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South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 10, NO. 26

50 CENTS

MARCH 2, 2007

EPA Starts Cleanup...Finally



On Wednesday morning, the EPA began the demolition of the first of 18 buildings at the Cornell-Dublier Superfund Site at 333 Hamilton Blvd. EPA Region 2 Administrator Alan Steinberg addressed newspaper and television media at a press conference saying, "The cleanup work at this site is another example of how successful the Superfund program has been in New Jersey. This multi-phase cleanup will help the community turn this problem property back into a local asset."

Seven to Run for 3 BOE Seats

Seven candidates will be running for the three open seats on the Board of Education this April.

Incumbents running for seats are Terry Alexa, Steven D. Bohn and Pio Pennisi. First time candidates are Deborah Boyle, Robert J. Jones, Danielle Harris Lacasale and Sharon Miller.

School board candidates have until Monday, March 5 to withdraw their names. On Wednesday, March 7, the candidate's names will be drawn to establish their position on the ballot.

Along with electing three school board members, voters will also be asked to approve the school budget for next year. In the past two years the BOE budgets submitted were rejected by voters. If the budget is defeated, it will again be up to the Borough Council to make cuts or accept the proposed budget. The last two years the council did make additional cuts.

School board elections will be held on Tuesday, April 17. Polls will be open from 2 to 9 p.m. The last day to register to vote is March 27. Voters can register at Borough Hall in the clerks' office Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

School Budget Workshop Maps Contingency Plans

Since 2001, the State of New Jersey has frozen state school aid each year leaving fewer resources for district programs. In South Plainfield it has meant elimination of staff and consolidation of positions. This year it might mean more of the same, despite the 4.8% increase in state aid.

After five years Governor Jon Corzine increased state aid from \$8,145,544 in 2006-2007 to \$8,536,410 for 2007-2008, or an additional \$390,966 according to figures published in *The Star Ledger*.

The district also received an additional \$146,550 as Targeted At Risk Aid for the district's free lunch program, Business Administrator

Donna Tolley explained.

However, new regulations might diminish these gains. The amount of \$765,214 is being charged to a capital outlay amount in the 2006-2007 budget. Tolley has contacted the Middlesex County superintendent with a financial method of closing the \$765,214 with the banked Cap amount. The 2007-2008 budget is set now at \$48,386,415. If Tolley's method is accepted, the budget will be \$49,151,629 and under cap by \$56,000.

The board will wait to hear if Tolley's plan is accepted. While they wait they will not discuss what measures will be taken to bring a budget in at cap.

Sweet Potato Pie Makes Magical Fare for Elementary Children

By Libby Barsky

Sweet Potato Pie and Such, an interactive story telling performance with music, was served up to all elementary students (and their teachers) in the district in February. The program was made possible through the South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission, which received a grant from the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission.

From the moment Queen Nur (Karen Abul-Malik) came on stage backed by drummer Yomi Jojolo (Abayomi Awodesu) and his African instruments, she began distributing sweet potatoes to the children and the youngsters were entranced. Showing the difference between what a sweet potato looks like and that of a yam, Queen Nur held the children's attention equally as easily as the vegetables in her hands. The children responded to whatever they were asked to do—call back, clap hands, stand up and dance.

Queen Nur recited the story of Imani—a very small mouse who is put down repeatedly for his size by giraffe, bird, hippo and lion, with the children chanting, "They might call me teeny tiny, but in my mind I'm mighty, mighty," along with the motions she introduced. Imani triumphs in the end, rescuing the captured King of the Jungle



Storyteller Queen Nur with accompanist drummer Yomi Jojolo performed Sweet Potato Pie and Such for all elementary students in the borough.

Lion by nibbling through the net that encased him. Queen Nur not only held the students' attention, she also got the teachers to line up to dance to the rhythms Yomi Jojolo drummed out on his intriguing African instruments.

"This is one of the best programs we've had," said fourth grade Riley School teacher Maria Campagna.

Fourteen years ago, when Karen Abdul-Mallik visited her children's school to tell stories, the teachers advised Abdul-Mallik to become a profes-

sional storyteller. She did and took post graduate courses in African American Studies at Temple University and in Children's Folklore at the University of Pennsylvania. As Queen Nur she holds workshops and performs nationally in many schools, libraries, museums, festivals and at the John F. Kennedy Center in Washington D.C.

For information about performances and cassettes of Sweet Potato Pie and Such and Queen Nur Live and Storified, contact www.tellintales@comcast.net

The Tuesday, February 27 BOE budget hearing will be aired on Comcast Channel 74 on Saturday, March 3 at 8 p.m. and again on Thursday, March 8 at 7 p.m.



**The Borough Council meeting will
be aired on Comcast Channel 74
on Mondays at 8 p.m.**
(Except for Holidays)

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
March 20	7 p.m.	Immediately following
April 3	7 p.m.	Immediately following

All meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (NJSA 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
Mar. 13 and 27, Apr. 10 and 24, May 8 and 22, June 12, July 10 and 24,
Aug. 14 and 28, Sept. 11 and 25, Oct. 9 and 23, Nov. 27 and Dec. 11.

zoningboardofadjustment

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month, *except where noted.
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641
Mar. 8 and 22, Apr. 12 and 26, May 10 and 24
June 14 and 28, July 12 and 26, Aug. 9 and 23, Sept. 13 and 27, Oct. 11 and 25
Nov. 1 and 29 and Dec. 13.

boardofeducationmeetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted
Committee of the Whole, Wednesdays 7 p.m.-March 14 and March 28.
Regular Meeting Wednesdays 8 p.m.-March and April 4.

taxpayersadvisorygroup

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

siteplansub-committee

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

recreationcommission

Meets once a month on the second Tuesday of the month, except July and August
PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7716
Mar. 13, Apr. 10, May 8, June 12, Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 13, Dec. 11
July and August: No scheduled meeting

environmentalcommission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)
Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7621

businessadvisorygroup

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

trafficsafetyadvisorycommission

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

boardofeducationcurriculum/technology meetings

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

South Plainfield Observer

The South Plainfield Observer is
published every Friday

G&G Graphics, Inc.
1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
(908) 668-0010 • FAX (908) 668-8819

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Web page:
www.spobserver.com
(under construction)

For subscriptions, advertising or
information, call (908) 668-0010.

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

The South Plainfield Observer (U.S.P.S. 018253) is published weekly, except Thanksgiving week, by G&G Graphics Inc. 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080-2004. Second class postage paid at South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080-9998. POSTMASTER: Forward change of address orders to G&G Graphics Inc. 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080-2004. Subscription rates \$25 per year in South Plainfield; \$30 per year out of town. To subscribe: 908-668-0010.

SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in the South Plainfield Observer:

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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IN MY OPINION

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

To the Editor

Ever have your morning start off horribly, only to have it finish with a revived faith in the kindness of others? Such a morning was this.

You never want to have your car's transmission blow out at 7:30 a.m. while trying to get out onto Plainfield Avenue! That's what happened to me. That's the bad news. The good news is that two men noticed my distress and came to my rescue. The owners of a carpet and flooring installation business called ROMEO helped me figure out what may be wrong with my car, made sure my car was moved safely out of the middle of the road, and drove me home.

What a random act of kindness this was and what a nice pair of guys. I have to admit that I don't know anything about their business, but I do know that when I need carpet or flooring, I know whom I am going to call. If they treat a stranger with this much consideration, I can only imagine that they give their customers the best possible service. There are still people out there that go out of their way to help others. So, it ended up being a wonderful (but ultimately expensive new transmission) morning—thanks to John and Eddie!

MARY PIEKARSKI

To the Editor

Outside Grant School, it was a cold, blustery night, inside there were some hot Italian dinners being served up. The pasta dinner for Stokes 2007 fundraiser was a huge success thanks to the efforts of some special parents who volunteered their time for the children of Grant School. Beautiful raffle baskets were donated and the gym was filled with lovely valentine decorations and Italian music.

Special thanks to Roma Foods, Bob and Debbie Boyle, Our Town Deli, Target, South Plainfield Police, Red Robin Restaurant, Eckert, Dunkin Donuts, Mohn's Flowers, Spring Lake Florist, Hall's Trucking, Southern Living at Home, BRUNSPAK, B&B Promotions, Mr. Whalen, Mr. Richkus, Diane Ranger, Mike Lanza, Roseanne Balzer and all the fifth grade parents who helped out during this event.

TREE ORLANDO

Dear Editor,

Citizens of South Plainfield, 50 days from now you will have a choice. A choice to choose the leaders who guide our school decisions, choose what reforms are taken in the coming year and where the future of the South Plainfield Board of Education is headed. My name is Danielle Harris Lacasale and I am asking for your sup-

port to be one of those chosen leaders. Recently I submitted a petition to enter this election, but not after a year of discernment and reflection on the upcoming commitment that I am about to venture into. In this letter to you I hope to outline why I feel I'm qualified and what I hope to offer if I am elected to the Board of Education. In the coming weeks I hope to meet you at community dinners, PTA meetings, sporting events and introduce myself personally. I hope that if an opportunity exists, we can engage in a dialogue about the future choices presented to all taxpayers on April 17. Considering most of the taxes homeowners pay go to the educational facilities budget in the town, responsible actions and accountability are of the highest priority to the taxpayers. Therefore, the dollars collected are appropriated properly and used as appropriated.

I am a lifelong resident of South Plainfield having attended Kennedy School is my early years. I graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Education concentrating in Early Childhood and Elementary Education. I used that degree to teach a combined 5½ years between Riley and Franklin Elementary schools in South Plainfield. While teaching second and third grade I acquired a masters degree in special education and taught an additional summer in the preschool handicap class (in Grant School) and another two years at South Plainfield High School in the Special Education department. Leaving South Plainfield in 2001 when my children entered the school system I worked as a middle school self contained special education teacher in Piscataway while finishing courses in supervision. In 2003 I left teaching to become an administrator whereas I served in the position of director of special education. Since acquiring that position I have continued my education and acquired a second masters degree in educational administration and leadership and serve students and families most currently in the role of assistant principal/director of curriculum. I am currently enrolled in a program to complete my doctorate degree in Educational Leadership and Curriculum Development and I am a mother of five children enrolled in Franklin School. I have itemized my credentials to bring light to the fact that my professional responsibilities aligned with my personal education choices coupled with my understanding of South Plainfield, in essence makes me a viable addition to the South Plainfield Board of Education.

One of the roles and responsibilities of a board member is not to "run"

Submit Letters to the Editor:

Please be advised that the Observer will no longer publish anonymous letters.

Letters may be submitted to the Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or fax 908-668-8819 or by email: spobserver@comcast.net. **Deadline is Monday, 5 p.m.** Letters must be accompanied by a name and telephone number for verification. Please limit letters to no more than 200 words. We reserve the right to refuse a letter, to edit for clarity or length, and to limit the number of letters submitted on the same subject.

the schools, but support the leadership entrusted through the superintendent. Working in school systems and being held accountable to the same tasks the South Plainfield leaders are performing align my abilities to accept this venture with knowledge and foresight of many expectations. Being on the inside I'll know the questions to ask and challenges our town is up against because I perform these same responsibilities for a living.

I am not entering into this commitment with any agenda, nor am I running for any special interests. I am volunteering to serve as a voice of the people and to bring about excellence and best practice options to a town that already has many outstanding programs in place. Being a school leader is not an easy position, so my proposal is that instead of attempting to break down and criticize the ongoing efforts of our leaders, let us come together and build up all the initiatives we can to win Blue Ribbon and Best Practice awards for our schools and for making one, if not all our schools, Governor's Schools of Excellence, an award yet to be bestowed upon any of our schools.

Whether you know my character and skills because you have worked with me in this town, because I taught your child or served on the PTA with you, or possibly we serve in a group at Sacred Heart Church together or another town commitment, you know that I possess a lot of passion, enthusiasm, knowledge and commitment for what I believe in. I believe in South Plainfield and I believe in my abilities to serve on the Board of Education. I also believe that with the right tools and incentives our schools can become better than what they already are. If you don't know me I hope you can get to know me throughout the next six weeks and understand my vision and hopes for the future. My motto is this – every child is entitled to a free and appropriate education under fiscal responsibility and accountability. Holding

(Continued on page 15)

The Big Issue hits newsstands March 30.

Reserve your space now!

South Plainfield Observer

Your #1 Source for South Plainfield News

Reach every household and business in
South Plainfield in the March 30 issue of the Observer.

Reserve space by March 12. Submit ads requiring composition no later than March 19.
Submit camera ready artwork by March 23.

To reserve space call (908) 668-0010.



Lion President Ron DeSclafani (far left) with the Pompa Family and Chrisann Zushma (center).

Pompa Family Makes Scholarship Donation

The Pompa Family has provided a donation to the South Plainfield Lions Club for its scholarship program. Each year the Lions Club provides scholarships to students based on their community service within the community.

Like all Lions clubs, the South Plainfield Lions Club motto is, "We Serve." Monies raised locally go towards various projects within South Plainfield and the State of New Jersey. The South Plainfield Lions Club is proud to have provided funds to the

South Plainfield High School Athletic Booster Club to help fund the replacement of the ticket booth at Jost Field, as well as provide financial support for locally disabled. This year they plan to sponsor a dog at the Seeing Eye in Morristown, which provides a valuable service at no charge for the visually impaired. They also provide support for Camp Marcella, a summer

camp for blind children, by assisting with repairs and upkeep.

All monies the South Plainfield Lions Club receive through donations are spent on projects assisting others. Please help support them by attending their pancake breakfast on Palm Sunday, April 1, at the South Plainfield High School, 8 am to noon. Cost is \$6 per person.

Project Graduation Auction/Raffle Donations Needed

South Plainfield High School PTA will be hosting the 19th Annual Project Graduation for the 2007 graduating class. The cost for this event is quite substantial. The PTA holds one fundraiser, the annual auction/raffle, to be held on Saturday, March 10 from 7 to 11 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. All profits go toward Project Graduation. Tickets are on sale and cost \$12, which includes 10 raffle tickets.

This important event will not be a success without the help and support of high school families, especially senior class families, South Plainfield community organizations and local businesses. Although the PTA has received many generous donations, many more are still needed to make Project Graduation happen for the Class of 2007. Please support this worthwhile cause by making a donation. Donations can be in the form of a gift card, a single gift item, a gift basket or a monetary donation.

Donations can be sent to: South Plainfield High School, 200 Lake St., South Plainfield; Attn: SPHS PTA. Please make checks payable to: SPHS PTA-Project Graduation.

Donations must be received by March 6. Additional volunteers are also needed to help the day of the

auction with either set-up, ticket sales or clean-up.

If you are a high school senior family and have already pledged your support of a donation through our recent telethon, please ensure that you submit those pledges no later than March 6.

To arrange for items to be picked up directly from your home or business, to purchase auction tickets or to be an auction volunteer, contact the high school's main office, or PTA president, Sharon Miller. The Class of 2007 and the SPHS PTA sincerely appreciate your support!

Kindergarten Enrollment

Kindergarten enrollment in the South Plainfield School District for the 2007-2008 school year will be held from April 30-May 10.

Enrollment packets are available in the enrollment office in the Roosevelt Administration Bldg. on Jackson Ave.

Enrollment is by appointment only. Call Kathy DiMeglio at (908) 754-4620, ext. 222, for info and to schedule an appointment.

Dan Gallagher To be Honored

Mayor Dan Gallagher will be honored for his 23 years of service to South Plainfield at a gala dinner to be held at the Pines Manor in Edison on Friday, March 23 from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m.

Gallagher served as mayor for 16 years and prior to that served as a borough councilman for seven years. He was first elected in 1983. He was elected mayor in 1987 and was re-elected in 1995, 1999 and 2002. He is the only South Plainfield mayor re-elected to four terms.

Gallagher chose not to run for another term, citing his desire to spend more time with his family. Dan and his wife of 43 years, Marion, have two sons, Dan and Michael, and four grandsons, Daniel III, Brian and twins Brad and Jake.

The dinner is open to all residents and has no affiliation with any political party. The cost is \$50 per person. If you would like to attend or need more information, call Patrick Diegnan at (908) 753-7200.

Have Some Laughs at Rescue Squad Fundraiser

The South Plainfield Volunteer Rescue Squad is holding a fundraiser at The Stress Factory Comedy Club Bar and Grill located at 90 Church St. in New Brunswick on Sunday, March 25. The show will feature Vinnie Brand. Doors open for dinner at 5 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$35 in advance and reservations are required. For reservations and tickets, call (908) 754-2343.

RECREATION UPDATE

• There are just 43 tickets left for the bus trip to see "Beauty and the Beast" on Broadway on Sunday, April 29. Tickets are \$80. Bus leaves the PAL at 11:30 a.m. for the 3 p.m. show.

• Pool registrations have begun. Early registration discount ends April 17.

Sign-up or purchase tickets at the PAL, Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

LITTLE TREASURES LEARNING CENTER



"Share Your Little Treasures With Us!"

Extended Day KINDERGARTEN

Registration is now open for the 2007-'08 school year.
Monday-Friday 7:00am to 6:30pm.

2177 Oak Tree Road
Edison

908-769-3224
www.LTLC.net



OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY & SUNDAY,
March 10th & 11th
10am to 2pm



- ❖ Brand new, state of the art Learning Center.
- ❖ All parents receive free secure internet viewing for the school year.
- ❖ Computer classes for all Pre-K and Kindergarten students, taught by specialized ComputerTots instructors.
- ❖ Full-day programs for Infants to Kindergarten plus Summer Camp.
- ❖ We offer Soccer, Dance & Tumbling, Stretch & Grow and Karate.

Around Town

Lenten Fish Dinners

March 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 and Sacred Heart Church are sponsoring their famous Lenten Fish Dinners on Friday, March 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30. Dinners served in the Sacred Heart School cafeteria from 5 to 7 p.m.

For information, call (908) 756-0633, ext. 10 or Tony Moskal at (732) 727-4841.

Debbie Boyle/Elks Citizen of the Year

March 3

The Elks Lodge #287 will be honoring Debbie Boyle as their "Citizen of the Year" on Saturday, March 3 at the Elks Lodge in Edison, located at 375 Old Post Rd. Tickets are still available; \$20 per person includes cocktails from 6 to 7 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m.

To purchase tickets, call Art Sabino at (908) 721-1470.

SPHS Opera Fest

March 3

The South Plainfield High School Music Boosters will host this year's NJMEA All-State Opera Fest on Saturday, March 3. The Opera Fest will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Refreshments will be sold and tickets can be purchased at the door.

VFW Lucky Shamrock Breakfast

March 4

The South Plainfield VFW #6763 will hold a Lucky Shamrock Breakfast on Sunday, March 4 from 8 to 11 a.m. Cost is \$5.

Find the lucky shamrock and win two free breakfasts. Public is welcome.

American Legion Women's Auxiliary

March 6

The Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion Post 243, 243 Oak Tree Ave., is looking for new members. If you are interested in joining

South Plainfield SENIOR CENTER

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

The Senior Citizen's Center is open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
NOW OPEN SATURDAYS 9:00 AM-12:30 PM

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
UPCOMING EVENTS <i>"Catch Me If You Can"</i> Hunterdon Hills Trip, March 12 ... St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance March 17 6-10 p.m. \$10 per person				Bingo 10am-2pm 2
Knitting/Crocheting 9:30am-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Art Class 11:30am 5	Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social Group 10am Tax Aid 1-4 pm 6	Aerobics 8:45am Computer Classes 10am, 11:20am, 1 pm Tai Chi 2 pm Taj Mahal 8:45 am 7	Pathmark Shopping 9 am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 10am, 11am, 1pm Exercise Class 1:15pm Tax Aid 1 p.m.-4 p.m. 8	Bingo 10am-2pm 9

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

us, please attend our next meeting on Tuesday, March 6 at 7 p.m.

For more information contact Tara Alicio at (732) 763-2111.

Spaghetti Dinner at St. Stephen's Church

March 4

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, 3145 Park Ave., is hosting an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner on Sunday, March 4 from 4 to 6 p.m. Dinner includes salad, bread and butter, beverage and dessert. Free-will offering will be taken; suggested donation is adults \$5, children \$2. No reservations necessary.

For more information call (908) 757-4474.

Troop 309 Open House

March 5

Boy Scout Troop 309 will hold their annual open house on Monday, March 5. The open house runs from 7:45 to 8:45 p.m. All scouts (or boys entering sixth grade and up) are welcome to come.

For more information, contact Jeff Pauls at (908) 755-6133.

Buckets for Bob Fundraiser

March 8

The South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club is sponsoring "Buckets for Bob" on Thursday, March 8 from 5 to 9 p.m. at the high school gym. This is a two-person team "Hot Shot" tournament. Open to all ages; \$10 per person donation; t-shirts to the first 100 participants; trophies awarded to winners. Hamburgers, hot dogs and pizza will be served, sponsored by the SPHS Athletic Booster Club. Proceeds will benefit the Harrington Family.

To enter, contact Tom McCreesh at (908) 755-8468.

Project Graduation Auction/Raffle

March 10

The South Plainfield High School PTA will be hosting their annual auction/raffle on Saturday, March 10 in the SPHS gym. Doors open at 6 p.m. All profits will go towards the Project Graduation for the Class of 2007. Tickets are \$12.

For tickets, contact Sharon Miller at (908) 754-6461 or Pat Anderson at (908) 756-6512. This event has sold out in past, so call as soon as possible.

Little Treasures Open House

March 10 and 11

Little Treasures Learning Center, located at 2177 Oak Tree Rd., will hold an open house on Saturday and Sunday, March 10 and 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. You are also invited to meet the staff and visit the center for a tour during normal operating hours Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

For directions and additional information, please call (908) 769-3224.

American Legion Showboat Bus Trip

March 11

The Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion Post 243 is sponsoring a bus trip to the Showboat Casino in Atlantic City on Sunday, March 11. Bus leaves parking lot at 10:15 a.m. and returns about 7 p.m. Cost per person is \$25; you will receive \$20 back in cash and a \$5 food voucher.

For tickets call (908) 668-9414.

Historical Society/Elks Breakfast

March 11

A fundraiser for the South Plainfield Historical Society will be held at the Elks Club on New Market Avenue on Sunday, March 11 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$6 for adults, \$5 for children ages 5-10. Children under four are free.

Contact sphistoricalsoc@cs.com or call (908) 754-7268.

Trip to Hunterdon Hills

March 12

The South Plainfield Senior Citizen Center is planning a trip to Hunterdon

Hills Playhouse on Monday, March 12 to see "Catch Me If You Can." Tickets are \$58 per person and include transportation and dinner. Menu includes fried shrimp and scallops, roast loin of pork, Yankee pot roast, lemon pepper cod or lemon chicken with mushrooms.

Stop in the senior center to reserve your tickets.

Pilgrim Covenant Open House

March 13

Pilgrim Covenant Learning Center, Inc. located at 3121 Park Ave. will be holding an open house on Tuesday, March 13 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Those unable to attend may schedule an appointment to tour the school during its operating hours, Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For directions and information, call Gina Birath at (908) 756-4879.

AARP Defensive Driving Class

March 15 & 22

The AARP will hold defensive driving classes on two consecutive Thursdays, March 15 and 22 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Muhlenberg Hospital. You must attend both classes of the session to receive a three-year discount on your auto insurance. Registration is required; the cost is \$10.

To register or for more information, call Mary at (732) 752-3764.

Elks Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

March 17

The South Plainfield Elks Veterans Committee is sponsoring their annual corned beef and cabbage dinner on Saturday, March 17 from 4:30 to 9 pm. The Elks is located on New Market Avenue. Adults \$12, children \$5. All you can eat, includes soda and desert, cash bar.

Any questions, contact Lou Peralta (908) 756-6406.

American Legion St. Patrick's Dinner

March 17

The Sons of the American Legion, Post 243, 243 Oak Tree Ave., is holding a St. Patrick's Day dinner/dance on Saturday, March 17 from 6 to 11 p.m. Music provided by DJ. Tickets are \$15 per person and include dinner, beer, soda, dessert and coffee. Benefits scholarship fund.

For tickets call (908) 668-9414.

Knights St. Patrick's Day Dinner

March 17

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 will hold their annual St. Patrick's Day dinner at their hall located at 334 Hamilton Blvd. on Saturday, March 17 from 6 to 10 p.m. Price is \$20 per person. Dinner includes corned beef and cabbage

(Continued on next page)

Celebrate!

South Plainfield Honors
Mayor Dan Gallagher

For His 23 Years Of Service
To Our Community

Friday, March 23, 2007
6:30 PM - 10:30 PM

The Pines Manor
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events

(Continued from last page)

(chicken breast for those who don't like corned beef), potato leek soup, red potatoes, dessert and open bar for beer, wine and soda. Classic Irish music will be played. Take-out dinners available.

For information or to reserve tickets, call Bob Sanko at (908) 227-6015.

Annual Chili Fest

March 18

Boy Scout Troop 207 will be holding their annual chili fest on Sunday, March 18 from 3 to 7 p.m. in the South Plainfield High School cafeteria. Cost is \$5 per ticket and includes salad, drink, bread and all the home-made chili you can eat. Tickets can be purchased at the door and take-out is available. All proceeds go towards troop equipment and events.

— Out of Town —

Winter Art Workshop

March 3 and March 10

Registration is open for winter art workshops at the Arts Guild of Rahway: Encaustic Workshop II: More Advanced Techniques (Saturday, March 3, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.) and Image Transfer Workshop. (Saturday, March 10, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.) Fees vary; call (732) 381-7511 for more information.

Extreme Makeover: Faith Edition

March 3

The Diocese of Metuchen Youth and Young Adult Ministry will host a Diocesan Youth Day on Saturday, March 3 beginning at noon at Sacred Heart Church for teens in grades 9-12; registration is \$25; includes shirt and dinner.

For information, visit www.yandyam.org, or call (732) 562-1990, ext. 1627.

Singles Dinner

March 3

A singles dinner for Christian Professionals 25 to 45 will be held at Maggiano's Italian Restaurant in Bridgewater on Saturday, March 3 at 6 p.m. Cost is \$40.

RSVP to JerzeyAngelGirl@aol.com or (732) 764-9073.

Dollmaking Workshop

March 3

Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission and the Folklife

Program for New Jersey will present a Multicultural Dollmaking Workshop with Thelma Heard on Saturday, March 3 at 2 p.m. This free workshop takes place at New Brunswick Public Library in New Brunswick.

Registration is required. Call (732) 745-4489.

Tricky Tray

March 4

A Tricky Tray will be held at Resurrection of Christ Church in Dunellen on Sunday, March 4. Doors open at 12 p.m. Drawings at 1:30 p.m. Prizes include a 24-inch T.V., three PCs, carry on leather luggage, five tickets to Flyers vs. Islanders with free parking, gift certificates, grand prize, and more. Snow date is March 11.

Monday Afternoon Club Meeting

March 5

The Monday Afternoon Club of Plainfield will present Ted O'Connell at their meeting on Monday, March 5 at 2 p.m. at The Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church, 716 Watching Ave. in Plainfield. Tea and refreshments will follow the program of St. Patrick's Day songs.

For information, call Millie Colley at (908) 756-3476 or Margie Messmer at (908) 322-9604.

Bereavement Series

March 6, 13, 20 & 27

Center for Hope Hospice & Palliative Care will offer a four week lecture series titled "Journey Through Grief" on Tuesday nights, March 6, 13, 20 and 27 from 7 to 9 p.m. The lecture series will be held at Roselle Catholic High School, 1 Raritan Rd. in Roselle.

The series is free and open to the public; no registration is required. Refreshments and fellowship after the lecture. For information or directions, call Acadia House, the center's bereavement center, at (908) 654-3711.

Mick Molony to Perform

March 7

Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission and the Folklife Program for New Jersey welcome the return of Mick Moloney for the thirteenth year at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 7 at the Princeton Alliance Center, located at the crossroads of Scudders Mill Road and Schalks Crossing in Plainsboro.

If you would like to attend, contact the Commission, (732) 745-4489.

Women's Club Meeting

March 7

The Metuchen Edison Women's Club will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 7 at 7:30 p.m. at The Heritage at Clara Barton, 1015 Amboy Ave. in Edison. The program, Mystery of Marbleizing—Ancient Art of Ebru, will be presented by Apple Annie. Guests are welcome and light refreshments will be served.

For additional information, contact Diana at (732) 548-0925.

Blackrose to Perform

March 10

Blackrose, a band performing classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will perform at Tim Kerwins Pub, located on Rt. 28 in Middlesex on Saturday, March 10 at 9:30 p.m. No cover charge.

Beatlemania

March 10

The cast of Beatlemania, direct from Broadway, will present a multi-media concert at Raritan Valley Community College, Rt. 28 and Lamington Rd. in North Branch on Saturday, March 10 at 8 p.m. Ticket prices are \$25, \$30, or \$35. All proceeds will be donated to help support our veterans, soldiers and the DHS Class of 2008.

For tickets, call (732) 968-5381 or the box office at (908) 725-3420.



Cub Scout Pack #224, Webelos Den #5, were winners in the Pinewood Derby race at John E. Riley School on Jan. 19. Pictured are: Anthony Santone, first place; John M. O'Sullivan, second place; Brandon Rickert, third place and Brett Temple, "best looking car."

Girl Scouts Day Camp Open House on March 20

The Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Council will be holding a Day Camp Open House at its Council Service Center, 201 Grove St. East in Westfield, on Tuesday, March 20 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Interested parents and girls can attend the open house to learn more about the exciting opportunities that await this summer. Camp directors as well as staff will be on hand to address any questions or concerns that may arise.

This summer, GSWRC will offer four one-week sessions of Summer Day Camp in both its new location in Scotch Plains as well as Elizabeth. Camp is open to girls entering grades 1-8 as of the fall of 2007 and will begin on July 9 and conclude on Aug. 3. The Scotch Plains camp will be held at the Jerseyland Community Center while the Elizabeth camp will be held at Westminster Academy School No.

26. Both sites are chock full of modern-day amenities and features including air conditioning and modern-day playground equipment. Both camps will be staffed with trained professionals to ensure a safe, educational and fun experience for all campers. Girls will be able to stay in shape, expand their knowledge and horizons while spending time bonding with others their age.

More information on summer camp can be obtained by calling Melissa Boronkas at (908) 232-3236, ext. 1211 or by sending an e-mail to mboronkas@gswrc.com. A summer day camp brochure is available online at www.westfieldnj.com/girlscouts.

In the midst of celebrating its 50th anniversary, GSWRC enthusiastically delivers the optimal Girl Scout experience to over 11,000 girls and adults in 24 communities.

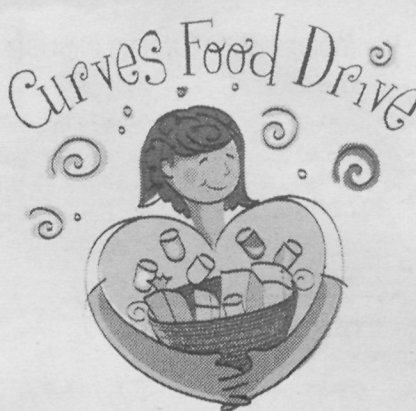
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SUBMIT LETTERS TO THE EDITOR to allow readers to discuss and react to issues.

SEND US YOUR PHOTOS. If you have an event, take a photo, write a caption identifying the event and people and send it to us. The best photos record action and don't include so many people that it is impossible to identify anyone. Please don't send us photocopies or laser prints. They don't reproduce well. Electronic photos should be 150 dpi or higher

HOW TO CONTACT US. By mail: 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080; By phone: 908-668-0010; By fax: 908-668-8819; By email: spobserver@comcast.net.

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southplainfieldpeople Milestones

Erin Mackey and Steven Menard Engagement Announcement

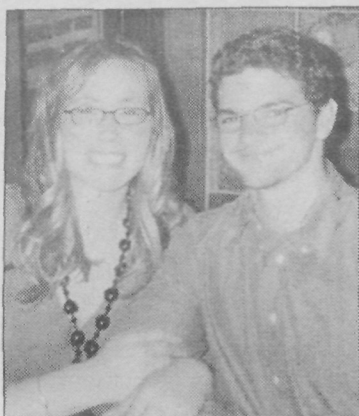
Donna and Robert Mackey of South Plainfield announce the engagement of their daughter, Erin, to Steven Menard, son of Joan and James Menard, originally of Annandale, Va. Miss Mackey graduated from Marymount University in Arlington, Va. with a Bachelors in Psychology. Erin is currently pursuing her masters in psychiatric rehabilitation counseling at University of Maryland, Col-

lege Park.

Mackey is employed as a community counselor with St. Luke's House, Inc. in Silver Spring, MD.

Her fiancé also attended Marymount University and graduated with a Bachelors in Psychology. He is employed as a swim coach with Marymount University.

An October 2007 wedding is planned.



Erin Mackey and Steven Menard

Jenna Zielinski Named to Wagner College Dean's List

Jenna Zielinski of South Plainfield has been named to the Dean's List at Wagner College of New York City for the Fall 2006 semester. This distinction is awarded to students who have earned a semester grade point average of 3.5 or better.

"We are always proud of the efforts and achievements of our students,

particularly those that earn dean's list honors," said Richard Guarasci, president of Wagner College.

Wagner College, founded in 1883, is located on Staten Island overlooking the historic New York Harbor. It is a residential liberal arts college enrolling 1,950 undergraduates and 300 graduate students from all over the

United States and a dozen nations around the world.

Wagner's nationally recognized curricular program—The Wagner Plan for the Practical Liberal Arts—links college coursework with genuine field experience throughout each student's academic career and across the entire curriculum.

Tran Named One of New Jersey's Best 50 Women in Business

LeDung Tran, owner and president of Edison Heating & Cooling, Inc., was recently named as one of New Jersey's Best 50 Women in Business. The inaugural award program, produced by NJBIZ, New Jersey's premiere business news publication is sponsored by Wachovia Bank, Withum Smith + Brown and Morgan Lewis & Boyden Global Executive Search.

The Best 50 Women in Business award program honors New Jersey's most dynamic women business leaders who have been making headlines in their field. The awards recognize the impact women business owners and business leaders have in creating jobs and building communities in New Jersey. NJBIZ and the program sponsors will honor this year's 50 winners with an awards ceremony on Monday, March 19 at The Palace in Somerset. In addition, winners will be highlighted in a special supplement to NJBIZ on March 26.

"We are truly fortunate to have the opportunity to recognize this outstanding group of women," said David A. Shankweiler, CEO of Journal Publications, parent company of NJBIZ. "As business and community leaders, they are constantly redefining success within and outside the business arena. On behalf of NJBIZ, we would like

to thank and congratulate these fifty outstanding women for their dedication to New Jersey's future."

An independent panel of judges selected the top 50 candidates based



LeDung Tran

on dedication to business growth, professional and personal accomplishments, community involvement, and advocacy for women in business.

To qualify, a nominee had to meet the following criteria:

- A female resident of New Jersey, or be employed in the state.

- An owner, partner, president, chief executive officer, board chair, in a senior executive management level position, or a woman with significant authority in decision-making in a business or company.

Shannon Rosengarth Pageant Finalist

Shannon Rosengarth, 16, the daughter of Robert Rosengarth of Westfield and Gina Bengivenga of Howell Township, has been chosen as a State Finalist in the National American Miss New Jersey State Pageant to be held at the East Brunswick Hilton in East Brunswick. Miss Rosengarth is a junior at Freehold Township High School. She is a cheerleader for her school's football and basketball teams and also volunteers as a student trainer for Howell Pop Warner Cheerleading.

The pageant seeks to recognize the accomplishments of each girl while encouraging her to set goals for the future. Emphasis is placed upon the importance of gaining self confidence and setting and achieving personal goals. The winner of the pageant will receive a \$1,000 cash award, the official crown and banner, and air transportation to compete in the national pageant at Disneyland in California. Each year, the pageant awards thou-



Shannon Rosengarth

sands in scholarships and prizes to recognize and assist in the development of young women nationwide.

Miss Rosengarth is being sponsored by her family and friends, including her grandfather, Anthony Bengivenga of Green Brook and her grandmother, Linda Bengivenga of Belle Mead.

Danielle Aronowitz Achieves Dean's List

Danielle S. Aronowitz, a junior at Ramapo College, achieved Dean's List status for the Fall 2006 semester for maintaining a 3.925 grade point average while taking 17 credits. Danielle

is a 2004 graduate of South Plainfield High School and is the daughter of Phyllis and Eric Aronowitz. In order to achieve Dean's List status, a minimum GPA of 3.5 is required.

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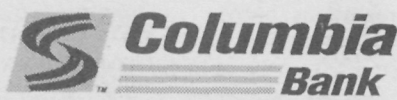
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Sisters in Crime Plot with the Girl Scouts

It was the case of the murdered muse. The Avenel teenager schemed and plotted. She was obsessed with unusual characters and tortured souls. She wanted to be a writer. Alas, the adults in her life said writing was frivolous, a waste of time. The dream was crushed. She buried her hopes.

It took years, but Pat Marinelli stuck a poisoned pen in that career-killing advice and is now a published author and writing instructor. When she learned of a new Girl Scout program called *Write Now*, Marinelli, a former Girl Scout and Girl Scout leader, hatched a plan. Today's teens would get better advice than she did. A meeting with her Sisters in Crime cemented it. The Sisters would show the Scouts the writing ropes.

On Saturday, May 5 Sisters in Crime-Central Jersey will host a day-long writing conference for young writers. Workshops will give the girls a real taste of the writer's life.

"The day will be modeled on a professional writer's conference," said the SinC-CJ current President Kathy Dopart of Metuchen.

Published writers will discuss the challenges and rewards of writing, offer tips on fitting writing into a busy schedule, and lead creative writing exercises. Girls will spend part of the day on their original work and have that work critiqued, not criticized, by the Sisters. Topics covered will include how to submit work to a commercial publisher, writer's conference, or writing contest.

Senior Girl Scout Rose Flahive of East Brunswick is anticipating the program. It will take her writing efforts beyond her academic English courses.

"School is great, but how do you keep writing after you graduate?" asked Flahive, who writes for her school literary magazine.

Space is limited for this conference and advance registration, through a local Girl Scout council, is required.

The following Sisters in Crime writers will participate in the *Write Now* workshop.

- Pat Marinelli of Woodbridge, an award-winning short story writer, has taught commercial fiction classes at Middlesex County College for seven years.

- Laurel Van Leer, East Brunswick, is the co-chair with Marinelli. She is both a Girl Scout leader and a freelance writer specializing in non-fiction.

- J.J. Dumont, Jamesburg, is an early grade school teacher who is published in mystery and romantic suspense.

- Rebecca Russell, Rockaway, is a teacher who is published in mystery and romantic suspense.

- Barbara Nuzzo, North Brunswick, is a travel agent and is published in mystery, romance and poetry.

- Chelle Martin, Avon-By-The-Sea, is published in mystery and romantic suspense.

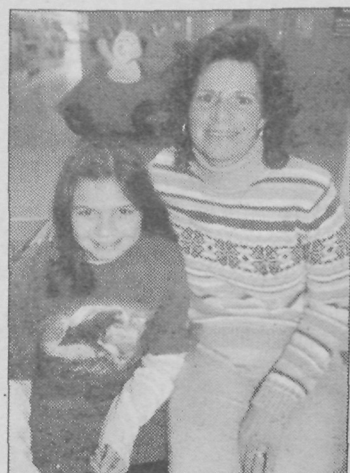
- Debbie Lee-Spollen, East Windsor, is published in poetry.

- Carol MacAllister, Ocean Grove, is published in short story and poetry.

Write Now is part of Girl Scout's Studio2B program for girls ages 11-17. Scouts can earn charms instead of the traditional badges, which still exist. The *Write Now* charm contains two sheets of silver tone note paper.

Sisters in Crime-Central New Jersey meets monthly at the senior citizen center in Jamesburg. The group hosts an annual Mystery Writers and Readers Symposium each spring and an Agatha (Christie) Party each fall. For information about Sisters in Crime contact www.sincj.org.

Caroline Ratti Named Junior Journalist



Caroline Ratti with teacher Christine Dispenzerie

Riley School fourth grader Caroline Ratti is this week's winner in the Junior Journalist contest. Her personal narrative has earned her dinner for her family, courtesy of Hometown Heros.

Students should submit their 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.

A Personal Narrative

By Caroline Ratti



Ruff Ruff today I am getting a new puppy. On February 13, 2005 my family went to the Pet Expo in Edison, NJ. First, we had to wait in a long line. While we were waiting I saw a lot of dogs. Then, when we got in we looked and saw a petting zoo. We got to feed unusual animals like a kangaroo and a lemur. I was starving so before we looked around at all the dog stuff, I asked my dad to buy me a Coke and some goldfish crackers.

After I ate my snack, we went to look at things you could buy for your pets, like rawhide bones, leashes and collars, clothing and all kinds of treats. We also watched animal shows. My favorite show was the one with a dancing chicken. I thought that was really funny.

Next, we went to see the dogs you could adopt. We saw a cute, black dog in a cage and a lady was standing there with a very cute brown and tan puppy in her arms. My family and I thought it was her pet so we kept looking around. A little while later my mom and I walked back to see the black dog in the cage. That lady was still there. Now, she was putting the dog she was holding in the cage. He didn't like it and was jumping up and down trying to get out. My mom asked the lady if the black and tan

terrier was her pet. She said that he wasn't and that he was up for adoption. She said his name was Peanut and that he was 5 months old and came from North Carolina. He was a stray someone had found in the middle of the road.

My mom really wanted to take Peanut home but first we had to find my dad. He had walked to another booth and was playing with a 2 year old black lab named Jake. Jake had a big bump on the top of his head and kept licking my dad. I think my dad wanted to take Jake home.

Once we found my dad, we told him about Peanut and went back to see him. My mom spoke to the lady in charge again and asked if we could take Peanut home. She said we couldn't. I was disappointed and so was my mom. The lady said we had to go home and fill out papers on the computer. Then we left.

My dad took us to Rainforest Café for dinner to cheer us up, but we were still sad that we couldn't take Peanut home. We kept thinking of the poor little puppy all alone when he lived in North Carolina.

As soon as we got home my mom went on the computer and asked to adopt Peanut. On February 16, 2005 Peanut came to visit our house to see if he fit in and if he would get along with our other dog, a grouchy beagle named Ralph. He ran all around and played with Ralph. He even tried to eat Ralph's bone. I loved him right away so my mom and dad said he could stay. That's the day I got a new puppy.

The End.



Twyla Paige with students Kayla O'Neal, Sean Flanagan, Jimmy Duhamel and Subham Guha displaying posters of glamorous celebrities.

Grant Students Learn How to See Themselves Differently

By Jane Dornick

Educator Twyla Paige from the Middlesex County Health Department recently spoke with students at Grant Elementary School about nutrition, body image and self-esteem, something that is important to "tweenagers," the 10 to 13 year-old age group.

Paige explained the necessity of eating right and exercising. She also discussed how society and the media play a large role in how we see ourselves. She asked, "Do you think Beyonce looks like this when she wakes up in the morning?" as she held up a magazine photo of the pop superstar. Paige

explained that the pressures for being thin affects everyone, but it takes a greater toll on pre-teen and teenage girls and she discussed the causes, results and treatments of eating disorders including anorexia, bulimia and compulsive eating. Paige said, "Think positive when you look in the mirror and say 'I love me.'"

The Health Education Division of the Middlesex County Public Health Department is a non-profit county agency that is dedicated to providing health education services to the residents of Middlesex County.

For more information, contact www.co.middlesex.nj.us/publichealth or call (732) 745-8860.

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GEPA Man Inspires Students

In preparation for Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment (GEPA) at the Middle School this month, students in Gail Merlow's art class created "GEPA Man" to inspire students taking the tests. The students drew two dimensional shapes, studied in math class and transformed them into three dimensional forms using construction paper, plaster and paint.

Teachers spend many hours before school and in their daily lesson plans preparing eighth graders for the state mandated math, science and language arts literacy test administered every year. The GEPA measures whether the students have gained the knowledge and skills identified in the Core Curriculum Content Standards. These standards, adopted by the State Board of Education, identify what students should know and be able to do at the completion of eighth grade. The GEPA replaced the Grade B Early Warning Test that was administered from 1991

through 1998. The new test determines if students have made satisfactory progress towards mastering the skills they need to pass the new graduation test, the High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA). The HSPA measures eleventh grade achievement of the Core Curriculum Content Standards. The GEPA also helps schools determine which students may need additional help to pass the HSPA in a few years. Local school districts use the results to determine the appropriateness and strength of the local curriculum and to develop remedial programs to help students improve knowledge and skills. Results are also used to satisfy federal requirements under the No Child Left Behind Act.

The science portion of the test will take place on March 12; math on March 13 and language arts literacy on March 14 and 15. The proficiency goals this year are 80% in math and 85% in language arts.



Grant School Announces Honor Roll for the Second Quarter

5th Grade High Honor Roll

Cameron Bashner, Claudia Bashner, James Boettcher, Abhilasha Borad, Adam Butrico, Charles Butrico, Daisy Castro, Ryan Chadwick, Crystal Custodio, Adam Daubert, John Gilbert DeLaCruz, Joseph Demico, Taylor Donato, Nicholas Fasullo, Talia Ferrigno, Antonio Garcia, Alyssa Gomez, Jonathan Grennier, Joseph Hart, Sabrina Hemming, Lauren Hill, Haley Hlavka, Christy Itwaru, Natasha Jani, Zachary Janiszewski, Ania Januszko, Veronika Jastrzebski, Raymond Jazikoff and Jenalee Jenkin.

Roweena Kanj, Michelle Keane, Jordan Lackey, Marie Lanza, Thoa (Theresa) Le, Alyssa Liszewski, Aidan McDermott, Meghna Mendu, Melissa Molano, Kyle Moroney, Chloe Ng, Holly Nhan, Michael Olano, Brittney Papa, Anjali Patel, Harsh Patel, Raj Patel, Tanvi Patel, Diamond Pender, Samuel Persad, Jessica Pietschker, Danielle Pisano, Michael Polizzano, Austin Rivera, Nisa Rizvi, Lizbeth Romo, Dominick Scalera, Ashley Shumaker, Inan Sikel, Monica Spooner, Gregory Sutton, Olivia Tarnawska, Dakota Uhl, Jessica Uhl, Daniel Vargas, William Walsh, Kristen Wong, Amy Zinsky and Julia Zipp.

5th Grade Honor Roll

Sara Abdeljaber, Bryant Acosta, Jared Agee, Aspen Akunne, Brianna

Aponte, Melissa Arguello, Josselin Barahona, Nina Bavosa, Otonye Benjamin, Colin Berry, Jessica Bishop, Jamie Bohn, Kaitlyn Bonanno, Alexandra Bosse, Hydeia Bradley, Christopher Brechka, Nora Bruno, Kristiana Buschan, Lukas Cabanas, Kristen Calderoni, Renee Callanan, Breanna Calvin, Stania Calvin, Paul Cano IV, Danielle Caruso, Jenna Chabok, Pamela Chacon Castro, Malik Cisson, Efen Correa, Kimberly Corsino, Taylor Crews, Sean Cullen, Austin Daly, Leanna Dass, Cody Decker, Xavier Deida, Conal Delaney, Amanda Driscoll, James DuHamel, Shenne Dugtong.

Robert Eggert, Joshua Eghelshi, Bhrianna Farmer, Kaitlyn Faustini, Sean Flanagan, Christopher Fowles, Andrew Franco, Marques Franco, Maria Funes, Thomas Ginda, Matthew Gruver, Subham Guha, Ryan Harris, Glenn Holloway, Erika Holtermann, Peter Horvath, Jenna Howarth, Kaitlyn Hughes, Shannon Hughes, Matthew Hurst, Shawn Itwaru, Eric Ivanic, Tara Jackson, Taylor Jankoski, Gabriella Jimenez, Malcolm Keith, Alyssa Kelly, Carly Kensey, Mai Lam, Lindsey Lara, Loi Le, Emily Lubach, Collin Lynch, Meredith Malara, Julia Maritz, Justin Marks, Joanna Marston, Brian McCarthy, Zea McCray, Kate McLaughlin, Tyler McVeigh, Mamta Mehta, Ernest Mejias, Steven (Tucker) Merkler, Yasmeen Mighty, Christopher

Miller, Nicole Miller, Samara Mintah, Malina Mohtadi, Christina Montgomery, Sarah Mott and Imani Mettelford.

Cody O'Connor, Steven Oehler, Shawn Palathinkal, Ishti Patel, Vinay Patel, Andrew Pawelczak, Gabrielle Payne, Donte Peoples, Jason Pelaez, Brooke Penik, Kristy Percario, Anne-marie Pezzolla, Kelly Pierce, Heidi Pilla, Jonathan Prins, Stavan Purohit, Maggie Quintanilla, Scott Quiroga, Amy Ramjatan, Juliana Reo, Matthew Resende, Zara Rizvi, Brian Roesch, Courtney Ross, Amanda Rowlands, Samson Ruhne, Andrew Sanchez, Heather Scofi, Shannon Sheedy, Emma Sprigle, Marc Stasio, Brianna Swenson, Sabershah Syed, Ryan Temple, Ashley Valencia, Joseph Valentino, Joseph Waldrop and Connor Wallace.

6th Grade High Honor Roll

Charles Anyamene, Juan Arrubla, Anthony Ashnault, Kevin Belanger, Robert Benwell, Rina Bhalodi, Patrick Boyle, Kyle Brady, Ryan Buckelew, Christopher Butrico, Danielle Butrico, Kayla Carigma, Andrew Catalina, Jenna Clemente, John Cotone, Jesse Deffler, Michael DelGenio, John Didolce, Alex Dornick, Matthew Frank, Nicholas Graves, Andrea Guerrero, Troy Heilmann, Jasmin Hernandez, Alec Hing, Zoya Hodge, Nicholas Huber, Rohan Iyengar, Christina Kasmer, David Landy, Mi-

chelle Lesniak, Deirdre Macchia, Marah Angelica Magpile, Victoria Maino, Nicholas Marrone, Jade McDonnough, John McDonough, Maggie McLean, Shannon McMahon, Christina Naphor, James O'Connor, Timothy O'Leary, Donovan Parker, Brandon Pauls, Joseph Pellegrino, Amit Persaud, Emily Pittenger, Hiren Rana, Alison Ratti, Emily Reineke, Erin Remsing, Tania Rincon, Karen Rivera, Ashley Robjohns, Hayley Robjohns, Joshua Rochotte, Gerianne Scarpitto, Brandon Shaw, Joshua Siepmann, Trevin Singh, Angelica Smith, Joseph Spinella, Steven Timmerman, Jennifer Tran, Caroline Vill, Steven Vincent and Kimberly Walsh.

6th Grade Honor Roll

Ramsey Abdeljaber, Alyssa Adamson, James Agee, Ashley Annetta, Isabella Behne, Nicole Benwell, Rachel Billich, Taylor Born, Nicholas Brinks, Kristel Buschan, Samuel Butler, Tyler Calderone, Anthony Celentano, Kendall Christ, Quinn Cochrane, Meghan Collins, Shannah Conway, Joshua Coupe, Patricia Cruz, Tyler Cruz, Jennifer Delbeni, Dominic Demico, Cynthia Diaz, Alexa Douras, Ian Dow, Caitlyn Driscoll, Tara Dunn, Richard Duong, Tatiana Duran, Jacqueline Dvorak, Catherine Emery, Sal Espósito, Taylor Estevez, Rebecca Eustice,

Echrak Faida, Kristin Forbes, Nathanael Ganthier, Zachary George, Cassidy Gillis, Justin Glover, Allison Gorman, Briana Gratta and Ryan Guarraci.

Taylor Hagy, Harshul Handa, Christopher Harrell, Meghan Heim, Samantha Hunterton, Sarah Hunterton, Kelvin Islas, Sarah Johnson, Nicole Jones, Razeno Khan, Samuel Knight, Nicole Kopchak, Nicholas Lacasale, Paula Lasota, Viet (Victor) Le, Xin Geng Liu, Bianca Lobosco, Brian Lopez, Gina Louise, Rian Lukacs, Jesse Masters, Rebecca Moskal, Samantha Murtagh, Crystal Myles, Keanu O'Neal, Justin Ochoa, Kelly Outeiral, Kathryn Pacheco, Dylan Painton, Danielle Palitto, Aakash Patel, Ankoor Patel, Jaclyn Pauls, Claude Payne, Jeffrey Pellegrino, Zachary Pellegrino, Khalil Pereira, Eduardo Perez, Michael Petrick and Katherine Piekarski.

Christal Ramagado, Thomas Riccardi, Erick Rodriguez, Brianna Ross, Daniel Sanko, Raymond Santos Jr., Jacob Seider, KimberLee Serrano, Paul Seyffart, Courtney Shea, Ramona Shivraj, Cory Singer, Emma Slotterback, Gabrielle Smith, Sydney Smith, John Sottiriou, Angela Spadavecchia, Nicole Stanczak, Corey Stasenko, Nicole Tetreault, Jessica Treslar, Sergio Ulacia, Michael Uribe, Jaime Valladares, Erik Veliz, Vera Viran, Wahid Walli, Matthew Ward, Scott Whalen, Angelica Wojewodka, Jennifer Wolak, Eduardo Zurita and Isabel Zychlinski.

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LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

RETURN OF PERFORMANCE BOND

A public meeting has been scheduled for March 20, 2007 at 7 p.m., by the Borough of South Plainfield to hear objections, if any, to the release of a Performance Bond posted by Nova Land Development, Inc., for public improvements at 133 Redding Ave. (Block 60, Lot 2701 listed on the official tax maps of South Plainfield. Hearing will be held at Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Nova Land Development
503 County Road 579
Milford, NJ 08848

\$38.50

March 2, 2007



This truck is also available to local charities. Call for more information.



Cub Scout Pack #324 from Kennedy School participated in a handyman night recently.

“Buckets for Bob” Fundraiser to be Held for Long-Time Baseball Coach

Bob Harrington, longtime coach with the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club, has been battling a very aggressive cancer for the past several months. Over the years, Bob has given a great deal of his time volunteering to benefit the youth of South Plainfield.

He is now undergoing aggressive chemotherapy and radiation treatments five days a week. Bob has many friends in town pulling for him and they are willing to do whatever it takes to help him beat this illness. A team of volunteers from South Plainfield have been taking turns driving Bob to the cancer treatment center at Hunterdon Cancer Center.

While Bob seems to be holding up under the treatments, he has been unable to work at all. His wife, Liz, a music teacher in Piscataway, is the only source of income for the family right now.

His sons, Ryan and Bobby Jr. attend South Plainfield High School. They both played baseball with the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club at every level since they were eight years old, including the Traveling All-Stars. Bob was with them every step of the way, coaching, encouraging and instructing not only them, but many other children along the way. His abilities as a coach shine even brighter when it came to the Traveling All-Star season. He has always been involved with the tournament teams, as a coach, organizer, helping the kids every step of the way.

Both Bob and Liz have always been willing to step up and lend a hand for whatever chore needed to be done at the club. Liz has been a mainstay for the baseball club, volunteering as a snack stand captain and singing the National Anthem at many home tournaments.

Tom McCreesh, a member of the South Plainfield Recreation Commission, along with members of the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club and the South Plainfield High School Athletic Booster Club have put together a fundraiser to help the family financially. “Buckets for Bob” will be held on Thursday, March 8 from 5 to 9 p.m. at the South Plainfield High School gymnasium. It will be a two-person team hot shot tournament (timed shooting from designated spots on the court). The event is open to all ages. The cost to participate is a \$10 per person donation. Free t-shirts will be given to the first 100 participants who register. Trophies will be awarded to all winners.

The SPHS Athletic Booster Club

will be selling hamburgers, hot dogs and pizza in the cafeteria during and after the event.

For more information or to enter, call Tom McCreesh at (908) 755-8468. All proceeds are to benefit the Harrington Family.

Scouts Hold Handyman Night

Cub Scout Pack #324 from Kennedy School participated in a Handyman night at their monthly January Pack meeting. The Scouts received hands-on experience working with various tools such as saws, hammers and wrenches. As a matter of safety

and precaution, each Scout was presented a pair of safety glasses that were generously donated by Vail Industrial Supply of South Plainfield.

It was a great learning and teaching experience for those who attended.

police report

- The owner of Wilson Industries on Harmich Road reported that the fence had been cut in the rear of the property.
- An employee of Drug Fair reported the theft of a South Plainfield varsity jacket from the employee break room.
- On Feb. 22, Yagnesh Vaidya, 53, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving an unregistered vehicle, driving on a suspended license and three outstanding warrants.
- An Edison resident reported that the unauthorized use of his Kohl's credit card to purchase \$461.68 worth of merchandise.
- On Feb. 23, Nichole M. Decarvalho, 20, of Woodbridge was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.

- A Hillside Avenue resident reported that the rear passenger side tail light frame of their vehicle had been broken.
- On Feb. 24, a Jacobus Street resident reported the theft of a 2001 Toyota Camry that had been left running.
- On Feb. 25, a New Market Avenue resident reported a table saw and miter saw worth \$300 from their unlocked van.
- On Feb. 26, John Allen London, 52, of Piscataway was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant.

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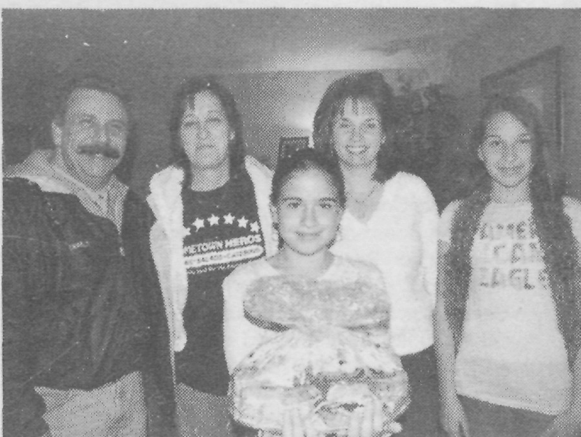
Pilgrim Covenant Learning Center Spring Fundraiser

Spring is coming and so is baseball season. In another month or so, leagues for children and adults will be assembling, providing numerous opportunities to play ball. If you are one who would rather watch the game than play it, Pilgrim Covenant Learning Center is offering an opportunity to do just that. The Center is selling

vouchers for the 2007 season of the Somerset Patriots. Vouchers are \$8 each and are redeemable for an upper box reserved seat for any home game (subject to availability).

For more information or to purchase vouchers, please call Gina Birath at (908) 756-4879. Vouchers are on sale until Friday, April 27.

2007 JUNIOR JOURNALIST



Charlie and Debbie Kurland of Hometown Heros deliver dinner to Junior Journalist winner Moriah Garcia, pictured with her mom, Tracey and her sister, Miranda.

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Sports

RECREATION NEWS

- Ponytail Softball Registration ends March 5.
 - The Recreation Dept. is offering a Speed and Agility course for residents grades 5-11. Course runs 8 weeks on Wednesdays starting March 7.
- For both programs, sign up at the PAL.

WRESTLING

Tigers Advance Nine to Atlantic City

By Bob Hunter

The South Plainfield Wrestling Team will send nine wrestlers to Atlantic City Boardwalk Hall for the 2007 NJSIAA Individual State Wrestling Championships which begin on Friday night and conclude with the finals on Sunday afternoon.

Wrestlers who place in the top three from eight regions around the state will compete in what is referred to as the big show will try to claim the ultimate title in high school wrestling. South Plainfield will be well represented with nine Tiger wrestlers looking to place one thru eight at the state level.

South Plainfield sent wrestlers to the Region 3 final and came up short

when only one wrestler came through with a victory. Nick Heilmann 103 finished second to Kenny Knapp of David Brearley in Kenilworth by a score of 5-3.

Patrick Hunter 112 was the lone champion when he pinned Peter Terrezza of New Providence at 0:49 for his second Region 3 title.

Senior Billy Ashnault 135 finished in second place and will be making his fourth trip to Atlantic City. Senior Nick Dorey 145 also finished second after losing by decision to Nick Bach of Parsippany. Senior Mike Jakubik 145 was in a battle with Pat Mineo of Scotch Plains and lost by a 3-8 decision for second place. Mark Wagner 160, who lost to Brendan Ard of Watchung in the District 12 final, had

a chance to avenge that loss, but came up short dropping a 3-1 OT decision for second place.

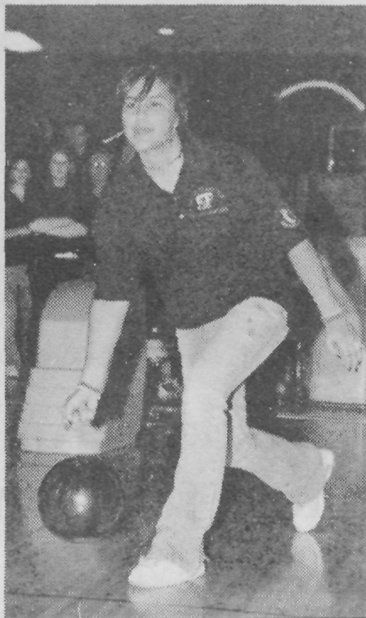
Preston Johnson 215 came up short in his final losing by a 8-3 decision for second place. Bryan Hunt 130 will be making his second trip to Atlantic City after defeating Colin McKay of Westfield 7-5 for third place. Senior Sam Martin 152 also qualified when he pinned Larry Peotter of New Providence at 1:52.

Danny Pompilio 171, Jon Conroy 189, and Brad Martin 285 all finished in fourth place. Martin, who was giving up an average of 50 pounds per match, did a great job to reach the consolation finals.

Good luck to all the wrestlers in Atlantic City.

SPHS BOWLING

By Ralph Fech



SPHS VARSITY BOWLING—Senior Trevor Rastelli (left) posted a 170 average in weekly tournament action covering a span of 20 games. Senior Captain Jessica Vasquez (right) bowled a high game of 185 and a 453 set as the Lady Tigers upset State Finalist Monroe.

WRESTLING

Middle School Tigers Wrestling Team Review

By Bob Hunter

The South Plainfield Middle School Wrestling Team was young this year and had a fine blend of sixth graders to step in to help the Middle School Tigers to an 18-2 record and a third place finish in the New Jersey Grade School Wrestling League. Those two losses came against High Point league champions and Phillipsburg (Garnet) runners up.

Here are some results from earlier league action:

South Plainfield vs. Kittatinny was a battle from the opening whistle. Anthony Ashnault 70 drew first blood when he pinned J. West at 0:53. Kyle Brady 75 pinned S. Romyris at 4:57. Tyler Hunt 85 pinned B. Deem at

3:00 and Scott Whalen 90 pinned S. Wunder at 2:52. Corey Stasenka 95 won by a 4-0 decision over B. Moynihan. Randy Hurst 124, Ryan Billich 131, Alex Lundy 175 and Billy Whitefleet heavyweight, all won. Final score was SP 51-Kittatinny 39.

Against Phillipsburg, the Tigers put on a late surge, but came up short losing 43-36. Winning for the Tiger's were Anthony Ashnault 70, Kyle Brady 75 by fall, Tyler Hunt 85 by a 12-9 decision, Jeffrey Conroy 119 by a 1-0 decision, Ryan Billich 132 and heavyweight Billy Whitefleet.

Westfield was no match for the Tigers, as they prevailed 57-22. Bobby Kovites 70 won by fall, Kyle Brady 75 won by a 7-0 decision, Dylan Painton 80 won by fall, Troy

Heilmann 85 won by fall, Tyler Hunt 90 won by a 9-2 decision, Scott Whalen 95 won by a 4-2 decision, Mike Molinaro 100 won by a 14-1 major decision. Kyle Pompilio 107 won by technical fall 15-0, Jeffrey Conroy 119 won by a 3-2 decision and Billy Whitefleet won by fall.

North Warren, another league rival, was in for a surprise as the Tigers came out roaring, scoring four pins in the first five bouts. The Tigers cruised to a 69-20 win. Anthony Ashnault 70, Troy Heilmann 80, Tyler Hunt 85, Scott Whalen 90, all won by fall. Three bouts later Kyle Pompilio 107 won by fall and Randy Jakubik 112 won by a 10-4 decision. Jeffrey Conroy 119, Alex Khidre 124, Ryan Billich 132, Eric Niemeyer 150, Alex Lundy and Billy Whitefleet heavyweight, all won by fall.

Against Newton the Tigers held on to win 40-36. Winning for the Tigers were Anthony Ashnault 70, Kyle

Brady 75, Dylan Painton 80, Troy Heilmann 85, Tyler Hunt 90, Scott Whalen 95, Randy Jakubik 112, Jeffrey Conroy 119, Ryan Billich 132, Eric Niemeyer 175 and Bill Whitefleet heavyweight.

The Tigers handled Phillipsburg (Gray) with bonus points as they cruised to a 59-21 victory. Winning were Anthony Ashnault 70 by fall, Kyle Brady 75 by fall, Troy Heilmann 80 by fall, Tyler Hunt 85 by a 11-4 decision, Scott Whalen 90 by a 10-2 major decision, Corey Stasenka 95 by fall, Kyle Pompilio 107 by fall, Jeff Conroy 119 by a 10-3 decision, Ryan Billich 132 by fall. Eric Niemeyer 175 and Bill Whitefleet Heavyweight both won by fall.

In the League Tournament the Tigers finished in fourth place behind High Point, Kenilworth and Phillipsburg (Garnet). South Plainfield had

one lone champion in Anthony Ashnault 70. Ashnault went undefeated in league action 40-0 to claim his first grade school title with a 6-2 victory over Justin Bellis of High Point. In the quarterfinals Ashnault won by technical fall 17-2 over Dylan Crupi of Randolph. He defeated Matt Benvenuto of Lenape Valley by fall in the semi-finals to reach the final.

Kyle Brady 75 lost his bid for a title when he dropped a 6-4 decision to Mike Magaldo of Watchung for second place. Third place went to Troy Heilmann 80, Tyler Hunt 85 and Scott Whalen 90. Ryan Billich 132 and Bill Whitefleet heavyweight finished in sixth place, while Jeffrey Conroy 119 and Eric Niemeyer 150 each finished in eighth place.

Good job and good luck in the upcoming Kids State Tournament.

HOME TIP:

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



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The South Plainfield Elks Veterans Committee is selling the **ENTERTAINMENT BOOK** for \$25. Contact Lou Peralta at 908-756-6406.

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Congratulations to Patrick Hunter—#1 in Region 3!

Good Luck Tiger Wrestlers in the State Championships!!!

Sports

By Glenn Cullen

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

Baseball try-outs for Small Fry leagues are scheduled for March 3 at the PAL. Try-out notification cards listing try-out times were sent out at the end of February. League structures have already been selected. There will be 10 teams in Small Fry C, nine in Small Fry B and five in Small Fry A. There will be four in Pony B and six in Pony A. Small Fry A is scheduled to be played at a modified distance of 50/70 on Field #3.

Anyone interested in placing an ad in this year's opening day program should call Tom Scalera at (908) 561-0565 or e-mail omesca@aol.com.

2007 SPJBC TEAMS BY LEAGUE

Small Fry C	Small Fry B	Small Fry A	Pony B	Pony A
Yankees	Yankees	Yankees	Yankees	Cubs
Mets	Mets	Mets	Mets	Blue Jays
Phillies	Red Sox	Dodgers	Phillies	Athletics
Cardinals	Astros	Cardinals	Pirates	Reds
Royals	Phillies	Athletics	Brewers	Blue Jays
Cubs	Marlins			
Athletics	Angels			
Pirates	Athletics			
Tigers	Marlins			
Marlins				



The next SPJBC Rutgers S.A.F.E.T.Y. course will be held on March 22 at the clubhouse. Please call (908) 754-2090 to register.

The SPJBC is looking for volunteers for the 2007 season. In particular, the SPJBC needs snack stand captains. Interested? Call (908) 754-2090 or e-mail southplainfieldjbc@yahoo.com.

Feel free to visit the SPJBC Web site at www.leaguelineup.com/spjbc.

Below is a listing of teams for the 2007 season by league

SPHS BASKETBALL

By K. Randolph

Freshman Tigers' Hope Goes Down The Tubes

The freshman Tigers lost a tough game to Carteret High School last Tuesday. The Tigers record was 13-5 going into the game.

During the first half of the game the Tigers were just beginning to warm up, while the Carteret coach was highly enthusiastic. Kishan Patel 34, led the team with 10 consecutive points. Matt Cooper 32, stepped in and scored two points just before the end of the first quarter.

During the second quarter, Patel continuously pulled down rebounds as if they were bananas, and the Tigers were able to run that same play over again, giving them a chance to score a second time. Mark Benak, 12, popped three's from the three-point line twice. The second quarter was a foreshadowing to the electrifying third and fourth quarter, where the Tiger players almost tore muscles trying to win consecutive points against Carteret.

In the third quarter, Malcolm Austin, 52, scored a tough six points while number 43, Zack Blansin, scored four points. The third quarter was a "come back" quarter, but the Tigers didn't really reach their climax until the fourth quarter, which was the most melodramatic quarter of the whole game.

The most sensational quarter of them all was the fourth quarter! The Tigers really began to pick up the pace and played even harder, but they faced a loss after a very close call.



Kishan Patel, Matt Cooper, Malcolm Austin and Rob Pasternack scored two points, two points, ten points, and three points respectively, but despite their effort, the Tiger's lost to Carteret 49-52.

Register for Eagles Football and Cheer

The South Plainfield Eagles Football and Cheer Program announces the 2007 registration dates for all football and cheerleaders ages five through 14. Registration will be held Friday, March 16 and 30 from 6-8 p.m. and Saturday, March 17 and 31 from 9 a.m. to noon, at the fieldhouse on

Kenneth Avenue. Space is limited, so registration is first come, first serve.

Information and forms can be found at their Web site at www.speagles.com.

The program is also looking for applicants to be football and cheer coaches at all levels.

LEGAL NOTICES

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

LEGAL NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its' meeting held on February 22, 2007.

A. Case #03-07-Octavio & Deborah Rivera, Block 97; Lot 12; 141 W. Golf Avenue. The applicant's request for a side yard setback variance in order to allow an existing shed to remain on the property was hereby DENIED.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Beth Khidre
Secretary, Board of Adjustment

\$20.90 March 2, 2007

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Joseph O'Connor requesting a variance or other relief from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit existing deck lacks required 20' rear setback; 18 ft. proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 103 Surrey Road, on Block 247, Lot 9 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, March 22, 2007 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

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

\$38.50 March 2, 2007

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please take note that the Applicant, WC Plainfield L.L.C. has applied to the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield for a waiver of the 2000 feet location restriction (Municipal Ordinance No. 67-6). This license will be used at 5016 Hadley Ctr. Drive (Block 528 Lot 46.27) South Plainfield, New Jersey.

The application is now on the Mayor and Borough Council Agenda and a public Hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, March 20, 2007 at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey, at which time you may appear in person or through attorney and present any objections you may have to the granting of the relief sought in this application.

All documents relating to this application are on file in the office of the Borough Clerk, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey, and may be inspected by the public Monday through Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

This notice is being given by the Applicant pursuant to the Municipal Ordinance.

Dominic J. Cerminaro, Esq.
Attorney for Applicant
707 Raritan Avenue
Highland Park, New Jersey 08904

\$39.90 March 2, 2007

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From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

ROAR!!

What was that? Oh, that was just March coming in like a lion. So, while we wait for the lamb to show up, here's news from the South Plainfield Library.

At present, we are between groups on both the CD and DVD Circuits. A new group of Circuit DVDs should be available in the next couple of days, while the next CD Circuit group will be ready by the middle of this month. Ask at the circulation desk for details.

Next week, we'll be sticking with our usual schedule of children's programming. Even though you can probably recite it from memory, here it is again. Storytime programs for children ages three and over are held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. Time for 2's & 3's, for children age two and three, is held on Wednesday morning at 10:30 and twice on Thursday, at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Books 'N Babies, for children under age three, is held on Friday morning at 10:30. Each program lasts about an hour; no pre-registration is required. For further details, call and ask for Miss Linda or Miss Mija.

We've got a couple of programs coming up this month. The first one is set for Sunday at 2 p.m. Once again, certified antiques appraiser Alan G. Snyder will be appearing at the library. A longtime favorite of South Plainfield audiences, he'll will provide antiques appraisals for attendees; everyone is welcome to attend. Participants are limited to two items per person; appraisals will be given on a first come, first served basis. And since we usually have "standing room only" crowds for his program, be sure to get here early. The program is being presented free of charge; no pre-registration is required. In case of inclement weather, the program will be held on Sunday, March 18.

The second program is set for Sunday, March 25 at 2 p.m. The musical program, "Celtic Music Journey," featuring New Jersey musician Heather Mulvey, will be presented. She'll perform a number of Celtic songs and also give a brief history behind them. Everyone is invited to attend and audience participation is encouraged

throughout this 45-minute program. This program is being presented free of charge; no pre-registration required.

And the library continues its march into the world of modern technology. We are now offering audiobooks on MP3 players. Both adult and young adult titles are available; the selection is currently a bit small, but more selections are on the way. Each title includes a player with the pre-loaded book, a set of earphones and a battery. Instructions for use of the player are included inside the case. Each title may be borrowed, four at a time, for two weeks. For more details, stop by the circulation desk. Work on books that can be downloaded directly into your brain is still pending.

We have time for a couple of notes this week. First, patrons may have noticed the coin box next to HAL, the self-checkout machine near the circulation desk. Be advised that this is *not* a change machine. It's set up to accept money towards a patron's overdue fines. However, it doesn't accept money towards lost items or reserve charges. However, if you want to pay up using it, be sure to follow the directions on HAL's screen. Second, please be advised that our Notary Public (who also writes the occasional newspaper column) is not bilingual; he only speaks English (and not very well, actually). Further, the use of translators in his notary work is not permitted. Therefore, if the document is in a foreign language or if one of the people involved is unable to understand English, you'll have to consult another notary.

That's all for this week. To find out more, please call us at (908) 754-7885 or visit us at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us. See you Friday.



Children's author Dave Street talks about his new book to Kennedy School students.

Students Get Writing Tips from Author

By Jane Dornick

Dave Street, South Plainfield resident and author of the new children's book, "How the Land of Litter Became the Kingdom of Clean," spent a day at Kennedy School recently and gave a combined lesson in writing and recycling.

Street's newest publication is a litter prevention and recycling book where recycling dragons teach the littering knights how to keep their kingdom clean. The book is printed on recycled paper. He also gave students an outline with his personal approach to writing a book so they can use it as a guide to writing their own stories. With the help of school librarian Amy Carlos, Street had the students create their own rhyming stories about recycling.

Students were also able to purchase autographed copies of the book.

As a multi-faceted children's performer, educator, motivator and entertainer, Street has been giving presentations at schools and events around the country for over fifteen years. He developed his book as a result of his work with the N.J. Clean Communities Program, for which he has been a state approved presenter for many years. He has been honored by the New Jersey State Senate for developing his own educational programs and has his master's degree in education from Rutgers University. Many of Streets programs focus on individual responsibility for taking care of the Earth, however he also delves into topics such as anger management, character education, the

weather, as well as teachers and parents workshops. He has motivational programs for businesses and organizations and government and non-profit organizations. Street also emcees public events, including New York City's largest environmental festival, EcoFest, and does keynote speaking.

For more information on Dave Street's programs visit www.davestreet.com or call (908) 757-8939. To learn about his new book, "How the Land of Litter Became the Kingdom of Clean," visit www.kingdomofclean.com. This program was sponsored by the South Plainfield Clean Communities Program.

For more information, contact coordinator Alice Tempel at (908) 226-7621.

Americans for Prosperity Taxpayers Action Seminar

The New Jersey chapter of the free-market grassroots group Americans for Prosperity Foundation will hold a taxpayer action seminar at the American Legion Hall on Oak Tree Avenue on March 6 at 2 p.m.

Local citizens who are concerned about the high level of New Jersey taxing and spending will learn how to become effective voices for fiscal change at the event, which is open to all citizens and the media free of charge.

The seminar will feature a presentation by Americans for Prosperity Foundation New Jersey Director and Bogota Mayor Steve Longan on New Jersey's dire fiscal and economic state of affairs.

Lonegan will specifically address Governor Jon Corzine's plan to merge local governments and build 100,000 low-income housing units. Citizens will also learn the nuts-and-bolts of civic activism necessary for making their voices heard, including

tutorials on how to write a letter to the editor and how to effectively contact their elected officials.

"Lawmakers have been hearing from special interests for long enough. Americans for Prosperity Foundation is holding taxpayer action seminars around New Jersey to ensure that changes," Lonegan said. "Lawmakers need to begin hearing about taxpayers' interests before they spend more of our money."

Sacred Heart Clothing Drive

Don't throw it away! Sacred Heart is holding a clothing drive on March 10, 9 to 11 a.m. Wearable and usable clothing, shoes, belts, handbags, linens and stuffed animals will be collected. The school will receive a donation for the total poundage collected. Please put clothing items in a well-tied plastic garbage bag. Alternate drop-off times available. Call Joan at (908) 313-3001 or Laurie at (908) 642-0196.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1767
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:
Ord. 1767 entitled: AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE SPILLING, DUMPING OR DISPOSAL OF MATERIALS OTHER THAN STORM-WATER INTO THE STORM SEWER SYATTEM, AS REQUIRED BY THE NJDEP was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, February 20, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.
ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk
\$27.55 March 2, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1769
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:
Ord. 1769 entitled: AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING ILLICIT CONNECTIONS TO THE MUNICIPAL STORM SEWER SYSTEM OPERATED BY THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, AS REQUIRED BY THE NJDEP was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, February 20, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.
ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk
\$27.55 March 2, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1771
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:
Ord. 1771 entitled: AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE POSITION OF COMMUNITY SERVICE WORKER - AGING AND PROVIDING FOR SAID COMPENSATION RANGE FOR THE POSITION FOR THE YEAR 2007 was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, February 20, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.
ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk
\$27.55 March 2, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1773
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:
Ord. 1773 entitled: A SEWER UTILITY CAPITAL ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$40,000 FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, February 20, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.
ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk
\$27.55 March 2, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1775
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:
Ord. 1775 entitled: AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING FULL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FOR ALL CANDIDATES FOR BOROUGH COUNCIL IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, February 20, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.
ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk
\$26.60 March 2, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1768
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:
Ord. 1768 entitled: AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE FEEDING OF UNCONFINED WILDLIFE IN ANY PUBLIC PARK OR ANY OTHER PROPERTY OWNED OR OPERATED BY THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, AS REQUIRED BY THE NJDEP was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, February 20, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.
ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk
\$28.50 March 2, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1770
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:
Ord. 1770 entitled: AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CERTAIN NO PARKING ZONES IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, February 20, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.
ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk
\$26.60 March 2, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1772
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:
Ord. 1772 entitled: A CAPITAL ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$55,000 FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, February 20, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.
ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk
\$26.60 March 2, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1774
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:
Ord. 1774 entitled: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE REGULATION OF TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, February 20, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.
ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk
\$26.60 March 2, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1776
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:
Ord. 1776 entitled: AN ORDINANCE RESTRICTING PARKING ON CERTAIN PORTIONS OF HAMILTON BOULEVARD IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, February 23, 2007 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Tuesday, March 6, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.
ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk
\$28.50 March 2, 2007

Obituaries

Anne B. Stolarz, 82

Anne B. Stolarz of Atlantic Highlands died Tuesday, Feb. 20 at River-view Medical Center in Red Bank.

She was an office assistant for the Internal Revenue Service in Newark for many years. Prior to that she worked at Dilly Manufacturing in South Plainfield. She was born and raised in Atlantic Highlands and lived there most of her life.

She was predeceased by her husband, Frank Stolarz; a son, Stanley Stolarz; a brother, Rocco Champi and four sisters, Della, Angelina, Raffie and Eunice Champi.

Surviving are a daughter, Barbara Stolarz of Long Branch; two sons, Douglas Stolarz of Jersey City and Jeffrey Stolarz of Netcong; two grandchildren, Jonathan and April Stolarz of Hopatcong and two sisters, Mildred Lyons of Middletown and Ida Schilk of Mercerville.

Funeral services were held at John F. Pfleger Funeral Home in Middletown.

Andrina M. Pizzolato

Andrina M. Pizzolato died unexpectedly on Sunday, Feb. 18 at Community Medical Center in Toms River.

Born in Plainfield, Andrina grew up and resided most of her life in South Plainfield and moved to Brooklyn before recently relocating to Ortleigh Beach.

After high school, she attended European Academy in Union and had worked for Capelli Hair Salon in Piscataway for several years. Her love for fashion led her to enter The Fashion Institute of Technology in N.Y.C. and before graduation, she interned in Hong Kong with Russ Berry. Andrina later worked for Tiffany & Company and then Barami Fashion Manufacturers of N.Y.C.

Her father, Robert Pizzolato, died in 2002.

She is survived by her mother, Corinne and many loving family members including aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to a charity of one's choice.

William R. Kronenwetter, 82

William R. Kronenwetter died on Monday, Feb. 26 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Canton, Ohio, Bill was raised in Philadelphia and St. Mary's, Pa. and lived in Niagra Falls before settling in South Plainfield in 1957.

Mr. Kronenwetter was employed as a mechanical engineer with DuPont for 35 years, retiring in 1985. During his career, he worked his way to the Gold Seal, which is the highest level in the mechanical engineering field.

In 1943, Bill enlisted in the U.S. Navy, serving aboard the U.S.S. O'Hare and was honorably discharged in 1946. After serving three years in the Navy, he attended Penn State University and graduated with a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering.

A communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church, he was an avid scuba diver and enjoyed fishing as well as gardening.

Surviving are his wife, Hilda (Schneider) of 56 years; two daughters, Susan Aldrich and husband Richard and Janie Walsh and husband Thomas; two sons, Donald and wife Kathleen and Alan and wife Jane and seven grandchildren, Ryan, Cary and Kyle Aldrich, William Walsh and Norah, Mary and Anna Kronenwetter.

Funeral services were held at

McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Deborah Heart and Lung Hospital, P.O. Box 820, Browns Mills, N.J. 08015

Charles Nuber, 80

Charles Nuber died on Monday, Feb. 19 at home.

Born and raised in Bayonne, Mr. Nuber lived in Parsippany before moving to South Plainfield in 1957.

Charles worked as an electrician for 25 years with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union No. 102 in Parsippany, retiring in 1991. He also worked as crossing guard in South Plainfield for 10 years at the intersection of Belmont Avenue and Hamilton Boulevard.

A veteran of WWII, Mr. Nuber served with the U.S. Army and was a member of Pilgrim Covenant Church in South Plainfield.

An avid gardener, Charles enjoyed fishing and working with stained glass.

He was predeceased by a sister, Alice Bauer and a brother, Albert.

Surviving are his wife of 51 years Joanne (Hulse); a daughter, Barbara Nuber of South Plainfield; two sons, David and wife Geralyn of South Plainfield and Paul and wife Mary of Westfield. Also surviving is a sister-in-law, Joan Nuber of Houston, Texas and five grandchildren, Danny and Katie Nuber and Eric, Kirsten and Tim Nuber.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Thomas J. Cunningham, Sr., 70

Thomas J. Cunningham, Sr. died on Thursday, Feb. 22 at JFK Medical Center Haven Hospice in Edison.

Born in Newark, Tom had resided in Maplewood and North Plainfield before settling to South Plainfield 20 years ago. Tom recently relocated to the South Plainfield Senior Residence, where he enjoyed doing puzzles and spending time with friends in the lobby.

Tom loved driving a truck and made a career of it. He initially worked for Holowka Trucking and later for Rothberg Excavating of Middlesex.

Surviving are his wife of 42 years, Joanne (Ricany) Cunningham, two sons, Gary Krafft of Manville and Thomas Cunningham, Jr. of Westfield; a daughter, Sandra Cunningham of Scranton, Pa. and four grandchildren, Amanda, Chris, Desiree and David.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Ada M. Pornovetz, 83

Ada M. Pornovetz, beloved wife, mother and grandmother, passed away peacefully with her loving family by her side at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield on Friday, Feb. 23.

Ada was born in Newark to the late George and Ada McCracken. Ada will be sadly missed by her family and friends and all who were fortunate to have known her.

She resided in South Plainfield most of her life, where in her spare time she enjoyed playing bingo, shuffleboard and dancing.

She is survived by her beloved husband, James, whom she would have been happily married to for 60 years this coming June 7; three sons, James Jr. and wife Valerie of Somerset, Russell G. and wife Shirley of South Plainfield and Robert A. and wife Sally of South Plainfield; two daughters, Dorothy and husband Richard Oliver of North Edison and Carol Wilson of Bayville; 12 grandchildren, Sherry, Christal, Richard, Bonnie, Amber, Bobby, Samantha, Amy, Christie, Russell, Katie and Alexis; six great grandchildren, Brittany, Stephanie, Jocelyne, Emily, Justin, and Jayden; a sister, Dorothy Zapasnik of Florida and her pet Rusty.

Funeral services were held at the South Plainfield James W. Conroy Funeral Home.

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County Human Services Seeks Agencies for Pilot Program

If you administer, direct or work for a social service agency in or around Middlesex County, you can play an important role in a new local initiative.

The New Jersey Department of Children & Families has offered an opportunity for counties to respond to a Request for Proposal (RFP) to develop a Differential Response Pilot Initiative. Differential Response involves taking calls from DYFS (Department of Youth and Family Services) that do not rise to the level of child abuse or neglect and provide an array of supportive social services intended to strengthen families. The state intends to fund up to four pilot projects in the first year.

Families referred to Differential Response may voluntarily choose to confer with a case manager and play a key role in identifying local services that will help strengthen the family. Often these families are struggling to attain the basic necessities in life and lack the resources or experience to take advantage of an important array of supportive social services.

Services include temporary assistance for needy families, childcare, food stamps, health benefits, rental or utility assistance, mental health supports and substance abuse treatment.

Based on recent data, DCF records indicate as many as 450 Middlesex County families may have been able to benefit from a Differential Response program in the past year.

The RFP requires the County Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) to take the lead in overseeing the planning, implementation and evaluation of the initiative. The key

collaborators who are helping shape the proposal include the United Way of Central Jersey, InfoLine (2-1-1) of Middlesex County, Catholic Charities, the Puerto Rican Action Board and the Jewish Renaissance Foundation.

The State RFP encourages the engagement of the grass roots community in developing the array of social services to be provided. The HSAC and agencies planning the initiative

proposal are actively soliciting community-based social service agencies to participate as an integral part of the Middlesex County Differential Response Pilot Initiative. If you are interested, contact Tom Seilheimer at (732) 745-4186 or at Thomas.seilheimer@co.middlesex.nj.us for further information. Interested parties are asked to reply no later than Friday, March 9, a week prior to the proposal due date.



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Katherine Eodice, fifth grade math teacher and Donna Dinizo-Ruhl, special education teacher, received tenure during last week's Board of Education meeting. Not pictured is Ken Skillman, high school social studies teacher, who also received tenure.

Kennedy Teachers Send Valentines to Soldiers in Iraq

Hoping to lift the spirits of the service men and women fighting in Iraq, the teachers and staff of Kennedy Elementary School recently mailed nine boxes full of goodies, phone cards, personal hygiene items and lots of Valentine cards to three platoons

oversees.

If anyone knows of any service man or woman from the area, or someone who attended Kennedy school and is stationed overseas, please contact the school at (908) 754-4620, ext. 330. They would love to lift their spirits too.

FROM THE DESK OF DEBBIE BOYLE

Congratulations to the South Plainfield High School Girls' Varsity Basketball Team on their hard fought game on Feb. 24 against Piscataway at the Rutgers Athletic Center (RAC). It was well coached by Head Coach Barnett and assistant coaches, Jackson and Bordick. It was an honor and thrill for the girls to play at the RAC, and we thank all the fans who attended. Congratulations to the SPSHS Boys' Varsity Basketball team for their hard fought game at the semi-finals at Middlesex County College.

I would like to commend the South Plainfield Board of Education for inviting the mayor and council to attend their budget hearings and discussing shared services. I commend the mayor and council for being so receptive by attending the hearings, coming to the table and taking a positive role by working together and joining forces for the sake of our children.

Thank you Mayor Charlie Butrico for attending the South Plainfield Business Association meeting on Feb. 15 to discuss the Helen Street Project and for the support of Jane Dornick, the *Observer*, trucking companies and businesses. Mayor Butrico, your time and effort is truly appreciated.

Congratulations to the Blue Dolphin Swim Team on their seventh consecutive State Championship win and SPSHS swimmers Matt Moates, Mike Boyle, Emily Piekarski and Alan Kasper who placed in those events on Feb. 25. Thanks to all the children and parents who completed the swim team survey. It will be turned over to the BOE to show your interest in creating a South Plainfield High School Swim Team, who's total cost would be gifted to the Board of Education. These South Plainfield children swim for South Plainfield and practice from June to August and then swim again for the same South Plainfield coaches from October through March, four nights a week. The total cost is born by the parents.

South Plainfield kindergarten enrollment for September 2007/2008 will take place at the enrollment office in the Roosevelt Administration Building on Jackson Avenue as follows: Franklin-April 30 and May 1; Roosevelt-May 2 and 3; Riley-May 7 and 8 and Kennedy-May 9 and 10. Children entering kindergarten in September must be five on or before Oct. 1. A Spanish translator is available. Contact Kathy DiMeglio at (908) 754-4620 ext. 222.

Thanks to all those who came out and supported the Grant Elementary 2007 Stokes Pasta Dinner and the Sacred Heart Athletic Association Pasta Dinner and all who volunteered their time ensuring their huge success.

Thank you to Senators Barbara Buono and Frank Lautenberg, Assemblymen Patrick Diegnan and Peter Barnes for their diligent work with Governor Corzine to give New Jersey schools an additional 4.8 percent in state aid which is sorely needed to educate our children and keep up the standard required for their success. Abbott District property tax reform is still needed. Continue to log on spnet.k12.nj.us and urge this reform by commenting to our legislatures.

The SPSHS mid-winter concert was fabulous and well attended. Congratulations to all the students, directors and the music boosters. The arts are so important to our students.

Thank you to our Grant Elementary School Student Council and advisor Ms. Schneider on your presentation before the BOE with regard to the upcoming walk for diabetes. Thank you to Frank Mikorski for offering the first donation to that cause.

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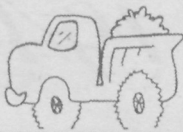
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Michael Pedersen
Realtor-Associate

IN MY OPINION

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

(Continued from page 2)

leaders accountable is a key to moving the future generation forward.

Michael Korda once said that "success on any major scale requires a person or group to accept responsibility... in the final analysis, the one quality that all successful people or groups have is the ability to take on responsibility." Join me on April 17 and join the fact that to improve the lives of South Plainfield's children, to promote effective practices is everyone's responsibility. Be responsible and vote not only for the passing of our school budget but vote for a fresh new face on the South Plainfield Board of Education. Vote for me and hold me accountable to the message and promises I set before you. If anyone would like to communicate with me prior to candidates night, please e-mail me at AJPS41@aol.com. Thank you.

SINCERELY,
DANIELLE HARRIS LACASALE

To the Editor,

I am very furious. What is happening to this town? A young man was beaten and taken to the hospital on Thursday, Feb. 15. This attack hap-

pened on South Plainfield Avenue, across from Sacred Heart Church, just before noon, while school was getting out. This young man was attacked by four black youths. They beat him by kicking him in the back and face, fracturing his jaw in two places and bruising his back.

Like I said, this happened in the middle of the day across from the church and school, where some of you go to worship or to get an education. I am sad to hear that with all the people around at that time, nobody stopped to help this young man. After the youths beat him they ran back into the house they came out of. This tells me that these thugs are living near your school and church. We cannot let these thugs think they can just try and rob us, beat us, or scare us. We have to fight back.

If anybody knows anything or anyone who is responsible for this attack, they should call the South Plainfield Police Dept. This could happen to someone that you love if we do not start to get involved. If someone does not belong in your neighborhood tell police. We must help each other.

SINCERELY,
CHARLES KRONE

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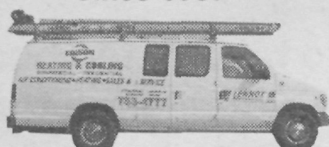
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They've Earned It



For the past 30 years, my brother, William, and I have proudly served the families of our great community. Today, we are extremely pleased and very proud to announce that this past January McCriskin Home For Funerals underwent a transition of ownership from both my brother William and myself, to my son Richard W. McCriskin II and James A. Gustafson.

My brother and I feel that the time has come for us to take a step back in our careers, as well as in our personal lives, and assist them during this transition as we move forward.

Both Jimmy and Ricky are lifelong residents of South Plainfield and for MANY years now, have been vital to us in the way we have operated our family business and to the families they serve. Together Jimmy and Rick have over 25 years of experience. Be assured, they will continue in the same fashion in which we have served our families over the past 30 years.

Although Jimmy and Rick will take on the responsibilities of ownership and the daily operations of the funeral home, both my brother and I will still continue to support the funeral home, the community, and most importantly, Jimmy and Rick.

On behalf of my brother and myself, we would like to take this opportunity to thank our great community for the trust and confidence that the families have placed in us. Everyone here at the funeral home would like you to all know that the professionalism and personal touch that we are known for will continue. Because with us the difference is.... It's how things are done.

Most sincerely,

Richard W. McCriskin