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South Plainfield Observer

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VOL. 10, NO. 10

50 CENTS

NOV 03 2006

NOVEMBER 3, 2006

State Responds to Residents Helen St. Coalition Letters

Members of the Helen Street Coalition were pleased to learn that the N.J. Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has begun responding to the petition letters that many residents have signed in favor of the Helen Street Extension Project. However, when the contents of the letters were read, many were surprised to hear the DEP's response that applications for certain permits have not yet been submitted.

Coalition member Jane Dornick immediately called the DEP to inquire about the letters. As is always the case when dealing with bureaucracies, she first spoke with a woman named Dottie, who then forwarded her to Asst. Commissioner Mark Mauriello's office

in the Land Use Regulation Program (LURP). Supervisor Environmental Specialist Helen Owens told her that they were waiting for the application for permits, however she added that they do consider public comments when making their decision on a project.

When asked about the filing for permits, Councilman Charlie Butrico explained that these permits cannot be obtained until a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) statement is issued by the Department of Transportation (DOT). This FONSI statement could have been issued back in 2004 if not for a surprise visit from the Friends of the Dismal Swamp, an environmental group that attended a

meeting the DEP held at the Senior Center on Feb. 11 of that year. The meeting was conducted by representatives of DMJM Harris, who were hired to prepare an environment assessment to get the final go ahead to begin the Helen Street Project. The firm looked at five different options for a road and decided the option being proposed would have the least impact in terms of noise levels, water runoff and impact to the wetlands. The study concluded that there would be "no real impact on green acres" in that area, but in order to stall the project, environmentalists argued that additional traffic and environmental studies were needed.

Since the project is being completely funded by the Federal Government, monies for the additional studies had to be secured and the necessary reports had to be submitted to the LURP, a sub-group within the DEP. They received all of the necessary documents for review in April 2006, according to Butrico.

Dornick was able to obtain a letter from the DEP, Office of Permit Coordination and Environmental Review, dated July 26, 2006 written to the DOT manager of Environmental Programs Resources regarding a study that was done by the N.J. Division of Fish and Wildlife. The DEP letter states, "The NJDEP concurs with the purpose and need for the project." It also says, "In regard to being 'reasonably assured' that permits can be secured for the project, we recommend that you have further discussions directly with the department's Land Use Regulation Program."

According to Butrico, on Monday he spoke with LURP supervisor of Roadway and Infrastructure Charles Welch who expressed an interest in meeting with borough officials in the next few months regarding the project. When Dornick reached Welch on Tuesday for comment, he said, "I called the press office and was hoping they would call you back to clarify where his office stands with the project." At press time,

(Continued on page 16)



Councilman Robert Bengivenga, Jr.



Councilman Charles Butrico

Control of Borough Council on the Line

It's time for South Plainfield voters to make their choice among the candidates for mayor and council and then go out and vote for them on Tuesday, Nov. 7.

South Plainfield has two candidates running for a four-year term as mayor, Democrat Charles Butrico and Republican Robert Bengivenga, Jr. Both currently serve as councilmen. Four candidates are seeking three-year terms for council, Republicans Alex Barletta and David Sesok and Democrats Ray Petronko, seeking re-election, and Joe Scudato.

This year's election can dramatically change the dynamics of the council. The present council is made up of four Democrats and two Republicans with a Democratic mayor. This election could

swing control of the council from the Democrats to the Republicans. If the Republicans win one council seat, it will be divided evenly, and since the mayor only votes if there is a tie, control could swing in one direction or the other.

You can read letters from all six candidates on pages 8 and 9 in this issue. Remember to get informed and check out all of the issues before you vote. Your vote really does count; last year one of the council seats was decided by only 29 votes.

Two South Plainfield residents are running for Middlesex County freeholders. They are Democratic incumbent John Pulomena and Republican Geoffrey Champion.

Polls are open next Tuesday at 6 a.m. and close at 8 p.m.



Alex Barletta



Councilman Raymond Petronko



David Sesok



Joe Scudato

VOTE NOVEMBER 7 Polls are open 6am-8pm



The third annual Town History Day featured Civil War soldiers. For story and additional photo, see page 12.

Cappy Award Winners to be Honored at Dinner

The South Plainfield Police Athletic League and Recreation Department have announced the recipients of the this year's Cappy Awards. They are Amando "Artie" Fiore and Richard Curcio. The two will be honored at a dinner on Saturday, Nov. 10, at the Senior Center at 7:30 p.m.

Armando "Artie" Fiore

Many people volunteer their time to the youth of South Plainfield. Few, however, have the time and effort to volunteer for the 30-plus years that Artie Fiore put in. To say he touched the lives of thousands would not be

an exaggeration. Artie used his experiences of 30-plus professional fights to voluntarily help train many of South Plainfield's youth. There were at least three Golden Gloves State Champions who were given their opportunity by Artie. He trained these young boxers in the original PAL gym. Boxing was not Artie's only passion. Pop Warner and Junior Baseball participants were fortunate enough to have Artie coach them for nearly 30 years. His commitment to the youth of his generation is unprecedented. We can hope, but we will most likely not have the honor and privilege of watching another

Artie Fiore.

Richard Curcio

To call Richard Curcio a visionary would be an understatement. He was instrumental in many positive developments concerning South Plainfield's youth programs. Richard was at the forefront of finding a field for the Pop Warner program. While serving as president of Pop Warner, he was directly involved with obtaining and transforming the dump site into the present day Pop Warner complex. The press box that stands above the field

(Continued on page 16)

Just Vote!!

For weeks the *Observer* has attempted to provide our readers with the information needed to select the best candidates. In the past few months voters have had the opportunity to read the literature and the letters, to ask questions and to meet the candidates as they visited homes during the campaign.

As far as endorsing a candidate, the *Observer* has never, and probably will never, endorse any particular candidate. We feel it would be an insult to our readers to tell them how to vote. The decision on how you vote is yours, and yours alone, and no publication anywhere should influence your vote. It is unimaginable that anyone would vote a certain way because a newspaper endorses a candidate; the public is smarter than that!

The important thing is to go out and vote! There are too many examples of what happens when there is voter apathy. We are a democracy, and when we exercise our voting privileges, our town, state and country can't go wrong. Democracy is at its best when everyone, not just those that have a cause, an agenda or a gripe, votes.

So please, exercise your right to vote on November 7. The result will be a democratic choice made by the people.

Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Every registered voter will receive a sample ballot in the mail in the next few days. The front of each ballot lists polling places.

If you have a problem with voting or need information, call the Borough Clerk at (908) 226-7606.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Log on to southplainfieldnj.com for the latest meeting agenda

councilmeetings

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

Date	Agenda Meeting	Public Meeting
Monday, November 13	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 5	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.

planningboard

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month, *except where noted.
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641
Nov. 28, Dec. 12 and Dec. 26.

zoningboardofadjustment

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month, *except where noted.
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641
Nov. 30* and Dec. 14.

boardofeducationmeetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted
Committee of the Whole, Wednesdays 7 p.m.-
Nov. 8, Dec. 13, Jan. 10, Feb. 14, March 14 and March 28.
Regular Meeting Wednesdays 8 p.m.-Nov. 15, Dec. 20, Jan. 17, Feb. 21, March and April 4.



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NANCY GRENNIER
Publisher/Editor-in-Chief

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in the *South Plainfield Observer*:

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters may be submitted by mail to South Plainfield Observer, Editorial Dept., 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, by email: sposerver@comcast.net or fax 908-668-8819. Letters should not exceed 200 words. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. It is the editor's discretion to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject. The opinions expressed in "Letters" do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the *Observer*. All letters must be submitted with name and phone number, for verification.

IN YOUR OPINION

The opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily those of the publisher.

(Election letters on pages 8 and 9)

To the Editor,

On Saturday Oct. 21, the SPHS Music Boosters held their 25th Annual Band Festival at Jost Field. The SPHS Marching Band hosted eight visiting bands for our USSBA Competition. The festival was a great success and we would like to thank the following people and organizations that made that day possible.

They are: the SPHS Athletic Boosters and Mike Buggey, for the use of their concession stand, field and advice; Sodexho for their above and beyond janitorial services and donations of paper goods; Roma Foods (along with the Boyles and Dachilles) for the pizza truck, refrigerated van and the pizza makers; Applebees of Piscataway for the hamburgers, hot dogs and the managers who grilled for us; Conti Equipment for the lights; 1-800-Flowers for the carnations; Ed Eggert and Herts Chips for the chips donation; Oak Tree Farms for the great deal on the ice and the use of their portable ice freezer; Sacred Heart School for the loan of the popcorn machine; the South Plainfield Rescue Squad for donating their time; Nischwitz & Co. for the donation of propane; Image Tech of N.Y. for their donations; Home Depot for their donation; Rich D'Urso and the graphic arts department and Rich Mowrey in the print shop for all of our printing needs; Marissa Kline (our Tiger); the SPHS Chorus; the SPHS administration for all their help and support; Kay Mindler, Russ Mattoon, Kevin Hughes, Fred Oberkehr and Carrie Moore and Melissa Thibault who designed our posters and program cover. We would also like to thank all of our trophy sponsors. Last, but certainly not least, we would like to thank all of the volunteers, parents and students past and present, who made this day a success.

All of your efforts did not go unnoticed—and remember—after Thanksgiving you get your lives back! If we have omitted anyone, we are truly sorry, but all of the help was very much appreciated!

SINCERELY,
SPHS MUSIC BOOSTERS
EXECUTIVE BOARD

To the Editor,

As South Plainfield residents, it's important for us to support local businesses. Likewise, it's important for them to support our town. Part of this obligation is to maintain the upkeep of their establishments.

Unfortunately, this isn't the case with Krauser's on Oak Tree Ave. The façade has been in horrible condition for over three years. I've politely expressed my dissatisfaction both verbally and in a letter to the owner. Un-

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: sposerver@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 limit the number of letters submitted on the same subject.

fortunately, there's been no change in the condition of the building. On Oct. 28, I spoke with the cashier and asked for the owner's contact information again. He said he didn't have it and couldn't tell me when "Jack" would be in. He disrespectfully told me that I'm the only one who cares about this issue and that "they don't."

Clearly, I can't be the only resident who is bothered by this complete disregard for our town. I for one will be contacting the town to make a formal complaint and will no longer patronize that Krauser's location. I encourage all of you to do the same. Maybe that way they will "care" a little more and "clean up their act." Either that or they can take their business elsewhere.

SINCERELY,
SUSAN KOLESAR

Pulomena's Efforts Aid South Plainfield

South Plainfield's own John Pulomena is running for reelection to the Middlesex County Board of Frecholder along with James Polos.



John Pulomena

Pulomena began the Tech 2000 program, which invested over \$5 million to ensure that a computer was placed in every public and private classroom in Middlesex County. In addition, he has expanded the program to deploy defibrillators throughout public and non-public county schools.

Pulomena has also taken a key role in providing South Plainfield over \$20 million in county funding to support many enhancements to the borough. This included upgrades to the girls softball and soccer fields, improvements to Putnam Park and the community pool and enhancements to the PAL facility. Critical funding was also provided for the downtown and business district improvements, the construction of a footbridge to enable pedestrians to walk through the entire municipal complex; as well as the purchase of over 20 acres for open space preservation.



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The South Plainfield Health Department
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Dog and Cat Owners are urged to bring
their pets for inoculation.



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DATE:
Saturday, November 4, 2006
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Traffic Safety Officers Karl Schuetz, Lt. Kevin Murtagh and Officer Vincent Campagna display the electronic speed indication signs.

Traffic Safety Department Helps to Deter Speeders

Part of the South Plainfield Police Department's continuing effort to ensure the safety of motorists and pedestrians that travel our roads has been the utilization of the Traffic Safety Bureau. The department consists of a lieutenant and two officers. There are three marked vehicles assigned to the unit along with an electronic speed indication trailer. The department recently purchased a portable electronic speed indication sign that will be relocated throughout the borough as needed. This new sign can also produce written data providing statistics on items such as speeds and the busiest travel times. "Realizing that our officers cannot be on all problem streets, these two speed indication signs help by acting as a reminder for motorists to keep their speed within the limit. Some of the problem areas we have concentrated on are the 'cut through' streets, the roadways drivers use to avoid busy intersections," said Chief John Ferraro. Traffic Safety officers, along with patrolmen, are assigned to radar posts on a daily basis.

Another program implemented by the police department two years ago is the "Keep Kids Alive, Drive 25" program. It is a cooperative effort between local businesses, residents and the department to reduce speeders in residential areas. The "Keep Kids Alive, Drive 25" signs are sponsored by business owners and are placed on residents' lawns to remind motorists of the posted speed limit. Residents interested in obtaining a sign can contact Traffic

Safety in the spring.

Additional duties performed by the Traffic Safety Dept. include drivers education courses at the high school, fatal and serious crash investigations, site plan reviews for zoning and planning, child safety seat inspections, funeral escorts, DWI enforcement, check points and grant applications, Div. of Motor Vehicles commuter van and commercial vehicle inspections in cooperation with the N.J. State Police, Junior Police Academy instructors, supervision of school crossing guards and monitoring of the "Keep Kids Alive, Drive 25" program.

"Traffic safety as a whole, including truck and pedestrians, is our utmost concern," said Councilman and Public Safety Chairman Dennis Cerami. He added, "We are reacting to residents' concerns. The portable signs are great because they can be moved around. We are considering putting the portable sign on Hamilton Blvd. now that it is completed to remind residents of their speed. We are not going to condone speeding. All in all, the Traffic Safety Bureau is doing a good job."

Chief Ferraro commented, "We are always looking for input from the public as to problem streets or where enforcement and police presence should be increased. Residents are encouraged to call the Patrol Division Commander at (908) 226-7685 to advise us of problem areas and we will address all complaints."

Austin Family Adopts Spot in South Plainfield

Elizabeth Austin has signed an agreement with South Plainfield Clean Business Association to maintain both sides of Plainfield Ave. from Maple Ave. to Sampton Ave. Austin resides in the neighborhood on Lane Ave. She and her family are planning to do a litter cleanup along the sidewalks every other month for the coming year.

Plainfield Ave. fronts the heart of the borough's municipal facilities: Borough Hall, the public library, the rescue squad and fire house, the new me-

morial parks and the senior citizens center, as well as the county's Spring Lake Park. Austin thought it important to adopt this stretch of road because so many residents use it and out of town visitors get their impressions of South Plainfield here. With all the pedestrian and vehicular traffic, and the litter-generating convenience stores at the Sampton Ave. intersection, she thought the road needed attention to reflect well on the borough.

Austin and her son are members of the Glitterbug Club, an activity club dedicated to showing children that they can make a real difference in the community's quality of life. She is also a member of the Friends of the Woods, a group of volunteers who maintain the borough's nature reserve and run environmental education programs at the nature center on Sylvania Place.

For more information about the Adopt-A-Spot program, contact the Clean Communities Coordinator at (908) 226-7621.

Fall Frolic in the Woods Walk

Dr. Alice Tempel, South Plainfield environmental specialist, will lead a woods walk through the 36-acre Highland Woods Nature Reserve on Saturday, Nov. 4, at 2 p.m. The walk is geared towards adults and focused children age 10 and above.

Tempel will give walkers the low-down on the changing landscape and fading colors in the woods as it prepares for a long winter's nap. Walkers will look for the birds that have taken

up residence in the woods for the winter—titmice, chickadees, juncos, nuthatches, creepers and several species of woodpeckers.

Highland Woods is located off South Clinton Ave. Wear sensible walking shoes; dress for the weather and bring a pair of binoculars.

Log on to: <http://geocities.com/friendsofhighlandwoods> for more programming, including children's art classes and storytime for little ones.

Counseling for School Children

(in your home) coping with

Divorcing Parents, Asperger's Syndrome, ADHD, 504 Prep., etc.

RETIRED PRINCIPAL

732-549-1959

SOUTH PLAINFIELD Homes for Sale

Expanded Bilevel-Mother/Daughter home-Rare Find-2 separate living areas, 2 kitchens, 5 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, upstairs



level features newer kitchen and family room w/fireplace, sliders from joining room to deck overlooking oversized property. The first level has its own living room, dining room, kitchen, bath & separate entrance. Total of 2,760 sq. ft. of living space and wonderful location & neighborhood. Asking \$499,900.

Spacious Split Level in Great Location-Large eat in kitchen, cathedral ceiling and newer bay window in living room, hardwood floors under carpet, wood burning fireplace in family room, 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, central air, vinyl siding and 1 car attached garage. 1 year American Home Shield warranty included. Asking \$349,900.



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Around Town

Kennedy Vendor Night

November 3

Do your holiday shopping at Kennedy School's Vendor Night on Friday, Nov. 3 from 6 to 9 p.m. Home Interiors, Southern Living, Tastefully Simple, Italian Charms, Tupperware, Party Lite and more. Vendor Night organizers are looking for vendors to participate. Food and refreshments will be served.

SP Columbiettes Shopping Trip

November 4

The South Plainfield Columbiettes planned their annual shopping trip to the outlets in Reading, Pa., for Saturday, Nov. 4. Bus leaves Sacred Heart Church at 8 a.m.

Cost of \$25 includes bus driver's tip. You will receive a shopping bag, coupon book and a ticket for lunch.

Bus will stop at the Cracker Barrel for additional shopping and dinner, and returns at approximately 7 p.m.

To reserve a seat or for information, contact Kathy at (908) 756-3772.

VFW Country Breakfast

November 5

VFW Post #6763, located on Front St., will hold a country breakfast on Sunday, Nov. 5, from 8 a.m. to noon. Public welcome. Cost is \$5. For information, call (908) 668-9751.

American Legion Woman's Auxiliary Mtg.

November 6

Do you have a family member who is or was serving in the military? If so, please join us for an introductory meeting on Monday, Nov. 6 at 8 p.m. at the American Legion Post 243 on Oak Tree Ave. Representatives from the state and county woman's auxiliary will be present. Coffee, tea and cake will be served. Please come and meet other like-minded women.

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

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

What's happening in NOVEMBER

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
UPCOMING EVENTS Nov. 9 - Vision Screening - 2:30 p.m. December 2 - Senior Snow Ball Dinner Dance, 6 to 10 p.m.				Bingo 10am-2pm Lunch Available 3
Knitting/Crocheting 9:30am-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Art Class 11:30am 6	Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social Group 10am Election Day 7	Exercise Class 8:45am Line Dancing 10am Computer Classes 10am 11:30am & 1 pm Tai Chi Class 2pm 8	Pathmark Shopping 9 am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11am & 1pm Exercise Class 1:15pm 9	Center Closed for Veteran's Day 10
TO SIGN UP FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER, VISIT THE CENTER.				

Vision Screening at Senior Center

November 9

There will be a Vision Screening program at the Senior Center on Thursday, Nov. 9 at 2:30 p.m., sponsored by State Senator Barbara Buono and conducted by Dr. Bruce Kastner of Iselin. There will also be a question and answer period for any seniors with specific concerns about vision issues.

All local seniors are invited. For information, call (908) 754-1047.

AARP Driving Class

November 9 & 16

A defensive driving class will be held on two Thursdays, Nov. 9 and 16, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at South Plainfield Senior Center. Cost is \$10. You must attend both sessions to receive a three year discount on auto insurance. Registration required.

Call Mary at (732) 752-3764.

Good Morning Middlesex

November 9

Middlesex County Regional Chamber of Commerce monthly morning networking event will be held at First Investors, One Woodbridge Center, Suite 545 in Woodbridge on Thursday, Nov. 9 at 7:45 a.m. \$15 for members, \$20 for member walk-ins, \$25 for non-members.

For more information call Fred at (732) 821-1700, ext. 203 or email Fred@mcrc.org.

Cappy Award Dinner

November 11

This year's Cappy Award recipients, the late Armando "Artie" Fiore and Richard Curcio, will be honored at a dinner at the Senior Center on Saturday, Nov. 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 per person and can be purchased at the PAL.

Future Stars Vendor Night

November 14

The Future Stars Preschool will hold a Vendors Night on Tuesday, Nov. 14 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Administration Building/Preschool on Jackson Ave.

Over 20 vendors from popular companies and unique gift items! Cash and carry as well as orders.

Refreshments will be available!

AIDA SANTOS
VICE PRESIDENT
BRANCH MANAGER

Valley National Bank

Durham Ave. & Hamilton Blvd
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

(908) 757-5868
Fax (908) 757-0494

— Out of Town —

Class of 1966 Reunion

November 4

The 40th Reunion of the Class of 1966 from Plainfield High School will be held on Saturday, Nov. 4, at the Sheraton Woodbridge Place in Iselin from 7 p.m. to midnight.

Please contact David Littman at (908) 925-6343 for further details.

Caribbean Night

November 4

St. Francis Episcopal Church, located on New Market Rd. in Dunellen, will hold a Caribbean Night on Saturday, Nov. 4. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., dinner served at 6 p.m. Cost is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children.

For information call (732) 968-6781 or (732) 752-5608.

Blackrose Performs

November 4

Blackrose, the band will be performing classic rock and roll music and today's hits at Season's Restaurant, 1630 Rt. 27 South in Edison on Nov. 4 at 10 p.m. There is no cover charge.

Classical Music Series

November 5

The Classical Music Series at The Arts Guild of Rahway presents Fourtissimo, performing an all Mozart program on Sunday, Nov. 5, 2 p.m.

Advance tickets are \$12 and available at The Arts Guild of Rahway, weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; \$15 at the door. Call (732) 381-7511.

Monday Afternoon Club Meeting

November 6

The Monday Afternoon Club of Plainfield monthly meeting will be held on Monday, Nov. 6 at Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church in Plainfield at 2 p.m. Refreshments will be served following the entertainment. All are invited to attend.

For more information call Millie Colley at (908) 756-3476.

Adolescent Support Group

November 6

A supportive counseling group for adolescents ages 13-15 sponsored by Jewish Family and Vocational Services of Middlesex County will be held at 515 Plainfield Ave. in Edison beginning Monday, Nov. 6 from 6-7 p.m.

Contact Jewish Family and Vocational Services at (732) 777-1940.

Celebrate Recovery

November 7

Celebrate Recovery, a nationwide Christ-centered recovery program is starting two 12-Step study groups, one for men and one for women, on Tuesday, Nov. 7, at the First Presbyterian Church in Dunellen. The meetings will meet weekly at 7 p.m. You are invited to come for all or part of the evening. There is no charge.

For information call (732) 968-3844 or visit www.dunellenpres.org.

Singles Happy Hour

November 8

Crystal Singles 40+ is hosting a singles mingle happy hour and optional Italian dinner at Robertos in Rochelle Park on Wednesday, Nov. 8 from 7 to 9 p.m.

Call (732) 764-9073.

Good Morning Middlesex

November 9

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HOMETOWN HEROS

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Assorted Sandwich Platters • Complete Line of Hot Trays

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908-755-HERO (4376)

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The All Inclusive Music Store
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	YES	NO	YES	NO
Music Lessons	✓	-	Rentals	✓
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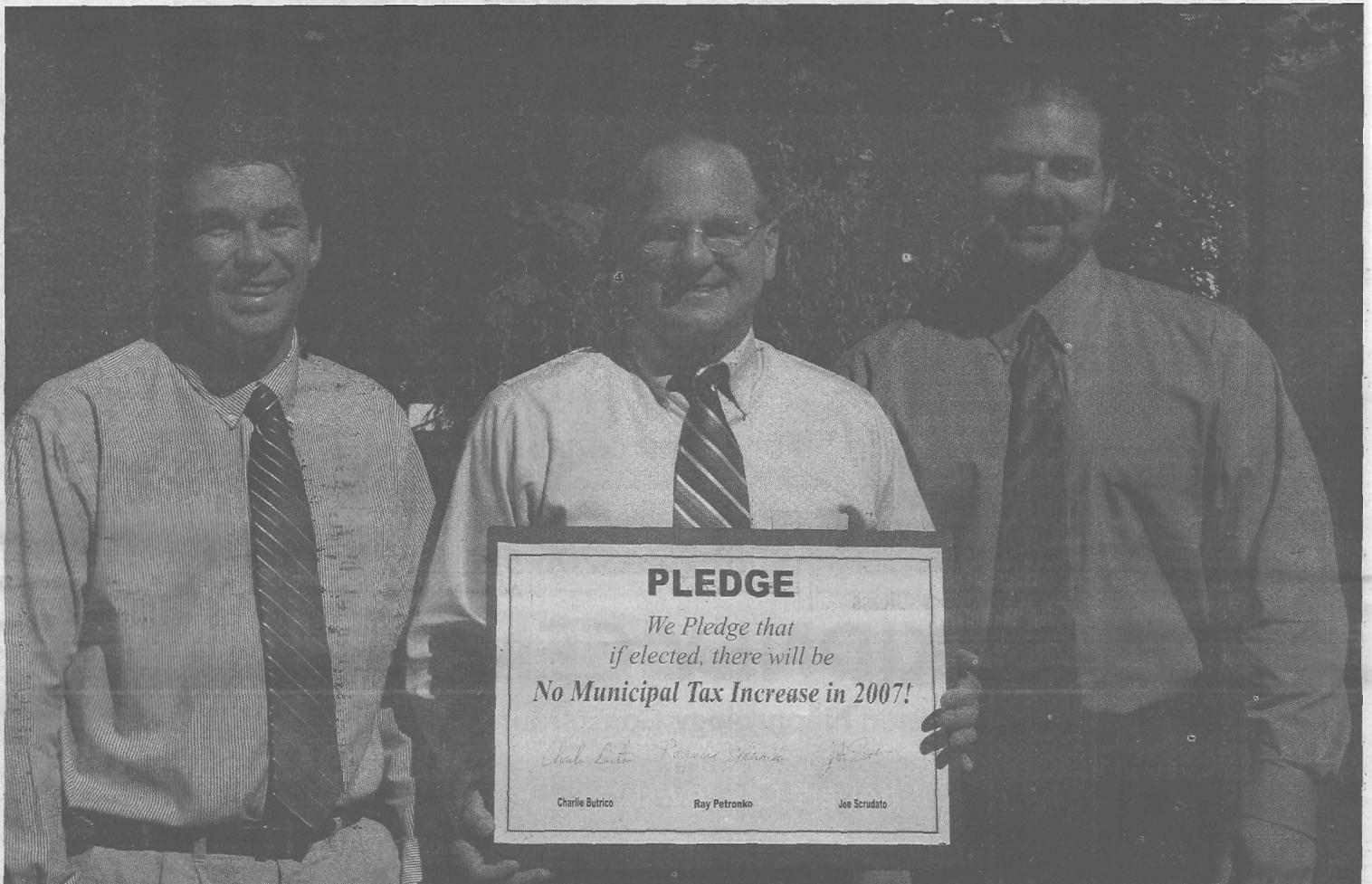
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VOTE WITH YOUR FUTURE IN MIND

Beegle Recognized for Dedication to Substance Abuse Awareness

By Libby Barsky

The Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse presented William Beegle, guidance director for South Plainfield School District, with the Volunteer of the Year Award at the Governor's Annual Summit on Oct. 23 at the Princeton Hyatt Hotel. The award cited Beegle for "his dedication to the South Plainfield Alliance for Substance Awareness in Middlesex County and to the goals of the Alliance program in combating addiction in New Jersey communities."

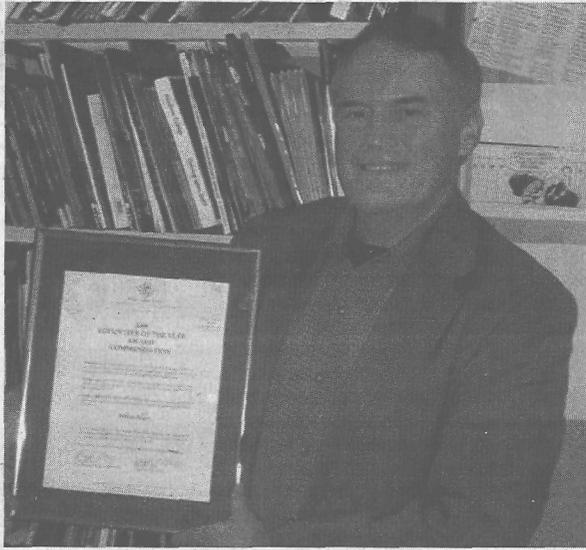
The Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse was created in 1989 by the legislature to coordinate services involving alcoholism and drug abuse. Funding for the council comes from fines collected by the Drug Enforcement Demand Reduction Fund from convicted drug users and sellers. The council distributes these funds through grants applied for by local Municipal Alliance Programs to implement such programs as DARE and South Plainfield High School Project Graduation.

"In 1991, Mayor Daniel Gallagher asked if there was anyone in the schools who would be willing to take on leadership of the [Alliance] grant and I

volunteered to do it," said Beegle. Beegle, who had come into the district in 1987 after teaching in Spotswood, was living in South Plainfield at the time and called the volunteer position "a perfect fit."

"I was a resident and was involved as a counselor—it just fit together. We named the organization the South Plainfield Alliance for Substance Awareness (SPASA)," said Beegle. SPASA funding has been used to provide substance awareness materials and a banner for Domestic Violence Awareness, character education materials in grades K-5, Sequential Training for Effective Parenting (STEP) workshops, Peer to Peer mediation in middle school, Student Leadership in the high school and Project Graduation, the drug- and alcohol-free all night graduation party held at The Club at Ricochet.

One of the first special substance abuse awareness programs Beegle, a lifelong runner, was coordinated in 1991 with Ricochet owner Gary Hammrah was the Ricochet/SPASA Labor Day 5K Race. The sponsorship continues to date with manager Rudy Willemsen. "People were beginning to find places on the sidewalks early on Labor Day waiting for the



William Beegle with Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Volunteer of the Year Award.

parade to begin and Bill thought there was time before the parade for a 5K race," recalled Willemsen. "Ricochet wanted to do their own race and I wanted to do one for the Alliance, so I talked with Gary Hammrah and we combined our efforts. He would buy

the shirts and I would silk screen the race logo on the shirts in my garage.

After five years Ricochet funded the entire cost of the t-shirts with the logos professionally done. Ricochet also provides prizes for winners of the races along with anti-smoking, anti-drug,

anti-alcohol and anti-steroid use information. Many members of the SPHS track team run in the race and volunteer in the organization of it.

"This year was the best 5K Race, with 280 runners participating. It was the first time I ran the race. This is the last year I am organizing it. I'm turning it over to the South Plainfield Education Foundation, and administrators Fred Oberkehr and Robert Richus will be in charge. The profits from the race will go toward scholarships for SPHS seniors," said Beegle.

Beegle also initiated the Twin City Pharmacy Holiday Basketball Tournament. "It's named for the support Twin City Pharmacy owner Tom Cassio gave the program. The tournament involves over 250 middle school students (boys and girls) from four local school districts, including Dunellen, East Brunswick and South Plainfield, as well as Sacred Heart School. Preliminary games are played with the winners of those games playing a championship game. Trophies are donated by Joe Romer Trophy Shop of Edison. Romer also donates trophies for the 5K Race and has from the beginning," said Beegle.

"Listening To Children" is a program where senior citizens volunteer as partners with elementary school students once a week to help them with personal/social issues. For some of the children, these seniors act as substitute grandparents, and help them develop positive decision making skills. When the Essex County agency, that initiated the program no longer supported the program in South Plainfield, Beegle continued it as a SPASA program.

In 1994 Beegle moved from his guidance director's position to become the Middle School assistant principal. In 2001, he became principal at Riley School. He returned to the position of director of guidance in 2004. With each move, Beegle developed or expanded SPASA programs for the school population in his building. "The grant is educational, so what better place to do it than in the school district. We are trying to educate kids to have a good character and not to use addictive substances," said Beegle.

"I also believe that volunteerism is an integral component of a well-rounded individual." It's a belief that Beegle lives. As a school administrator he also took on the added responsibilities of president and treasurer of the New Jersey Career Counselors Association, president of the Middlesex County Principals and Supervisors Association, president of the Middlesex Guidance Council, president of the Middlesex School Counselors Association and cabinet member of the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association, and was awarded Counselor of the Year for Middlesex County in 1992-1993.



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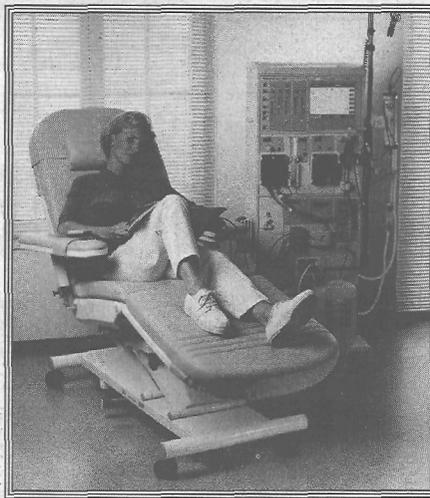
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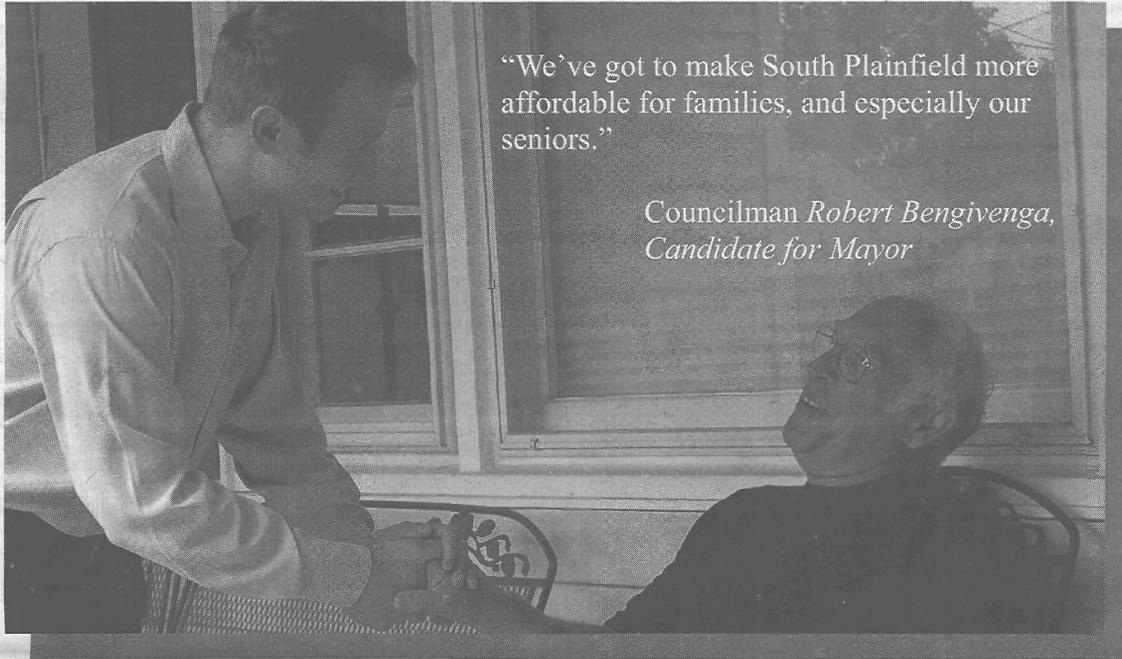
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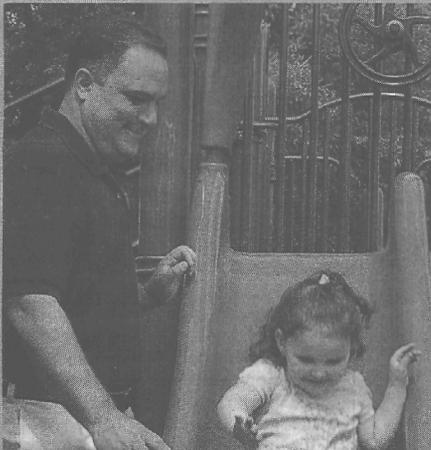


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Councilman Robert Bengivenga, Candidate for Mayor

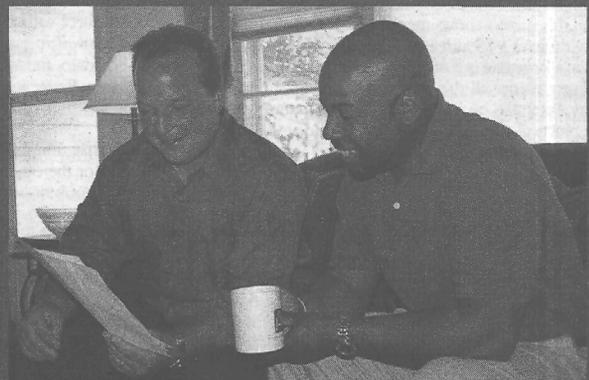


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- Cutting contract costs by increasing competition
- Planning growth so business and industry pick up their fair share



Election 2006

Butrico, Petronko And Scrudato Are Proud Of Their Campaign

As the 2006 campaign draws to a close the Democratic team of Charlie Butrico for mayor and Ray Petronko and Joe Scrudato reflected on their experience. Charlie Butrico said, "It has been terrific! There is nothing better than having the opportunity of walking our beautiful borough and hearing what our residents have to say. I was born and raised in South Plainfield and I appreciate this town more and more. You sometimes forget the great things that have been accomplished during the last decade of Democratic leadership. Remember when Hadley Rd. looked like a moon crater? Remember when Hamilton Blvd. was falling apart and clogged with truck traffic? Remember when our parks and playgrounds were virtually unusable with unsafe equipment? Remember when they were

planning on building a Walgreens in what is now the beautifully expanded Putnam Park? Remember when there was no senior housing or senior recreation center? Remember when there wasn't even a program to protect open space from development? Remember when the borough budget and borough debt doubled with nothing to show for it? Those old days of Republican control are a distant memory and I know after Ray and Joe and I knocked on every door in town that our residents don't want to go back to that."

Ray Petronko also expressed his thanks to the thousands of residents he has talked with over the last three months. "I can honestly say that people who live in South Plainfield are more than nice. Even when folks disagree with us, they are always cour-

teous. Charlie and Joe and I committed ourselves to running a positive campaign and we have kept our word. We are proud of our record, which has resulted in South Plainfield having the lowest tax rate in Middlesex County for the last six years. We are the only team to promise no tax increase again next year. Charlie Butrico's Traffic Plan is already working and when the New Market Ave. extension and Phase II of Hamilton Blvd. is finished next year it will be even better. We are looking forward to starting construction on our new library and continuing to expand our recreation program and senior services. We will never rest on our laurels. We know what the term 'public servant' means. It has been an honor to serve on the council for the last nine years and it will be even more of an honor to con-

tinue to serve our residents along with Charlie Butrico as mayor and Joe Scrudato as a councilmember."

Joe Scrudato summed up his feelings saying, "The campaign has been one of the best experiences of my life. I love meeting people and going door to door was both fun and rewarding. Charlie Butrico and Ray Petronko are intelligent, hard working and honest. We have run an issue oriented campaign and set forth a detailed plan for our vision for South Plainfield's future. Here's the bottom line—with Butrico, Petronko and Scrudato you know what you will get. There will be no municipal tax increase again next year. There will be no trucks on Hamilton Blvd. There will be another 20 acres preserved as open space. There will be improvements to our parks, our sports complexes and our senior

services and we will be breaking ground for a new library. In all fairness, the Republican candidates haven't even bothered to set forth a plan. They think that insults and mud throwing will win them the election. I know our residents are smarter than that. When you look at the record and the platforms, the choice on election day is clear. Charlie Butrico form Mayor and Ray Petronko and Joe Scrudato for council are the candidates with South Plainfield's future in mind. Thank you all for your consideration."

This article was submitted by the South Plainfield Democrats and is printed in its entirety, unedited. We neither endorse nor guarantee its accuracy.

IN YOUR OPINION

The opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily those of the publisher.

First off, I would like to take this opportunity to wish the Republican candidates the best of luck on Election Day.

The campaign process is an extremely busy time, but also an enjoyable and enlightening time for me. It's an opportunity for me to get out and meet the wonderful residents of South Plainfield and get direct feedback on their concerns and issues. For those I didn't get the chance to meet, I want you to know that I am always available and I welcome your comments.

When I ran for borough council five years ago, I did it because I thought I could make a difference and give something back to the town I grew up in and love so much. Five years later I look back with pride on what I have accomplished and the contributions I have made to improving South Plainfield. The democratic leadership in South Plainfield has continually improved the town's infrastructure while keeping municipal tax increases at the lowest percentage in Middlesex County. Looking forward, we are planning many new projects here in South Plainfield. To name a few, we will be extending New Market Ave. to move traffic more smoothly through our borough. We will be improving our parks and recreation areas. We will begin construction on the new public library and most importantly, we are committed to not increasing municipal taxes in 2007.

As a resident of South Plainfield for over 47 years, I have the same stake in this town as many of you. I didn't become a councilman for glory or self gratification; I do it because I truly love this town and want to continue to make it better. I would like to expand my responsibilities as your mayor. I promise, if elected, to continue to work hard for the residents of this great borough. When you go to the polls this year I ask you to place a vote for the Democratic team of Ray Petronko and Joe Scrudato for council and me, Charlie Butrico, for mayor.

**Thank you for your support,
Charlie Butrico**

I was pleased to see that the last two newspaper columns by the Democratic candidates were about their plans for controlling costs and taxes. The fact that they devoted two weeks of comments to this subject shows me that the Democrats are as concerned with taxes as South Plainfield residents are. Property taxes take a large bite out of a paycheck and in the current economy it gets harder all the time to pay the bills. Charlie Butrico, Ray Petronko and Joe Scrudato understand this. They take a practical approach to the town's budget by looking at how they can provide what residents need and want for the least amount of money. The Democrats approach appears to be working. As a result of their planning and forward thinking, the part of the tax rate that the mayor and council control, the municipal rate, had no increases in three of the last five years. That is impressive! I believe that the Democratic candidates, Charlie Butrico for mayor and Ray Petronko and Joe Scrudato for council are the ones who can keep South Plainfield affordable for working families.

Roberta Torsky

This letter is one to show my full support for Charlie Butrico as our next mayor. Although I knew of him in South Plainfield High School, it wasn't until I became good friends with his wife Sherry 15 years ago that I got to understand the good man that he truly is. Whether it was a Girl Scout function, band concert, Summer Drama rehearsal or a Ponytail softball game, Charlie was always present with his love and support for his three girls. Family comes first, as it should, and I'm sure Charlie learned this lesson from his parents as he and his four brothers all live by this philosophy.

Although I am usually not one to get involved in political debate, I do know what is important to me when casting my vote in each and every election. I look for the depth of character, level of experience and a work ethic that just won't die. Charlie has demonstrated all of these during his years as a councilman.

Join me on Nov. 7 and support the most qualified candidate, my friend, Charlie Butrico!

Mary Jane DeNitzio

It is hard to believe that my third term as a councilperson is almost up. From the time I took the oath of office, almost nine years ago, I have been committed to promoting the ideas of the residents of this great town and finding innovative ways to get things done. I have enjoyed the time I have spent on the Borough Council. Working with the community, I believe that I have been able to make a positive difference.

South Plainfield today is better than it was 10 years ago. The town is less in debt, yet there is progress everywhere. I am particularly proud of the improvements in the areas of recreation and senior services. I have been the liaison to the Recreation Department and Office on Aging all of the years that I have been on the council. I have been fortunate to work with individuals like Mike English, Kevin Hughes and Joann Graf who are passionate about the work they do and provide terrific leadership in their respective departments. In the last nine years, we have enhanced every park and recreation facility in South Plainfield. We have provided seniors with an affordable housing complex, a beautiful senior center and an Office on Aging to help deliver the programs and services needed. In addition, we are in constant communication with our state Assemblyman Patrick Diegman and hometown Freeholder John Pulomena and have been able to fund many of these improvements with grants from the County and State government.

I am fortunate to be running with Charlie Butrico and Joe Scrudato. Joe's record of service to the people of this community is outstanding. He is a hard working individual who puts the needs of others before his own. He will make a great borough councilman. Likewise, Charlie Butrico has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life of the residents of South Plainfield. During his five years on the council he has kept spending and taxes under control while improving facilities and services. Charlie has the life and business experience we need in a mayor. This election is about setting the course South Plainfield will take for many years to come. Charlie, Joe and I are committed to keeping trucks off Hamilton Blvd. and will continue to work toward that end. We also pledge that, if elected, there will be No Tax Increase Next Year.

On Nov. 7, please vote for Charlie Butrico for mayor and Joe Scrudato and myself for borough council. We will work with your future in mind.

Sincerely, Ray Petronko

It is that time of the year again, election time. If you are looking for the candidates with South Plainfield's best interest in mind, look no further than Charlie Butrico, Ray Petronko and Joe Scrudato.

Charlie and Ray have proven themselves. There has been no municipal tax increase in three of the five last years. The borough debt has been reduced by \$10M. They have always had the residents of South Plainfield in mind at budget time. Joe is eager to join the team and continue with their progress.

Let us not forget about our own John Pulomena. John has been instrumental in awarding numerous grants from Middlesex County Board of Freeholders to our great town of South Plainfield.

I have been on the council for six years and can't think of any better candidates other than Charlie Butrico for mayor, Ray Petronko and Joe Scrudato for council and John Pulomena for Middlesex County Freeholder.

Councilman Bob Cusick

I had the pleasure of working with Ray Petronko before he became a councilman. In the early 1990's, we both served on our local Traffic Safety Commission. I was the liaison with the Middlesex County Transportation Coordinating Committee at that time. Ray was an outstanding member with good common sense judgment. As the old saying goes, "Common sense is not so common." His concern and interest in our community is unmatched.

You could tell that Ray was destined for greater success. Ray deserves your support for re-election.

Norman Skolnick, Former Traffic Safety Commissioner

Tuesday, Nov. 7, is one of the most important days in an American's life. It is a day when you, as a resident of South Plainfield, will choose who represents you and who will be your voice on the South Plainfield Borough Council. I cannot stress how important this election is to the borough and that is why I am asking for your support.

As some of you know, I have been the Grand Knight of the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus for the past two years. Serving in this capacity, I have demonstrated my leadership skills as the head of this organization through motivating and organizing our members to contribute to many charitable efforts we undertake in our town. I have also coached many of the children in our town for many years in various sports. I feel this is a great way to give back to our community.

One of the most important things I am happy to point out is that the Democrats have done a great job with "Open Space." Over 100 acres have been permanently preserved as open space in the past five years, this year alone 20 acres has been preserved from development including the former bus lot on New Market Ave. I plan on continuing this effort on behalf of all the residents of our town.

One of the most important reasons I am running for Borough council is because of a simple but profound quote my father instilled in me when I was a child. My father used to tell me, "If you can help one person in your life, you as a person will accomplish great things in your life." I have always received fulfillment by helping others, both personally and professionally. By receiving your vote on Nov. 7, you will help provide the vehicle by which I can further this goal, and in so doing, ensure that all residents of South Plainfield receive the same from me as your councilman. That, I know, would make my father proud and preserve his legacy.

I am asking for your support on Election Day. I also ask that you join me in supporting my running mates, Charlie Butrico for mayor and Ray Petronko for council. I look forward to working for all citizens of South Plainfield and thank you for your support.

Regards, Joe Scrudato

On Tuesday, Nov. 7, South Plainfield will choose a new mayor and two members of the council. I urge you to support those individuals who have both a proven record of service and the capacity to get done what needs to be done.

Charlie Butrico has been a great member of the Borough Council. He is the individual who has tackled the incredible traffic problems in our borough and developed a thoughtful plan that is already being implemented. But even before he became a councilmember, he was always known as a caring, honest individual. Anyone who knows Charlie will tell you he is a terrific human being and he will make a great mayor.

Ray Petronko loves this town. The work Ray has done to improve our parks, community pool, P.A.L. and senior facilities is extraordinary. He has also been a key voice on the council in keeping South Plainfield's tax rate as one of the lowest municipal tax rates in Middlesex County. The borough has reduced staff by 20 positions, cut operating expenses in the engineering department and board of health by almost \$500,000 every year.

Although this is his first election, Joe Scrudato is well known to all of our residents. For Joe, it's all about family. You can always find him with one of his kids at a ball game or some other family activity. When he's not supporting his kids, he's supporting his church. Joe just finished his term as Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus where he has spearheaded numerous projects to help others in need. Simply stated Joe Scrudato is just the type of person we need serving our residents as a member of the borough council.

During this year's campaign, Charlie, Ray, and Joe have provided our residents with a detailed plan for improving our great borough. I am proud to endorse individuals of the intelligence, commitment and integrity of Charlie Butrico, Ray Petronko and Joe Scrudato.

Sincerely, Ed Kubala



Election 2006

Bengivenga, Barletta & Sesok Offer New Leadership and New Solutions

Mayoral candidate Robert Bengivenga and candidates for council Alex Barletta and Dave Sesok see the 2006 election as a referendum on leadership. The question for voters is whether to accept the status quo or seek change.

"Residents are saying we need change," explained Councilman Bengivenga. "Alex, Dave and I want to get things back on track, because we can't continue on a path of higher taxes, mounting traffic and continued over-development. People all over town are telling us they agree."

Bengivenga cannot believe the support he and his running mates have received. "We want to thank the residents for their overwhelming re-

sponse," he said. "We've knocked on more than seven thousand doors and the one thing we hear most often is that taxpayers are glad we have a plan to make our town more affordable."

"With spending up \$7 million since 1999, we need to put tight controls in place," added Sesok.

"Residents have repeatedly told us that taxes and spending are the priority, and we've listened," said Bengivenga. "If elected, we'll fight to 1) eliminate patronage jobs, 2) cut contact costs by allowing competition and 3) spearhead a shared-services program with the schools."

"In addition, we see controlling growth as a way to control spending," said Sesok. "The other side wants

to convert our industrial areas to condos and apartments, but we want to market the town to low-traffic business and industry. This type of growth does not create the need for the costly services or add students to the school system."

"Residents are also excited about our plans to help seniors," added Barletta. "One senior I met was thrilled about the new volunteer program that helps seniors with chores around the home, things like painting or fixing a fence, raking leaves or moving furniture."

According to Sesok, residents are also eager to bring back good government. "We won't get open government or ethics reform under the current administration," he said. "Our

plan includes stopping no-bid contracts for campaign contributors and enacting a developer disclosure ordinance so residents can know if builders are trying to 'ease' their way through the process by making campaign contributions."

"Traffic and over-development are also at the top of the list," said Barletta. "Let's extend Hollywood Avenue now—not wait who knows how many years for the Helen Street project."

We support Helen Street, but the project is 14 years behind schedule. In fact, residents this week received letters saying that nobody has even applied for the DEP permits for Helen Street. So it's doubtful that 2011 is even achievable.

With several days to go until Election Day, Bengivenga summed up the candidates' feelings: "Over the past nine weeks we've set out an innovative and positive plan for our town. Republicans have not held the majority on the council in more than a decade. We promise that if you elect us, you'll get the change South Plainfield needs, and you'll be glad you did."

For more on Robert, Alex and Dave's plans to make South Plainfield a better place, go to www.spgop.com.

This article was submitted by the South Plainfield Republicans and is printed in its entirety, unedited. We neither endorse nor guarantee its accuracy.

IN YOUR OPINION

The opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily those of the publisher.

Before deciding to run for mayor, I thought seriously about what I could do for the town and what I could bring to the office. People also asked me the same question: Why have you decided to run for mayor. Here's my answer.

I want to serve the people of South Plainfield. I'm enthusiastic about our town—it's history and more importantly, its future.

I love South Plainfield's rich history. That probably explains my connection with our seniors. Through learning about our history I came to understand that families moved here because of the town's fantastic people and because it was an affordable community with a great quality of life.

Our quality of life is changing however, changing because of things like overdevelopment, traffic, increased spending and rising taxes. Despite this, I'm probably the most optimistic person running for office.

There is much as a community we can do to get things back on track. Even though spending and taxes are up, there are ways to make our town affordable again. They include things like a comprehensive shared-services program with the schools, cutting waste, and saving money on contract costs by increasing competition.

We can also take steps to control traffic and overdevelopment. Extending Hollywood Ave. is one of those steps, as is revamping the zoning ordinance to get a handle on overbuilding. Unfortunately, traffic is worse now than when the other party came into office 13 years ago. Our plans will change that.

Alex, Dave and I have the new leadership and new solutions South Plainfield needs. Given the chance, I know we can make great things happen. Thank you for considering us when you vote on Nov. 7.

Councilman Robert Bengivenga
Candidate for Mayor

As Election Day draws near, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the people of South Plainfield for the great reception they've given me as I've knocked on doors throughout town.

One of the things I thought about as I embarked on this campaign was that I wanted to listen more than talk. I tried to do just that, and in doing so, I came to understand even better what people want from their local government.

The biggest recurring theme in what people said was that they are struggling with rising property taxes. We've got to control spending, and if elected, that will be my number-one priority.

I've said it before, and I'll say it again. Families should not have to choose between paying their property taxes and saving for retirement or saving to send the kids to college.

Traffic and overdevelopment are also at the top of peoples' lists of concerns. The two go hand in hand. We can add all the new routes in the world, but if we keep adding condos and apartments, traffic will never be under control. That's why in addition to talking about new routes for traffic, we must also get a handle on overdevelopment.

People are also looking for a local government that improves their quality of life. Our parks plan recognizes this, as does our plan to open the compost area for a few hours on Sundays.

I'm optimistic about South Plainfield's future. Yes, we have plenty of challenges ahead, but I know that we can tackle them. I'd like to be part of the team that does so, and to that end, I would be honored to be elected to the Borough Council.

Dave Sesok
Candidate for Borough Council

Back in March the Republicans approached me and asked if I would consider running for council. While I've always had an interest in politics, I never actually thought I would run for office. Needless to say, I was surprised and at the same time flattered. I've always been proud of South Plainfield. I grew up here and I chose to stay and raise my family here.

I have to be candid. I'm not particularly happy with the direction the current administration is taking things. I know, however, that running for office means more than running against something. It means running for something. Because of that, I thought I would end the campaign telling readers what I feel I can offer the town. Here's what I came up with.

Some people know that for many years I was involved in my family's business and that I also owned a small business myself. When you own a small business you learn that if you watch the pennies, the dollars will take care of themselves. Spending is up, and this saying is an example of the type of attitude I will bring to the council because of my business experience.

I'm also independent. I told the Republicans that, if elected, I will do what's right regardless of what my friends, my family, and yes, regardless of what my party wants me to do.

I can also offer change. I'm proud of my town, and I don't want it to be known by traffic jams, overdevelopment, Jack Morris, and pay-to-play.

I want South Plainfield to continue to be known by its fantastic parks, by its outstanding schools, and by its reputation as a place where tireless volunteers work to build a better community.

I feel I have a lot to offer. I've been blessed in life and want to give back. I look around and see so many people in South Plainfield doing great things. If elected I believe I can be one of those people that will do great things for our town. If I earn your vote you won't regret it.

Alex Barletta, Candidate for Borough Council

Last year, when I was elected to council, I was fortunate to have Robert Bengivenga as my running mate. Together Robert and I knocked on thousands of doors, talking to residents about topics ranging from taxes and spending to traffic and overdevelopment. We offered new ideas and solutions, many of which Robert has carried forward during his campaign for mayor.

A good example is shared services. Under the current administration there is little cooperation with the schools, and the relationship with the school board is chilly at best. Robert wants to change that, and doing so will not only help us control municipal costs, it will also help the Board of Education control school costs.

Ethics reform is another example of the differences between the Republican and Democratic parties. The Republican council candidates, as well as Robert and me, want to enact a tough ordinance that will crack down on giving no-bid contracts to campaign contributors. We'd also like to eliminate the conflict of interest that arises from having a party chairman as borough attorney.

These types of initiatives would bring positive change to our town. To get them, however, we need a new majority on the council that will support them. That's why we need Robert Bengivenga as our next mayor, and it's also why we need Alex Barletta and Dave Sesok on the council.

Robert, Alex and Dave are the best choice for South Plainfield's future.

Councilman Matthew Anesh

I've been watching this year's campaign unfold, and I've made my decision about who to vote for. The Republicans, to me, have the best new ideas and solutions for our town. Whether it's taxes and spending or traffic and over-development, their plans are creative, well thought out and workable.

I also like how the Republicans have great ideas that won't break the bank, and in many cases, will save money. These include things like adding a dog park, spearheading a shared services program with schools, and raising ethical standards.

In addition, Robert Bengivenga's is a member of the volunteer group that would help seniors who have difficulty maintaining their homes with things like raking leaves, painting a room, fixing a fence, etc. I'm glad to see our Office on Aging is making that idea a reality and that is Robert part of the team organizing the effort.

We need a fresh start. Robert Bengivenga, Alex Barletta, and Dave Sesok have the energy, drive and enthusiasm to get things back on track. With all due respect to the old guard, Bengivenga and Sesok deserve our votes.

Bill Frink

This year's election is one of the most important in decades. At the debate, Robert Bengivenga summed up the choice, and it's whether we want the status quo or positive change.

For me, the answer is positive change. I simply can't afford the higher taxes that come with higher spending. I checked, and the Republicans are right. Spending is up \$7,000,000 since 1999.

Only the Republican candidates have offered new ideas to control spending. As a result, Bengivenga, Barletta and Sesok have my vote.

Amy Johnson

South Plainfield's election for mayor boils down to this: which candidate has the judgment that will best serve our town? The answer is Robert Bengivenga.

Bengivenga wants change. He is spearheading a shared-services program with the schools to help control spending, and he has several initiatives geared toward controlling overgrowth. This includes making sure we don't convert our light industrial areas into condo developments and apartment complexes, which will also help control taxes. Condos and apartments increase school costs while low-traffic, light industrial does not.

Bengivenga also has solid plans that will pump up ethics standards at Borough Hall. In fact, he is even willing to stand up to his own party by guaranteeing that he will not hire his party chair as borough attorney. And he wants to enact real pay-to-play reform.

Our next mayor should have the good judgment necessary to get our town back on the right track. On that scale, Bengivenga is the superior candidate.

Sandy Castagno



Election Day



Is Tuesday, Nov. 7. Polls open 6am - 8pm

Oldtimers Motorcycle Club Visits Cedar Oaks Residents

Motorcyclists Find Rewards in Community Service

During the past two years, the Oldtimers Motorcycle Club of South Plainfield has evolved from a small group of friends who decided to ride together on Sundays, into a community-based charitable organization.

Coming off the huge success of their first annual run, which raised over \$18,000 for children battling cancer, the motorcycle club visited the Cedar Oaks Care Center on Durham Ave. on Oct. 21 at the request of Terry Guy, director of recreation for the nursing home.

Guy was specifically looking for a motorcycle club to visit the residents of Cedar Oaks to make some of the residents feel young again.

South Plainfield Police Lt. Kevin Murtagh, whose wife Nancy had a relative at Cedar Oaks for many years, suggested that Guy contact Rich D'Urso, founder of the Oldtimers Motorcycle Club.

"This was one of the nicest things anyone could do for the nursing home," Guy said. "The response from our residents was amazing. I didn't expect so many members of the club to visit."

"Some of our residents have not talked this much in six months," a staff member told D'Urso at the end of the visit.

"The Oldtimers Motorcycle Club plans to continue involving itself in community service. Our goal is to help people in need in the community," D'Urso added.

For information on joining the Oldtimers Motorcycle Club, or to view additional photos, visit <http://oldtimersmc.freeseversons.com>.



Oldtimers Motorcycle Club members pose with some of the residents of Cedar Oaks Care Center at the end of their hour-long visit. Pictured are Marie D'Urso, Andy Archutowski, Greg Rhein, Lenny Olim, John Falzarano, Pat Donnelly, Butch Piazza, Rich D'Urso, Rudy Adams, Timmy Bashira, and John Timm.



Vita Fortunado, a 20-year resident at Cedar Oaks Care Center, chats with Rudy Adams (left) and Greg Rhein (right) when the Oldtimers Motorcycle Club visited on Oct. 21.



Sam Sobanko, resident of Cedar Oaks, had a good time talking with club members about their motorcycles.

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Craft Program at Library

On Thursday, Nov. 9, the library will host a craft program for patrons age 14 and older. Local resident Valerie Mollineaux will lead participants in making designer bracelets. The program is being presented free of charge, but space is limited; pre-registration is required.

For more information, please call the library at (908) 754-7885 or visit the library's website at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us. You can also e-mail for details at missjaimied@yahoo.com.

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Buono Measure Requires Nutritional Info On Menus

Senator Barbara Buono (D-Middlesex) announced during her keynote address at the Metuchen-Edison, Woodbridge Childhood Obesity Summit that she would introduce legislation requiring all chain restaurants in New Jersey to display basic nutrition information on their menus. Dr. Marlene Schwartz, also a speaker at the Summit and the director of the Rudd Center for Food Policy at Yale University, supported Buono's bill as an effective strategy to respond to the growing obesity epidemic, especially among our children.

"We know that Americans are eating out more and more. In 1970 Americans spent just 26% of their food budget on eating away from home," said Senator Buono. "Currently, we spend almost half of our food dollars dining out. This bill will give families an effective tool to make informed choices and hopefully reduce the incidence of obesity and its related diseases."

The legislation is based upon the results of two studies published in the American Journal of Public Health that found when people go out to eat they significantly underestimate the calories and fat content of the foods they order, particularly the unhealthy items. One study demonstrated that actual fat and saturated fat levels were twice consumers' estimates and calories approached two times more than consumers expected. The second related study concluded when people were given the nutritional information they needed to make informed decisions that this affected the food choices they made.

Under the bill, a restaurant must clearly list next to each food or beverage item on a printed menu the total number of calories, grams of saturated and trans fat, grams of carbohydrates and milligrams of sodium, in the menu item. Any restaurant that uses a menu board would only need to list only caloric information on the menu, but would be required to provide the rest of the information upon request. The provisions of this bill would only apply to restaurants that are part of a chain with 20 or more locations in New Jersey and would not apply to daily specials, temporary menus or self-service items.

"Over the past twenty years the obesity epidemic has evolved into a public health crisis, with two-thirds of adults either overweight or obese, and the obesity rate nearly tripling for children ages 2-5 years and 12-19 years; and quadrupling for those between the ages of 6-11 years," added Buono. "Increased incidence of obesity goes hand-in-hand with increased prevalence of heart disease, hypertension, diabetes, certain types of cancer and other physical indignities which shorten or undermine our quality of life. With one in five children predicted to be obese by 2010 coupled with the statistic that over 70% of overweight adolescents become overweight adults, it's clear we must enact public policy which empowers individuals to make informed choices when it comes to eating habits."

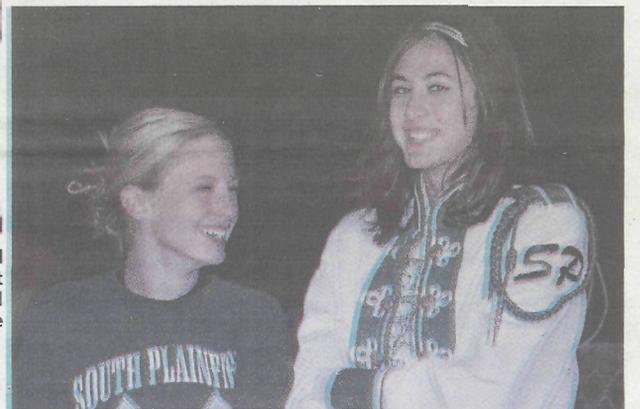
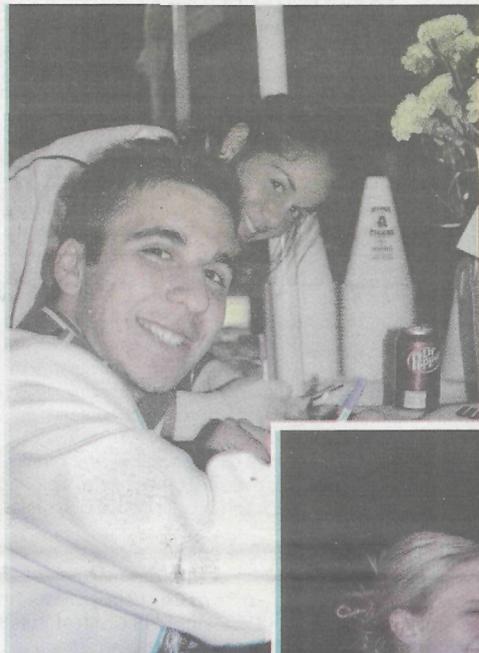
While nutritional labeling is currently required on processed and packaged foods, restaurants and similar establishments where food and drink are prepared and sold are required to provide nutritional information only when a health claim is made for a food or beverage item listed on a menu. Studies by the National Institutes of Health have shown that almost half of all Americans report that the nutritional information on food labels has caused them to change their minds about purchasing a particular food product, and it has been shown that a large number of Americans would like to be provided with nutritional information for items listed on a restaurant's menu.

"This is a public health crisis whose ultimate solution will come through community action and by providing the tools to enhance our ability to live healthier lifestyles," added Senator Buono.

A proprietor of a retail food establishment violating the provisions of the bill shall be liable for a civil penalty of not less than \$50 or more than \$100 for the first offense, and not less than \$250 or more than \$500 for the second or any subsequent offense.



SPHS Band Fest Hosts 25th Annual Band Festival



South Plainfield High School Marching Band hosted eight bands for the 25th Annual Band Festival at Jost Field for the USSBA Competition on Oct. 21.

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Milestones



Shannon Bishop Graduates With Honors

Shannon L. Bishop graduated with honors from Rowan University with a Masters of Science in Teaching degree. Shannon also received certifications in Elementary Education, Teacher of the Handicapped and Reading. In addition to her degree and certifications she is a member of the Golden Key Honor Society, the Kappa Delta Pi Education Honor Society, and the Alpha Epsilon Lambda Graduate Honor Society. Shannon also participated in intramural soccer, flag football, basketball and softball. A 2001 graduate of SPHS, she is the daughter of Scot and Debra Bishop.

James V. Curcio Awarded DBA

James V. Curcio, Sr. was awarded the Doctor of Business Administration degree on Sept. 27, announced Martin Cooper, Ph.D., Dean of School Administration and Management at California Coast University in Santa Ana, Calif.

Civil War Featured at Annual Town History Day

By Libby Barsky

Members of the New Jersey Civil War History Association, dressed in the uniform of the 14th New Jersey Volunteer Infantry Company H, put up their Sibley tents on the lawn of the Roosevelt Administration Building demonstrating how the Union regiment lived during the Civil War on Sunday.

The Civil War actors were giving a living presence to supplement the huge array of Civil War artifacts and memorabilia loading the tables lining the hall adjoining the South Plainfield Historical Society.

The Fourth Annual Town History Day was held last Sunday, sponsored by the South Plainfield Historical Society honoring the memory of "The New Brooklyn Five," five Civil War soldiers from the area who died in the war.

Only three of the actors, Douglas Mount, Allen Thompson and Tom Edridge, were dressed as Union soldiers; Wayne Applegate represented Nehemiah Perry, a congressman from New Jersey and Amanda Thompson played herself, the wife of private Allen Thompson.

Visiting Gettysburg on his honey-



Civil War presenters of the 14th NJ Volunteer Infantry Co. H: Douglas Mount, quartermaster; Wayne Applegate, Cong.; Allen Thompson, private and Amanda Thompson, wife.

moon got Wayne Applegate involved in joining the group. "I've always been a history buff and Gettysburg was a place that is absolutely steeped in history. You can't turn around there without seeing a memorial or a plaque on a building. There isn't a more moving experience than going through the

battlefield with their narrated tour and hearing about the battle of Gettysburg. I don't go out as a military man because my wife is allergic to wool and the authentic uniforms are made of wool. Many re-enactors research their characters. I go out as a N.J. Congressman Nehemiah Perry, a third party

candidate, who got elected. My wife comes as an abolitionist to talk about the Underground Railroad and the quilt code—the patterns in the quilts gave directions to safe houses to escaping slaves," said Applegate.

Studying his family's genealogy, Douglas Mount learned that his great-uncle David Mount had been a member of the 14th NJ Volunteer Infantry and in Cold Harbor, Va. He lost his lower jaw and lived in the South Amboy area until he died in 1892. "I've been in this regiment for 12 years now as an enactor," explained Mount.

Mount is proud of the fact that most of the members of the original 14th NJ Volunteer Infantry enlisted in response to Lincoln's call for 300,000 volunteers in the summer of 1862 and were not draftees.

According to their website, www.14njvols.com, The Battle of Monocacy on July 9, 1864 was the regiment's defining moment, slowing the Confederate troops of General Jubal Early by one day and allowing Union troops to bring in reinforcements ahead of the Rebels and pushing Early back to Virginia's Ft. Stevens on July 11 and preventing Early from entering and possibly overwhelming Washington.

An Exciting New Screening Test for Breast Cancer

By M. Schwartz, MD FACOG FICS

Breast cancer is a major concern of women. The risk of breast cancer increases with age to a rate as high as one in eight if you live to be 85. While breast cancer can be found in women younger than 30 and even in pregnant women, it is a major killer of women in their 40s and 50s. Despite large amounts of time and money spent annually on breast cancer screening, the death rate from breast cancer has had only modest improvement, especially when compared to cervical cancer. Much of this decline is due to

finding smaller tumors. However, this trend may not continue given technological limits in detecting smaller lesions. In contrast, significant progress has been made in reducing deaths from cervical cancer, in large part due to the widespread adoption of the Pap test as a screen for cervical cancer, prior to the formation of cancer. Wouldn't it be nice to have a screening test for breast cancer that could do what the Pap smear has done for cervical cancer?

There is a new screening test, called HALO, which looks at cells in fluid withdrawn from the nipple in much the same way as a pap smear looks at

cells scraped from the cervix. HALO can better determine which women are at an increased risk of developing breast cancer and enables the patient and her physician to plan an individualized approach to future screening and/or treatment.

Breast self-examination and clinical breast examination have been long standing fundamentals in breast cancer screening and are recommended by most professional medical organizations, including the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the American Cancer Society. The effectiveness of self breast examination

to detect early cancer, however, has recently been challenged. Nevertheless, I still recommend breast self-examination for all women.

If we could determine which women are at higher risk of developing breast cancer, we can take a more individualized approach to screening. This may include additional tests such as breast ultrasound or MRI, more frequent exams or starting mammograms at a younger age in higher risk women. Those at the highest risk may be candidates for medication which has been shown to decrease the risk of invasive breast cancer.

HALO is the new non-invasive screening test which can determine which women are at higher risk of developing breast cancer by looking at cells from a woman's breast, rather than demographic variables or genetic mutations. It involves the placement of cups on each breast. Through warming and massaging of the breast by the pump, fluid can be expressed (about half of women will produce fluid). The procedure takes approximately five minutes and women describe it as less uncomfortable than getting a mammogram.

The HALO nipple aspirate fluid examination allows the early detection of women who are at increased risk of developing breast cancer, years before an abnormality becomes visible by imaging or becomes a palpable lesion.

It is important to note that this does not replace mammograms. Mammograms do save lives and are the most important screening test to date. However, they are least effective in women under age 50, primarily because younger women have denser breasts.

HALO, in essence, is a Pap smear for the breast. Since all women are at risk of breast cancer, and that risk increases with age, any noninvasive test that can help us better determine a woman's risk and allow for an individualized approach to screening and/or treatment is valuable. Thus, I recommend all women should discuss this exciting new test with their physicians. Breast cancer affects too many women for us not to do all that we can to discover it as early as possible.

Marlan Schwartz, MD practices gynecology and obstetrics in Piscataway and can be reached at (732) 968-4444 with any questions.

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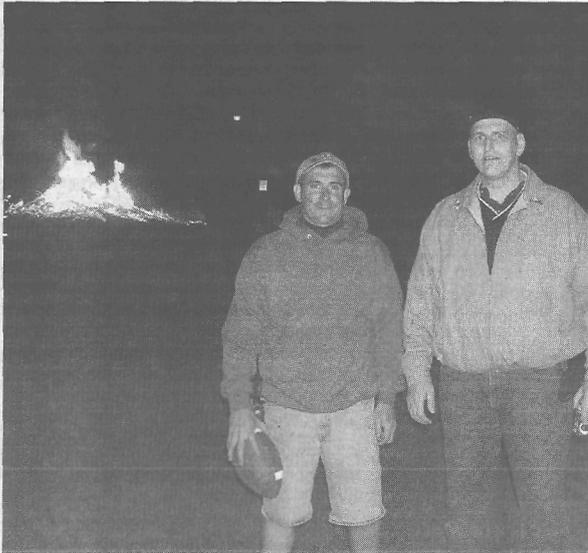
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Sports

Eagles Finish Season With Games and Bonfire



The South Plainfield Eagles Football and Cheer held their final two games against Phillipsburg and Maplewood. The organization also held their annual bonfire to celebrate another great season.

Against Phillipsburg on Oct. 15, the Junior Pee Wee team played tough and held them to a scoreless tie. The offense tried hard but could not convert any running games into touchdowns. The Eagle defense was relentless, with great plays by the entire defensive squad.

The Junior Midget squad was successful against Phillipsburg, beating them 13-6. Phillipsburg scored on the opening kickoff, but the Eagles got right back to work at keeping the Phillipsburg offense down. Eagles QB Randy Jakubik scored on a quarterback sneak to tie the game. Then in the last quarter, QB Mark Tomei threw a bomb to WR Charles Gruver in the end zone. The ball was tipped off Gruver's hands, who was well-covered by a defender, but Gruver dominated and held onto the ball and scored the winning touchdown of the game.

Against Maplewood on Oct. 22, both the JPW squad and the JM squad were unsuccessful, despite great efforts by the defense and offense on both teams. The JPW team finished the season with a record of 3-3-2. The JM squad finished out the season 2-6. Both squads feel it was a very successful year as players improved their skills

and their teamwork and stayed tough through all the games to the very end.

The Eagles held their annual bonfire on Oct. 13. It was a great night for all the football and cheer families, as well as our friends from the South Plainfield Soccer Club and the Junior Baseball Club. The Eagles would like to thank Scott Delvecchio and his

company, New Image Landscaping, for sponsoring the bonfire with their \$1,000 donation. We appreciate all that Scott does for us.

The Eagles would also like to thank the South Plainfield Soccer Club for their recent donation of a paint machine to help us line the fields. Our other recent donors are Sensient Cosmetic Technologies and Stilo Paving, who each gave \$1,000. These donations are greatly appreciated. We couldn't run the organization without our many generous donors. Thank you!

Submitted by Terry Housel

By Glenn Cullen

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

The South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club (SPJBC) will have its monthly club meeting on Monday, Nov. 6 at 7:30 p.m. The SPJBC will hold its final early registration for 2007 on Friday, Nov. 17 from 6 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 18 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Registration for coaching, managing and umpiring can also be done during these signups.

Volunteers for the 2007 season are also being sought. In particular, the SPJBC needs snack stand captains. Anyone interested is asked to call the SPJBC at (908) 754-2090 or e-mail www.southplainfieldjbc@yahoo.com. Also, feel free to visit our website at www.leaguelineup.com/spjbc.



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2006 JUNIOR JOURNALIST



Charlie Kurland of Hometown Heros delivers dinner to Junior Journalist winner Tony Le, pictured here with mom Loan, dad Thanh and sister Phuong.

CONGRATS!

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE

October 30, 2006—Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its meeting held on October 26, 2006.

- A. Case #01-06/Bifurcated-Federal Metals & Alloys Co. Block 467.01; Lot 31; 4216 South Clinton Avenue. The applicant's request for a parking variance, waivers & preliminary & final site plan was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.
- B. Case #40-06-Peter & Katerina Ganiaris. Block 282; Lot 36.01; 144 Norway Lane. The applicant's request for the construction of an 8 ft. 100% solid fence along their rear yard only was hereby GRANTED.
- C. Case #49-06/Bifurcated-X-Treme Car Wash & Lube Center. Block 295; Lot 7.01; 1425 New Market Avenue. The applicant's request for a use variance to permit the operation of a self service car wash was hereby GRANTED.
- D. Case #50-06-Glenn & Susan Gwiazda. Block 230; Lot 31; 116 West Elmwood Drive. The applicant's request for a front yard setback variance in order to erect a covered porch to the front of their existing home was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.
- E. Case #52-06-Roy Carubia. Block 405.02; Lot 6; 213 Scaleria Street. The applicant's request for the additions & covered porch was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.
- F. Case #53-06-Kelvin Randolph. Block 63; Lot 6; 221 E. Hendricks Blvd. The applicant's request for a lot coverage variance in order to construct a 1st floor deck was hereby GRANTED subject to (1) additional voluntary condition.
- G. Case #58-06-John & Susan Karcher. Block 169; Lot 17; 2015 Greenwich St. The applicant's request for a northerly side yard setback variance in order to construct a (1) story addition was hereby GRANTED subject to (1) voluntary provision.

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

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The man has helped all of us for the past 35 years without asking for a thing in return. It is now our turn to do the helping!!

For those of you who do not know... Angelo has been a lifetime resident of the Borough of Metuchen. He attended Metuchen High School in 1971. Angelo married his wife Glenora and has 5 children. As far as the community is concerned, no one in his town has volunteered more of their time than Angelo. He has been an Auxiliary Police Officer since 1971, working his way to the rank of lieutenant. During these many years he has volunteered countless hours of his time helping at fairs, parades, firework displays, concerts and any other events held in the borough. Angelo has not only been a leader amongst the Police Auxiliary, but has 2 sons who have followed in his footsteps and joined him in the ranks. There is not enough room on paper to truly tell you what Angelo means to the Boro of Metuchen.

Angelo suffered a massive stroke leaving him in a coma. His family now needs us all to reach into our-pockets and give what we can.



For additional information on the Cut-A-Thon, please contact owners Ana Rodrigues or Danielle Bongard at All About U Salon & Spa.
(732) 516-0155

If you wish to help, but are unable to attend, a donation can be sent to:
Metuchen P.B.A. Local #60
P.O. Box 4, Metuchen, N.J. 08840

FROM THE DESK OF DEBBIE BOYLE

Thank you Patricia DeSantis for spending 2½ hours at the Walk-A-Thon in Spring Lake Park on Oct. 22 in the cold and wind. We raised approximately \$300 for the Jost Field ticket booth and the indoor high school bleachers. Thanks to all the participants and their donations: Vicki Uniacke, Taylor and Joann Jarma, Greg and Melissa Young, Megan, Michael and Patrick Boyle, Karen and Jenna Calderone, Mary, Gracie and puppies Piekarski, Lyndsey and Nancy Murtagh, Liz and Dan Smith, Nick and Angela DeSantis, Alyssa McCreesh, Chris, Kyle and Joann and puppies.

The used clothing drive benefiting the Jost Field ticket booth and the indoor bleachers will take place on Saturday, Nov. 11. Please bring all tied plastic bags to the Grant School parking lot and load them in the Roma truck from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thank you to Scott and Cheryl DeVecchio and your children for the long hours spent working on the South Plainfield Middle School center court pond, replacing rocks, trimming shrubs and plants and working on the pond pump and raking the area. It was truly appreciated by me and Steve Novak, principal, and all those who enjoy the beautiful pond.

The South Plainfield High School Boys Soccer dinner will take place on Dec. 3 at the Holiday Inn on Stelton Road. For further information please contact Lynn Pennisi. The high school girls soccer dinner takes place on Friday, Nov. 17 at the South Plainfield Italian American Club, near Roosevelt School. Contact Debbie Boyle at (908) 791-9439 for information.

The South Plainfield High School Music Festival held at Jost Field on Saturday, Oct. 22 was a huge success.

Thank you to Jesse Lacerda for spending all those hours helping me

sell our Super 50/50 tickets at our home football games. The first super 50/50 tickets benefiting the Jost Field ticket booth/bleachers will take place at the high school home football game on Thanksgiving Day. Monies collected to date total over \$2,000. There are still books that need to be turned in. You do not have to be present to win, the stubs with your name and phone number will be used for the drawing.

Thank you to Senator Barbara Buono for attending the middle school to teach and inform the students about the duties and responsibilities of a state senator, the new nutritional lunch program introduced into the state public school and the wonderful video presentation on the operations of government. Mrs. Lucey's math class and Mr. Blondo's history class presented Senator Buono with a beautiful flower and plant arrangement.

Congratulations to the South Plainfield High School Field Hockey team and their coaches on an extremely exciting final GMC game against Monroe in Sayreville. The game went into double overtime. Congratulations to the high school Boys' JV soccer team on your hard fought quarter finals game with Sayreville.

The SPHS senior night on Friday,

Oct. 27 was well received by all those in attendance.

The reunion of the North Plainfield and South Plainfield High School football players, cheerleaders and alumni will be held on Thanksgiving eve, Wednesday, Nov. 22 at the North Plainfield Italian-American Club. Festivities begin at 6 p.m. The last reunion attracted over 300 people. Tickets are going fast, so please contact Steve Novak at (908) 753-9338.

Great job to Josh Richards, a 15-year-old junior, on his commentary in the Oct. 23 edition of the *Home News Tribune* entitled "Sports is about more than winning." Josh wrote that sports have gone from being a fun game to something, at least sometimes, that is a matter of life or death and how difficult it is to ignore the comments parents make and how one comment against some players will stand out. Josh stated that when parents make comments other parents should tell them to be quiet. A team is exactly that, a team, and spectators should cheer for the entire team, not just one or two players. It takes an entire team to win or lose a game.

Thank you to Carlene Alloco for chairing the school spirit wear fundraiser at Grant Elementary, which will benefit the fifth grade Stokes Trip. All parents interested in helping with

any of the Grant fundraisers, please step up and contact the PTO. We can direct you to the chairpersons. The PTO presidents duties are still being shared by Cheryl Papa, Diane Zekas, Sue Murtagh and myself. If you have any questions, contact us. The next Grant PTO meeting will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 14 at Grant Elementary School. A pasta dinner for Stokes will take place on Feb. 2.

The next South Plainfield High School Athletic Booster Club meeting will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. Please come out and join in.

Best wishes to Kelly Pamuzzo and Rob Richkus on your upcoming wedding.

Residents, continue to contact the DEP about the Helen Street Project and rerouting the truck traffic from our main thoroughfares. Your voices are being heard loud and clear by the DEP Jane Dornick and I continue to request your signatures on our form letters. To date we have sent over three hundred signed letters to the DEP.

Send you comments, questions and petition letters to Charles Welch at the N.J. Dept. of Environmental Protection, 501 E. State St., Second Floor, P.O. Box 439, Trenton, N.J. 08625-0439, email charlie.welch@dep.state.nj.us, or call (609) 292-8262.

Annual Red Mass to be Celebrated

The Diocese of Metuchen will celebrate its Second Annual Red Mass on Sunday, Nov. 5 at Immaculate Conception Church in Somerville. The 10:30 a.m. Liturgy will be celebrated by Rev. Msgr. William Benwell, J.C.L., vicar general and moderator of the curia for the diocese. Delivering the homily at the Mass will be Auxiliary Bishop John W. Flesey, S.T.D., D.D., of the Archdiocese of Newark.

Reinstated last year by Metuchen Bishop Paul G. Bootkoski, the Red Mass honors all those in the judicial system and legal profession. At a brunch after the Mass, retired Superior Court Judge David G. Lucas will be presented with the diocese's 2006 St. Thomas More Award.

Judge Lucas will be honored at the Red Mass for his work in the judicial system and legal profession, as well as his service to the church.

Following the Red Mass, a brunch will be served at the Bridgewater Manor. Tickets are \$50 per person and \$15 for children under 16.

For more information call (732) 562-2461.

LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE 1759

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

Ord. 1759 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 150 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED: "TRAILER AND STORAGE CONTAINER USE AND LICENSING" was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield on Tuesday, October 17, 2006 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$28.20 November 3, 2006

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE 1760

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

Ord. 1760 entitled: AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD FOR THE YEARS 2006 THROUGH 2010 was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield on Tuesday, October 17, 2006 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$28.20 November 3, 2006

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Sergio Modernel requesting a variance or other relief from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit 1) proposed addition: 24' front setback; req'd.; 21.72' proposed; 2) 8' side setback req'd.; 6.81' being proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 1706 Plainfield Avenue on Block 27, Lot 2 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, November 30, 2006 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

The maps and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Building Inspector's Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Friday, between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

\$38.50 November 3, 2006

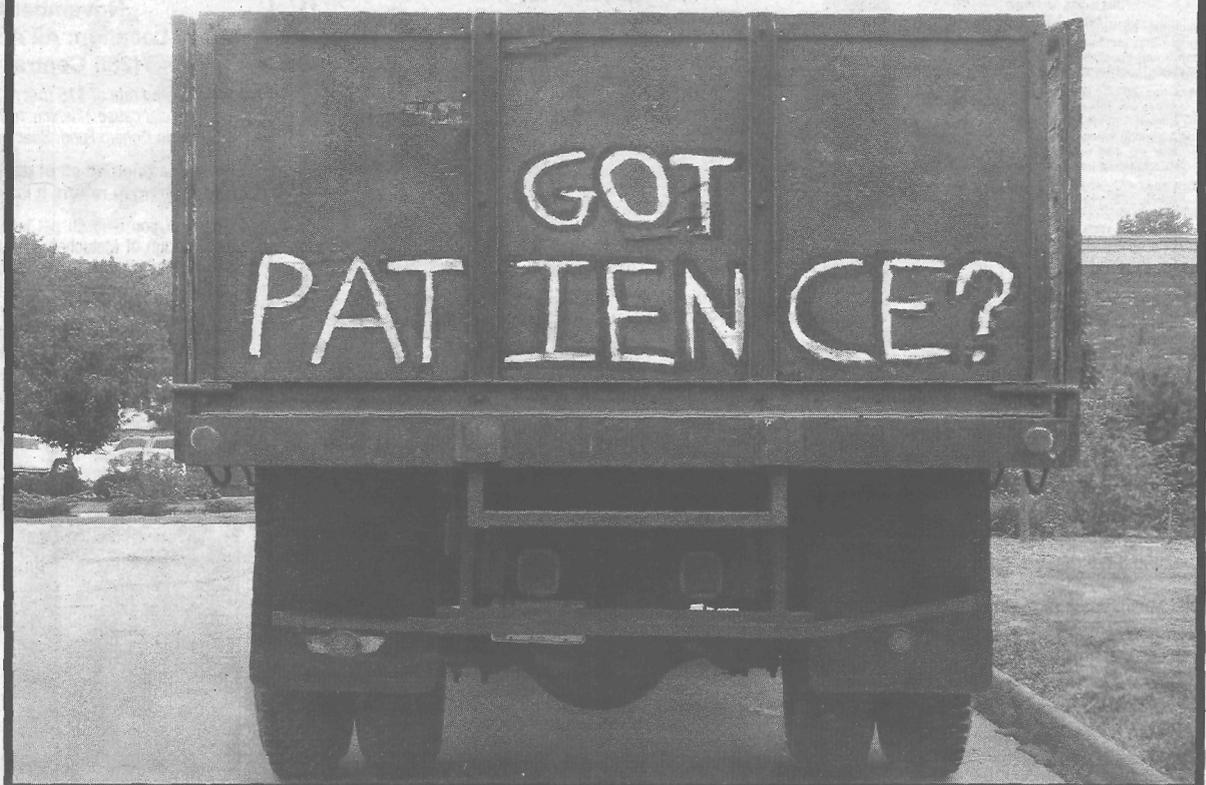
The Democrats have promised traffic relief for 13 years.

The Democrats started promising traffic relief in 1993. They said Helen Street would be done in 1997. Then, when 1997 came and went, they promised it would be complete in 2002. Then, when Democrat Charlie Butrico was running for council in 2004, he said Helen Street would be done in 2006.

Over a Decade and Nothing Accomplished.

Now they have a new plan and are promising us traffic relief by 2011. The plan includes a "temporary" route that will cost each homeowner up to \$1,000 or more. Butrico "promises" his road—which goes through a Superfund site—will be done in a few years. But haven't we heard enough promises?

Now Butrico's promising it for 2011.



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You Won't Want to Miss This One!

How would you like to get the attention of **EVERY HOUSEHOLD AND BUSINESS** in South Plainfield? We are offering you that opportunity in the December 1 issue of the South Plainfield *Observer*. This issue will be mailed to every household and business in the Borough of South Plainfield.

Get the most for you advertising dollars and reach each and every household and businesses in the borough. That's a circulation of almost 10,000 and 21,000+ residents. There is no better way to get your message to every home and business other than going out and visiting folks door to door. But let's face it, that's just not practical.

We at the *Observer* are committed to providing readers with something they can't get anywhere else—a publication dedicated solely to the Borough of South Plainfield. By offering comprehensive coverage of life in South Plainfield through local news, events, sports and school happenings, the *Observer* seeks to promote community pride and support education and non-profit organizations.

As always, we appreciate the tremendous and continued support of the South Plainfield *Observer*.

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Camera ready – Submit camera ready artwork no later than November 27.

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2006 JUNIOR JOURNALIST

Untitled

By Scott O'Brien

Once, a family called the Johnson family, moved into a house; 4514 Haunt Street. At midnight, the father went to work. But when he approached the doors, they vanished. A second later, he was standing in the middle of a graveyard. Then he saw a hand shoot out of a grave. A leg shot out of another grave. A skull shot out of another grave. Then spirits, skeletons and zombies came out of every grave. The father went to his car. As he drove away, they chased him. Mr. Johnson pulled into the driveway. As he went inside, a giant gargoyle blasted fire at him. He hid in the basement. But he soon realized that his family was covered in ooze.

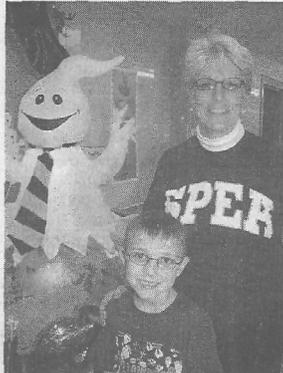
Scott O'Brien Named Junior Journalist

Scott O'Brien, second grader at Riley School, is this week's winner in the 2006-07 Junior Journalist program. His Halloween story has earned him dinner for his family, courtesy of Hometown Heros.

Students should submit their original written works to their teachers, school principal, Hometown Heros on Hamilton Blvd. or the *Observer* office at 1110 Hamilton Blvd.

Winners and their families will receive a catered dinner from Hometown Heros and will be honored at a year-end banquet in May of 2007.

For more information, call the *Observer* at (908) 668-0010 or Hometown Heros at (908) 755-4376.



Riley School second grader Scott O'Brien with teacher Linda Elster.

Cappy Award Winners to be Honored

(Continued from page 1)

bears his name. Having the cheerleaders cheer for the games was not enough for Richard, he took it upon himself to organize the cheerleading coaches from the conference and host their first competition in our high school. He was instrumental in the start of the Ponytail softball program,

as well as the conversion of Pitt Street into the softball complex it is today. Richard Curcio will always be considered one of South Plainfield's greatest assets.

The Cappy Award dinner tickets may be purchased at the PAL.

For more information, call (908) 226-7713.

State Responds to Helen St. Coalition Letters

(Continued from page 1)

Dornick is attempting to arrange a conference call with the press office and Welch.

Dornick has also been reviewing the additional studies that were completed after being proposed by the Edison Wetlands Association (EWA). A Traffic Study Report performed by DMJM Harris dated September 2005 concludes that the "Helen Street Extension Alternative is recommended as the preferred alternative to pursue." There is an application for a Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation dated July 2004, also done by DMJM Harris, as well as other documents submitted for review by the DEP. All of these documents, as well as all documents for the Helen Street Project, are open to the public and can be viewed at the Municipal Clerk's office.

Members of the Helen Street Coalition say that a handful of environmentalists have held the fate of the Helen Street Project in their hands up until now, and according to various articles found on the Internet that were published in local newspapers, Edison Wetlands Association Director Robert Spiegel has vowed "to fight every permit, every step of the way." He said, "Among its neighbors, South Plainfield has yet to recognize the value of its own open space, except as a place to bring more trucks for a handful of private industries, at the public expense." He also said, "The natural sounds of birds and chirping frogs will be replaced by the loud roar of diesel trucks, 24-hours a day, seven days a week." Jane Tousman, member of the New Jersey Sierra Club and Friends of the Dismal Swamp, commented, "One of the myths of this project is that it will take the truck traffic off the residential roads of the area."

"This road is desperately needed by the borough, regardless of what a few out-of-towners believe and their speculations should anger every resident

and business owner," said Dornick. Buttrick stated that when completed, the Helen Street extension would be the borough's designated truck route for trucks traveling to Metuchen Rd.

Dornick says that the confusion with the letters sent to Commissioner Jackson's office appears to be a classic case of "the left hand doesn't know what the right hand is doing," or a typical government response. Members of the coalition are urging residents to continue signing the petition letters. "South Plainfield's voices are being heard, but the project needs the support of all 20,000 residents, as well as businesses. We can not afford to let the opportunity of a federally funded truck route slip through our hands because of small, special interest groups," added Dornick.

Since it is apparent that DEP Commission Jackson's office does not control approval of the project at this

point, any further petition letters should be sent to Charles Welch.

"Forming this coalition has been a positive thing. The state has replied to every letter we submitted and they are now aware of our concerns to get this project completed," Dornick said.

Any questions or comments regarding the project can be directed to Charles Welch at (609) 292-8262. His mailing address is the N.J. Dept. of Environmental Protection, 501 E. State St., Second Floor, P.O. Box 439, Trenton, N.J. 08625-0439 or email charlie.welch@dep.state.nj.us.

If you have any questions or want to sign a letter, Jane Dornick can be reached at (908) 754-3420.

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Butrico and the Democrats...

Raised Our Taxes

Property taxes shot up last year, and the sewer tax rose 25% the year before. Ouch! Now they're promising no tax increase next year in their ads, even though their budget calls for one.

Went on a Spending Spree with Our Money.

Spending is up a whopping \$7,000,000 since 1999—almost twice the rate of inflation. In addition, they spent \$1,600,000 to buy three small houses along Hamilton Boulevard that are assessed at under \$99,000 each.

Created a Traffic Nightmare

During 12 years of Democratic control traffic got worse and worse. Now all of a sudden they have a "temporary" plan that will take up to \$1,000 or more out of each homeowner's pocket. To make matters worse Butrico voted to add 484 condos to the worst traffic area of town, which means 1,000 more cars on Hamilton Boulevard and Durham Avenue.

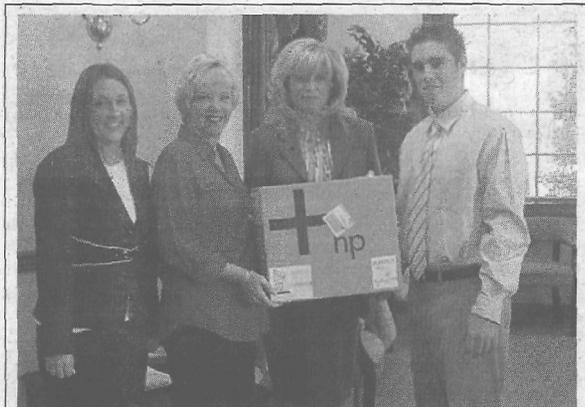
Voted to Stick Seniors on a Campaign Contributor's Industrial Site.

The site, owned by mega-contributor Jack Morris, is the worst possible place for senior housing. It's near Route 287, train tracks, truck terminals, and the pipeline that exploded in 1993. Unbelievably, Butrico voted to put seniors there even after finding out the site was contaminated by toxic PCBs.

What were they thinking?

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Somerset Valley Bank Assistant Manager Gina Palumbo, Vice President Darlene Pinto and teller Jeffrey Toolan present an HP laptop computer to grand prize winner Sharon Wright, who submitted an entry at the bank's grand opening.

GET WELL WISHES
are extended to Bill Tuthill, who is recovering from recent surgery.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Girl Scout Cookie College On Tap

The Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Council, Inc. will be holding a Cookie College on Saturday, Nov. 18 at the First Presbyterian Church in Roselle. The Cookie College is open to all registered Girl Scouts from within GSWRC's 24-community jurisdiction and beyond. All registered Brownie, Junior and Older Girl Scouts are invited to attend the event which will prepare girls for the upcoming cookie sale, acquainting them with the product line, allowing them to hone their sales techniques and much more.

Girls can work towards the require-

ments for the Smart Cookie Brownie Try-It, the Cookie Biz Junior Badge and the Cookies and Dough Interest Project Patch. The first session, open to Brownie's, is from 9 to 11 a.m., while the afternoon session for Junior Girl Scouts and Older Girls is from 1 to 3 p.m. The cost to attend is \$5 per girl with three adults per troop being admitted without charge. Participants will have the opportunity to sample cookies as well as take part in crafts. Deadline for registering is Nov. 9.

The 2007 cookie sale, featuring an exciting line of eight cookies in-

cluding old favorites Thin Mints and Shortbreads and new addition Lemonade will begin with order taking on Jan. 1. For further information or to register for this event, please call (908) 232-3236.

Founded in 1957, the Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Council provides the optimal Girl Scout experience for over 11,000 girls and adults in 24 communities. The council service center and adjoining full-service shop are located in Westfield. Visit us at www.westfieldnj.com/girlscouts for further information.

Support Sought For Idamae Trenner Pavilion

The Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Council are currently seeking parties interested in financially supporting a wonderful and worthwhile project that will benefit the current and future generation of campers that descend upon Camp Lou Henry Hoover, both for summer resident camp and throughout the year.

The Idamae Trenner Pavilion Fund will construct a 100' x 50' sheltered pavilion in honor of Trenner near the sports field. It will provide the camp-

ers with additional program space during warm or rainy days during their time at camp. This site will be used throughout the year for programs, as a campfire site and much more. Idamae Trenner, for whom the pavilion will be named, was the camp director during its expansion in the 1970's, making Camp Hoover what we have today.

Two unique opportunities are available to help the GSWRC reach its goal of \$60,000. They are opportunities to remember someone special or be

remembered by loved ones. Current and former Girl Scouts or summer campers, leaders and friends of Girl Scouts can donate to the pavilion fund. Donations may be made in remembrance of a Girl Scout, a great leader or mentor or troop.

Another way to support this fund is to buy an engraved brick for the walkway to the pavilion area. There are two sizes of pavers, 4" x 8" for \$50 (two lines of text) and 8" x 8" for \$100 (five lines of text).

Obituaries

Henry J. Mruz, 85

Henry J. Mruz, 85, died on Thursday, Oct. 26, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Bayonne, Mr. Mruz was raised in the Jersey City and Bayonne area before moving to South Plainfield along with his wife in 1951.

Henry graduated from Bayonne High School in 1940. Two years later in 1942, during WWII, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. During this time he was stationed over in Central Europe where he saw battle. In 1946, at the rank of Corporal, was honorably discharged.

A civilian employee of the Department of Defense for 35 years, Henry

worked as a supervisor of cold storage at the Military Ocean Terminal in Bayonne.

A longtime communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield, Henry, along with his wife Regina (Kopchinski), was an avid traveler, traveling mainly throughout Europe.

Mr. Mruz enjoyed gardening and also volunteered at the George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick.

He is predeceased by his brother, Thomas.

In addition to his wife of 58 years, Henry is survived by two daughters; Louise Mruz of Dunellen and Carol Demarest and husband David of Galway Twp.; two sons, John and wife

Janice of Upper Twp and Robert and wife Patricia of Alpharetta, Ga.; a sister, Evelyn Cagney and husband William of Calif. and a brother, Edward of Bayonne. Also surviving are six grandchildren; Jonathan Mruz, Karl, Sara and Hannah Mruz, and Andrew and Michael Demarest.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Stuart L. Chalkley, 71

Stuart L. Chalkley died on Sunday, Oct. 29, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Richmond, Va., Stuart resided in Piscataway for more than 30 years.

He was the owner and operator of Affordable Signs in Piscataway.

A veteran of the U.S. Air Force, Mr. Chalkley served from 1954-1957. An active member of the Central Jersey Navy League, he was also a mem-

ber of the Historical Society of the Battleship New Jersey BB-62. The designer of our state Battleship license plates, Stu served as the State's Commissioner that brought the battleship back to New Jersey.

Surviving are his wife, Geraldine (Izzo); a brother, Russel and wife Mary of Ringwood; a sister-in-law, Mary Ann Ronzo and husband Lou of South Plainfield; a niece, Jennifer Ronzo and two nephews, Gary and Russel Chalkley.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Elizabeth C. "Betty" Bonini, 78

Dearly loved by family and friends, we are very sad to announce the passing of Elizabeth "Betty" Bonini of South Plainfield, who died on Monday, Oct. 30.

Born on May 13, 1928, in Plainfield, Betty was raised in Paisley, Scotland where she attended both grade and high school. During WWII, she joined the Women's Land Army and worked on several diary farms taking over jobs left by those joining the RAF. She returned to the U.S. when she was 20 and worked in the five and dime and at Bell Labs in Murray Hill in the Blue Print Department.

Betty was a member of the Watching Avenue Presbyterian Church. While a member of the Netherwood Reformed Church, she was active in the church choir. Her interests included knitting, mystery novels, attending Broadway plays, traveling with her family and enjoying time spent with family and friends. She loved her family dearly, along with her beloved pets, (Spunky, McGregor, Thor, Shorty & Samson) and was an avid New York Islander's Ice Hockey fan (yes ice hockey!)

Betty was the daughter of the late Roderick and Christina (Fulton) McLennan.

Betty is predeceased by a sister, Mary McLennan.

Left to cherish her memory are her beloved husband of 55 years, Cesare "Pete" Bonini; a daughter, Eileen Bonini Notte and husband Gary of Middlesex; two sons, Daniel Bonini of South Plainfield and Thomas Bonini and wife Sheryl of Wake Forest, NC; a brother-in-law, Frank; a nephew, Frank; a niece, Laura; a great nephew, Frank; a great niece, Jessica and many dear and loved friends.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

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SPHS Students in 2007 National Merit Scholarship Program

South Plainfield High School Principal Dr. Kenneth May has announced that Christopher Burke and Wael Kanj have been named Commended Students in the 2007 National Merit Scholarship Program. A letter of commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the program, will be presented by the principal to these scholastically talented seniors.

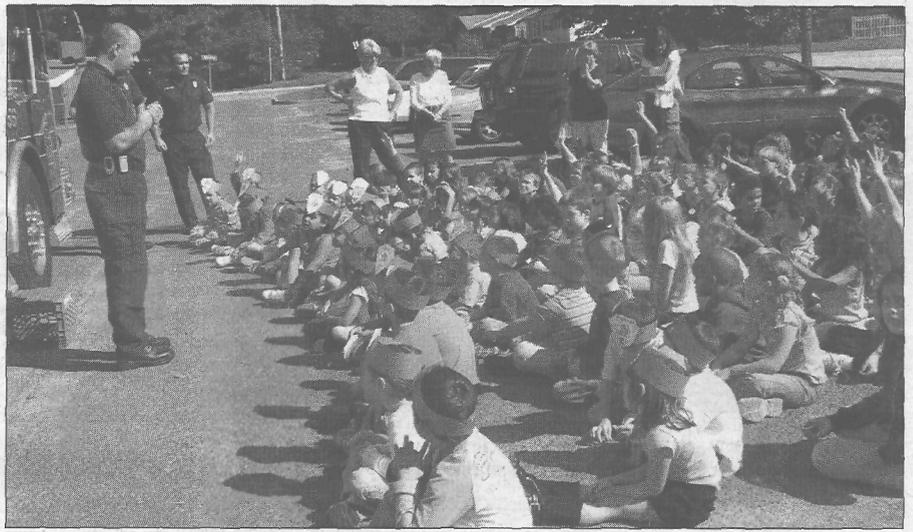
About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2007 competition for Merit Scholarship awards, Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.4 million students who entered the 2007 competition by taking the 2005 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

"Recognition of academically talented students and the key role played by schools in their development is essential to the pursuit of educational excellence in our nation," commented a spokesperson for NMSC. "The young people being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding academic potential by their strong performance in this highly competitive program. We hope that this recognition will help broaden their educational opportunities and that they will continue to pursue scholastic excellence."

SPHS's Rotary Student of the Month Named

South Plainfield High School Principal Dr. May has announced the Rotary's students of the month.

September's awards went to Samuel Martin and Lauren Fry. October award recipients were Nicole Benak and Billy Ashnault and November award recipients are Ashley Little and Jessica Vasquez. The recipients are honored at a breakfast at the Clarion Hotel in Edison. Congratulations to the students on achieving this award.



Volunteer Firefighter Ed Laferrera teaches Riley students about fire safety.

Fire Dept. Visits Schools for Fire Prevention Week

By Jane Dornick

Every year in October, our local elementary and preschools receive a valuable hands-on safety lesson from the South Plainfield Fire Dept. during Fire Prevention Week. The volunteer firefighters drive a fire truck to participating schools and teach young-

sters about how to prevent fires and what to do in an emergency.

The firemen discuss smoke detectors and what to do in case one of them goes off. After witnessing what a firefighter looks and sounds like with all of their gear on, children are instructed to stay low, not touch closed doors and not to be afraid of them.

Firemen also asked the students to speak with their parents about establishing an escape plan and meeting place in case of a fire.

Before they leave, the youngsters get to hop in the front seat of the truck and view the various equipment that a fire truck carries.

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Red Cross Clothing Drive Competition

The Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross is hosting a clothing drive competition. Any school or organization that participates will be eligible to win a \$1,000 first prize by collecting the most poundage of clothing by June 15, 2007.

The Tri-County Chapter is looking for participants who would accept a clothing donation bin and generate clothing donations in that bin. The school or organization that accumulates the most poundage of clothing donated into a clothing bin at their location from now up through June 15 will be awarded \$1,000, second prize will be \$500 and third prize will be \$250.

The Chapter receives five-cents per pound of clothing donated in the bins. These funds go directly to our disaster services to assist the people in our community. For instance, when a family loses their home to a fire, we use these funds to put them up in a local hotel, supply them with food, clothing and emergency funds.

For further information, contact Alan Karmin at (908) 756-6414, ext. 20 or karmina@usa.redcross.org.

Classifieds

Classified Advertising Rates:

\$15 for 3 lines, \$1 for each additional line. 10% disc. for four insertions. Deadline: Monday, 5 pm. Garage Sale Ads: \$20. To place an ad, call 908-668-0010, or email your ad to spobsrver@comcast.net

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CROSSING GUARDS-SOUTH PLAINFIELD AREA. Must have car and phone. Call (201) 795-0189.

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LOCAL BUSINESS NEEDS DRIVER to make runs to PA, 2-3 times/week. Call (908) 561-5160.

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From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

Two important events occur next week. Tuesday is Election Day and polling sites will be open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. For more information you can contact Borough Hall. The library will be open regular hours on Tuesday. Secondly, next Saturday, Nov. 11, is Veteran's Day. Originally designed to honor the end of World War I (the guns were to go silent on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918), the holiday was expanded to include all veterans. In honor of the holiday the Borough and library will be closed on Friday, Nov. 10. However the library will be open regular hours on Saturday, Nov. 11.

Note: Miss Linda will be on vacation for two weeks, but Miss Mija will be here to do our regular storytimes/craft programs. She will be looking for all your familiar faces.

On Thursday, Nov. 9 from 7 to 8:30 p.m., local jewelry artist Valarie will be presenting a do-it-yourself jewelry program. While there is no charge for the program, registration is required.

Looking ahead to Saturday, Nov. 18, we will have a financial and home buying seminar. This is a drop in program so registration is not required.

Also, please remember that the library has a large collection of first run movies and television programs on DVD. In television programs we have everything from *Arrested Development* to *Veronica Mars* for adults and *Astro Boy* to *Reading Rainbow* for children. This is the excellent PBS series in which LeVar Burton not only reads a story to the viewer, but also discusses the background of the story and about related materials. First run movies for adults range from comedies such as *RV* to dramas like *United 93* to horror, *Ring Two*. For children you can chose from a wide range of Disney productions as well as movies

like *Curious George*. All movies circulate for two days and can be renewed if no one is waiting. And as long as they are returned on time they are free! So swing by the library the next time you want to watch a movie.

The library is open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5p.m. We are open Sundays from 1:30 to 5 p.m. The library is located next to Borough Hall on Plainfield Ave. If you have any questions please call the Library at (908) 754-7885.

Recycling Closed Veterans Day And Thanksgiving

The South Plainfield Recycling Center on Kenneth Ave. will be closed on Friday, Nov 10, because of the Veterans Day holiday weekend. Recycling will be open instead from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, Nov 9. Both the recycling center and the yard waste Site will be open as usual from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov 11.

The recycling complex also will be closed on Thursday and Friday, Nov 23 and 24 for Thanksgiving and open as usual from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov 25.

Regular recycling drop-off center hours are 12 noon to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Regular winter Yard Waste hours are 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on

Saturdays. From Nov 13 through Dec. 9, yard waste will be open Monday through Saturday for leaf collection, except for the holiday closings.

2006 yard waste decals are available in the Municipal Clerk's office in

Borough Hall Monday through Friday. Bring the registration of the vehicle you will be using.

For updates, call the recycling hotline at (908) 226-7620.

Shred Your Documents on Nov. 4

Recycle your old documents and confidential files safely and securely at the mobile paper shredding event to be held at the South Brunswick Senior Center at the Municipal Complex, Rt. 522 (Ridge Rd.) and Kingston Ln. on Saturday, Nov. 4.

The shredding will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bring your old files, receipts, bills, financial statements, or

any document that you have not recycled due to a confidentiality concern. There's no need to remove paper clips, staples, or binder covers.

This free service is sponsored by the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders in conjunction with the Township of South Brunswick.

For information call (732) 745-4170.

Tests That Can Help Save Your Life

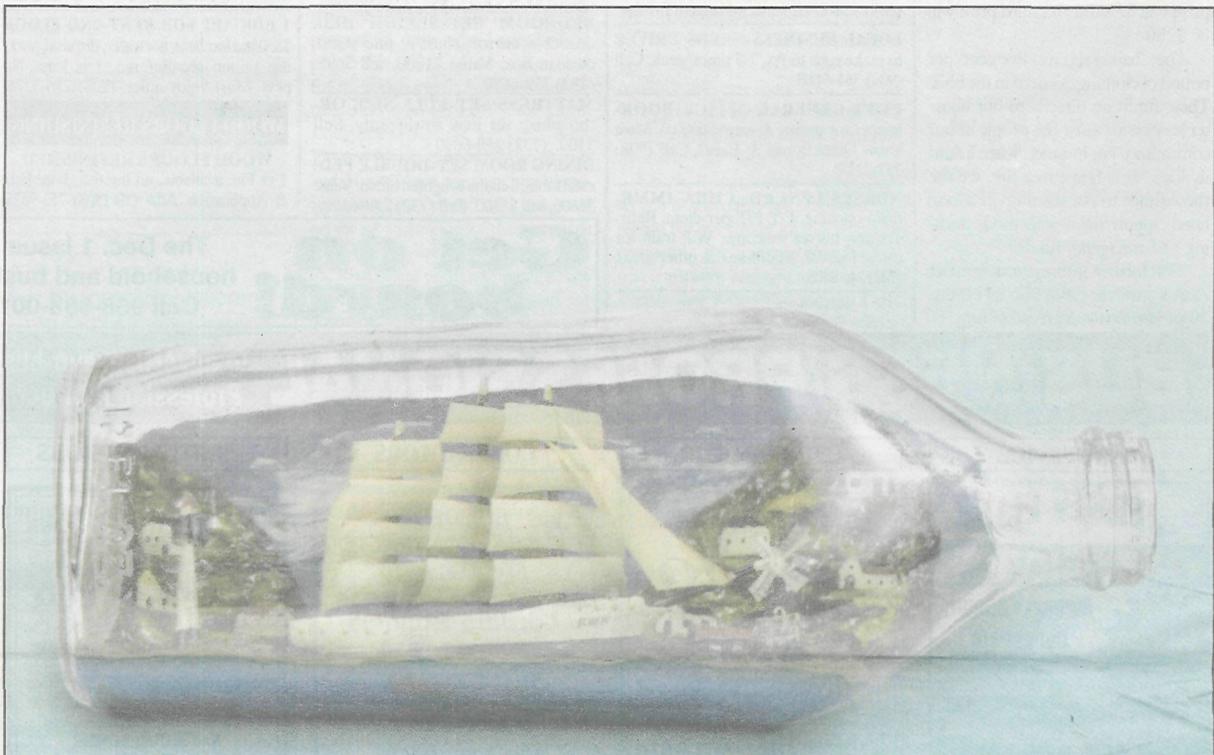
Residents living in and around the Edison community can be screened to reduce their risk of having a stroke. Life Line Screening Radiology will be at the Brighton Gardens of Edison on Nov. 9. The site is located at 1801 Oak Tree Rd. in Edison. Appointments will begin at 9 a.m.

A stroke, also known as a "brain attack," is ranked as the third leading killer in the world, and the second among women. Through preventive screenings, the risk of having a stroke can be greatly reduced.

Screenings are fast, painless and low cost. They involve the use of ultrasound technology, and scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which can lead to a stroke, aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta, and hardening of the arteries in the legs, which are a strong predictor of heart disease. Also offered for men and women is a bone density screening to assess their risk of osteoporosis.

Each screening requires 10 minutes or less to complete. A complete vascular screening package, including the Stroke/Carotid Artery, Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms and Ankle Brachial Index (hardening of the arteries) screenings is \$109. Sign-up for a complete vascular package, including the osteoporosis screening and pay only \$129.

For more information regarding the screenings or to schedule an appointment, call 1-877-237-1344. Pre-registration is required.



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