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VOL. 10, NO. 31

50 CENTS

APRIL 13, 2007

Pedestrian Accident Kills SPHS Freshman

A South Plainfield High School freshman who was struck by a minivan on Monday at approximately 9:13 p.m. while crossing Plainfield Avenue near O'Donahue died early Tuesday morning.

Jennifer Ibarra, 14, was struck by a 1999 Chrysler Town and Country minivan operated by Alfred Kearney, 71, of Voorhees. Kearney's wife, Ruth,

73, was a passenger in the vehicle. The vehicle was traveling southbound on Plainfield Avenue when Ibarra attempted to cross the road. She was struck in the southbound lane.

Ibarra was treated at the scene by the South Plainfield Volunteer Rescue Squad and paramedics from Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center and transported to Muhlenberg with

serious head injuries.

Ibarra died early Tuesday morning at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center as a result of the injuries she received.

There was no indication that excessive speed or intoxication played a role in the accident.

High school counselors and school administrators identified Jennifer as a fine student and a contributing mem-

ber of the school community.

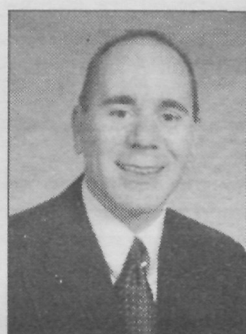
Students seeking the assistance of high school counselors should call (908) 754-4620, ext. 298 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. or go to the Guidance office between noon and 3 p.m. on April 13.

In addition, Gail Dougherty, licensed social worker of the South Plainfield Police Department, is also

available for counseling on an as-needed basis. She can be contacted at (908) 754-4986.

Anyone with additional information should contact Lt. Kevin Murtagh, Traffic Safety Unit at (908) 226-7679 or Investigator Jeffrey Temple of the Middlesex County Prosecutors Office at (732) 745-3373.

See Ibarra's obituary on page 9.



Robert Jones



Pio Pennisi



Debbie Boyle



Sharon Miller



Steve Bohn



Danielle Harris-Lacasale

Voters Meet Six Running for Board of Ed

By Libby Barsky

Six candidates are running for three seats on the Board of Education; two are incumbents—Steve Bohn and Pio Pennisi—vying against four newcomers: Debbie Boyle, Bob Jones, Danielle Harris-Lacasale and Sharon Miller. All six candidates have one thing in common: they are all supporting this year's 2007-2008 \$51,438,932 budget. They are encouraging the public to do the same on Tuesday, April 17 when the polls will be open from 2 to 9 p.m.

Five of six candidates were present at "Meet the Candidates Night" held at Roosevelt Administration Building on April 5.

Because there was a conflict with the date—April 5 was Holy Thursday—Danielle Harris-Lacasale was not pres-

ent. In February, before the forum's date was set, she had agreed to read during the Mass on Holy Thursday and she kept that commitment.

The moderator for the evening was Director of the Office on Aging, Joann Graf. She read questions written by audience members asking the candidates about their thoughts on security, discipline, using participation fees to pay for sports and what shared services the candidates might suggest.

All four first time candidates for the BOE have been involved in the school district in a variety of ways. Incumbent Steve Bohn, who works for the Middlesex County Sheriff's Department, emphasized the need to bring in security cameras into the schools to increase safety. Bohn said the most recent expansion of the

discipline policy—to remove a student who receives out of school suspension for five or more days from the sports team for the season—were put in place "based on incidents." Boyle noted that the lack of cameras were based on the cost and suggested inexpensive cameras be purchased and to have the graphic arts department develop a centralized information/data system.

Pio Pennisi spoke on the issue of participation fees to pay for sports noting that the biggest problem would be figuring out how to subsidize the fees for students who receive reduced lunch to allow them to play sports or be in a club. Sharon Miller spoke about the need for having all the activities in place as students need extra curricular activities for their resumes when they apply to college. She would also like to see freshmen

and sophomores take advanced placement classes.

In response to how they would hold down school costs by sharing services, Pennisi noted that Dunellen (the district where he is superintendent) is developing shared classes for autistic children with other districts, and sharing the cost of staffing.

Sharon Miller suggested one central human resource person for the county.

Bob Jones suggested savings in business service and personnel, while Boyle spoke of savings in field and vehicle maintenance and perhaps sharing a residency investigator with another district.

Jones brought out the fact that the Federal Government is not fully meeting its obligation of providing

(Continued on page 7)

VOTE

**BOE BUDGET &
SCHOOL BOARD
ELECTIONS ARE
TUESDAY, APRIL 17.
POLLS ARE OPEN
2 TO 9 PM.**

Approximately 65% of your property taxes go toward funding the local school board budget, yet last year **84.68% of eligible voters did not vote** on the school budget.

Vote April 17.

*It's not just your privilege;
it's your responsibility.*

South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department Celebrates 100 Years



Looking Back - 1949: Dedication of the Southside Fire House No. 2.

—Photo courtesy of the SPVFD.

Civil War Memorial Stone Dedication This Saturday

The South Plainfield Historical Society invites the public to attend the dedication ceremony of the Civil War Memorial Stone in Monument Park this Saturday, April 14 at 1 p.m. The stone is dedicated to the memory of five men from the villages of Sarnett and New Brooklyn (South Plainfield), who perished during the Civil War. Uniformed reenactors from across the state will be attending, many of whom will pitch tents across the street in Spring Lake Park.

A display of Civil War memorabilia will be exhibited in the South Plainfield Senior Center next door to the park where a public reception will be held immediately following the ceremony.

Guest speakers include Congressman Michael Ferguson, Senator Barbara Buono, Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan, Mayor Charles Butrico

and Frank McGonigle of South Plainfield.

A State National Guard Unit will present the colors and lead the march of reenactors across the new footbridge into Monument Park. Frank Rainear, owner/manager of South Plainfield James W. Conroy Funeral Home, has underwritten the cost of the memorial stone and the public reception.

On Sunday, April 15, Nancy C. Carnevale of Montclair State University will present a lecture, Ellis Island: Myth and Reality, at the South Plainfield Senior Center beginning at 2 p.m. She explores the lived experience of immigrants as they arrived in America and how the social, political, and intellectual climate of the times shaped that experience. Some popular myths about Ellis Island, such as name changing, are reconsidered

(Continued on page 3)

IN MY OPINION

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

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank all of the residents running for the three Board of Education seats who were able to attend the "Meet the Candidates Night" last Thursday. I know that it was not an ideal night due to other events occurring in town, but the audience that did show up kept the candidates busy with questions for nearly two hours. I would also like to thank the Grant PTO for sponsoring the event and the moms who baked. Even though it was her birthday, Joann Graf, director of the senior center, graciously accepted my request to host the evening and did a superb job. Thank you so much. It was a very informative evening. The Board of Education elections will be held on Tuesday, April 17. The event will also air on Comcast Channel 74 on Saturday, April 14 at 8 p.m. for those who could not attend.

JANE DORNICK

Dear Editor,

The school board elections next Tuesday gives us the chance to pick the people who will be leading our school system through what will likely be challenging times. In my opinion, Bob Jones would be an excellent member of the board, because he has the right vision for where to take the district.

I agree with Bob's focus on education and the future. He knows the importance of basic skills, how our

town needs an advocate for fair state funding, and how we need to control costs while at the same time enhancing the quality of education.

Bob's shown he cares about families and education. For example, he's helped raise thousands of dollars for scholarships for SPHS seniors while on the Education Foundation, and he's been a volunteer for the Ronald McDonald House, a home-away-from-home for families of children with cancer and other serious illnesses.

Bob Jones is the perfect choice on April 17.

ALLEN LEVINE

To the Editor:

With the price of basic necessities: energy, insurance, medicines, etc. going up all the time, it's difficult to personally vote in support of increasing yet another of life's expenses. However, that is what is being asked of us in this year's school budget vote.

With elected officials in Trenton at worse paralyzed, at best slow moving, at permanent property tax reform and re-working of school funding, we are left to bear the burden of the associated increases in supporting our schools locally.

Although it's easy to find a reason not to "vote yes," one should think a little more thoroughly before adopting that default approach.

South Plainfield is a town that is undergoing a demographic change. We

grow more racially and ethnically diverse by the day. Such changes, while challenging, ultimately can serve to strengthen a community. Raising a family in such an environment enables us to pass on to our children values and insights, like tolerance and understanding, that are essential as the world becomes an ever more complicated place.

Over the past few years the trend has been following defeated budgets that were subsequently reduced, to eliminate and do without. It's time for us to say enough!

Supporting this next generation, our children, our schools, isn't just the right thing for us to do as far as preserving the value of our homes and reputation of our town, it's the moral thing to do.

DAN SMITH

To the Editor:

This letter is written in support of Danielle Harris-Lacasale. I would encourage all the voters of South Plainfield to vote for her as I will. I have had the opportunity to witness Danielle's abilities as an educator and found her to be not only skilled, but ethical, honest and straight-forward. Danielle's interest in education is a result of deeply rooted family values that follow from her mother, a classroom teacher for 36 years. Her strong family values come from a deep rooted interest in South Plainfield as her descendants and extended family are Butricos and DiSessos, two of the first families in South Plainfield. As she has learned from her family's strong past, Danielle is interested in focusing on teamwork and unity to help the South Plainfield School System continue to be one of the best districts in New Jersey, and she can use her training as an educator and administrator toward that end. As a teacher for over 30 years, I can speak from firsthand knowledge about the critical need for teamwork and unity. I also know that as the South Plainfield Public Schools continue to face a variety of issues, Danielle can provide a piece of leadership that will prove invaluable. Positions on the Board of Education are some of the most demanding and critical to the continues growth of a community. I urge you to join me in supporting and voting for Danielle Harris-Lacasale on April 17. If accountability falls to the bottom line, then vote for the bottom line, Line 6.

SINCERELY,
JOYCE COLLINS

To the Editor:

It is a shame that the Democratic Party has to resort to smearing a councilman's father to win points in this town. Politics run this way is a dis-

grace to any public office. What is blatantly and egregiously missing from Mr. Cerami's vicious letter to the editor last week is the fact that Councilman Bengivenga had recused himself from this vote in order to avoid the appearance of impropriety. That the council is ignoring a direct order from a judge is also conveniently omitted from this letter.

Sadly, the truth rarely goes hand in hand with politics. Mr. Cerami's letter is woefully incorrect in terms of half-truths and omissions in order to paint the Republicans in a harsh light. Most importantly, the letter does not mention the fact that the borough itself was approached and given the first opportunity to erect the billboard on town property. Mr. Cerami's alleged \$100,000 could be enriching the borough's coffers as opposed to any landowner. I would like to know why an opportunity such as this was passed up.

Continuing his fast and loose approach to the truth, Mr. Cerami's objection to this "Litter on a Stick," as he so eloquently calls it, seems to be a thinly veiled personal disagreement with Councilman Bengivenga's father, as opposed to a concern for the beauty of the town. If that were the case, the three billboards on the same side of town would never have been erected with Councilman Cerami's support, no less.

Additionally, this ordinance affects several property owners, not only Councilman Bengivenga's father. To insinuate that this ordinance was proposed merely to benefit Mr. Bengivenga's father is patently false. In reality, the ordinance was originally proposed years before Councilman Bengivenga was even elected. Disappointingly, the councilman's attack also neglects to mention that the property the billboard would be placed on abuts I-287, tucked safely away from any part of town to avoid being the eyesore the Democrats claim it will be.

Finally, had Mr. Cerami done even a modest amount of research, he would have discovered that the lawsuit was not brought by Councilman Bengivenga's father, but the media group interested in raising this billboard. Such deplorable tactics give the impression that this letter is less a concern for the town and more about jump-starting Mr. Cerami's campaign for re-election to the council this year. To drag a man's family through the mud is a despicable act thoroughly lacking in class and respect, and certainly not befitting a representative of this town.

SINCERELY,
MARK JOHNSON

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.

Dear Editor,

I fully support Sharon Miller in the upcoming Board of Education Election. Sharon has the necessary skills and ability to make the tough decisions and handle the challenges that face our school district.

For as long as I have known her, she has spent a countless amount of time volunteering in our schools and community. She not only lends a helping hand, but is the one who volunteers to take on the tough projects, the ones that demand a great deal of time and work.

Currently, Sharon serves as the South Plainfield High School PTA president. She was the backbone for the recent Project Graduation Auction and is now organizing the Project Graduation celebration for this year's senior class.

Sharon is highly intelligent as well as a very caring, fair and open minded person. But, most importantly, she is approachable. She believes in a well-rounded quality education for all students. She is also aware of and supports the importance that sports, music, the arts and other extracurricular activities play in the life of our children.

Sharon is the candidate that all parents can depend on to do what is fair for all students in our district. She is the person you can put your complete trust in and who will be devoted to doing what is best for our children and community. Undoubtedly, she would be an asset to the Board of Education and she would definitely make a difference.

Please vote for Sharon Miller, Line 5. She is the right choice for our children and our community.

SINCERELY,
DEBORAH LANZA

To the Editor:

We would like to raise our voices and say we fully support Sharon Miller for a seat on the Board of Education in the upcoming election. We have worked with Sharon for the past few years as members of the SPHS PTA. We can tell you from experience that Sharon is one of the most dedicated

(Continued on page 9)



Borough Council meetings air on Comcast Channel 74, Mondays at 8 p.m.
(Except for Holidays)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Log on to
southplainfieldnj.com
for the latest meeting agenda

Council Meetings

Meets twice a month on the first and third Tuesday

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

Date	Agenda Meeting	Public Meeting
April 16 (Monday)	7 p.m.	Immediately following
May 1	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.

South Plainfield Observer

The South Plainfield Observer is published every Friday

G&G Graphics, Inc.
1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

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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 Mohr's Flowers on Plainfield Ave., fax us at (908) 668-8819 or e-mail us at spobserver@comcast.net. Include your name, address, telephone number.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Diocese Of Metuchen to Honor Firefighters

The Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski, Bishop of the Diocese of Metuchen, will be the principal celebrant at the diocese's 2007 Annual Firefighters Mass at 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 21 at the St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral in Metuchen.

"Hardly a week goes by without the media reporting a fire and the heroic deeds of our firefighters. These

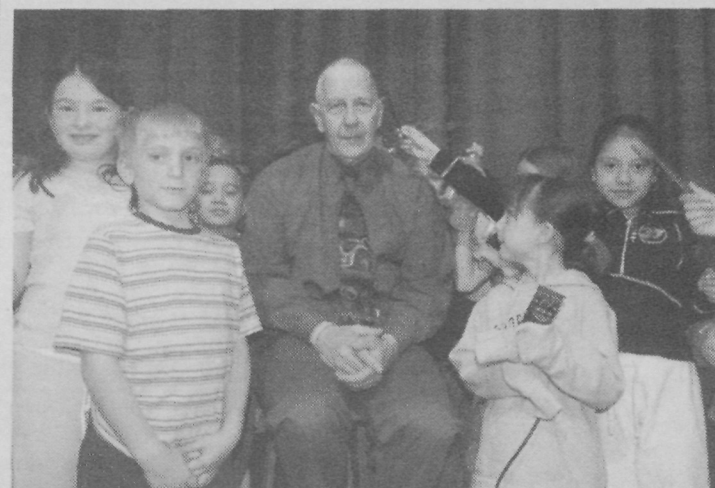
courageous men and women put their lives on the line to protect us, our loved ones and our communities. We owe them a tremendous debt of gratitude. Our Mass is our way of thanking them for their unselfish service, and asking God to bless and protect them," Bishop Bootkoski said.

Professional, volunteer and retired firefighters of all faiths, who live and

work in the Diocese, comprised of Middlesex, Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren counties, have been invited to the Mass. During the Liturgy those firefighters who gave their lives in the line of duty will be remembered. The Bishop said the tribute will be especially poignant because the Diocese lost two of its own during the past year: Firefighter Kevin Apuzzio of the East Franklin Fire Department and Acting Lieutenant Thomas Van Liew of the New Brunswick Fire Department.

As in the past, bagpipers and color guards will participate in the Firefighters Mass. Prayer cards as well as commemorative pins will be distributed to the firefighters as a remembrance and a reminder that they are always in the prayers of the Diocese. A reception will be held in the Cathedral Community Room following the Mass.

For information, visit www.diocemetuchen.org or call (732) 562-2461.



Riley Students Meet Read-A-Thon Challenge

At the end of February, Riley School Principal Al Czech gave his students a Read-A-Thon challenge. He asked them to read more than 2,500 books in March and he would shave his head. The entire school became deeply committed to seeing this event take place. From March 1 through March 30, the students read like crazy, finishing 3,200 books, and Czech kept his word. On April 4, an audience of happy children watched as hairdresser Maureen Venitelli shaved away their principal's locks.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

The South Plainfield Public Library is about to install a new security system on the computers in the library. This new system will require you to have your library card if you need to use one of our computers for word processing, internet access and access to the various databases to which the library subscribes. We are alerting you ahead of time as with this system you will have to enter your South Plainfield Library card number. This change will especially impact those below the age of 18 since there will be no access to computers unless a parent or guardian has authorized such access in advance. We cannot accept verbal authorizations over the phone as we must have a signed authorization on file to change any status on a child's card. We feel that this change is in the best interest of the general library community and will prevent any problems with unauthorized use of the computers, especially by underage children.

On another note, income taxes are due on Monday, April 16 because April 15 is a Sunday. If you need any last minute forms you can go to www.irs.gov for federal forms or www.state.nj.us for forms from New Jersey. Or you can go to our Web site, www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us and on the home page you will find links to the aforementioned tax Web sites, as well as those for New York and Pennsylvania.

Also, we have just been told that we may have another bad hurricane season and now is the time to start preparing. And while you are on our home page all you need to do is go to the listing on the left called "Useful Web sites," click on it, you will be taken to the next screen where you will see "Home and Garden." Click on that and the first option will be called "After a Disaster." This will not only make suggestions on what to do after a disaster, but will take you to Web sites that will help you prepare for one. Remember the old saying, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Back to the present. Miss Linda and Miss Mija still have a multitude of programs for children every week. Miss Linda has a storytime/craft program on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 1:15 p.m. for three year olds and up. There is also a Books'n'Babies program on Friday mornings at 10:30 a.m. and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Miss Mija does a program with 2 and 3 year olds. All programs are drop in and no registration is required. Hope to see you!

Any questions you might have can be answered by calling the library at (908) 754-7885 or visit us at 2484 Plainfield Ave, right next to the municipal building.

Red Cross Offering Lifeguard Training Course

The Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross, in collaboration with the JCC of Middlesex County in Edison, is offering a lifeguard training course. Individuals who are 15 years of age or older can register. The course

teaches the skills and knowledge needed to prevent and respond to aquatic emergencies and provides a lifeguard certificate upon completion. It also includes certification in CPR/AED for the professional rescuer and first aid.

The course will be held at JCC of Middlesex County in Edison and runs Mondays 5 to 9 p.m. and Wednesdays 5 to 9 p.m., April 18-May 14. All sessions must be attended. Call (908) 756-6414, ext. 10 to register.

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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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Events

Christopher Baron Stars In "Cabaret!"

April 13-22

The Livingston Theatre Company will present "Cabaret!" on Friday, April 13 through Sunday, April 22 in the Livingston Student Center, Livingston Campus in Piscataway (Rutgers University) featuring South Plainfield resident Christopher Baron in the starring role of "Cliff" for his last college performance before he graduates this spring with a BA in Theatre Arts.

Performances are at 8 p.m. on April 13, 14, 18, 19 and 20, with a 4 p.m. performance on the 15th and 21st. Tickets are \$10; \$5 for Rutgers staff, children/students with school ID, and senior citizens. Visit www.rultc.org or the Livingston Student Center, 84 Joyce Kilmer Ave. in Piscataway.

AARP Meeting

April 16

AARP Chapter 4144 will meet at the senior center on Monday, April 16 at 12:30 p.m. The group will be treated to a red, white and blue review by Helen Frenick and Hi-Steppers Dancers from Franklin Twp.

The needlecrafters group meets Wednesdays from 1-3 p.m. They knit for DYFS and Muhlenberg Hospital. To join, call Jean at (732) 752-0358.

GOP Meeting

April 19

The regular monthly meeting of the South Plainfield Republican Organization will be held on Thursday, April 19 at 8 p.m. at Sherban's Restaurant. All residents are invited to attend and bring their concerns and comments for a discussion on solutions that could benefit South Plainfield.

VFW Dinner

April 20

The South Plainfield VFW Post 6763 on Front Street is holding a roast loin of pork dinner on Friday, April 20, 5 to 8 p.m. The public is welcome.

What's happening at the South Plainfield

SENIOR CENTER

APRIL

UPCOMING EVENTS

Historical Society Program on Ellis Island
2 p.m. at the center on Sunday, April 15

Papermill Playhouse
Seven Brides for Seven Brothers
April 28 - \$55 per person

Knitting/Crocheting 9:30am-11:30am
Yoga 10:30-11:30am
Art Class 11:30am
AARP Meeting 12:30pm

Bingo 10am-2pm
Ladies Social Group 10am

Aerobics 8:45am
Computer Classes 10am, 11:20am, 1 pm
Listening to Children 10am
Line Dancing 10am
Crocheting 1 p.m.
Tai Chi 2 p.m.

Shopping 9am
Claridge Trip 9am
Practical Crafts 10am
Computer Class 10am, 11am, 1pm
Exercise Class 1:15pm

Bingo 10am-2pm

13

Bingo 10am-2pm

20

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

Parking Lot Sale

April 21

Pilgrim Covenant Learning Center, Inc., 3121 Park Ave., is having a parking lot sale on Saturday, April 21, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Rain date is April 28.

Table-sized spaces in the parking lot are \$20, or 15% of sales, whichever is more. Sellers must provide their own tables. For details or to reserve a space, please call Jane at (908) 753-9585.

Little Treasures Registration

April 21

Little Treasures Learning Center, located at 2177 Oak Tree Rd., will be registering for full-day kindergarten on Saturday, April 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. by appointment only. Little Treasures offers infant care to kindergarten and summer camp programs to fit the needs of children ages six weeks to seven years.

For more information, call (908) 769-3224 or visit our Web site at www.LTLC.net.

Spring into Dance

April 22

The South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission presents "Spring Into Dance 2007" on Sunday, April 22 at 2:30 p.m. in the senior center auditorium. Learn line dances with Ruth Hardy, champion line dancer, and then watch a fantastic dance show featuring dancers from Absolute Dance Studio and Jo-Ann's Dance Studio. Come and join us, admission is free. For more information please call (908) 753-0327.

Trip to Papermill Playhouse

April 28

The senior center has scheduled a trip to Paper Mill Playhouse on Saturday, April 28 for a matinee performance of the Broadway hit, "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers." The cost is \$55 per person and includes transportation and orchestra seats. Reservations are limited to 40 people.

For reservations, stop by the senior center or call (908) 754-1047. This trip is open to all residents.

Sacred Heart Concert Series

April 29

Sacred Heart Parish, 149 South Plainfield Ave., presents their 2007 Concert Series on Sunday, April 29 with an organ recital performance by William H. Atwood at 3 p.m.

"Beauty and the Beast" on Broadway

April 29

The recreation department has a few tickets left for "Beauty and the Beast" on Sunday, April 29. Register at the PAL Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets are \$80. Bus leaves from the PAL at 11:30 a.m. for the 3 p.m. show.

Elvis Concert to Benefit Library

May 11

The South Plainfield Public Library Foundation is sponsoring a benefit concert on Friday, May 11 at 8 p.m. at the high school.

For the past 12 year's this concert has benefitted the fire department. They are celebrating their 100th year anniversary and offered the concert to the library foundation with proceeds going towards the new library.

This year's show will be "Memories of Elvis," a live tribute concert featuring Joe Angerosa. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at the library.

— Out of Town —

Bucks County Playhouse "Seussical"

April 13-22

Bucks County Playhouse, 70 So. Main Street, New Hope, Pa., presents "Seussical the Musical" for two weekends, beginning Friday, April 13 through Sunday, April 22.

The Bucks County Playhouse Box Office is now fully online. Tickets are \$18 and can be purchased by going to the Web site www.buckscountyplayhouse.com.

For information and reservations, call the box office at (215) 862-2041.

Middlesex East WOWs

April 13

Middlesex East Widows Or Widowers will hold an open dance on Friday, April 13 from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, 1155 Roosevelt Ave. in Carteret. Live music and refreshments. All are welcome. Admission \$8 members and \$10 guests. For more information, call Dorothy at (732) 541-2174 or Lois at (908) 757-0515.

Godspell

April 14

Godspell will be produced at Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church, North Plainfield on Saturday, April 14 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$10 at the door.

Legislative Breakfast

April 17

The New Jersey Business and Industry Association and The Middlesex County Regional Chamber of Commerce present The Honorable Christopher J. Christie, U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey on Tuesday, April 17 at the Sheraton Raritan Center in Edison. Registration, networking and breakfast begins at 8 a.m.; program begins at 8:30 a.m.

Tickets are \$20 and includes buffet breakfast. Registration is required.

For more information or reservations, call Debbie at (732) 821-1700, ext. 202.

Ostomy Association Meeting

April 17

The Ostomy Association of Somerset County will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, April 17 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in Conference Rooms C & D at Somerset Medical Center, Rehill Ave. in Somerville. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, please call Ed Wheeler at (908) 534-7897.

NJ 101.5/Red Cross Golf Ball Drop

April 21

Buy golf balls for \$20 each (tax-deductible) and you could be the lucky winner of the \$5,000 first prize! On Saturday, April 21, New Jersey 101.5 will be playing in a charity softball game from 12-3 p.m. at Warinaco Park in Roselle against members of the police, fire and rescue departments and volunteers from the 22 towns in the area. During the event, 5,000 numbered golf balls will be dropped onto the field. The owner of the golf ball that lands closest to the flag pole will win \$5,000. Second place will get \$2,500 and third will receive \$1,000.

For more information, call the Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross at (908) 756-6414, ext. 20.

Neil Sedaka at Stockton College

April 21

Neil Sedaka will be appearing at Stockton College on Saturday, April 21.

To become a sponsor or reserve tickets contact the Stockton College Office of Development and Alumni Affairs at (609) 652-4658 or visit www.stockton.edu/springbenefit.

LIVE TRIBUTE CONCERT

Featuring Joe Angerosa's
"MEMORIES OF ELVIS"

Friday, May 11 ~ 8 PM
South Plainfield High School

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"What It Means To Be An American"

Elks Lodge 223 Americanism Committee Chairman Dan Yuken with Sacred Heart School fifth grade "What It Means To Be An American" essay contest winners. (L-R above left) P. Bogart, A. LeGrand and A. Piersanti. Pictured above at right are Sacred Heart School seventh grade essay contest winners (L-R) W. Gerlitz, K. Whitaker and A. Aguilar with Americanism Committee Chairman Dan Yuken and Exalted Ruler Arthur Sabino, Sr. The Elks sponsor the essay contest annually.

Memorial Stone Dedication This Saturday

(Continued from page 1)

Carnevale, an assistant professor of history, teaches courses in the history of immigration in the U.S. and Italian American history at Montclair State. Her forthcoming book is entitled "Living in Translation: Language and Italian Immigrants in the U.S., 1890-1945" (University of Illinois Press). She has published in schol-

arly journals and edited collections and her work has been supported by the Rockefeller Foundation, the Social Science Research Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

This is the first of two programs offered in 2007 by the South Plainfield Historical Society to be held at the senior center. It is offered

through the Horizons Speakers Bureau of the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and is free-of-charge.

For more information on any of these programs, e-mail SPHistoricalSoc@cs.com or log on to www.geocities.com/sphistoricalsociety or call (908) 754-3073.



The Riley School Student Council held a "Career Day" to raise money and awareness for "Walk America" March of Dimes. Many students participated by sending in \$1 to dress in their career choice. They had doctors, lawyers, nurses, athletes, construction workers, scientists, and many others.

southplainfieldpeople Milestones

Slicners Celebrate 66th Anniversary

Mary and Edward Slicner, residents of South Plainfield for nearly 50 years, will celebrate their 66th wedding anniversary on April 21.

The couple was married in St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church in Perth Amboy, where they were born and grew up. Ed just celebrated his 90th birthday in January. They continue to live in the home they built on Fleet Avenue. All three of their children graduated from South Plainfield High School. Carol Slicner Dripps, a psychiatric nurse, lives in West Chester, Pa. with her husband Robert and they have three children and five grandchildren. Nancy Slicner, PhD, is a forensic psychologist who lives in Deltona, Fla. with her husband Rollie Dudik. Keith Edward Slicner is a research scientist for Colgate-Palmolive and resides in South Plainfield with his wife Irina and their daughter Natalie and



Mary and Edward Slicner on their wedding day.

grandson Aleks.

The Slicners, long time members of the South Plainfield Senior Center, received a congratulations card from President George Bush.

Mary C. Lillis Named to Dean's List

Mary C. Lillis of South Plainfield was named to the Marist College Dean's List for the Fall 2006 semester. Mary is a member of the class of 2009 and is majoring in psychology/special education.

Marist College is an independent comprehensive liberal arts college with an enrollment of 4,200 full-time undergraduate students from 33 states

and 15 countries. Founded in 1929, Marist offers 30 major fields of undergraduate study and 10 graduate degree programs. Marist is included in the Princeton Review's guide to the top colleges and universities in the country, The Best 361 Colleges, placing Marist in the top 10 percent of all institutions of higher education in the United States.

Jeffrey Pham Named to Dean's List

Jeffrey Pham has earned the honor of being place on the Dean's List for the Fall 2006 semester at Seton Hall University's Stillman School of Busi-

ness. We congratulate him on this achievement and send our best wishes for his continuing success in his academic career.



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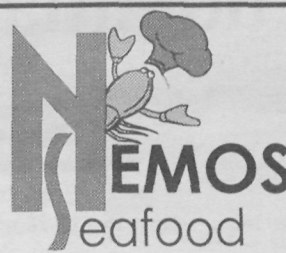
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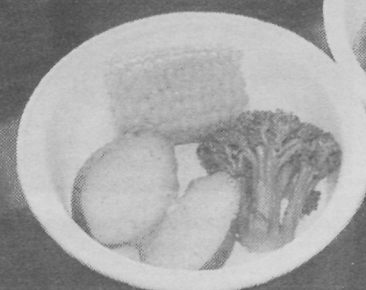


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Students Learn Through Team Building



Middle School students visit Fairview Lakes Camp to strengthen community and cooperation.

South Plainfield Middle School Peer Leaders, Student Council officers, and their advisors boarded a bus at 8:30 a.m. on March 20 and headed for Fairview Lakes Camp in

North Jersey.

There the student leaders did team-building activities to strengthen their sense of community and cooperation. These activities included survival, dis-

cussing how to survive in the woods and building shelters in groups, climbing the rock wall, group games, team challenges and obstacle courses. The students were placed into cooperative groups by advisors and the camp counselors led them through each activity.

While at Fairview Lakes Camp, student leaders also learned to have more responsibility. Each dining table was assigned a time and duty for each meal—set up, serving food, or clean up. The students also had to take responsibility for their behavior and their groups' behavior during and in between each activity.

Tuesday night was very special because the advisors, counselors and Peer leaders all met in the main lodge for a campfire. They sang songs, made s'mores, and had tons of laughs! Later the Peer leaders and advisors shared with one another a 'special item' that they brought, so that the group could learn more about each other. Afterwards, they returned to the cabin for late night snacks, games, movies and fun!

Overall, the trip was a major success and advisors Miss Schocklin, Ms. Schwartz, Mr. Scalzo, Mr. Blondo and Mr. Gonzalez commended the students for a job well done! The advisors would also like to thank SPHS Student Leader Advisor Mrs. Martko and SPHS Peer Leader Dondre Hardin for all of their help on the trip. They could not have done it without them!



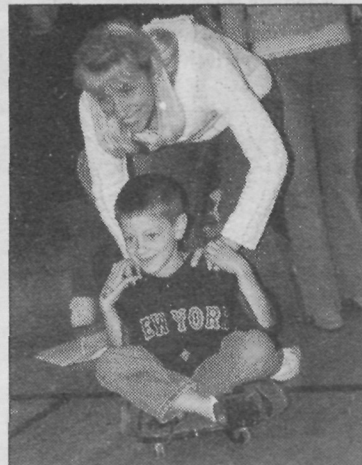
Moms and Sons Hunt for Fun

By Patricia Abbott

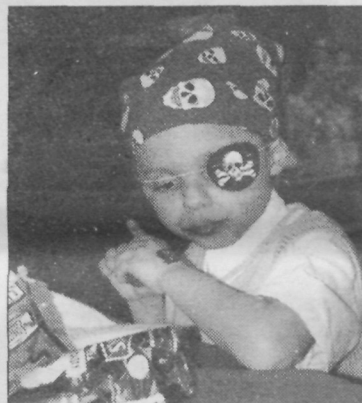
On Friday, March 30 Kennedy School held their annual Mother/Son event. The event is normally a theme dance, but this year the PTO took a creative turn with a pirate theme.

Upon their arrival, the moms and sons, some dressed in pirate garb, received a treasure map. Their goal was to visit each spot on the map.

They followed the clues and found games, crafts, tattoos and face painting. Games included walking the plank while trying to avoid killer sharks, a mom-powered scooter race to grab a flag, a hunt through a treasure chest and much more. Food is an essential at any treasure hunt and Kennedy's PTO had a wide variety of snacks and beverages for purchase as well as instant photos.



Many of the booths were manned by volunteers. A surprise not on the map was the popular Almost Famous Players' (AFP) 'Fight A Pirate' booth. The brave young men of Kennedy faced off with pirates in a battle with



padded 'swords' known as boffers. These are the type used for training and practice, as well as live action role playing organizations. There were specific safety rules related to each young pirate. In order to win contestants had to tap the pirate with the boffer three times. Other volunteers included AFP members and middle school students. At evening's end tired but happy pirates and moms toiled home their treasures.



The PAL held its annual Easter Egg Hunt last Saturday. Hundreds of children waited to have their picture taken with the Easter Bunny and hunt for the special eggs that yielded them a large Easter basket prize. Children up to the age of 10 frolicked through the grass, picking up as many eggs as they could with everyone receiving a special Easter gift.

Support Your School: Don't Throw It Away

Town wide clean-up too far away for you? Ready to get rid of the clutter now? Let John E. Riley Elementary School help you out.

Our school will be holding a used clothing collection on Wednesday, April 18 and Thursday, April 19. You may drop off your items in the gym as late as 9 p.m. on Wednesday. We will stop collecting items on Thursday at 10 a.m. We are collecting wearable and usable men's, women's and

children's clothing, shoes, belts, handbags, linens, stuffed animals and hard toys. The John E. Riley PTSO will receive a donation for the total poundage that is collected (\$0.10/lb). Please put items in a well-tied plastic garbage bag.

All proceeds will go to the John E. Riley Carnival Day '07 fund.

Any questions, please contact Kelly Dunn, Riley School PTSO president, at (908) 668-5080.

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Tues.-Miraculous Medal Novena followed by Mass

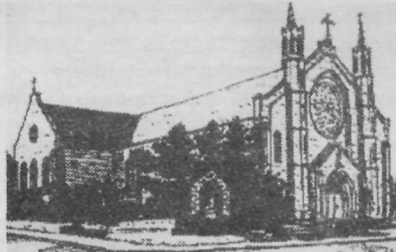
Weekend Schedule: Saturday evenings 4:30pm

Sunday mornings 8am and 11am

Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield, NJ

Rev. John Paul Alvarado, Pastor



Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 10-11:30 a.m. and by appointment

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 p.m.

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

Weekdays Tues., Wed., Fri., Sat. 9 am; Mon. and Thurs. 7 p.m.

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

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



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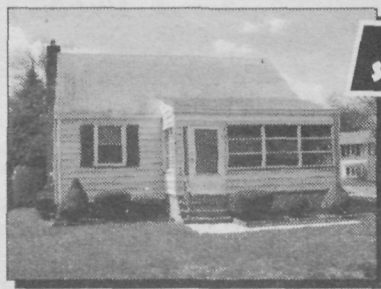
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Final Thoughts..... FROM THE BOE CANDIDATES

Debbie Boyle.....

My name is Debbie Boyle and I am a candidate for the Board of Education of South Plainfield. I have been preparing a lifetime for this position. I am heavily involved in our town and our school system. I have been a part of the PTSO at Riley, co-president at Grant Elementary, chairperson of Riley Drama for five years, my foundation awards senior scholarships for South Plainfield High School and eighth grade graduates at Sacred Heart School. I have spent countless hours volunteering my time where ever I am needed for the children. I have taken part in Habitat for Humanity through my involvement in Peer to Peer Leadership. I was recently awarded citizen of the year by the Elks and was named a 2007 committee member for the Governor's Teachers recognition award for South Plainfield. I care deeply about the children of South Plainfield and I have proven that thrice fold. If elected I will welcome all your ideas, problems, suggestions and issues and bring them forth to my team members. I will fight to keep academics, teachers, music, arts and sports where they belong, in our schools. Not only for the present but for the future of our children. Please vote Debbie Boyle, Line 3.

Bob Jones.....

As someone who was raised in town and attended our schools (Franklin School, the Middle School and SPHS), I want today's kids to get the same top-notch education I received.

Our school system faces serious challenges over the next few years, and we need to look to the future and prepare for them. School board members have an awesome responsibility: the education of the next generation. That's why my campaign theme is "Education=Future."

I want to make a difference in three areas:

- Strengthening Basic Skills—As a part-time college instructor, I see the difference between students who have solid basic skills and those who don't. We need to make sure our kids have a good grasp of the basics before they head to college.

- Advocating for Our Kids—Like other suburban districts, South Plainfield does not receive its fair share of aid. As a community, we need to speak out and make sure our kids get everything they deserve. I want to help lead this effort.

- Protecting Our Tax Dollars—We need to control spending without

affecting the quality of education, because families and seniors need to be able to afford their hometown. Programs like shared services (with the town and other school districts) are just some of the ways to do this.

I feel I have a lot to offer—more than can be squeezed into this short statement. Please feel free to call me at (908) 222-9435, and I'd be happy to tell you more about why I'm running and my goals if elected. I hope to earn your vote on April 17. Thank you for that opportunity.

Danielle Harris-Lacasale..

Throughout the last six weeks, the citizens of South Plainfield have spoken of the need for change when it concerns the Board of Education. The citizens have spoken of the goals they hope for in a school system: high curriculum expectations, extra-curricular opportunities for all students, and fiscal responsibility. It is my hope that throughout the last six weeks you've read the letters of support posted for me and believe that I can make a positive change on the South Plainfield Board of Education. I have engaged with the citizens of our town and believe that my professional background coupled with my passion for learning can ignite a fire for success in the future.

I apologize for not meeting those of you who attended candidate's night. My commitment to be involved in Holy Thursday services came before my invitation to Candidate's Night. One thing you will notice or learn about my character is I follow through on commitments and see commitments through.

My name will be on Line 6 when you visit the polls on Tuesday. If you believe in accountability, if you believe in success, if you believe in education and that we're all responsible to the bottom line, than vote for the bottom line, which is me. Hold me accountable to the same standards you've held the current board too and continue to engage with me in conversations about the future. The children have so much to gain from it. In closing, I ask you to support the school budget and assist our leaders in continuing the great programs they already have in place for our students.

Sharon Miller...

My name is Sharon Miller, and I am running for a position on the South Plainfield BOE, Line 5. I am seeking this position because I believe I can make a difference. I have been a

(Continued on page 10)



BOE candidates answer questions at the April 5 Meet the Candidates Night.

Voters Meet the Candidates for BOE

(Continued from page 1)

40% funding to special education, but rather provides only 17% of the costs. He urged that to prevent further inroads on future budgets, more lobbying efforts have to be extended to legislators in Trenton and Washington D.C. to provide more equitable funding to schools and has written a guide on how to proceed.

Debbie Boyle started her involvement with the school district when her children began attending elementary school. She chaired the PTSO committees at Riley School and at Grant, creating fundraisers to enable fifth graders to attend Stokes State Forest. The Athletic Boosters and Music Boosters have also benefitted from her fundraising efforts to support the student music and athletic

programs. Boyle also promoted more openness of public meetings by taping Borough Council and Board of Education budget meetings and having them broadcast on TV on Comcast Channel 74.

Bob Jones is a lifelong resident of South Plainfield who graduated South Plainfield High School and received his law degree at Rutgers. He teaches writing and research skills for attorneys at Fairleigh Dickinson University. Currently he is the chairman of the local South Plainfield Republican Party.

Danielle Harris-Lacasale is also a lifelong resident of South Plainfield. She is a special education educator who is currently assistant principal at the Kohler School, an elementary special education school for children

aged three to nine.

She has taught in South Plainfield High School and started the local chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving chapter while there. She is currently completing a doctorate in administration and curriculum development.

Sharon Miller, who worked in purchasing and marketing for a pharmaceutical company for 23 years, has been involved and active in the South Plainfield School District since her two daughters started Future Stars. She is currently president of the SPHS PTA and, after six months of planning, recently raised \$20,000 for Project Graduation, aimed at keeping SPHS seniors active and entertained without alcohol after graduation ceremonies.

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Sports

By Glenn Cullen

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

Play Ball! Opening day ceremonies are scheduled to begin on Saturday, April 14 at 10 a.m. Small Fry players should line-up at Roosevelt School at 9:30 a.m. The parade begins at 10 a.m. and ends at the SPJBC clubhouse. Ceremonies are slated to be-

Tiger Sharks Seek Members

The South Plainfield Tiger Sharks Swim and Dive teams are now recruiting new members. Any member of the community pool, between the ages of five and 18, interested in joining should plan on coming to "Meet and Greet Night" on Tuesday, May 15 at 7 p.m. at the PAL. All returning team members and interested new members must attend this meeting. No experience is necessary.

For more information, call the Recreation Dept. at (908) 226-7713.

gin at 10:45 a.m. After the ceremonies, the first games of the 2007 season will begin at noon. The SPJBC is excited about the new season. There are 10 teams in C, nine in B, five in A, four in Pony B and six in Pony A. The leagues are full. The club has nearly 20 more players this year than it had last year—the highest number of participants in years.

The 2007 season is shaping up to be one to be remembered. Everyone feel free to come on down for opening day.

The SPJBC is looking for volunteers for the 2007 season. In particular, the SPJBC needs snack stand captains. Anyone interested in being a Snack Stand Captain is asked to call the SPJBC at (908) 754-2090 or e-mail the club at www.southplainfieldjbc@yahoo.com.

Visit the SPJBC Web site at www.leaguelineup.com/spjbc.



TRAVELING SOCCER

Arsenal Beats Delaware Valley

Even though it was quite cold and windy out last Saturday, the U-8 boys traveling soccer team didn't let the weather put a damper on their spirits. The boys played a competitive game against Del Val Storm—a game that was scoreless until the fourth quarter. That was when the only goal of the game was scored by Jason Cieszkiewicz.

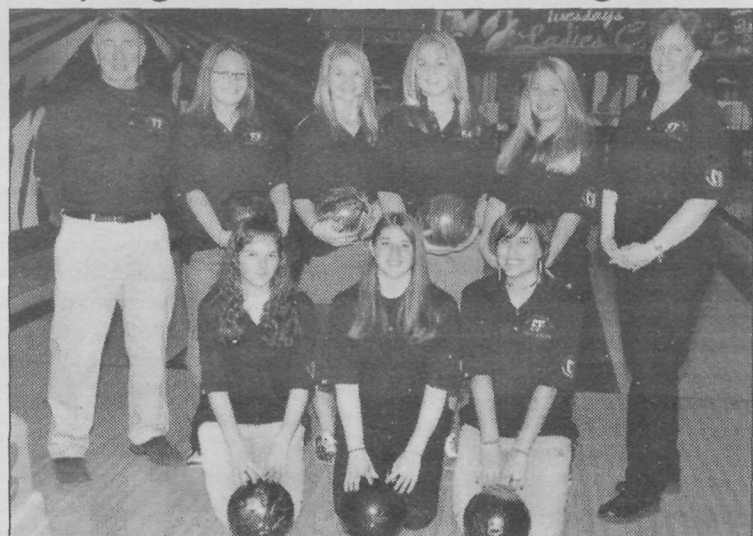
With Nicholas Plate, Daniel Haus, and Jason in the net, Jake Smith, Tyler Curtis, Jose Arrubla and Samardhi Jeedigunta on defense, and Jake Giordano, Alec Paez, Jake Hoffman and Ricky Pellegrino on offense, the players stayed determined not to let any goals be scored by their opponent.

Arsenal's next game is away this weekend facing Berkeley Heights. Go Arsenal!

SPHS BOWLING

Submitted by Ralph Fech

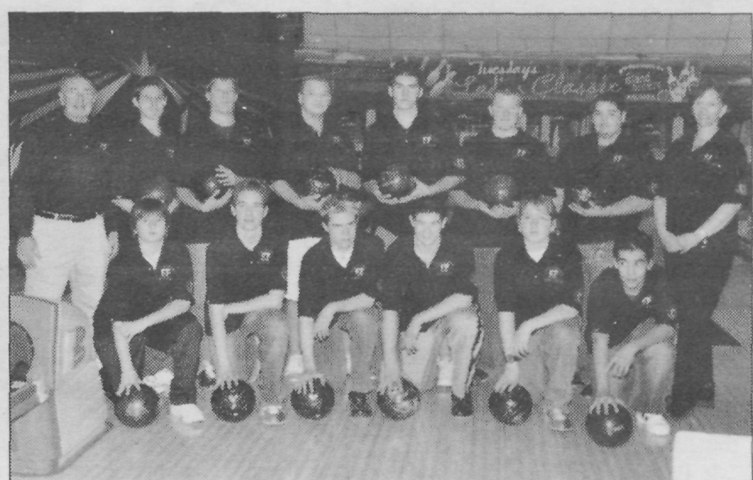
Lady Tigers Record 28th Winning Season



Kneeling (L-R): Kaitlyn Salvatore, Jaclyn Kukuch, Capt. Jessica Vasquez. Standing (L-R): Coach Ralph Fech, Capt. Katie Yon, Gina Curcio, Stephanie Dicindio, Lyndsey Murtagh and Asst. Coach Lori Gertsel.

Girls Varsity Takes 3rd in White Division (9-5-0) Overall Record (11-7-1)

Grade	Bowler	#Games	High Game	High Set	Average
10	Jaclyn Kukuch MVP...GMC Bowling Coaches All-Conference 2nd Team	67	240	535	158.8
11	Capt. Katie Yon MVP...GMC Bowling Coaches All-Conference 2nd Team... Improved Average +15.1 pins	70	210	566	157.7
10	Lyndsey Murtagh Improved Average +20.0 pins	70	192	506	144.5
10	Gina Curcio	68	190	496	143.9
10	Kaitlyn Salvatore Rookie of the Year...	53	178	454	124.9
12	Capt. Jessica Vasquez	63	185	453	120.3
10	Stephanie Dicindio	12	130	307	108.1



Kneeling (L-R): Dylan Papa, Jerold Geczy, John Barry, Shane Melanson, Chris Sesselberg, Francisco Diaz. Standing (L-R): Coach Ralph Fech, Trevor Rastelli, Tim Moskal, Chris Esposito, Capt. Robert Parillo, Ryan Pauls, Mike Dandola and Asst. Coach Lori Gertsel.

Tiger Bowlers Avg. 947, 190 Per Bowler

The boys varsity bowling team ended their season with the following stats: Third in White Division (8-5-1); overall record (9-8-2); third in Central Jersey Group II Sectionals. They had a team average of 947 per game and approximately 190 per bowler.

Grade	Bowler	# Games	Hi Game	Hi Set	Average
Soph	Mike Dandola	74	276	750	209.5
GMC Individual All-Groups Champion... MVP... Improved Avg. +19.1					
Home News Tribune All Area—1st Team... GMC All Division—1st Team...					
GMC Bowling Coaches All Conf.—1st Team... Star Ledger Central Jersey—2nd Team...					
New School Record High Set 247-276-227-750 1/31/07 vs. Cardinal McCarrick					
Old Record Bill Panewicz 744 Set in 1991					
Junior Chris Esposito 73 games Hi Game 259 Hi Set 701 Avg. 198.4					
MVP...NJSIAA State All-Groups Finalist Bowled 685.... 6th in Central Jersey... 17th in State...GMC Bowling Coaches All-Conf. 2nd Team... Improved Avg. +22.5					
Junior Ryan Pauls 70 Game Hi Game 279 Hi Set 697 Avg. 196.0... GMC Bowling Coaches All-Conf. 2nd Team...Improved Avg. +23.4.					
Senior Capt. Robert Parillo 67 Games HG 246 HS 680 Avg. 190.5					
Most improved Avg. +27.7...					
Senior Trevor Rastelli 56 Games HG 194 HS 508 Avg. 151.4					
Soph Tim Moskal 51 Games HS 209 HS 526 Avg. 150.0					
Freshman Dylan Papa 22 Games HG 187 HS 411 Avg. 130.3... Rookie of the Year					
Senior Jerold Geczy 10 Games HG 151 HS 335 Avg. 120.8					

A lot of big
ideas went into
designing our new
EMERGENCY
DEPARTMENT,
and some small
ones too.



Children require special care in emergency situations. That's why Somerset Medical Center's new Emergency Department has separate pediatric treatment areas and waiting room—a big idea that benefits our smallest patients. This child-friendly environment is designed to meet the unique needs of children and is staffed with nurses and physicians trained in pediatric care. Plus, through our affiliation with the Bristol-Myers Squibb Children's Hospital at Robert Wood Johnson University Medical Center, we have a certified pediatric hospitalist—a pediatrician—onsite 24/7.

This is one of the many special features of our new 40,000 square-foot Emergency Department—one of the largest, most high-tech and best-equipped facilities in the state. And it's another example of how we've taken emergency care to a higher level by maximizing patient comfort, convenience and privacy.

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IN MY OPINION

(Continued from page 2)

and hard working individuals you will ever meet. She is a strong leader and a caring, devoted person who works well with everyone. She continually volunteers her time throughout our schools and community. Often she takes on projects that no one else steps up to the plate to do, all to benefit our children. Even though she is PTA president and has many responsibilities, when no one volunteered to head our Project Graduation Auction fundraiser, Sharon did not hesitate to take this project on as well. It entailed numerous months of work to ensure it was successful. Sharon often worked all day and night to accomplish everything that had to be completed, and her efforts paid off: the SPHS auction was quite a success.

We feel Sharon would make a wonderful BOE member and is the best choice to represent our children and their educational futures. We will be voting for Sharon Miller, Line 5 and we hope you will too.

**SINCERELY,
BARBARA MENNUTI, PAT FABINO,
SUE BARRY, MARIANNE DECKER,
AMY RASTELLI**

Dear Editor:

When choosing the people to lead our school system through the next few years, we hope the voters will choose someone we think will make a superb board member, Bob Jones.

Bob knows the importance of education, having gone through our school system and then having graduated from Rutgers College and Rutgers Law School. He has the dedication, desire, skills and experience to help lead our district through the challenges it faces in the coming years.

His campaign theme, "Education=Future," shows the importance he places on the future of education in South Plainfield. He also has the right priorities. He wants to make sure our kids have a good grasp of basic skills, and he wants to advocate to make sure South Plainfield gets its fair share of state aid. In addition, he knows how important it is to control costs and at the same time not affect the quality of education.

We need someone like Bob Jones on the school board. He'll be our choice on Tuesday.

MARGE REEDY, BILL SEESSELBERG, KIMBERLY DEANGELIS, CHARLIE HAUS, RUTH HAUS, ALEX BARLETTA, DERRYCK WHITE, FRAN LICATO, APRIL BENGIVENGA, CYNTHIA FRANK, RAY RUSNAK, KAY SEESSELBERG, JOHN MARKHAM, MADELINE MARKHAM, JEN BECHTOLDT

Dear Editor,

Three seats will be up on Tuesday, April 17 when voters go to the polls to elect members of the Board of Education. In my opinion, one of the people we should select is Bob Jones.

I attended the candidate's night last week and Bob was impressive. His answers were well thought out and sincere. I have no doubt he would make an excellent board member, someone who would listen to all sides of an issue, be independent and make sound judgments.

The people of South Plainfield would be well served to have Bob Jones on the school board. He has my enthusiastic support.

JEFF SEIDER

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
Public Notice
RETURN OF PERFORMANCE BOND

To Attilio Grasso for public improvements at 112-116 Perth Place in South Plainfield Lot 5, and Block 402.

A public meeting has been scheduled by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield to hear objections, if any, to the release of a Performance Bond posted by Attilio Grasso for public improvements at 112-116 Perth Place known as Lot 5, Block 402 listed on the official tax maps of the Borough of South Plainfield. Said public hearing will be held May 1, 2007 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

Attilio Grasso
112-116 Perth Place
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

\$38.50

April 13, 2007

Obituaries

Jennifer A. Ibarra, 14

Jennifer A. Ibarra passed away at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield on Tuesday, April 10.

Visitation will be held on Friday, April 13 from 5 to 8 p.m. at South Plainfield James W. Conroy Funeral Home, 2456 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield.

A funeral mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 14 at Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Church, 516 West Sixth Street, Plainfield.

Joseph D. Ventre, 76

Joseph D. Ventre died on Saturday, March 31 at home.

Born and raised in Newark, he had resided in Clark for the past 50 years.

Mr. Ventre worked as a supervisor with DuPont in Newark for 30 years and served with the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean Conflict.

Joe was predeceased by a brother, Frank Ventre.

Surviving are his wife, Carmella (Mammanno); a daughter, Catherine DeFrancesco and husband Ron; a son, Joseph R. Ventre, and a granddaughter, Melissa Stivale.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

Louis Baldasarre, 73

Louis J. Baldasarre died on Tuesday, April 3 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Born in Plainfield, Lou resided in South Plainfield for 25 years before moving to Glendora and LaVerne, Calif., residing there for 25



years before returning to South Plainfield in 2005.

Lou was the owner and operator of Lou's TV of South Plainfield for 25 years before his retirement.

Lou was a charter member of the South Plainfield B.P.O.E. Elks Lodge #2298 of South Plainfield. He was also a life member of the South Plainfield Rescue Squad where he proudly served as the squad's captain and president. He was also a former member of Sacred Heart Church.

While in California, Lou served as the president, vice president and treasurer of the Fountains Social Club. Lou also served as the head cook for many of their special occasions and parties. In his spare time, Lou enjoyed working with wood and was quite the craftsman.

Surviving are a son, Paul and wife Jenifer Baldasarre of South Plainfield; two daughters, Laurie and husband Joe Riccardi of Shohola, Pa. and Deb Baldasarre of Sewell; three brothers, Constant of Scotch Plains, Paul of Washington, and Andrew of Annandale and six beloved grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

George A. Wright, 74

George A. Wright died on Saturday, April 7 at Robert Wood Johnson Hospital in Rahway.

Born in Plainfield, he is the son of the late George H. and Madeline Cihanowycz.

George resided in Rhode Island for a short time and then Dunellen for a number of years before moving to Piscataway 43 years ago.

He served in the United States Army from 1949 to 1953 as a private first class.

For many years George worked in the TV sales and repair business. He

had been employed by Triboro T.V. & Appliance in Middlesex for numerous years, retiring 14 years ago. He enjoyed watching his children and grandchildren grow and watching them participate in sports. A sports enthusiast himself, George was an avid follower of the Piscataway Chiefs, the Scarlet Knights and the N.Y. Giants.

Predeceased by his parents and sister Dorothy Allegar, he is survived by his wife of 49 years, Catherine (Anthenelli); a daughter, Lucy Altomonte and husband Salvatore; two sons, Mike and wife Pam of Wall Township and Matthew and wife Lauren of Brick; a brother, Jack of Mississippi and his 11 adored grandchildren, Alysa, Sal, Amanda, Allison, Maria, Nicholle, Michael, Emily, Erin, Madyson and Aidan.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

Louis J. Toth, 79

Louis J. Toth died on Saturday, April 7 at home.

Born in New Brunswick, Lou lived in Paterson as a young boy and grew up in Jersey City. He married in 1953, resided in Irvington before he and his wife, Betty, moved their young family to South Plainfield in 1958.

He was a proud veteran of the United States Navy serving two tours,

once during WWII and later during the Korean Conflict as a machinist's mate third class. He served aboard a number of vessels during his duty before being honorably discharged.

Lou attended both Steven's Institute of Technology and Rutgers University. For many years, he worked as an engineer with Plessey Dynamics, later known as GEC Siemens Aerospace in Hillside and later in Livingston. Lou retired in the early 1990's only to be called back to consult for the company.

As a long time communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church, Lou served as the Folk Mass Director for 20 years. He enjoyed singing and assisted with numerous weddings through the years. Lou was a very involved parent. He enjoyed his children, encouraged their involvement in many activities and continued with the love and involvement with his eight grandchildren.

Predeceased by two brothers, Ernest and Edwin, he is survived by his wife of 54 years, Betty L. (Goense); a daughter, Leslie Rogler and husband Charles of Carmel, NY; a son, Eric and wife Jennifer of Douglassville, Pa.; a sister, Elizabeth Maurer of Paramus and his eight beloved grandchildren, Christopher, Patrick, Kimberly, Abigail, Heather, Savannah, Eric and McKenzie.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

policereport

• On April 3, Jennifer E. Blanding, 31, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license and three outstanding warrants.

• On April 4, Demetrius M. Stephens, 23, of Plainfield was arrested for hindering apprehension, driving on a suspended license and no registration.

• On April 5, Chiddy M. Armadyoha, 53, of Plainfield was arrested for no registration and an outstand-

ing warrant.

• Andrew Carter, 38, of Plainfield was arrested for fictitious plates, no registration and two outstanding warrants.

• Quick Check on Sampton Ave. reported that a customer had shoplifted Duracell batteries worth \$40.

• On April 9, Terry Allen Miller, 38, of Woodbridge was arrested for speeding and an outstanding warrant.



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Final Thoughts..... FROM THE BOE CANDIDATES

(Continued from page 7)
very involved parent and an active volunteer in our schools and community for the past 15 years. I want to continue to volunteer for our children and to give back to our wonderful community. If elected, I will be an advocate for our children. I believe the best gift we can give a child is a well rounded quality education. Our teachers, academics, athletics, arts and other activities are all vital to our children receiving this type of education. It is imperative in this day and age that every child be given the opportunity to receive a good education. We have to address every child's educational needs in order to insure each child has an opportunity to succeed. The best gift we can give to our community, our caring parents, and our excellent educators, is an effective and financially sound budget.

I will also work to build communication links between the BOE and our community, our parents, and our educational staff and administrators. It is essential that our community is well informed, because communication and information builds trust.

I do not believe that we get our fair share of state funding. This year Governor Corzine is planning on redoing the school funding formula. It is extremely important that the voices of

South Plainfield's children be heard in Trenton and that we get this message out to our community. I can be this voice for our children. I will be devoted to accomplishing this and will put in whatever amount of time is necessary to succeed. This additional funding is important so we don't have to cut educational staff, or programs and we can minimize tax increases.

I also believe that shared services among local school districts as well as between our BOE and our town can help to reduce costs. Some of these services could include human resources, purchasing such as office supplies, ground maintenance such as parking lot and sidewalk repairs, transportation, and labor are just a few areas which can be looked into.

To the citizens of South Plainfield and especially the children, if I am elected I will make the same promise to you that I have made to the numerous other organizations I have been involved with...I will be highly motivated, hard working, deeply committed and dedicated to the position of BOE member and for doing what is right for the children of our community. I would greatly appreciate your support.

Pio Pennisi

On Tuesday, April 17, you will be

electing three members to the South Plainfield Board of Education. I would like to ask for your support, as I seek re-election. As I stated in my previous letter, and at candidates night, we are at a critical crossroad in South Plainfield. Maintaining the three A's (academics, arts and athletics), the lack of state aid, continued unfunded state mandates, failed budgets and school security are some of the many issues that need to be addressed, and how they are addressed will shape South Plainfield's future.

I have been a resident of South Plainfield for 46 years, graduated from this school system, and am raising my family here. I have a lot of stake, as do all of you. I have the knowledge, experience and commitment to make the right decisions that will keep our South Plainfield a town that people want to move to. I have been in education for 27 years. I am currently a superintendent in a neighboring town and deal with the same issues every day. If re-elected, not only do you get a member who has ownership and a personal stake in South Plainfield, but one that will be able to ask the right questions and demand the right answers. A vote for me is a vote for South Plainfield.

Vote Line 1 on April 17, and please vote yes for the school budget.

WHAT'S GOING ON IN MY TOWN

FROM A BUSY BUSY MOM *jd*

The March 29 South Plainfield All District Music Festival and Art Exposition showed outstanding student achievements and the importance of these programs.

SPHS's Cultural Heritage Day had an overwhelming turnout. The food, costumes and origin dances were amazing.

Please watch for flyers for the Tiger 24 fundraiser on Friday and Saturday, April 27 and 28 at Jost Field. Parent/teacher organizations from all schools will participate in different events. There is an entry fee of \$25; students up to sixth grade are \$10 and the fee is waived for participants who receive \$40 in pledges to walk, run or jog. The 24-hour extravaganza is sponsored by the SPHS Student Leadership Organization, Junior Baseball

Club and Sodexo and starts at 4:00 p.m. on Friday. There will be a luminary lighting ceremony at 10 p.m. on Friday around the field. Honor a loved one, friend or family member by purchasing a luminary there for \$10.

Grant Elementary School will have their annual walk for diabetes fundraiser sponsored by the student council shortly. Please support the diabetes foundation and all of it's wonderful contributions by pledging money to the fifth and sixth grade students.

The Board of Education election and the 2007/2008 budget vote will take place on Tuesday, April 17 from 2 to 9 p.m. The budget effects each and every student in South Plainfield. Don't forget there is no school on Monday, April 16.

NOTES FROM THE RECREATION CENTER

- Pool-Early registration fees end April 17.
- Sports Camp Signups begin April 18.
- Safetytown: All children entering kindergarten or first grade in the Fall of 2007. \$35 fee. Sign-Ups Begin April 18
- Summer Parks: All residents who are currently in grades K-6. Free program. Sign-Ups Begin April 18.
- Junior Police Academy: Two sessions, weeks of June 25 and July 9. Ages 10-14. Fee is \$50. Sign-Ups Begin April 18.

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WAREHOUSE WORKER-LOCAL CO. seeks F/T (Mon.-Fri., 6 am-4 pm) worker. Must have forklift cert. Call Vito at (908) 226-8866.

FULL TIME/OUTSIDE SALES REPRESENTATIVE THE MOBILE STORAGE GROUP, A rapidly expanding international leader in the storage container, trailer and office trailer rental industry, is seeking an Outside Sales Representative for our South Plainfield, NJ branch. We are searching for a career minded individual to join our winning team. Through making outbound calls and outside sales calls, you will pursue building relationships with our prospective and existing customers. The ideal candidate will be highly motivated, assertive and a team player. You will need strong negotiation, interpersonal, and verbal communication skills with the ability to build positive working relationships. Attention to detail, organization, and computer skills with experience in Microsoft Office or comparable business software a must. You must have two years experience in sales or customer service. Rentals, sales and leasing experience a big plus, however, we will train qualified candidate. Compensation includes a base salary, commissions, and a car allowance. Benefits include medical, dental, vision, life insurance, and a 401(k) with a company match. For immediate consideration, apply on line. Mobile Storage Group is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

LANDSCAPER-SMALL BUSINESS looking for P/T worker, Wed., Thur, Fri. 8am-4pm. (908) 769-4723.

WELDER/MECHANIC-THE MOBILE Storage Group, a rapidly expanding national leader in the storage container and trailer rental industry, is seeking a Welder/Mechanic for our South Plainfield, NJ location. Responsibilities will include welding, fabrication, and performing general repairs on storage trailers and containers. We are looking for someone with the following qualifications:

- Experience with stick and MIG welding and plasma cutting.
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- Fabrication experience preferred.
- Trailer and container repair experience a big plus.
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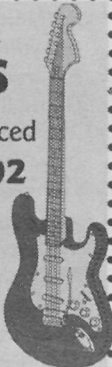
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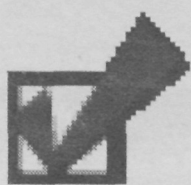
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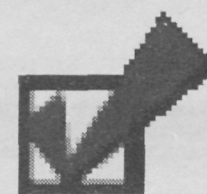


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- ✓ 3805 students enrolled in the district.....
3805 reasons to vote yes!
- ✓ Keep the 4 "A's" alive...Academics, Athletics, Arts and Activities.
- ✓ Our younger generation deserves the same opportunities that we have benefited from.
- ✓ To maintain our high test scores.
- ✓ How will you complete your child's college application without any activities if there is nothing to offer?
- ✓ Keep elementary class sizes low.
- ✓ Keep the value of our homes and neighborhood intact.

Join the team that continues to grow in supporting the budget.....

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Bill Ashnault
Barbara Avery
Susan Barry
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Tim Bishara
Jane Bishop
James Bishop
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Kelley Bostick
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Debbie Boyle
May Ann Boyle
Megan Boyle
Eileen Brady
Jack Brady
Ginny Bruno
Gloria Buggey
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Sara Chrysanthopoulos
Anthony Cotoia
Chet Czaplinski
Joy Czaplinski
Debbie Czech
Kathy Downes
Charles Decker, Jr.
Lois Decker
Marianne Decker
Bill DeNitzio
Paula Dick
Kathy DiMeglio
Michael DiMeglio
Pat DiSantis
Nick DiSantis

Pat Fabino
Francine Falzarano
John Falzarano, Jr.
Stephanie Falzarano
Ken Fech
Ralph Fech
Susan Fech
Lee Flanagan
Francis Flannery
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Frank Fusaro
Tara Fusaro
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Janet George
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Linda Giannakis
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William Hartmann
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Keith Heckel
Pam Heilmann
Nick Heilmann
Chris Hubner
Colleen Hubner
Kevin Hughes
Rob Hunt
Sharon Hunt
Kiley Jackson
Michael Jakubik
Nancy Jakubik

Joan Kane
Mike Kavka
Sandy Kavka
Cathy Keller
Dennis Kazmir
Gail Kazmir
Lara Kensey
Keith Kensey
Thomas Lanza
Jeff Licato
Karen Licato
Stan Lorys
Norm Loenser
Debbie Lykes
Kevin Lykes
Patty Martin
Ken Martin
Jeff Marcoux
Sherry Marcoux
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Nancy O'Shea
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