brief movie was shown about an athlete who smoked along with several of his young fans who helped teach him about the dangers of smoking and the effect second hand smoke can cause people around them. A two foot long see-through cigarette was shown to students and an explanation of all of the chemicals that go into it were explained in detail. The audience of youngsters was appalled to learn that substances such as formaldehyde, methanol and mercury were inside a cigarette. Smoking can also cause fires, dull your senses, cause your skin to age more quickly and your lungs don't work as well to play sports.

Educating people of all ages on the hazards of smoking is close to Paige's heart as she explained that her mother died six years ago from lung cancer at the age of 46. Among the health risks, she also talked about peer pressure and practiced some role playing with students about how to say no if someone offers you a cigarette.

Registration is Underway for Future Stars

Registration for South Plainfield Future Stars Preschool, a tuition based program, is underway for the 2006/2007 school year. There are openings in the two and three year old classes.

We are also offering the Early Launch to Learning Initiative (ELLII program), a FREE preschool for low income families of four year olds who reside in South Plainfield. This program will meet five afternoons a week and will be an expansion of the Future Stars Preschool program.

Applications and information may be obtained for the following programs by calling the Adult School Office at (908) 754-4620, ext. 215.



The students of Louise Mruz's first grade Franklin School class made a presentation of books and autobiographies they had written. Left to right are Elizabeth Lee, Nikolas Peterson, Stephanie Heim, Emily McCann, Jenna Karcher, Abigail Brown, Olibia O'Leary, Sam Smith and Louise Mruz (in back).

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Sunnie Randolph

Have you started planning your summer vacation? School will be over soon, the beaches will be open and it will be time to take a well earned vacation. The South Plainfield Public Library has books and videos to help you select a place to visit and make the travel plans for the trip. The library owns all the new Mobile Travel guides. The library has travel books for places to visit around the world-like Sweden, London or Paris, Disney World in France, Japan or the United States. One can visit the nation's capital, Washington, D.C. or Cape Cod. Stop by the library and check out the travel books. The Internet is also helpful in planning your trip. If you need help with your planning, ask a librarian.

The library will be having a book sale on Saturday, June 10 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The library will accept donations of books, videos and DVDs that are clean and in good condition until Friday, June 9. The library does not accept magazines, encyclopedias and text books. Everything

must be sold. The library needs the book sale space for summer reading. Book sale proceeds will be used for the new library.

Children's programs will be held at their regularly scheduled times-Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday morning for 2's and 3's at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m. for three and over, Thursday, 1:15 p.m., for three and over, Thursday night at 6:30 p.m. for 2's and 3's and Friday at 10:30 a.m. for Books-N-Babies.

Don't forget to check the library's website www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us for the latest happenings at the library. You may also place holds or renew your library materials on the website.

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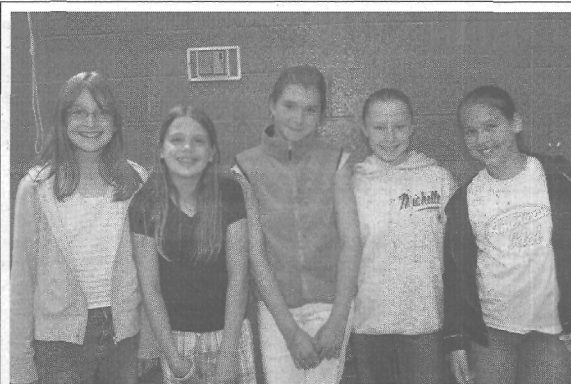
Monday Afternoon Club Provides Continuing Support for Muhlenberg



Left to right: D. Margaret Messemer, club president; Dr. Judith Mathews, dean of nursing schools; Donald P. Albertson, Jr., director of development; and Elizabeth McNish, club education chair.

Long ago, the needs of Plainfield's hospital inspired Eliza Elvira Kenyon, founder and first president of the Monday Afternoon Club, to found the Muhlenberg Auxiliary, a group of volunteers who serve to supplement the many activities and raise money for the hospital. Other clubs and organizations joined in the effort and organized the Twigs from among their memberships and served the hospital well by staffing the gift shop, nearly new thrift shop, information desk, clerical duties and donations of items for the gift shop and various programs.

The Monday Afternoon Club continues its founder's legacy by donating to the nursing scholarships and this year has doubled its contribution in an effort to train more nurses to fill the shortages. The club will continue its support with scholarships in honor of Miss Kenyon.



Grant Elementary School held its finals in the Battle of the Books contest on April 26. The winners are fifth grade Team Smarties pictured (L to R) Gabby Smith, Emily Pittenger, Gracie Piekarski, Michelle Stoeckel and Kim Walsh. All of the winners received a gift certificate to Walden Books and will travel to compete against St. Mary's in Perth Amboy and H.B. Whitehorse Middle School in Verona.

Area Red Cross Honors Volunteers

The Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross recognized its network of volunteers at a reception held recently.

Rename The Brush Stop Contest

The Brush Stop, located at 132 South Plainfield Ave. next to Drug Fair, is holding a contest to rename the hair salon. The winner will receive \$100 worth of services and products along with their photograph in the *Observer* with their winning entry on the new sign outside the shop. You can bring in your entries during business hours, Monday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Contest ends June 9. For more information contact The Brush Stop at (908) 753-6969.

"Any Red Cross chapter is only as good as its network of volunteers," said Tri-County Chapter Chair Sheldon Goldberg, "By and large we are a volunteer organization. The kind of effort and dedication that these people have exhibited is nothing short of spectacular. Whether it is helping the community, assisting with a local disaster, or making personal sacrifices for a national disaster like that of Hurricane Katrina... the volunteers from

our chapter have been selfless and unwavering in their loyalty to help others in time of crisis."

The following South Plainfield volunteers received awards for their many hours of service:

Gold Awards-500 hours of service or more: Phyllis Giden and Lucille Neumann.

Disaster Awards- deployed to Hurricane Katrina: Mary Esposito and Joseph Younack.

Almost Famous Players To Entertain

The Almost Famous Players have once again been asked to entertain at the St. Peter's Hospital Cancer Survivors Day Picnic.

This year's theme is western. We are seeking donations of cowboy hats, bandanas, overalls, any type of

western style shirts or skirts, toy stick horses, cowbells, or any western related item that can be used for a costume, set or game.

Any donations greatly appreciated. Call for a pick up, (908) 346-2290.

FROM THE DESK OF DEBBIE BOYLE

Congratulations to Tony Joe, SPHS junior on his letter to the editor on May 5, with regard to the extremely unfortunate incident that occurred on April 24, at the high school which stemmed from two students. As you stated, the community needs to keep in mind all of the wonderful achievements the SPHS students have obtained such as Peer to Peer Leadership programs (i.e. adopt families programs, Tiger 24, Gold Card privileges, Heroes and Cool Kids, fundraising for other states due to disasters and the list goes on), Cultural Heritage Program and the Holocaust Museum and having a 90% college applications rate. Please do not let one isolated incident cloud the achievement of the majority of SPHS kids. What a great community we live in and good always prevails.

The Grant 2007 Stokes Committee vendor night will take place on June 2 at Grant from 5-9 p.m. There will be a variety of vendors in attendance (i.e. Tupperware, Pampered Chef, jewelry). If there are any vendors interested please contact chairperson Debby DiDolce at (908) 561-2320. We are also requesting donations of baked goods and munchies from the fifth grade Stokes families, which will be sold during that evening to benefit the Stokes trip.

The SPHS will hold the Gold Card picnic on May 24 with a rain date of May 25 from 10:30 to 12:30 p.m. at the high school.

The Grant School book fair will take place the end of May. We need volunteers.

The HS Athletic Booster Club continues to need volunteers at the upcoming track meets for May 26, 27 and June 2, 3, and 7. The proceeds are used to purchase various athletic equipment, which benefits all the athletic programs. Call Terri (908) 754-4620 ext. 248.

Watch for the Grant Stokes used clothing, stuffed animals, shoes and purse collection that will take place within the next three weeks. Roma Food will be donating a trailer for the collection.

Congratulations to Karen Steingart, her husband, son Sam, family and friends who participated in a walk for the Kidney and Neurology Foundation in Point Pleasant on May 7. They raised approximately \$3,000 for the foundation.

Al, Debra and Jared Czech and Nicole and Robert Zablocki and children, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families.

Chet and Joy Czaplinski our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Shane O'Connor, hurry and heal fast, we're thinking about you.

The Grant School 2007 Stokes Committee will be holding a car wash fundraiser on Saturday, June 10 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., parents are needed at 8 a.m. to help set up. Watch for our flyer.

Cheryl Papa so glad you recovered, we were all praying for you.

Congratulations to the SPHS Boys Varsity Baseball coaches and team on your exciting home game on April 20 vs. Colonia. It is wonderful to see the

team spirit and encouragement, not only from the players themselves, but also from the parents and fans on the bleachers. Mad Wicked! Congratulations on your second place win in the White Division.

Congrats to the SPHS freshmen and sophomore participants at the track meet on April 30 with you're outstanding records. Thanks to those who volunteered in the snack stand.

Congratulations to coaches Panz and Scalzo and the SPHS Varsity Girls Softball team on clinching the White Division Title.

Congratulations to retired SP Middle School teacher, Jerry Durkin's grandson Jimmy, who is a member of the Woodbridge-based Rangers, sponsored by the New York Rangers of the National Hockey League. This United Spinal Ranger sled hockey team played between periods of the NHL Ranger game at Madison Square Garden on April 23 and just won their tournament against the Edison Police Department. Their ages range from seven years old to a college freshman, male and female—great feat!

Mag Photos, beautiful SPHS prom pictures! The students looked beautiful!

The SPHS Senior Letter dinner will take place on Wednesday, June 14, hosted by the SPHS Athletic Booster Club, at the North Plainfield Italian/American Hall.

The SPHS Girls Softball dinner will take place on Thursday, June 15 at the N. Plainfield Italian/American Hall.

HOME TIP:

Clean lint from the entire clothes dryer system, from the dryer to the exterior vent cap. Have your dryer exhaust ducts inspected annually by a certified technician. Please call if I can be of service to you.



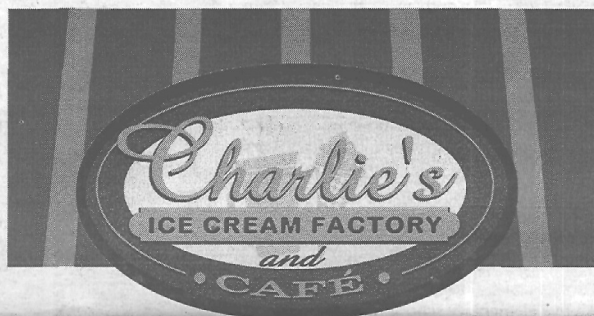
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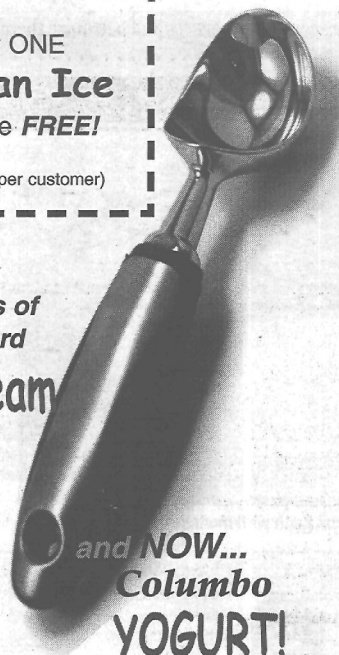


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Karla Palma with mom Ivana



Sarah Walsh with mom Stephanie



Lauren O'Neal with brother Keanu (mom Loretta is not pictured)



Joshua Stasenکو with mom Lisa Scarpa

The Rose Patrol Hits the Streets in Search of Special Moms

Mohn's Flowers and Fancy Foods "Rose Patrol" hit the road last Saturday with a sweet smelling cargo and delivered huge smiles, a few tears and 17 bouquets of roses to local moms whose children were the winners in Mohn's annual Mother's Day essay contest.

Elementary school aged children submitted poems or essays to their teachers describing their love for their moms. The elementary schools chose the winning entries and submitted their names to Mohn's.

The winners' moms were surprised last Saturday by Mohn's co-owners, Georgeann DiGrazi and Bill Cochrane, with a delivery of a dozen roses, along with the winning essays. All five elementary schools participated.

The Observer had the privilege of joining the "Rose Patrol" in making its annual delivery to the lucky moms and witnessing the joy and love in the eyes of the moms, along with the delight of the students who authored the winning essays.

Each year DiGrazi and Cochrane are brought to tears as they read the winning essays and poems and are happy they don't bear the responsibility of selecting the winners. Both donate their time, as well as the roses, for this special Mother's Day tribute each year.

Winning essays and poems were written by Karla Palma, Sarah Walsh, Lauren O'Neal, Joshua Stasenکو, Patrick McCoid, Gabriela Guerrero, Taylor Donato, Paul Licato, Mark Stasio, Alyssa Gomez, Malcolm Keith, Monica Spooner, Madison Zieger, Nolan Berry,

Colin Berry and Catheryn Berry, Melissa Molans, Naomi Nieves, Alexandrina Blair. Thanks to all the teachers who encouraged their students to submit their essays. The contest had the participation of all the elementary schools in the borough.



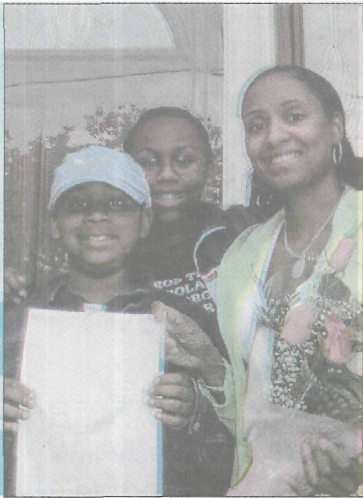
Patrick McCoid with mom Laura Readie



Gabriela Guerrero with mom Delores



Taylor Donato with mom Wendi



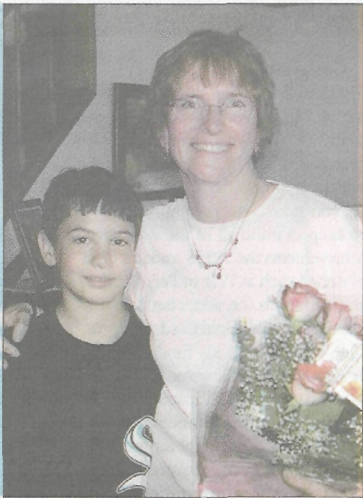
Malcolm Keith with mom Velma and sister Jenae



Alyssa Gomez with mom Deborah



Paul Licato with mom Mina



Mark Stasio with mom Joan



Colleen Berry with her children, Brendan, Colin, Patrick, Nolan and Catheryn



Monica Spooner with mom Debbie



Madison Zieger with mom Sue

Middle School Announces Third Quarter Honor Roll

High Honor Roll-Seventh Grade

Jillian Cortese, Brandon Downes, Megan Kaczka, Ryan Lind, Matthew Little, Sarah McCarthy, Tara O'Day, Ruchi Patel, Cindy (Veronica) Ruiz, Rebecca Smith and Kerry Yorkanis.

Honor Roll-Seventh Grade

Alyssa Aiello, Rachel Alexa, Sadiq Amini, Christopher Anyamene, Carly Ashnault, Ryan Billich, Jayme Bishop, Jeffrey Bodyl, Kimberly Bosse, Taylor Bullard, Joelle Butrico, Kenneth Calderoni, Amanda Chen, Stephanie Christian, Lauren Conrad, Kayla Cotone, Deanna Dean, G. Bjorn DeLaCruz, Nicole Disch, Michael Dispenziere, Glenn Edridge, Nicole Firmin, Michaela Fore, Jeffrey Gillen, Connor Gillis, Lucas Goitandia, Kaitlyn Graziano, Jaclyn Handwerger, Daniel Hansen, Dana Hunt, Daniel Hunt, Ryan Hutchison, Amizan Jaleel, Taylor Jarema, Kristina Jewkes, Lauren Keane, Brigitte Kelly, Alexander Khidre, Michael Krusinowski, Hieu La, Marina Lam, Patrick Landy, Paul Leepin, Justin Lesky, Cory Limone and Thalia Lopez.

Chante Martin, Jennifer Martinez, Sean McDede, Dylan McDermott, Jamie McLean, Michelle Miller, Michelle Nguyen, Joseph Nicastro, Erin O'Connor, Nicholas Okosko, Matias Palma, Jaime Parello, Kishan Patel, Shruti Patel, Jason Pattison, Kelly Pauls, Vincent Phan, Anthony Pisano, Kyle Pompilio, Jeffrey Praul, Samantha Pukash, Patricio Robles, Sarah Roibal, Richard Rotella, Joana Sa, Claudia Salazar, Karly Sanko, Jennifer Saravia, Katelyn Scarinci, Danielle Schaff, Michele Schuetz, Andrea Sierra, Michael Simone, Rosa Spallieri, Daniel Sticco, Edward Sullivan, Matthew Sward, Shana Tom, Danielle Tramutola, Julie Tran, Kristin Treslar, Agupunam Ufondu and Ellen Zinsky.

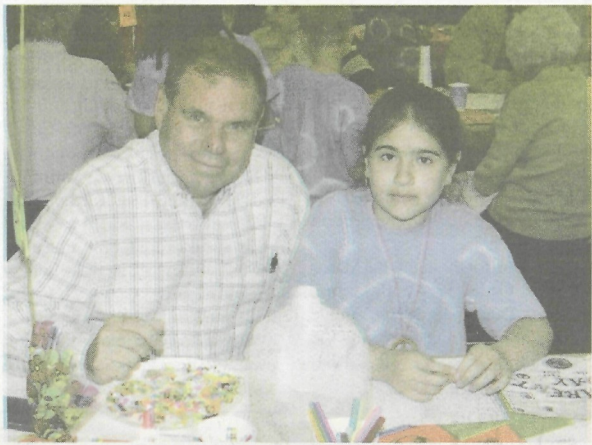
High Honor Roll-Eighth Grade

Jenna Alexander, Ashley Aya, Jimmy Bijlani, Ray Coletta, Marilyn Cruz, Bianca DiDolce, Matthew Galinsky, Steven Grzenda, Alexander Horn, Kyle Kaczka, Thomas Loalbo, Nicole McDonough, Dylan Papa, Courtney Schaefer, Manraj Singh, Alexandra Skula, Daniel Smith and Jonathan Sukenik.

Honor Roll -Eighth Grade

Juliana Agrillo, Freddy Almanzar, Brittany Alvarado, Jhemarr Anderson, Brian Babinetz, Elizabeth Balon, Stephen Balzer, Mark Benak, Morgan Bethea, Scot Bishop, Aleksandra Blazejowicz, Matthew Brazza, Dorsey Britton, Natalie Colucci, Stephen Coppi, Elizabeth Fasullo, Ryan Flanagan, Alana Franco, James German, Logan Green, Jaimie Handwerger, Ryan Harrington, Nicholas Heilmann, Paige Herriott, Sheena Higgins, Kyle Hughes, Courtney Irber, Jenae Keith, Megan Kerper, Kelly Kline, Steven Kovalevich, Dung (Kim) Le, Philip Longo, Karthik Marpadga, Matthew Miceli, Amber Miller, Parin Mody, Andrew Muhlgeier and Felicia Mulhearn.

Chelsea Ng, Andrew Nguyen, Ashley Nguyen, Thang (Anthony) Nguyen, Christopher Oprysk, Brian Palma, Kairav Parikh, Shawn Parisi, Brittany Pasquarella, Robert Pasternak, Kishan Patel, Emily Pickarski, Kayla Prins, Frederick Reichert, Ryan Rhoads, Natalie Rittinger, Ryan Sacco, Alexandria Santos, Matthew Santos, Carla Scala, Matthew Schaefer, James Seyffart, Nicole Slatky, Italia Spallieri, Gareth Teece, Luis Valladares, Bryant Villamarin, Andre Williams, Heba Younes and Thomas Zazzara.



Grandparents Have a Groovy Time at Kennedy Breakfast

By Jane Dornick

This year's theme for the annual third grade Kennedy Elementary School Grandparents Day Breakfast was a blast from the past, invoking images from the 1970's hippie era. The school gym was decked out in peace signs and lots of neon.

The morning began with an assortment of breakfast foods such as bagels and cereal followed by a visit to their grandchild or special friends classroom. Students were delighted to show off their desks, projects and their teachers. There was a round of 70's trivia bingo followed by basket raffles donated by each third grade class. The youngsters had some help from their loved ones making a crafty plaque as a keepsake of the day. For the finale,

the youngsters had worked hard with Music teacher Barbara Habeeb learning tunes from the 70's to the present to the crowd. Student Ed Schaeffer wore a wrinkly mask and used a cane for the Beatle's song *When I'm 64*. Young and old enjoyed some much needed special time together at this much anticipated annual event.



Tiger 24 Draws 500, Benefits Children's Charities

By Patricia Abbott

The third annual Tiger 24 drew over 500 people. Three hundred participants and 200 walk-ins attended the walk/run. The April 28 and 29 event was held at the SPHS track at Jost Field, considered one of the finest high school tracks in the state. Entry fee was \$25 or \$50 in pledges. Proceeds benefit local children's charities.

Serious runners shared the track with those walking for fun. Volleyball and ultimate Frisbee tournaments were held on the field. Entertainment was provided by Dave Fidler and area bands Forrester, Union City Blue and Wesley. The booster club manned the food stand with a wide variety of food donated by area businesses.

The top runner was SPHS junior Ryan Miller, with 300 laps. Others were Wayne Baker of Westfield with more than 230 laps; Tobie Baldwin, Grant School music teacher, 106 laps; Paul Rafanowski, SPHS math teacher, 105 laps (his students raised over \$1,000 on his behalf); Adam Bianchi, 106 laps and 10 year old Mailk Cisso, 61 laps. The Tiger 24's reputation drew Henry Rueden from Wisconsin, who ran 136 laps. The event marked his 438th marathon or ultramarathon.

Some of the featured events included the Backward 400, team relays, 5000 meter races, 3AM extravaganza. Award categories included most valuable volunteer, most pledges raised, most laps walked, most laps ran and others.

Tiger 24 is sponsored by Sodexo School Services and the SPHS Student Leadership Organization. Advisors are Mary Ellen Martko, Tom Baker, Marla Vandermark, Tony Encinas, Tammy Zurka, Kevin Hajduk, Angela Raimondo and Dana Bertram.

The event was run by On Your Mark Productions Inc. (OYMP) of Clark, who provide consulting and management services to corporations and non-profit organizations planning special events.



Sports

By Glenn Cullen

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

Friday, May 19 is Teener-ball night at the SPJBC. Recreation Teener-ball teams will play under the lights of the SPJBC. The SPJBC Women's Auxiliary will have tricky trays and other raffles as part of the evenings festivities. The SPJBC asks all members to come out and welcome next year's kids and families.

The SPJBC 2006 Baseball Celebration has been rescheduled for All-Star Sunday, May 21 at 12 p.m. All-star Sunday will have the ceremonies which were canceled due to rain on opening day, as well as a Banner Contest sponsored by the SPJBC Women's Auxiliary.

This weekend is the final Booster weekend of the year. Canning is scheduled for May 19 and 20. If you have not volunteered, this is your last opportunity to can. Failure to work a booster assignment may result in the loss of playoff eligibility.

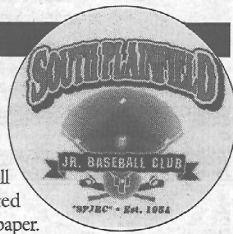
Most traveling All-Star try-outs are over and team selections are being made. In the coming weeks team ros-

ters will be listed in the paper.

We are getting ready for Memorial Day Weekend Tournament and Father's Day Baseball Classic. The club is looking for volunteers to work the snack stand, as well as the ever important snack stand captains. Also, we are still looking for other tournament teams that may be interested in playing in both SPJBC tournaments. Contact the SPJBC at (908) 754-2090 if interested.

This weekend's field duty assignments are as follows: Small Fry C Red Sox and Pony B Angels on May 20 at 7 a.m. and Small Fry A Nationals and Pony A Astros on May 21 at 8 a.m.

The SPJBC is looking still looking for volunteers for the 2006 season. In particular, we need snack stand captains. Anyone interested is asked to call the SPJBC at (908) 754-2090 or e-mail the club at southplainfield-jbc@yahoo.com. Also, feel free to visit the SPJBC website at www.leagueline-up.com/spjbc.



Week of May 6

KC's Korner made a clear statement on opening night that they intend to be repeat champions in 2006 by overwhelming Plainfield Animal Hospital, 16½-3½. The strong twosome of Mark Dugan and Rich Steele again led the defending titleholders with rounds of 36 and 39 respectively. The thundering herd of PAH stallions did not have much thunder in them—only Mark "Mr. Steady" Chichvar broke 40 with a score of 39.

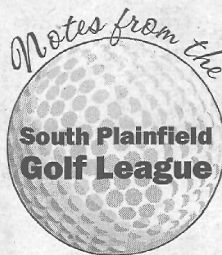
Sporting a new twosome and a new team name, Eddie's Grinders dropped a tough match to 2 Buds, 2 Dubs, 11-9. Ed Banach had a 37, Fred "Catfish" Kirchofer, despite an ailing right shoulder, managed a 38, Jay Bertleson had a 39 and Chris Dillon came through with a 40. All four players had lower gross scores than Dale Dube, the medalist for the winners, who carded a 41. The handicaps made the difference in this match, but look for Eddie's Grinders to be a very formidable opponent the rest of the season.

Joe Diller of Twin City won the weekly closest-to-the-pin competition on the third hole.

Low scores for the night: Bill Mann, 33; Frank Oades, 35; Danny Griffin, 36; Mark Dugan, 36; Marty Van De Vaarst, 38; Jay Coppola, 38; Joe Diller, 38; Jeremy Szoc, 38; Ed Banach, 38; Fred Kirchofer, 38.

Week of May 12

Mark "the Spark" Dugan fired another superb round, this time an impressive one-over par 34, to lead KC's Korner to a 16-4 triumph over 2 Buds, 2 Dubs. Tony Cotone, Jr. hit some monster drives on his way to a



Submitted By Bob Nilan

Parker and Kevin "Boom Boom" Bickunas. Plainfield Animal Hospital only had one player shoot below 40, Andy Oravec, who had a 38, as Witty's cruised to an easy 15-5 victory.

Merry Matt Ward not only drove for show, as he usually does, but he had his short game under control as well in shooting a terrific 1-over-par 34 to tie for the low-round of the night. Ward's fine play sparked Patti's to a 13-7 win over a tough Hackers team. Bill Mann and Kevin Boyce both posted nice rounds of 36 in a losing effort.

Sport & Social scored a surprisingly lopsided win over Twin City, 18-2, in a match that did not feature any low scores. Dennis Bibby shot the best round for Sport & Social with his 39, and Jay Coppola earned the medal for Twin City with a 40.

Buy Rite Liquors, led by Irish Danny Griffin's round of 35, hammered the VFW 15-5. Al Szumski and Mike King continued their fine play for Buy Rite and turned in a pair of 37's. With this win, Buy Rite now shares the top spot in the National Division with Patti's Construction. Bob Nilan's 42 was the low round for the VFW.

Low Scores for the Night: Matt Ward, 34; Mark Dugan, 34; Marty Van De Vaarst, 35; Danny Griffin, 35; Ed Banach, 35; Fred Kirchofer, 36; Bill Mann, 36; and Kevin Boyce, 36.

American Division				League Standings				National Division			
	W	L	T		W	L	T		W	L	T
1 KC's Korner	2	0	0	Patti's Const.	2	0	0				
2 Pornovets	2	0	0	Buy Rite Liquors	2	0	0				
3 Witty's	1	1	0	Hackers	1	1	0				
4 2 Buds, 2 Dubs	1	1	0	Sport & Social	1	1	0				
4 Eddie's Grinders	0	2	0	Twin City	0	2	0				
5 PAH	0	2	0	VFW	0	2	0				

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1730

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

Ordinance #1730 entitled: AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, 1992, TO PROVIDE ADMINISTRATIVE MECHANISMS FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield on Tuesday, May 16, 2006 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$26.25 May 19, 2006

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1731

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

Ordinance #1731 entitled: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING STORMWATER CONTROLS IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield on Tuesday, May 16, 2006 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$24.50 May 19, 2006

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1732

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

Ordinance #1732 entitled: AN BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE CONCEPTUAL DESIGN FOR NEW MARKET AVENUE AND OTHER ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$240,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$216,000 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE COST

THEREOF was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield on Tuesday, May 16, 2006 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOND ORDINANCE STATEMENT AND SUMMARY

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, has been finally adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, on May 16, 2006 and the twenty (20) day period of limitation within which a suit, action or proceeding questioning the validity of such ordinance can be commenced, as provided in the Local Bond Law, has begun to run from the date of the first publication of this statement. Copies of the full ordinance will be available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk's Office for the members of the general public who shall request the same. The summary of the terms of such lease ordinance follows:

Title: A BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR PHASE I AND II OF THE NEW MARKET AVENUE EXTENSION AND VARIOUS INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENT PREPARATION, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE "BOROUGH") APPROPRIATING \$240,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$228,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

Purpose(s): Phase I and II of the extension of New Market Avenue and various intersection improvements of Fulton Street/Fulton Avenue, South Clinton Avenue and New Market Avenue and related design and construction document preparation, in and by the Borough.

Appropriation: 240,000

Bonds/Notes

Authorized: \$228,000

Section 20 Costs: \$240,000

Useful Life: 5 years

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$84.00 May 19, 2006

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Sports

American Martial Arts Big East Championship

On April 23, 17 students from American Martial Arts, located at 902 Oak Tree Rd., competed at the Big East Tae Kwon Do Championship in Rahway. These students are trained and coached by Master Kevin Vigneri owner and Master Instructor of American Martial Arts.

Representing American Martial Arts were Robby O'Connell, Maggie O'Connell, Denzel Mensah, Nathan Mensah, Craig Gorbouff, Arvind Senthilkumar, Richard Kazandzhidi, Alek Sheyer, Kenny Nyugen, Juan Arrubla, Biran, Patel, Jordan Swan, Aman Shah, Quincy Frederick, Cody Hresan, Jessica Wolfender and Eric Hunt. Standing at the top of this tournament winning 14 gold, seven silver, and seven bronze medals in the events of sparring, breaking and forms, American Martial Arts was recognized as the East Coast's Best Tae Kwon Do School for the sixth consecutive year. Leading his students to



American Martial Arts students competed in Big East Tai Kwon Do Championships.

yet another year of success, Master Vigneri was recognized as the Best Instructor for the sixth consecutive year as well.

Congratulations to the students of

American Martial Arts. Be proud of your high accomplishments! For more information, call 1-888-USATKD3 or visit their website at www.DragonEliteTKD.com.

Kristen Fredericks Races for a Cure



Kristen Fredericks

For many young adults the strike of midnight on their 21st birthday means their first legal drink in a bar with friends. For Kristen Fredericks, June 17 at midnight will not only begin her birthday, but also the Mayor's Midnight Sun Marathon run, a 26.2 mile marathon in Anchorage, Alaska with Team in Training to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Kristen is a 2003 South Plainfield High School graduate that is currently attending college in Clermont, Florida and has been training since February to accomplish this exciting, yet challenging task. An equally challenging task is to raise the \$4,900 commitment pledge to the Leukemia and

Lymphoma Society. To date, Kristen has been able to raise more than 50% of her pledged dollars thanks to many generous gifts from friends, family members and corporate sponsors but she still needs your help.

If anyone would like to donate to this worthy cause or learn more about how you can help find a cure for Leukemia and Lymphoma, please go to Kristen's website at www.active.com/donate/tntcl/KFred or send a check made out to The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society to Kristen Fredericks, 16460 Cagan Crossing Blvd., Apt. #302, Clermont, Florida 34714.

2006 Spring Track Team Individual Championship Results

The Sacred Heart Spring Track Team competed in the 2006 Central Jersey Catholic Track Conference Individual Championships on Saturday, May 13, at Cranford Memorial Track in Cranford. Forty-five Sacred Heart runners competed and placed in 18 out of 22 events against nine other Catholic schools winning eight first,

seven second, six third, one fourth, five fifth, two sixth, four seventh, two eighth, two ninth and two tenth places. The team took home eight gold, seven silver and 24 bronze medals. All results will be posted to the CJCTC website: www.leaguelineup.com/cjctc Congratulations to all runners!

Proud medal/pin winners are:

Place K-1-2 Boys 100m
8 Joshua de Castro
Place K-1-2 Girls 100m
3 Kayla Whitaker
7 Gina Bengivenga
Place 3-4-5 Boys 200m
3 Devine Eke
Place 3-4-5 Girls 200m
1 Jennifer Gonzalez
Place 6-7-8 Boys 200m
2 Zachary Sikanowicz
3 Jevon Morgan
4 Juan Edney
6 Damian Franklin
10 Christopher Gbogi
Place 6-7-8 Girls 200m
2 Gerianna Pinto
3 Katie Muglia
Place K-1-2 Girls 400m
5 Kayla Whitaker
6 Mary Bach
7 Gina Bengivenga
Place 3-4-5 Boys 400m
1 Richard Vielma
Place 3-4-5 Girls 400m
2 Jennifer Gonzalez
Place 6-7-8 Boys 400m
2 Zachary Sikanowicz
5 Christopher Gbogi

8 Juan Edney
9 Jevon Morgan
10 Damian Franklin
Place 6-7-8 Girls 400m
1 Katie Muglia
Place 3-4-5 Boys 800m
2 Richard Vielma
7 Devine Eke
Place 6-7-8 Boys 800m
1 Michael McHugh
2 Alfonse Muglia
9 William Gerlitz
Place 6-7-8 Girls 800m
1 Gerianna Pinto
5 Adrienne Novak
Place 6-7-8 Boys 1600m
1 Alfonse Muglia
7 William Gerlitz
Place 6-7-8 Girls 1600m
5 Adrienne Novak
Place 7-8 Boys Shot Put
1 Jevon Morgan
2 Jamal Blair
3 Juan Edney
5 Joshua Howard
Place 7-8 Girls Shot Put
1 Gerianna Pinto
3 Jasmine Brown



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Senator Buono Receives Frank J. Oliver Award

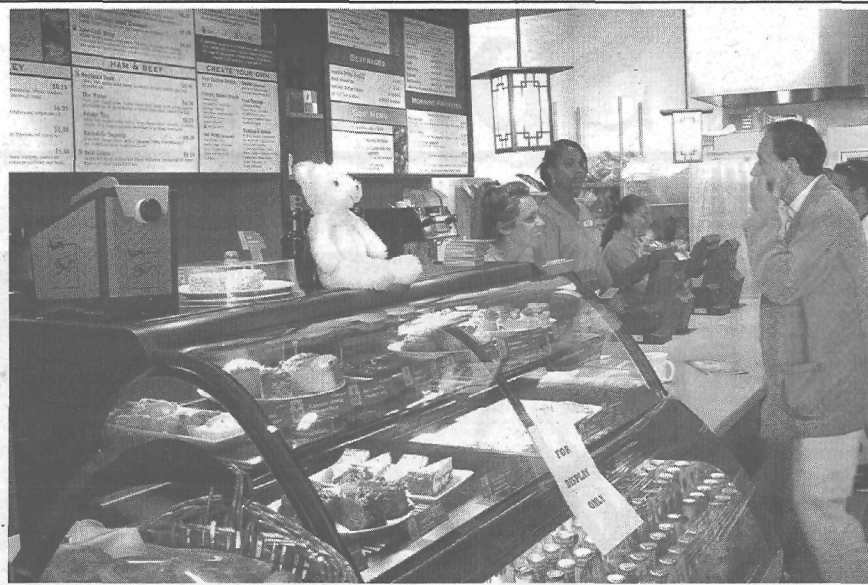
"The New Jersey Environmental Lobby recently honored Senator Barbara Buono for her significant contributions in advancing policy which protects New Jersey's environment. Senator Buono was presented the Frank J. Oliver Award, which is awarded to public officials who have made significant contributions in the area of environmental protection.

"I am deeply flattered and humbled by this recognition," said Senator Buono, D-Middlesex. "I commend the Environmental Lobby for being a leading voice in Trenton on statewide environmental issues and for being the environmental conscience of New Jersey. The Environmental Lobby was founded in 1969 and is the senior environmental lobbying group in the state."

Senator Buono was recognized for her hard work on the passage of the School Integrated Pest Management

Act which reduces children's exposure to chemical pesticides and helps reduce the risk of childhood cancers. The act requires schools to employ non-chemical pest management practices, and when chemical use is unavoidable the act requires the use of low-impact pesticides. Senator Buono was also recognized for passing the law banning smoking in college dorms and a law requiring the removal of mercury switches from cars before they are shredded. Every year 500,000 vehicles containing a half-ton of mercury are shredded in New Jersey. This law prevents mercury from leaking into local water supplies.

"I would like to state my strong support for the Environmental Lobby and the important work they are doing," added Senator Buono. "I look forward to working with the Environmental Lobby to help protect our environment."



The newly opened Bear Rock Cafe, located in the Hadley Shopping Center near Target, has a wide variety of homemade soups, fresh salads and hand crafted sandwiches.

Rosalia Lovas, 86

Rosalia Lovas died on Saturday, May 6 at the JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Rosalia was born in Fulpaszalas, Hungary, on Nov. 14, 1919 to Sandor and Rosalia Szeles and came to the United States in 1951, settling in Woodbridge before moving to Perth Amboy for a brief time. She then resided in Carteret for almost 50 years, before moving to Piscataway in 2004.

Her calling was loving to sew and she had worked for many years as a forelady and sample maker for the former Dunrite Dress Co. of Perth Amboy. While in Carteret, she and her late husband had owned and operated Steve's Tailor Shop for 25 years before retiring in 1990 when they closed their shop.

Rosalia was a member of the American Hungarian Athletic Club of Woodbridge and a former member of St. Elizabeth Church in Carteret.

Her husband, Steve Lovas, died in 1999.

Surviving are two daughters, Catherine Juttner of Piscataway and Edith E. Noske of East Brunswick; a son, Stephen Lovas of Manalapan; five grandsons, Anton and Andy

Juttner and Stephen (III), Michael and Peter Lovas and four great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Memorial donations to the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department would be appreciated.



Rosalia Lovas

Richard C. Adams, 86

Richard C. Adams, 86, passed away on Monday, May 8 at the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Plainfield, Mr. Adams resided in South Plainfield for most of his life before moving to Edison.

Richard served an enlistment in the United States Army during WWII. He was a machinist, tool and dye maker with Union Carbide in Piscataway, retiring 20 years ago. He was previously employed with Mack Truck in Plainfield. In the 1960's he was South Plainfield postmaster and was a member of the South Plainfield Planning Board.

Mr. Adams was a member of the St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in South Plainfield. He was also a member of the South Plainfield VFW, the South Plainfield American Legion, the North Plainfield Saenger Halle and the Masonic Lodge in Plainfield.

Richard loved model trains, enjoyed music and was a stamp collector. He was preceded in death by his loving wife of eight years, Naeda Adams, who passed away in 1995; a brother, Robert Adams and two sisters, Mary (Apgar) Rockefeller and Hester Adams.

Surviving are three sons, Craig Adams and wife, January, of South Plainfield; Wayne Adams and wife, Sharon, of Walnut Port, Pa. and Vance Adams and wife, Juana, of Dunellen; three grandchildren, Brian and Jennifer Adams and Amelia Smith and three great-grandchildren, Megan and Sarah Adams and Evelyn Smith.

Funeral services were held at the St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in South Plainfield, under the care of the South Plainfield Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for memorial contribution be made in Richard's memory to the St. Stephens Lutheran Church, 3145 Park Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Michael J. Velard, 78

Michael J. Velard died on Sunday, May 14 in the Haven Hospice at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born and raised in Plainfield, Mike has lived in South Plainfield since 1974.

An Army veteran of World War II, Mr. Velard was employed as a postman in Scotch Plains for 22 years before retiring in 1982.

After his retirement from the Postal Service, he worked as a supervisor for National Business in South Plainfield

for 17 years.

Surviving are his wife Joan E. (Murray), two daughters, Deborah Carr and her husband Lenn of Georgia, Joan Velard-Brown and her husband Gary of Neptune; a son, Robert of South Plainfield; his sister Mary Perry of Bayville and two brothers, William of Plainfield and Ralph and his wife Louise of Florida. Also surviving are two grandchildren.

Funeral Services were held at the McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Dorothy (Antonowicz) Aniunas, 76

Dorothy (Antonowicz) Aniunas died on Sunday, May 14 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Bayonne, Mrs. Aniunas had attended the Bayonne schools and graduated from the high school. In 1951, she married her husband, Theodore, and they settled to his home town of South Plainfield where they have resided ever since.

Employed as a private secretary for the former Haller Testing Laboratory of Plainfield, she retired after 30 years.

Mrs. Aniunas was an active mem-

ber of Our Lady of Czestochowa RC Church in South Plainfield. She was a member of their Alter Rosary Society and assisted with the Feast of St. Anthony, selling the super 50/50 tickets. She was also a member of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Regina Coeli #940 of Dunellen and a life member of the Polish National Home in South Plainfield.

She had a love for Atlantic City. For many years she and her husband would spend a couple of nights a month at the casino until recently when she fell ill.

Surviving are her husband, Theodore "Kip" Aniunas; a brother, Joseph Antonowicz of Bayonne and numerous nieces and nephews. Also surviving are great nieces and nephews and a few great-great nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the American Cancer Society, 846 Main St. Fords, NJ 08863 or to Our Lady of Czestochowa Church, 807 Hamilton Blvd, South Plainfield NJ 07080.

Thomas Holowka, 55

Thomas Holowka died on Thursday, May 11 in South Plainfield.

Born in Plainfield, Tom was a life-long resident of Scotch Plains.

A 1969 graduate of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, Tom is the former owner and operator of Alternator Specialty in Scotch Plains.

He is pre-deceased by his mother, Catherine.

Surviving are his wife, Tammy (Talignani); two sons, Thomas Jr. and Tyler both of South Plainfield; his father, Stephen, of Florida and a brother, Stephen M. and his wife Sandi of South Plainfield.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

The Hillside Cemetery Association

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Grant School Announces Honor Roll

High Honor Roll

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Troy Heilmann, Jasmin Hernandez, Alec Hing, Zoya Hodge, Tyler Holoboski, Nicholas Huber, Samantha Hunterton, Rohan Iyengar, Ehilea Jainarine, Tanya Joshi, Christina Kasmer, Rajath Kenath, Brianna Kizmann, Nicole Kopchak, David Landy, Stephen Lanza, Michelle Lesniak, Brian Lopez, Gina Louise, Kimberly Lozarito, Deirdre Macchia, Marah Angelica Magpie, Jesse Masters, Jade McDonough, John McDonough, Victoria McKay, Maggie McLean, Nii Sackey Mills, Rebecca Moskal, Amber Mullens, Samantha Murtagh, Crystal Myles, Christina Naphor, Brian Nguyen, Katherine O'Brien, Kyle O'Keefe, Timothy O'Leary, Jamie Pagdonsolan, Dylan Panton, Donovan Parker, Aakash Patel, Ankoor Patel, Devang Patel, Shivam Patel, Shivani Patel, Brandon Pauls, Joseph Pellegrino, Stephen Petriello, Katherine Pickarski, Emily Pittenger and Katherine Podolovits.

Jamie Quail, Allison Quintanilla, Alyssa Ragno, Hiren Rana, Alison Ratti, Erin Remsing, Thomas Riccardi, Tania Rincon, Erika Ritchie, Ashley Robjohns, Hayley Robjohns, Joshua Rochotte, Daniel Saganome, Daniel Sanko, Zachary Sbordone, Gerianne Scarpitto, Emily Sella, Brandon Shaw, Joshua Siepmann, Avinash Singh, Emma Slotterback, Angelica Smith, Gabrielle Smith, Imani Smith, Sydney Smith, Joseph Spinella, Corey Stasenko, Katherine Staynings, Christian Thomas, Jessica Thompson,

Steven Timmerman, Jennifer Tran, Alex Valladares, Albert Vill, Caroline Vill, Kathleen Vincent, Steven Vincent, Wahid Walli, Kimberly Walsh, Colin Wilson, Zachary Wilson, Angelica Wojewodka, Jennifer Wolak and David Zychlinski.

Honor Roll

Sofia Abd Elhady, Ramsey Abdeljaber, Genesis Acevedo, Alejandra Aguilar, Brandon Alers, Ashley Annetta, Lanna Arki, Juan Arrubla, Andrew Atkinson, Jasmine Beauford, Luis Benitez, Robert Benwell, Brendan Berry, Steven Bichler, Laura Biggs, Ashanti Bishop, Quinn Bolivar, Ivana Bonilla, Taylor Born, Amanda Boronkas, Thomas Bowden, Nicholas Brinks, Arthur Brown, Stuart Buckelew, Harshil Budhan, Kristel Buschan, James Butrico, Tyler Calderone, Raul Calle, Gina Cannalunga, Danielle Caputo, Ashley Carrion, Jamie Caruso, Diego Castro, Kenneth Cavanagh, Anthony Celentano, Samantha Christilles, Jena Cianfrocca, Tracey Cihanowycz, Jenna Clemente, Tyler Clinedinst, Quinn Cochrane, Janine Colicchio, Meghan Collins, Michael Connolly, James Conrad, Shannah Conway, Brittany Coupe, Ken Criley, Tyler Cruz, Shane Cusick, Thomas Daly, Megan Deba, Miguel Delgado, Sabrina Delpiano, Amylin DiDario, Cynthia Diaz, Ashley Dispenziere, Michael Dolan, Dylan Dorey, Alex Domick, Alexa Douras, Ian Dow, Caitlyn Driscoll, Christopher Duffy, Jacqueline Dvorak, Catherine Emery, Dominic Eosso, Sal Esposito, Rebecca Eustice, Kevin Farrell, Christina Ferrer, Kevin Flanagan, Kristin Forbes, Antoni Franczak, Matthew Frank, Stephanie Gaviria, Christine Geczy, Zachary George, James Gerber, Cassidy Gillis, Jamie Glavasich, Justin Glover, Bryan Gonzalez, Shawn Gorman, Jack Green, Jy'neer Green, Ashley Guaraci, Taylor Hagy, Harshul Handa, Christopher Harrell, Justin Harris, Laine Harris, Meghan Heim, Tyler Herriott, Tyler Hunt, Sarah Hunterton, Avani Jain, Krystian Januszko, Monika Jastrzebski, Austin Jenkin, Sarah Johnson, Tamar Johnson, Nicole Jones, Kenneth Kaczka, Janet Kelly, Razeno Khan, Samuel Knight, Robert Kolvites, Joseph Krawiec, Troy Kurilew, Nicholas Lacasale, Paula Lasota, Aimee Le, Viet (Victor) Le, Vivian Lee, Robert Leepin, Ashley Linick, Yin Geng

Liu, Bianca Lobosco, Guillermo Lopez, Rian Lukacs, Daniel Lyew, Victoria Maino, Frank Malecki III, Emely Mallqui, Miguel Mallqui, Johnny Mancheno, Matthew Manning, Ryan Marcoux, Nicholas Marone, Shianne Martinez, Liam McDermott, Shannon McMahon, Joseph Miller, Jesse Namotka, Kirsten Newman, Vyvian Nguyen, James O'Connor, Christopher O'Keefe, Keanu O'Neal, Michelle O'Sullivan, Kelly Outeiral, Kathryn Pacheco, Marc Paez, Tanner Panton, Joseph Palazzo, Danielle Palitto, Yulia Pannella, Melissa Pasternak, Atithi Patel, Claude Payne, Ida Peery, Jeffrey Pellegrino, Eduardo Perez, Raymond Perez, Amit Persaud, Daven Persaud, Michael Petrick, Kamlawatie Phagoo, Idalis Pineda, Melissa Plasse, Nicholas Pleeter, Jesenia Portillo, Shane Powell, Kripa Rajan, Christal Ramagado, Whitney Randolph, Bobbie-Jo Raposo, Emily Reineke, Jonathan Reyes, Ryan Ricciardi, Aaron Ritchie, Karen Rivera, Erick Rodriguez, Brianna Ross, Jacob Rotella, Jessica Saffold, Angela Sami, Andrew Sanchez, Adam Sangiuliano, Niari Santiago, Rachel Scudato, Jacob Seider, KimberLee Serrano, Paul Seyffart, Asma Shafiqat, Courtney Shea, Ramona Shivaraj, Payal Sindha, Cory Singer, Trevin Singh, Joseph Skwiat, Zachary Smithline, Daniel Snogans, John Sottirio, Angela Spadavecchia, Antonio Spallieri, Raven Sperr, Luke Sprenger, Nicole Stanczak, Samuel Steingart, Michelle Stoeckel, Savannah Storm, Tyler Stranzenbach, John Tallman, Olga Tarnawska, Russell Teller, Jennifer Tercek, Nicole Tetreault, Jade Tompkins, Anthony Torchia, Huyen Tran, Jessica Treslar, Sarah Tufaro, Sergio Ulacia, Michael Uribe, Samantha Uribe, Margaret Valentino, Jaime Valladares, Erik Veliz, Jonathan Viola, Vera Viran, Allison Wagner, Kelly Walsh, Scott Whalen, Allison White, Allyson White, Brendan Wilson, Megan Yanick, Richard Zekas, Samantha Zelasko, Joseph Zipp, Isabel Zychlinski.



Girl Scouts Host Fun Fair

Story/photos by Patricia Abbott

Last month, 25 South Plainfield Girl Scout troops gathered together for an afternoon of fun, food and games. The Fun Fair was held on the field behind the PAL. The event was a fundraiser for the South Plainfield Girl Scout Community, which is the "governing body" over South Plainfield Girl Scouts. South Plainfield Girl Scout Community is part of the Washington Rock Council, which serves 21 communities.

Profits from the fair will help subsidize some of the more expensive town-wide activities, such as the encampment at Camp Hoover, annual mother/daughter and father/daughter events, Junior Jamboree, Brownie Fall Fun and the Daisy Brownie Sleep In.

Other expenses include the creation and decorating of their Labor Day float, all the Gold Silver and Bronze awards and ceremony expenses. Without funds to support these activities, some scouts would be prevented from participating in these events.

Most tables offered games and crafts. Each troop had to organize their own booth and had to choose an activity, purchase their supplies and prizes, staff their booth and decide how much to charge. This helped teach the scouts creative thinking, planning, organizing, budgeting and more. The troops kept half of the money their booth made. There were 10 outside vendors, a food tent and a moon walk. The afternoon marked the return of Fun Fair after a five year absence.



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LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL

Please take notice that the Applicant, Sonador, Inc., has applied to the Mayor and Borough Council of South Plainfield and the State of New Jersey, Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control for a transfer of liquor license #1222-33-008-008. The license will be used at Block 401, Lot 5, 2243 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, New Jersey.

The Application is now on the Borough Council calendar and a Public Hearing is scheduled for Monday, June 5, 2006 at 8:00 p.m. in the Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey, at which time you may appear in person or through an attorney and present any objections you may have to the granting of the relief sought in this application.

All documents relating to this Application are on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk and may be inspected by the public Monday through Friday at the Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

The notice is being given by the Application by the direction of the Mayor and Borough Council and pursuant to Municipal Ordinance.

EDWARD J. SANTORO, JR., ESQ.
Attorney for Applicant

\$39.90 May 19, 2006

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Planning Board at its meeting held on May 9, 2006.

A. Case #05-06/S-455 Highland Avenue, Block 311; Lot 15. The applicant's request for minor sub division approval w/waivers was hereby DENIED.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Beth Khidre
Planning Board Secretary

\$20.90 May 19, 2006

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its meeting held on May 11, 2006.

A. Case # 18-06-Nicholas Rundella. Block 79; Lot 2: 404 Dolores Avenue. The applicant's request for (2) front yard setback variances and a lot coverage variance to erect a 11 ft. by 4 ft. addition to the front and a new siding w/ roof was hereby GRANTED subject to (1) additional voluntary condition.

B. Case # 19-06-Lori Ann & Christopher White. Block 429; Lot 7; 107 West Avenue. The applicant's request for 16 ft. by 16 ft. shed structure w/w lot coverage variance was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

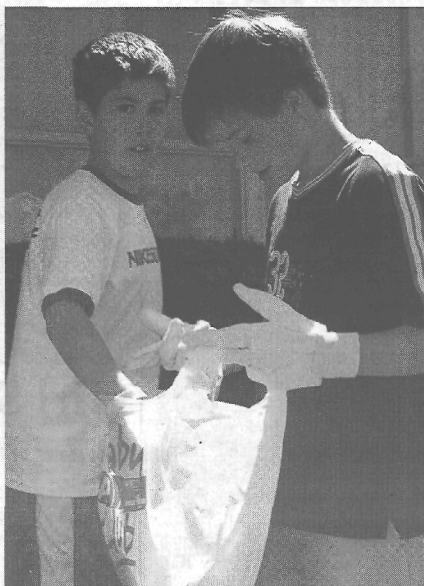
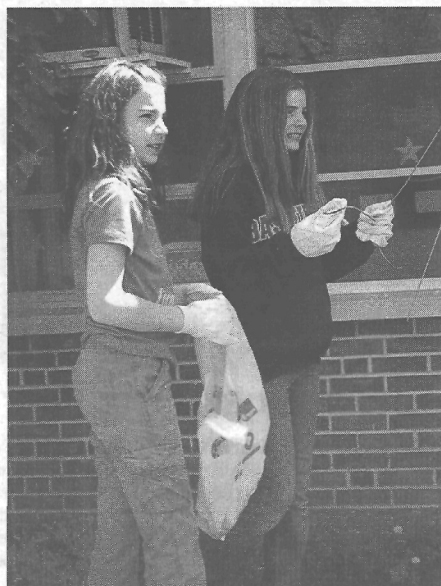
C. Case # 20-06-Christopher Greco. Block 211; Lot 12; 135 Jerome Avenue. The applicant's request for the proposed living arrangement for himself and his parents, a front yard setback variance for a new porch, a westerly side yard setback for the side addition and a side yard setback for the (2) story addition over the existing structure was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

D. Case #21-06-James M. Boettcher. Block 82; Lot 15; 2555 Linden Avenue. The applicant's request for a front yard setback variance to erect an 8 ft. by 12 ft. shed w/a minimum 20 ft. front yard setback from Clarke Avenue was hereby GRANTED.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Beth Khidre
Secretary, Board of Adjustment

\$51.30 May 19, 2006

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Grant Students Join Town Cleanup Efforts

By Patricia Abbott

Grant School student council members recently made their contribution to the South Plainfield Clean Communities Program. The Clean Communities Advisory Board had

scheduled Volunteer Litter Cleanup Week from April 22-29, but heavy rain kept the youth indoors.

On May 1, armed with garbage bags and gloves, the students, along with Student Council Advisor Allison Schneider and Assistant Prin-

cipal Rob Richkus, scoured the school grounds. They filled several bags with garbage and other debris. Earlier that afternoon there had been an assembly to teach students how litter affects our environment and the importance of recycling.

policereport

• On May 10 Juan A. Bacz-Perez, 22, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license, tail light out and several outstanding warrants.

• Christopher Williams, 31, of Piscataway was arrested for driving while intoxicated and reckless driving.

• On May 11 Robert Dale Faucher, 27, of South Plainfield was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia.

• Dedrick C. Loyd, 37, of Plainfield was arrested at the DMV for using fraudulent information to obtain a vehicle registration.

• A Middlesex Mall maintenance supervisor reported the theft of a tow behind trailer that was chained to a pole.

• A Piscataway resident reported the theft of his wallet from his unattended gym bag at LA Fitness.

• On May 12 Edgar B. Ruiz-Delatorre, 35, of Edison was arrested for driving while intoxicated and reckless driving.

• A Watchung resident reported that while driving down Clinton Ave., a vehicle proceeding in the opposite direction threw a Louisville slugger bat at his vehicle, breaking the drivers side mirror and causing a dent in the door.

• On May 13, Khanqura Shamsheer,

33, of West Windsor was arrested for speeding and an outstanding warrant.

• The South Plainfield Soccer Club reported that the sprinkler system at the field had been damaged, beer cans were scattered around, there were remnants of shot off bottle rockets and flags had been thrown around the field.

• On May 14 James R. Barksdale, 60, of Edison was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant.

• Young H. Lee, 24, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, reckless driving and improper passing.

• Heena Song, 24, of Edison was arrested for driving while intoxicated, reckless driving and improper passing.

• A Wadsworth Ave. resident reported the theft of a hanging flower pot and a sunflower plant.

• A Scotch Plains resident reported the theft of a 1995 Acura Integra that was parked on Harrison Ave.

• A fire was reported on May 12 at 135 Elliot Pl. No one was home at the time and fire damage was confined to a room above the garage. Neighbors heard the alarm, saw smoke and called the police.

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Kids Say No

(Continued from page 1)
teaching is so effective."

An information table was setup during lunch periods with take-home pamphlets related to drugs and alcohol. During the week of the 24th, the clubs ventured to Grant Elementary School to share their information on tobacco and advertising with sixth graders during history classes.

Throughout the month, students could purchase paper leaves for \$1 on which they could write the names of people they know who are struggling with addictions or are in recovery, to "wish them life." The leaves were placed on the "Tree of Life," a live evergreen tree donated by Chris Schultz, owner of Schultz Landscaping. The tree was dedicated and planted in the school courtyard on April 27. The money raised from this event was placed in their student activity accounts for future purchases.

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YOUTH PROGRAM MANAGER- FT position to develop & implement programs for girls. Position requires excellent org., time mgmt. & interpersonal skills; BA in Educ, Rec or related field. Occasional eve & wknds. Bilingual a +. Valid DL & car req'd. Send resume via email to: vedonnell@gswwc.com.

IF YOU LOVE CHILDREN JOIN the staff at Family Development Day Care. Send cover letter, resume, certificates and 2 references to Ms. Richlyn Burnham, 420 Grant Ave., Plainfield, NJ 07060, fax (908) 754-0604. Teacher-Presch-3 Certified (only) 35-40k; Teacher's Assistant-AA/CDA/3 yr. exp. 24k; Family Worker-AA/1 yr. exp. 20k.

LIGHT CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT MECHANIC- Must have diesel engine exp. Welding skills & auto/truck repair a plus. Competitive pay/benefit pkg. Call Paul@PM Parts & Equipment (908) 822-9828 or fax resume to (908) 756-7096.

P/T ADMIN/SALES ASSISTANT for South Plainfield loan/brokerage. Must be friendly, positive attitude and be an organized, goal-oriented, self-starter. Students, moms or retirees welcome. Fax resume or letter of interest with salary requirement to John at (908) 754-6795.

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WOMAN WITH MS NEEDS HOUSE- hold help. AM/PM hours, also weekends. Call after 5 p.m. (908) 756-9629.

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BEDROOM SET-CHERRYWOOD SLEIGH bed, dresser, mirror chest & nite stands. Retail \$3000, sacrifice \$1275, new in box. (732) 259-6690.

BED-NAME BRAND Q MATTRESS SET W/10 year warranty, still in sealed plastic. Value \$1200 sell \$450, can deliver. (732) 259-6690.

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(Continued from page 1)

the budget, had made the decisions on where cuts could be made. He stressed that no programs, teachers, aides or staff, nor any sport programs were included in the recommended cuts. He said, "Nor in any way will these cuts impact our students." He also added that as Higgins and Lamarco examined the budget they found it contained sloppy accounting practices and oversights.

Councilmen Robert Bengivenga, Jr., Matthew Anesh and Ray Petronko all agreed that voting on the recommended budget cuts was no easy decision. All also agreed that they were confident in the CPAs they had hired and would follow their recommendations. Bengivenga also suggested that the school board and council begin talks on shared services to help reduce costs in the future.

Recommended cuts were made in several categories: \$288,000 from the surplus fund from last year, which includes \$87,000 in excess actual salaries and \$82,530 in extraordinary aid; \$108,977 from salary appropriations (which is the difference in the salary of seven retirees who will be replaced with lower salaried teachers); \$500,000 from the Special Services budget, which the auditors found was over budgeted by more than \$721,342; \$5,100 from legal services, which had budgets for a seven percent increase in costs; \$230,000 from the unemployment fund, which was budgeted for \$50,000 per quarter, when the actual liability to the State was \$11,837 and \$52,000 from Capital

Account, for paying an access road. The cuts total \$1,184,088.

Most of those speaking addressed cuts to the Special Services account. Superintendent Robert Rosado asked the council to reconsider the \$500,000 cut in that account. He said special education costs are mandated by the state and it would cause a hardship to the district. Butrico answered that he felt that there was enough money in the Special Services budget and there are many other areas in the budget where there was an excess of money.

Louise Murz, president of the SPEA, explained that even though there were no staff cuts in the council's recommendations, there had been staff cuts made when the budget was introduced and if there is a shortfall in the Special Services area, more staff cuts would be needed.

In the end, the vote to accept the recommended cuts was unanimous. It is now up to Rosado and the BOE to decide if they will accept the cuts or appeal the decision.

The BOE met Wednesday evening after our presstime. We will report on that meeting and more next week.



Scouts Visit Camp Bow Wow

On April 22, Girl Scout Troop 530 visited Camp Bow Wow, a local dog kennel and day care. The girls learned all aspects of pet care, including spaying and neutering, regular vet checkups and a healthy diet and exercise for a pet. Pictured left are Gracie Piekarski, Sarah Hunterton, Ashley Dispenziere, Renee Parisi, Ashley Robjohn, Natalie Kozak, Alex Bosse and Alyssa Kelly and Bailey the dog.

Summer Drama Workshop Auditions

The Summer Drama Workshop has 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. Auditions are 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. 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; contact Summer Drama Workshop

at (908) 561-5255 or check our web site 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.

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.

Highlights From The Board of Education

By Libby Barsky

The following teachers were selected for the 2005/2006 Governor's Teacher Recognition Program by their peers and the South Plainfield Governor's Teacher Recognition Selection Committee with Anthony Massaro, Steve Novak, Louise Mruz, Rosemary Muglia and JoAnne Jarema. On May 24 the teachers will be chauffeured by limousine to the Pines Manor for a luncheon.

They are: Lenore Kielblock, math teacher at South Plainfield High School; Linda Schwebel, math teacher at South Plainfield Middle School; Maureen Barnett, gym teacher at Grant School; Marie Stremmler, special ed teacher at Franklin School; Mary Bannon, nurse at John F. Kennedy School; Lori Meyer, fourth grade teacher at John E. Riley School; Kathleen Simpson, fourth grade teacher at Roosevelt School and Dorothy Ewing, teacher in Future Stars Preschool.

Leaving for maternity leave effective May 25 through June 30, 2007 is High School Spanish teacher Shannon Lorenzo. Her Spanish classes will be taught by Jeannette Arevalo, Jacquelyn Barton, Anthony Encinas, Orlando Garcia and Malachi Wood.

All thermostats will be set no lower than 78° for air conditioners in the district unless there is a student whose IEP suggests that because of a medical condition such as asthma, a different temperature is needed.

The board voted to rescind the appointment of Wilentz, Goldman and Spitzer as Bond Counsel of Record for the 2006/2007 school year approved at the organization meeting held April 24. In effect the Board already had McManimon and Scotland LLC as broker of record for the referendum. The Board decided it did not need two bond counsels, even though there is no fee until their services are used.



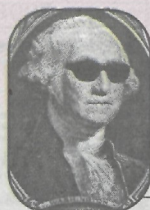
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