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Annual Memorial Day ceremonies begin at American Legion on Oak Tree Ave at 9 a.m. on Monday; closing ceremonies at VFW Post on Front St. at 11 a.m.

# South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 10, NO. 37

MEMBER NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

50 CENTS

MAY 25 2007

MAY 25, 2007

## BOE, Teachers Settle Contract

By Jane Dornick

After working without a contract for nearly a year, the South Plainfield Education Association (SPEA) Teacher's

Unit and the Board of Education (BOE) came to an agreement that was approved at their May 9 regular public meeting. The teacher's unit, comprised of teachers, teacher's aides and secre-

taries, has a new three-year contract, includes a four percent pay increase each year effective July 1. A retroactive one-year contract for the period 2006 through 2007, when they were without

a formal contract, was also settled at 4 percent. However, according to Business Administrator Donna Tolley, the SPEA, with the help of the New Jersey Education Association and the BOE, has the power to decide how much of the 4 percent will be allotted amongst the different pay steps. Aside from their base pay, the teacher's unit has "steps" based on longevity and college course credits taken towards a degree.

There were no concessions made on teacher's unit benefits and therefore will remain the same; 100 percent paid for by the taxpayers. Tolley stated that the BOE is "self insured" and shops for its own insurance companies to get the best rates available to offer their employees. The only changes made were the BOE designating a total of \$25,000 to be used by teachers towards college tuition reimbursement as opposed to \$20,000 and aides and secretaries receiving \$7,500 as opposed to \$10,000 in their previous contract. Anyone wishing to take college courses must be approved by the board first

and their studies must be job-related to receive reimbursement. SPEA Vice President Diana Joffe stated that a compromise between themselves and the board was not easy to reach. "Board President Jeff Seider was tired of the nonsense and was able to expedite the matter quickly. If it was not for Jeff, a settlement would have taken a lot longer," said Joffe.

A separate Administrator's Unit contract was also formalized for the next three years effective July 1. The contract includes a 4 percent increase for the first year and 4.25 percent for each of the next two years. The South Plainfield Van Drivers Union contract is still under negotiation. A copy of the new salary guides will be made public at the BOE meeting on June 14.

Superintendent Dr. Robert Rosado has also announced his retirement effective January of 2008, however, he will only remain active until September. The BOE recently placed ads in local newspapers for the position and have so far have received several responses.

## Young Writers Honored at Banquet



Twenty-three of the twenty-five 2007 Junior Journalists at a banquet in their honor.

The accomplishments of 25 "junior" journalists were celebrated at a banquet in their honor on May 9 at the American Legion. The dinner was sponsored by Junior Journalist Program founders, Debbie and Charlie Kurland of Hometown Heros, and was the culmination of the nine-month contest, a collaboration by the *Observer* and Hometown Heros to promote the art of writing.

Now completing its fourth year, the contest is was the brainchild of Charlie

Kurland, who pitched the idea to the *Observer* staff. Editor Nancy Grennier welcomed the idea of encouraging writing for school aged children and the contest was born. Each week student winners were published and Kurland rewarded them with dinner for their families.

The 125 who attended the banquet, including the "junior journalists" and their families, were treated to a buffet dinner courtesy of Hometown Heros. After dinner, contest winners

had the opportunity to read their published works and were recognized and commended for their efforts by Mayor Charlie Butrico, Assemblyman Patrick Diegman, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Robert Rosado and South Plainfield Police Department Captain Paul Brembt.

In what has become an anticipated event, poet Michael Bertrand (otherwise known as Roosevelt School third grade teacher) recited poems he wrote in honor of the journalists.

## Elliot Place Burglar Arrested

South Plainfield Police arrested and charged Joseph Strillacci, 46, of 715 Garibaldi Ave. with burglary after he allegedly robbed a home on Elliott Place last Wednesday afternoon.

The resident was home at the time and confronted the suspect who

said that "he was there to do some work" and ran out. The homeowner pursued the suspect and was able to give police a description. A neighbor of Strillacci's told police that they had seen a man fitting the description entering his own residence on Garibaldi.

Lt. Chuck Seidenburg observed an individual inside the home also fitting the description of the burglar. Officers entered the home and found Strillacci hiding in the basement. A jewelry box from the victim's home was later recovered on Hamilton Blvd.

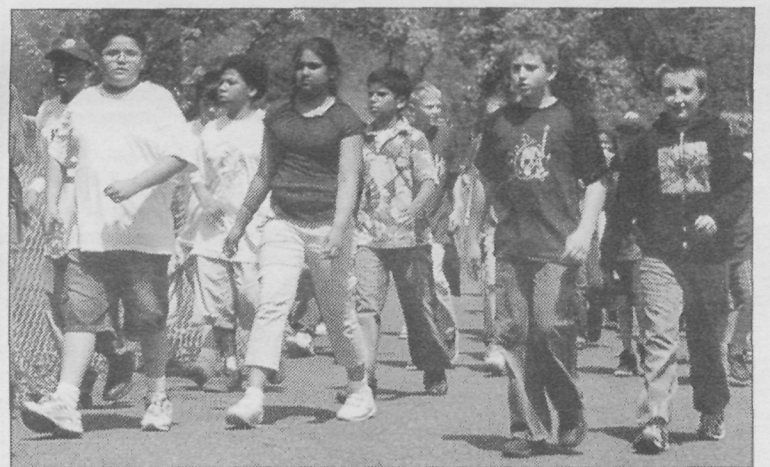
## Hall Of Fame Honorees Named

The candidates for the 2007 Hall of Fame selected for this year are Cheryl Austein Casnoff, Ronald Kuboski, Michael Price and William Seesselberg.

The inductees will be honored on June 5 with a luncheon at the Holiday Inn in South Plainfield. An induction ceremony will take place at 7 p.m. that evening at SPHS in the Joseph A. Mondoro Auditorium preceding

the annual academic awards.

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



Grant Students raised over 10,000 for diabetes in annual walk.

## 500 Walk for Diabetes

By Patricia Abbott

On May 4, Grant School Student Council members led their fellow students on the school's annual diabetes walk. More than 500 students solicited pledges and completed a two-lap mile walk around Spring Lake Park.

South Plainfield Police assisted, one car leading the group and another following. The walk was organized by the student council and their advisor Allison Schneider.

On hand for the event was Tina Anderson and other executives from the American Diabetes Association.

Schneider noted that Principal Leo Whalen and Assistant Principal Rob Richkus also helped organize the walk and they had the support of Superintendent of Schools Dr. Robert Rosado and Assistant Superintendent Kaye Crown.

The minimum donation was two dollars. Students can be very proud of their efforts. While a final count was not available, Schneider estimated they raised over \$10,000. She also pointed out corporate sponsorships were up from previous years. Grant School Student Council has been sponsoring a Diabetes Walk for the past seven years.

SPVFD Celebrates 100 Years  
See the June 1 issue  
for coverage.







Members of the South Plainfield Wrestling Team, along with other high school students attended the May 9 Board of Education meeting wearing "Free Hunter" t-shirts to protest the Boards decision to expel Patrick Hunter. He is now attending Watchung Hills High School.



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

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Log on to  
[southplainfieldnj.com](http://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
June 4 (Monday)	7 p.m.	Immediately following
June 26	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

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

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.—June 14 (Thursday), July 11, Aug. 8, Sept. 11, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Feb. 13, March 12 and April 2.

Regular Meeting Wednesdays 8 p.m.—June 27, July 18, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 19, Jan. 16, Feb. 20, March 19 and April 19.

### 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.

## 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](http://www.spobserver.com)  
(under construction)

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

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

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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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## IN MY OPINION

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

Dear Friends,

The Office on Aging is pleased to announce our latest project—"Senior Census Days."

The South Plainfield Office on Aging will be conducting a town-wide census in an effort to locate every senior citizen in the borough, so we can then assist them with their specific individual needs. The census will be conducted on Saturday, June 9 and Sunday, June 10 beginning at 9:30 a.m. There will be a meeting on Friday, June 8 at 6:30 p.m. to distribute questionnaires, name badges, etc. and review census districts to be covered.

In preparation for the census, we are looking for volunteers to assist with the door to door canvassing effort. We ask any interested individuals, families or local organization to contact the Office On Aging at (908) 754-1047. You can volunteer for both days, just Saturday or just Sunday. Whatever hours you have to spare will be greatly appreciated.

Each senior census taker will have a short questionnaire for each household to respond to. If no one is at home, we have door hangers with the census printed on it for them to either return to the senior center or call in the information.

To accomplish this undertaking, we really need your help with manpower. We are hoping you can recruit a few friends or family members or get your organization to join in the effort to visit every home in town. Please help the Office on Aging reach out to our older South Plainfield residents. Thank you very much for your consideration and any help you can give.

**GOD BLESS!  
JOANN GRAF**

To the Editor:

Several local high school students have recently volunteered their time with a large group of preschoolers. Students Ashley Little, Cassie Hoffman, Nicole Benak, Lauren Fry, Samantha Cihanowicz, Robby Hoffman, Billy Ashnault, Danny McCreesh and Mike Jakubik, as well as Middlesex High School student, Billy Lester, joined the students of Creative Kids Academy Preschool on Clinton Avenue, on their annual class trip to Chuck E. Cheese in Edison. The students were responsible for assisting the 80 preschoolers, ages two to five, on and off the buses, supervising the students as they played and helping them with lunch. In addition, they offered the children something even more important—their time, their energy and their positive and caring demeanor. The children of Creative Kids Academy greatly enjoyed having the high school students accompany them on their trip and the staff certainly appreciated their assistance. All students and staff would like to thank each and every one of the high school students listed above for being the great role models that they proved to be. These young people were a vital part of the operation, and were a big part of why this trip was such a success. All of them should be commended for the way in which they demonstrate true character—in the classroom, on the athletic fields and in the community.

**RENEE KUSCH,  
CREATIVE KIDS DIRECTOR**

Dear Editor:

Recently I was sent a clipped article on the production at South Plainfield High School of "Jekyll and Hyde." When I saw such a small write-up and photo, it made me feel that this cast deserved more press and recognition. These are young people who worked for months to demonstrate their talents, and in so doing, made a special memory for family and friends. This is the time when they should be supported and encouraged by everyone, particularly their local "newspaper."

Our family and friends have at-

tended these presentations regularly. At the most recent show our group included a local retired principal with a PhD. Also attending was a graduate of Mary Baldwin College who has a BA in Theater, a MA in Literature and a Masters of Fine Arts in Renaissance and Shakespeare Literature. He has directed productions for six years for Rockbridge Arts in Virginia. This summer he will be directing the play "Grease." A third member of our party also holds a B.A. in Theater and English.

Our principal friend stated that "Jekyll and Hyde" was the most professional school performance he had ever seen. The other young man was so impressed that he could hardly speak. He too was overwhelmed by the maturity and professionalism of the performance. Darren deserves a lot of credit for taking on such a challenging part at his age.

As usual Katie and Taylor were outstanding, along with the supporting cast and crew. They sure made me proud to be an alumnus of South Plainfield High School (1976).

When I visit my family, I always take the opportunity to look through your paper and it always seems to have the same focus and subjects. It is my hope that your paper better reflects the interests of the entire community and not just a narrow view of those that have editorial privileges.

Let us not forget that these are high school kids who are applying themselves for hours each day after school and on weekends in a positive vein rather than engaging in unworthy and destructive activities. Is a small by-line and photo how you recognize this dedication, positive contribution and lift to the community? Personally, and as a former teacher, I wish to thank their entire production crew, performers, and adult advisers for creating an uplifting experience for me and my family.

After seeing how the success of the "Jekyll and Hyde" play was under-reported, it seems that the narrow mindset of the South Plainfield Observer is alive and well, much to the detriment of the community. Going forward, and for the good of the community, please reward such positive efforts with the notoriety that it deserves.

**SINCERELY,  
JAMIE L. (MAZZA) TOMPKINS**

*Editor's Note: The Observer always tries to give coverage to every event that takes place in South Plainfield. However, we depend on the cooperation and information from those involved. We regret that we could not have given the play more coverage.*

To the Editor:

As the co-directors of the Grant School Drama Club, we thought it was important to mention the parents that helped so much with this year's production of "Once Upon A Mattress, Jr." This year, the parents went above and beyond to assure this show was a success, and it was. The students involved are very talented and worked really hard, but without the help and support of the parents, this show could never have happened! From Joan Rochotte taking care of

### Submit Letters to the Editor:

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

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the tee shirts and helping with supervision, to Mike Rochotte staying outside in the cold until 10:30 on Mother's Day finishing the bed, the parents were just amazing. Jim Boettcher supervised the building of the castle and took it down on closing night. Suzanne and Bill Buttrico brought us a stage curtain and made an awesome bird cage for the Nightingale of Samarkand. Judi Vargas shared her artistic talents on our program and set pieces. Sharon Scalera's dad, Frank Lemos, came up with the first plans for the bed and worked really hard on it with his daughter. And how could we ever have done this show without Jill Pavel, who brought us whatever we asked for and did a great job supervising our huge stage crew. For costumes, we had Donna Teller, who started ordering things back in January and Donna Kasmer, who is an incredible seamstress who took our ideas and ran with them. We never could have done this without Laura Maino, who helped keep the boys (knights) organized and ready to go on stage, and is organizing our cast party. We even had grandparents help us, like Maria McDermott, who did makeup and offered lots of encouragement to the kids as they got into their costumes. The list goes on and on—so here goes—thank you to Karen Kelly, Joanne Boettcher, Bill Mott, Silvia Outerial, Alex, Laurie and Salvatore Liszewski, Jim and Tre Olano, Michelle Kenny, Babs Jenkins, Jay Kasmer, Russ Teller, Maria Buttrico, Colleen Adamson, Maggie Temple, Stephanie Wolak and Diane Hunterton. If we forgot any other parents, thank you so much for all you did.

We would also like to thank Mark Tweed, Liz Mazzacco, Rebecca Gross, Steve Valente, John Orfan, Leo Whalen and Rob Richkus and the rest of the Grant School staff for everything they did to help us get this show up and running.

We have never seen such a group of dedicated and loving parents give so much time and love so that their kids could have this kind of theater experience. We hope that the children of Grant School will always remember all that their parents did to make the show a success, and to make their children's experience one they'll never forget.

So Grant School Drama Club members—please give your parents a big hug and kiss tonight and thank them for what they've done for you—not just for "Once Upon a Mattress," but for everything.

**SINCERELY,  
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Franklin Rinear, owner/manager of the South Plainfield James W. Conroy Funeral Home, accepts the Glitter Award from Joe Diegnan, president of the Clean Business Association.

## South Plainfield Funeral Home Wins Glitter Award

Franklin Rinear, owner/manager of the South Plainfield James W. Conroy Funeral Home, accepted the South Plainfield Clean Business Association's (CBA) Glitter Award recently. Coincidentally, Rinear had just joined the South Plainfield Clean Business Association's Adopt-A-Spot program as well. He and his employees will maintain the stretch of New Market Avenue fronting on the vacant land between Staats Auto and Highland Avenue.

The funeral home has long been an attractive feature on Plainfield Avenue. CBA President Joe Diegnan noted that the original building probably dated back to the Depression Era in the 1930's and had been added onto at least once. Rinear explained that the entire structure was renovated again, down to the studs, when the business was purchased three years ago from Robert Hunter. The impeccably-kept landscaping is still main-

tained by James Conroy, Jr. and there are plans to further improve the turf this fall. Rinear said he and the staff police the grounds twice a day to make sure litter does not accumulate. They even pick up from next door, the site of the future public library, to prevent litter from blowing onto their property.

The Adopt-A-Spot agreement for New Market Avenue is an important addition to the Borough's Clean Communities program. New Market Avenue carries heavy auto and truck traffic and combines residential, commercial and industrial uses with stretches of vacant land. Part of the Highland Woods Nature Reserve fronts on New Market at the stream crossing. Rinear and six of his part-time employees (who also work with him at the volunteer fire department and rescue squad), will be working monthly to keep the frontage along the vacant land free of debris, trimmed and neat. They may even plant flowers and shrubs if appropriate.

Rinear said he appreciates receiving the Glitter Award. He said they were glad to be part of the community and plan to stay involved with the community and keep their own property looking good to help the community flourish and succeed.

For more information about the Adopt-A-Spot program, contact the Clean Communities Coordinator at (908) 226-7621 or e-mail atempel@southplainfieldnj.com.

## Coaches Care Helping Children For Sixth Year

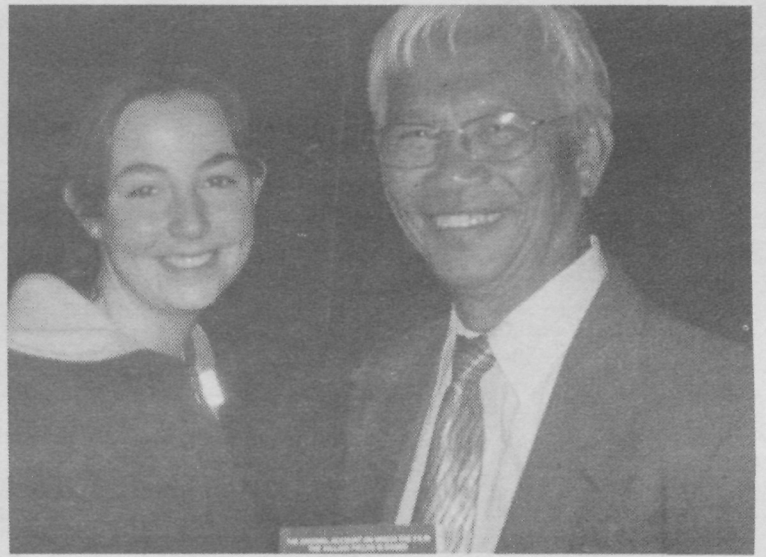
With the helpful support of many local businesses and participants, Coaches Care donated the \$30,000 raised from their sold out golf outing to help three local children's charities. The three benefactors were Hugs and Bugs Hospice Program, The Open Your Heart to Children Battling Cancer Foundation and the Pediatric Emergency Room at Muhlenberg Hospital.

Hugs and Bugs is a sleep away camp for families who have lost a child to cancer and is run out of the JFK Medical Center. It encompasses the entire state and helps both parents and siblings who have lost children to cancer. The camp provides many activities for the families, as well as bereavement and support counseling for those in need.

The Open Your Heart to Children Battling Cancer is committed to helping both children and families of children directly affected by cancer. They have been an integral force behind the research at the Cancer Institute at Robert Wood Johnson and were actively involved with the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center this past year.

In conversations with Muhlenberg and Dr. Ken Herman, the head of pediatrics, there became a real need for specific items that would allow the medical center to better serve sick children. Donated to the hospital were two Stryker Stretcher Cribs and two ear wash systems. The cribs act like a child seat for the larger stretchers and allow an easier and safer transportation for smaller children. The ear wash system irrigates and suctions the ear and allows better visualization for the medical personnel.

Coaches Care is busy finalizing plans for their 2007 outing which will be held at the Heron Glen Golf Course on Saturday, June 9. The proceeds for this year's outing will be split between the Open Your Heart to Children Battling Cancer and the newly designed Pediatric Neurological Center at JFK Medical Center. Anyone wishing to donate to Coaches Care can reach them at (908) 755-8468.



Dith Pran with South Plainfield High School junior, Stephanie Kelly.

## Dith Pran Speaks at South Plainfield High School

By Libby Barksy

From 1975 to 1979 Dith Pran ate insects, roots and rodents and endured torture in the forced labor camps of Cambodia until escaping into Thailand. A translator and photographer for the *New York Times*, reporter Sydney Schanberg and Pran were covering the takeover of the communist Khmer Rouge forces in Cambodia after American forces left Vietnam. Schanberg, Pran and two others were picked up by Khmer Rouge soldiers who held them for execution until Pran convinced the soldiers they were neutral French journalists and let them go. The four found refuge in the French Embassy, but when the embassy collected their passports, Pran, who is a Cambodian citizen, was ordered to leave beginning his long ordeal in the forced labor camps.

Pran's life story was made into the film "The Killing Fields."

A day after seeing the movie, South Plainfield High School social studies students had the opportunity to see and hear Dith Pran.

Schanberg received a Pulitzer prize in 1976 for his reporting on Cambodia. The movie also received an Oscar for Haing Ngor, who wasn't an actor, but played Pran in the movie.

"There was less violence in the movie than what the people of Cambodia

went through," said Pran to the students.

Pran, who has been a photojournalist for the *New York Times* since 1980, uses his free time—he's off in the middle of the week—to talk about the Cambodian Genocide.

"I lost 50 members of my family. My father, three brothers, one sister and their families and my mother died of malnutrition," he said.

Pran is the founder and president of the Dith Pran Holocaust Awareness Project, Inc. He also compiled the book, "Children of Cambodia's Killing Fields: Memoirs by Survivors," published in 1997.

"I'm a one person crusade. I must speak for those who did not survive and for those who still suffer. I don't consider myself a politician or a hero. I'm a messenger," Pran writes on his webpage.

"The Vietnamese war spilled over and turned the country upside down, bringing the country back to zero," Pran told the students.

When the Americans left Vietnam, the Khmer Rouge took over the Cambodian government and began their attack on citizens who had an education and could read, explained Pran.

Stephanie Kelly, a junior, called Pran, "Inspirational. You really get a firsthand opinion and a take on the whole thing—it's not like reading a book."

## Recycling Complex Closed Memorial Day Holiday

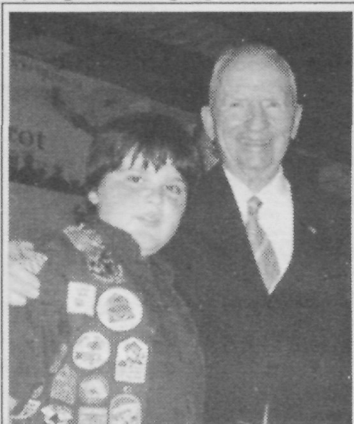
The Recycling Center on Kenneth Avenue will be closed on Tuesday, May 29, because of the Memorial Day holiday weekend. Recycling will be open instead from noon to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 30. The yard waste site will also be closed Tuesday and open Wednesday. Both the recycling center and the yard waste site will be open as usual from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 26.

Regular recycling drop-off center

hours are noon to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Regular summer yard waste hours are noon to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays.

2007 yard waste decals are available in the Municipal Clerk's office in borough hall from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Bring the registration of the vehicle you will be using.

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



Former presidential candidate and business leader, Ross Perot, paid a tribute to veterans and scouting at the Naval Air Station, Wildwood Aviation Museum on May 18. Perot joined the Boy Scouts of America and became an Eagle Scout in 15 months. He said the day he became an Eagle Scout meant more to him than the day he became a millionaire. Pictured with Ross Perot is James Markey of Pack 207.

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# Around Town

## SPHS Chorus Concert May 30

The South Plainfield High School Chorus will present their concert on Wednesday, May 30 at 7 p.m. The theme for this concert will be music from Disney. Admission is \$3/adults and \$2/students and seniors. Students with a gold card are admitted free of charge. Don't miss a great concert!!

## Spaghetti Dinner June 2

Wesley United Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave., will hold a spaghetti dinner with homemade marinara sauce and served with choice of meatballs or sausage on Saturday, June 2. Enjoy the fresh salad bar, bread, butter, beverage and homemade dessert are included. Tickets are \$10 per adult and \$5 for children ages 12 and under. Dinner will be served from 5 to 8 p.m. For tickets please call (908) 753-7253.

## Historical Society/ Ellis Island Program

June 10

On Sunday, June 10, Nancy C. Carnevale of Montclair State University will present a talk, Ellis Island: Myth and Reality, at the senior center beginning at 2 p.m. She explores the 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.

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. No preregistration is necessary. For information, call (908) 754-7268.

## Sacred Heart Concert June 15

The Sacred Heart Parish Music Ministry will conclude their season on June 15 with The Feast of the Sacred

## SPHS Class of 1982- 25 Year Reunion


Save the date! Our 25 year reunion is set for Saturday April 5, 2008 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Piscataway from 7 p.m. to midnight. Overnight rooms will be available at a discount rate.

Register/update your contact information with classmates.com or contact me directly. Spread the word to other classmates that you may be in contact with. Please make every effort to attend. The 20 year reunion was great. More details to follow.

Contact Rosanne Demico-Ilardo 11735 Dartmoor Court, Jacksonville, Fla. 32256, (904) 565-8334 or email jrilardo@roverusa.com.

## What's happening at the South Plainfield SENIOR CENTER

### MAY/JUNE

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 <b>UPCOMING EVENTS</b>	<b>NJ Motor Vehicles Commint to Senior Center-June 21</b>			Bingo 10am-2pm <b>25</b>
	<b>Hunterdon Hills Trip - July 12 "The Musical Time Machine"</b>			Bingo 10am-2pm <b>1</b>
<b>28</b> CENTER CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY	<b>29</b> Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social Group 10am	<b>30</b> Aerobics 8:45 am Computer Classes 10am, 11:20am, 1pm Line Dancing 10am Crocheting 1 pm Tai Chi 2 pm	<b>31</b> Shopping 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 10am, 11am, 1pm Exercise Class 1:15pm	
<b>TO SIGN UP FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER, VISIT THE CENTER.</b>				

Heart. Following the liturgy, the choir will present many of their favorite anthems.

For further information, please contact Dan Mahoney at (908) 756-0633 or e-mail Dan410@aol.com.

## Family Fun Fair/BBQ June 23

The South Plainfield Girl Scout community is holding a Family Fun Fair and BBQ Cook-Off on Saturday, June 23, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Veterans Park. Something for everyone: games, prizes, activities, shopping, hand-on art project, food, baked goods and craft vendors. Cook-off and craft fair vendors are needed. For cook-off, call Linda (908) 755-3841; vendors, call Jeanne (908) 543-8168, fun fair, call Diane (908) 561-3801.

## Art Muglia Memorial Golf Outing

June 29

The fourth annual Art Muglia Memorial Golf Outing, to benefit Art's favorite charity, The Matheny School, will be held on Friday, June 29 at Heron Glen Golf Course in Ringoes. Shotgun start at 9 a.m. Registration and continental breakfast begins at 8 a.m. Barbecue dinner to follow along with awards and prizes! Cost is \$125 per golfer; dinner only is \$40.

For more information and directions, please call Jim at (973) 227-4859 or (973) 667-2466.

## Hunterdon Hills Playhouse Trip

July 12

The South Plainfield Senior Citizens Center is planning a trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse on Thursday, July 12, to see "The Musical Time Machine." Tickets are \$62 per person and include transportation and dinner. Menu includes fried shrimp and scallops, Yankee pot roast, cold salad platter, lemon pepper cod or lemon chicken with mushrooms.

Stop in the senior center to reserve your tickets.

## Trip to Savannah/ Charleston

July 16-21

The recreation department is sponsoring a trip to Savannah, Ga. and Charleston, S.C. by White Stars Tours. This is a six-day, five-night bus trip. \$770 per person double occupancy. Package includes: five nights lodging, breakfasts, full course dinners, guided tours of both cities, tour of Ft. Sumter, Antebellum home tour, Savannah Riverwalk, Magnolia Plantation, USS Hundley, Charleston harbor cruise, souvenir gift, luggage handling, all taxes and standard gratuities and motor coach transportation. Cancellation insurance available upon request.

For information and reservations contact the recreation department at (908) 226-7714.

## — Out of Town —

## Dunellen Memorial Day Parade

May 28

On May 28 at 10 a.m., the Dunellen American Legion and VFW posts will be hosting a Memorial Day Parade starting at the Dunellen Library and ending at Washington Memorial Park with a brief ceremony. All are invited back to Post 119, 137 New Market Road, for free hot dogs, beer and soda.

## Bipolar Support Group

May 30

The Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance will feature Rosalie

Greenberg, M.D. on Wednesday, May 30 at 7:45 p.m. using the facilities of the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship, 21 Normandy Heights Road in Morristown. The topic of the lecture will be "Is it ADHD, Bipolar or Both?" For more information, please call (973) 994-1143 or the New Jersey Self-Help Group Clearinghouse at (800) 367-6274.

## Outdoor Flea Market

June 2

St. Francis Episcopal Church located on New Market Road in Dunellen will hold an outdoor flea market on Saturday, June 2 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost of 8' table is \$25, \$15 space only.

## Singles Night

June 2

Young Sierrans 20/30s Trivia Game Singles Night will be held on Saturday, June 2 at 6 p.m. at The Office Beer Bar & Grill, 728 Thompson Ave., Bound Brook. This is a lot of fun! Cost is whatever you order plus 25% for tax and tips.

RSVP to MistyAngel22@aol.com or (732) 764-9073.

## Family Day

June 3

The National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of Middlesex County, Inc. (NCADD) and the Middlesex County Substance Abuse Coalition will hold the second annual "Family Day for Prevention" Ride, Walk, Run, & Play on Sunday, June 3. Registration for all events will

start at 8 a.m. in Grove 4 in Johnson Park. Activities are scheduled to start at 9 a.m. and conclude at 3 p.m., rain or shine. Ample parking will be available. Registration fee is \$25 for adults and \$5 for children.

For more information, please contact NCADD of Middlesex County, Inc. at (732) 254-3344. Interested individuals may also register online at [www.ncadd-middlesex.org/familyday](http://www.ncadd-middlesex.org/familyday).

## Irish Dance Competition

June 3

The Brian P. Sexton School of Irish Dancing will host its annual Irish Dance Competition-known in Gaelic as a *Feis*, on June 3 at Brookdale Community College's Collins Arena in Lincroft. Dancers will compete with 900 dancers from all over the United States.

For more information, contact Brian at [feis@sextonacademy.com](mailto:feis@sextonacademy.com), (732) 774-6260.

## Singles Hike

June 9

Young Sierrans 20s/30s will hold a Singles Hike on Saturday, June 9 at 10 a.m. at the N.J. Botanical Gardens in Ringwood State Park. No cost. Wear good hiking shoes and bring water. RSVP by June 8 to MistyAngel22@aol.com or (732) 764-9073 or visit [www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/YoungSierrans](http://www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/YoungSierrans).

## Trump National Golf Club Charity Golf

June 20

The Trump National Golf Club in Bedminster will hold its inaugural charity golf and dinner outing on Wednesday, June 20 starting with lunch and pro golf tips at noon followed by 18-holes of competitive golf on a world-ranked course.

This outing is size limited. For more information, call (732) 708-9300.

## 1991 Class Reunion

Invitations have gone out for the 1991 South Plainfield High School class reunion on Nov. 24 at the Clarion Hotel and Towers in Edison. If you did not receive an invitation, contact Kristine (Newman) Craggan at [kristinecraggan@yahoo.com](mailto:kristinecraggan@yahoo.com) or call (732) 983-1100.

## Join us in bringing you more of South Plainfield

**ENCOURAGE YOUR ORGANIZATION TO SEND US THEIR UPCOMING EVENTS.** Make your event more successful by publicizing it in AROUND TOWN. Mail, fax or e-mail.

**SEND US YOUR MILESTONES.** Share your good news with the community, i.e. promotions, births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, graduations. Include photos if you like.

**IF THERE IS SOMEONE YOU KNOW WHO MAKES A DIFFERENCE** in South Plainfield? Thank them by letting us know.

**USE THE OBSERVER AS AN ADVERTISING TOOL.** Introduce your business to the community. Promote your specials. Residents would rather patronize local businesses than travel out of town. It is more convenient and it's good for the local economy.

**SUGGEST A BUSINESS FOR US TO SPOTLIGHT.** If you have had a great retail,

restaurant or service experience in South Plainfield, share it with your neighbors through the newspaper.

**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](mailto:spobserver@comcast.net).

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## OLC Feast of Saint Anthony Begins June 5

Our Lady of Czestochowa R.C. Church will hold their annual Feast of Saint Anthony on the church grounds on Hamilton Boulevard for five days beginning Tuesday, June 5. The fair opens at 6 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday and ends at 10:30 p.m.; Friday it ends at 11 p.m. On Saturday the fair opens at 1 p.m. and ends at 11 p.m.

There will be rides and games for the young (and young at heart), as well as an abundance of food. Bring your whole family out to dinner every night! Sample the traditional homemade Polish and Italian food, hot dogs, burgers, french fries, Caribbean booth, pizza frite, calzone, shish kabob, roast beef, clams and shrimp, barbeque, corn on the cob, concessions, zeppoli, beverages and desserts.

Special advance ride tickets (\$18 worth of tickets for \$10) are available after all masses and at the church hall on Tuesday, May 29 from 7-8:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, June 2 and 3 from 1-4 p.m. and Monday, June 4 from 3-5 p.m.

You can also purchase tickets from the Bagel Pantry on Plainfield Avenue; Corner Deli, Hamilton Blvd.; Dave's Stationary on Sampton Ave. by Quick Check; Oak Tree Farms in the Drug Fair Shopping Center, Sal's Spirit Shoppe, 1645 Park Ave., and Buy Rite Liquors on Oak Tree Road.

## Nominees Sought for 2007 Cappy Award

The Police Athletic League, along with the Recreation Commission, has announced they are seeking nominees for the 2007 Cappy Award. Recommendations for nominations are now being accepted through June 1.

Recommendations can be made by anyone, by sending a letter stating the qualifications of the candidate. Once recommendations have been received, two Police Athletic League and/or recreation peers will have to approve the recommendations for consideration.

The requirements are:

- Nominee must have 10 years of service in youth sports and/or recreation;



Joe Angerosa performs at the Memories of Elvis concert held recently. The concert, a fundraiser for the South Plainfield Public Library Foundation, was well attended. The foundation raised more than \$8,000. Performing with Angerosa are soloist Ronda, John Hutson on guitar, Greg Liss on bass and Lenny Milano on drums.

## Moonglowers and XL Help Scotch Plains Music Center Celebrate 38 Years

Scotch Plains Music Center, in business for almost 40 years, has served the community well. Its versatile staff has produced many very successful musicians and music educators, some of whom have come back to teach at the center. Owners Greg and Mare Ellen Natic and store manager Joe Caruso have always taken great pride in everything they have done. If you have ever visited, studied or made a purchase at the store, you know this is a caring place, concerned with your well-being. They go out of the way for you, just like the old "mom and pop" days.

This year, as in the past years, Scotch Plains Music Center takes great pride in presenting several concerts performed by New Jersey's finest bands

and musicians. These shows are free to the public.

On May 31 at 6:30 p.m., the State Champion "Moonglowers" will perform in front of the store. The band features award-winning sax and rhythm sections, as well as outstanding N.J. jazz soloist Alex Russo. Don't miss this special band.

On Saturday, June 2, at 11 a.m., the music center will present the sensational N.J. jazz group, "XL," in front of the store. Visit [www.spmusic.com](http://www.spmusic.com) for further information on these and all shows at Scotch Plains Music.

## WHAT'S GOING ON IN MY TOWN

### FROM A BUSY BUSY MOM *jd*

Recently, the SPHS staff and students participated in a fire drill/evacuation which involved the South Plainfield Office of Emergency Management and the school administration. A lock down was also conducted at the middle school and students at both schools conducted themselves appropriately.

Please review the policy on arriving late to school and absenteeism throughout the school system. There are only certain types of notes for excused absences and late arrivals that are acceptable.

Sacred Heart School parents hosted a pasta dinner fundraiser last Saturday that was well attended. On Friday, June 8, the school will also hold a used clothing, shoes, purses, bedding, toy fundraiser. The Roma Food truck will be in the school parking lot near the

garage for collection. Place items in tied garbage bags. Once again, these items will be distributed to less fortunate families in Russia and Poland. If you have any questions, please contact Lori or Joan through the school.

Lori Little, Kathie Downes and Debbie Boyle helped decorate the girl's Ponytail softball complex for the SPHS Varsity Girls Softball Team Senior Night game against East Brunswick on May 17. Pictures were also given to each senior girl to autograph. The evening ended with a South Plainfield victory and in doing so, Coach Don Panzarella achieved his 500th career win.

The Grant Elementary School Student Council, with the help of their advisor Ms. Schneider and teacher Mrs. Barnett, held their annual walk for diabetes recently and raised over \$10,500.

## Motor Vehicle Mobile Unit at Senior Center

The N.J. Motor Vehicle Commission's Mobile Unit will visit the Senior Center on Thursday, June 21 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. to issue photo driver's license renewals and also issue non driver's picture ID cards. To qualify, your license must expire before the end of 2007. DMV will process two se-

niors every 10 minutes, servicing a total of 50 seniors.

If you are interested, stop in the senior center and fill out a registration form and select an appointment time. No walk-ins will be accepted on June 21. You must have an appointment.



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For more information visit [somersetmedicalcenter.com](http://somersetmedicalcenter.com) or call 1-800-443-4605 for a physician referral.

Just minutes away using Route 22 or Route 287.

## Celebrations Committee Seeks Grand Marshal Nominations

The borough's Public Celebrations Committee is seeking nominations for Labor Day parade honorary grand marshal. If you know of an individual who has contributed outstanding service to the borough, send the committee a letter stating the reasons why this person should be considered. Include candidate's name, address, evening phone number and accomplishments. Deadline is July 28. Send nomination to The Public Celebrations Committee, John Sorrentino, Chairman, 225 Hopkinson Street, South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

Any business or organization interested in having a concession or informational table at the PAL grounds at the conclusion of the parade should complete an application located in Borough Hall or online at [www.southplainfieldnj.com](http://www.southplainfieldnj.com). Send application to

the Public Celebrations Committee, Kim Gallagher, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

In addition, parade marshals are needed to assist in the facilitation of the parade. All marshals must be 18 years or older. If interested in assisting or would like further information, contact Joe Scrudato at (908) 406-5920 or [jascrudato@hotmail.com](mailto:jascrudato@hotmail.com).

Also needed are energetic volunteers who would like to participate in the parade as a cartoon character. For more information, please contact Matt Anesh at [matthew\\_anesh@verizon.net](mailto:matthew_anesh@verizon.net).

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## NEWS FROM THE Suburban Woman's Club

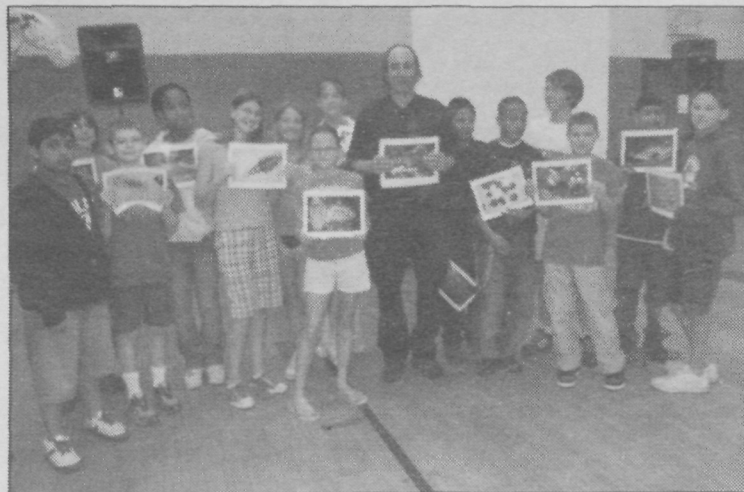
May has been a fun and rewarding month for the members of the South Plainfield Suburban Woman's Club. We held a contest for students from grades one through fourth grade in all the schools in our town. The children made cards for either Mother's Day or Father's Day, whichever they preferred.

The following children's work was judged to be outstanding: *Sacred Heart School*-Grade 1, Janelle Kelly; Grade 2-Alisa Nguyen; Grade 3-Brianna Diefenbach and Grade 4-Giovanna Nolan; *Riley School* submitted cards from just Grade 3-Amanda Ciardiello; *J. F. Kennedy School* also sent in cards from only Grade 3-Olivia George and *Franklin School* Honorable Mention was awarded to Joshua Stascenko.

The art work was well done and the sentiments expressed were both amusing and touching. Our sincere thanks to the children who worked so hard and to their teachers for their encouragement.

Our own members were also competing at the Convention of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC, which convened at the Trump Plaza Hotel in Atlantic City. They received the following awards: Mary Ann Iannitto received a gold ribbon for her abstract oil painting and Frieda Walker was inducted into the "Order of the Lillies," an honor society of the NJSFWC. President Mary Ann Iannitto, Frieda Walker, federation/corresponding secretary and Natalie Bergen, special state project and fundraising chairman attended this yearly event. The theme of the convention was "Garden of Friendship."

-Submitted by  
Gloria M. Breuning



Dave Street presents a lesson on pollution to Grant School students.

## Environmentalist, Author Celebrates Earth Day at Grant

By Jane Dornick

Students at Grant School participated in an eye-opening lesson on pollution and its effects on the environment led by resident, environmentalist and author, Dave Street.

Street began the lesson, planned to coincide with April 21, Earth Day, by explaining how scientists have come up with ways to recycle pollution. He cited an example of a factory on the island of Puerto Rico and how the company was expelling their waste (pollution) into the ocean. Scientists then had to figure out a way to combat the situation. They used the waste to grow mushrooms which were used as chicken feed. However, the chickens left behind an enormous amount of "waste" after eating the mushrooms. The "chicken waste" produces a methane gas, which actually can be used to produce electricity. He cited the fact that Atlantic City has recently been using the methane gas produced by garbage collected as a less costly form of electricity to benefit the city. The chicken waste on the island was also used for a fish farm and hydroponic

gardening—the use of growing things without soil. All in all, scientists have a challenging job of figuring out what to do with the pollution that is produced by the Earth's human occupants and put it to good use.

Street also pointed out how soda can be recycled in a facility that flattens out the aluminum to reuse as soda cans again. The plastic rings from a six-pack of soda or beer can survive up to 100 years in the environment and can also destroy wildlife if they come in contact with them. Glass bottles, if not properly disposed of, can last up to 1,000 years. Therefore, they need to be recycled properly to benefit the Earth. The recyclable litter that is left on the side of the road gets washed into storm drains that lead to our water supply that can kill plankton, which are at the bottom of our food chain. Street used students with picture cards to explain how the food chain works and that if one item is missing, then life could not exist.

Aside from being an outspoken environmentalist, Street is the author of the new children's book on recycling, "How the Land of Litter Became the Kingdom of Clean." For more information on Street, visit [www.DaveStreet.net](http://www.DaveStreet.net). The program was provided by a grant through the South Plainfield Clean Communities Program.

From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Today marks the 30th anniversary of the release of some space movie with a couple of robots and some metal-masked guy. I can't remember his name. And Monday marks the far more important observance of Memorial Day, when we honor those who've given their lives in the service of our nation. We certainly hope you remember the latter and, if you have time, the former, as well. And now the latest news from the South Plainfield Library: The library will be closed this Sunday and Monday in observance of Memorial Day.

Our Notary Public has been away this week; he is in Los Angeles celebrating under the watchful eyes of the 501st Legion of Imperial Stormtroopers. He'll be back on Wednesday.

Next week, we'll return to our usual schedule of children's programming. Even though you can probably quote it from memory, here's that schedule again: "Storytime" programs for children age 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 ages two and three, is held on Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 10:30, and Thursday evenings at 6:30. And "Books & Babies," for children age three and under, is held on Friday mornings at 10:30. Each program lasts about an hour; no pre-registration is needed. If you like more information, please call us and ask for Miss Linda or Miss Mija.

A quick teaser for the kids: our Summer Reading program will start up in late June. Watch for full details in future columns.

Over the next few months, we'll be adding a number of new magazines to our periodical collection. These new additions include "Backyard Living," "Elle Décor," "Martha Stewart Weddings," "Victorian Homes" and in a jarring change of pace, "Mad Maga-

zine." Please remember that, while current issues do not circulate, back issues may be borrowed for two weeks.

We have room this week for a note to teachers in South Plainfield: here at the library, we have access to a lot of materials and a lot of information. But we don't have access to everything, at least not immediately. Unfortunately, teachers have a habit of sending students over to us asking for instant access to all sorts of items that we don't have (especially the now-dreaded "non-print sources") or cannot obtain at that moment. The result is that the student's grade may suffer through no fault of their own. All we ask is that before you start assigning things and sending kids over to us, please call and check to make sure we have it or, given enough advance warning, that we can obtain it. As always, we really appreciate your cooperation on this.

Finally, an important computer note: the new access system for our public computers has now been installed. There have been a number of changes from our previous system. For example, you now must enter both your library card number and PIN number (the last four digits of your phone number) to access anything (Internet, word processing, catalogue) on the computer. Also, you will be required to pay for print-outs in advance, before they're actually run. The access periods are now 60 minutes in length, with possible extensions of 15 minutes each up to a total of four hours access per day. There are a number of other differences; just follow the on-screen directions or stop by the reference desk for more information. We're also planning on adding some new features; we'll let you know when they're available. (No, we don't mean Holonet access.)

That's about all for this week. For more information, call us at (908) 754-7885 or visit the library's Web site at [www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us](http://www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us). We'll see you in June. And may the Force be with you.



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## Mock Trial to Take Place for Forensic Science Classes

By Lauren Frazzano

Mrs. Porzio's senior Forensic Science classes at South Plainfield High School have been very busy this year. All of their learning about the various areas of forensic science have been in preparation for one event at the end of the year, a mock trial based on student-made crime scenes.

After notes, quizzes, tests and demonstrations on numerous fields such as ballistics, handwriting, fingerprinting and blood splatter evidence, the seniors had their knowledge put to the ultimate test. Groups of five got together and plotted and planned to make up their own unique "crime." A month of planning and designing resulted in nine

crime scenes gracing every corner and space in Porzio's classroom. The forensic teams selected a crime scene at random to investigate. When the students were finished, it was time for teachers to judge the crime scenes on creativity, originality and appearance and the winning crime scene would go to trial.

Among the nine crimes that were displayed and voted upon, the winning crime scene definitely took the cake. The situation is a heinous and difficult one. Jimmy Bob Joe is married to Diane Joe. Mrs. Joe convinced her husband to take out a new insurance policy worth \$15,000. The beneficiary of the money is Diane Joe. Shortly after the policy was taken out, Mr. Joe was murdered.

The verdict of the crime will be determined on Thursday, May 31 when the class of forensic specialists, lawyers, jurors and reporters march to town hall to conduct the mock trial.

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# Sports



South Plainfield High School Varsity Girls Softball Team Senior Night was held on May 17 at Ponytail Park. The SPHS girls faced East Brunswick which resulted in a victory. There are eight seniors graduating this year and are pictured (L-R): Jen Little, Yuka Moritaka, Tiffany Smith, Dorothy Cameron, Lauren Fry, Megan Boyle, Kelly Downes and Stephanie Falzarano.

Submitted By Bob Nilan

The chances of defending champions KC's Korner pulling off a threepeat became slimmer and dimmer as they dropped their third match-in-a-row, 14-6, to Twin City Pharmacy. Jay Coppola and Joe Dillar had 38's to lead Twin City to a clear victory. No one on KC's managed to break 40 as the team continues to struggle.

Oak Tree Buy-Rite, on the other hand, continued its winning ways by overwhelming Eddie's Grinders, 17½-2½. Irish Danny Griffin of Buy-Rite, the king of twilight golf, showed that he can also play exceptionally well in full sunlight as he crushed a monster drive on the first hole and went on to shoot a marvelous one-over-par 34, the low-round of the night, to spark

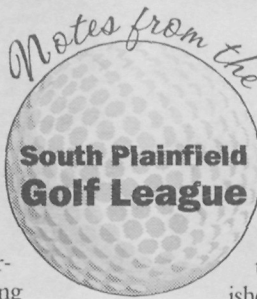
his team to a surprisingly easy win over a tough Grinders team.

Buy-Rite is off to a great 4-0 start and leads the American Division with their undefeated record.

It's hard to understand what's happening with the hapless Hackers as they went down to defeat again. Jeff Orth shot a 38 as 2 Buds, 2 Dubs, absolutely hammered the Hackers, 17-3. Bill Mann's 37 was the only score for the losing side below 40.

Over in the National Division, undefeated Plainfield Animal Hospital continued to roll and blew away Sport & Social 19-1 thanks to Steve Schock who posted a 37 and Mark "Mr. Steady" Chichvar who chipped in with a 39. Frank Matthews of Sport & Social may have to put some magical potion in his Merlot to help his team turn things around.

Matt Ward of Patti's Construction had his usual joviality put to the test on the sixth hole when he hit a nice drive, a low stinger, into the wind but also directly into a blazing, setting sun so no one could follow the flight of the ball. After a five-minute aggravat-



ing search, Ward had to take a lost ball penalty stroke. Then when he hit his drive to the left on the eighth hole, he grumbled that he might have to take another penalty stroke. But brother John found the errant drive and Matt finished with a smile and a 39 as

Patti's prevailed over the Roughriders, 14-6. Hank Grady tied Ward for medalist honors with his own round of 39. Frank Weingart made his debut with the Roughriders and his score of 39 was enough to earn the medal for his team.

The Witty's-Pomovets match was a contest between players who have not yet found their games—with the exception of Marty "Mr. Amazing" Van De Vaarst. No one was able to stay out of the punitive rough so there were bogeys galore on both sides, but Pomovets somehow managed to wipe out Witty's 18-2. Van De Vaarst and Jim Pomovets, Jr. shared medalist honors with rounds of 40.

Low scores for the night: Danny Griffin, 34; Bill Mann, 37; Steve Schock, 37; Ed Banach, 38; Jeff Orth, 38; Hank Grady, 39; Mark Chichvar, 39; Matt Ward, 39; Frank Weingart, 39.

## LEAGUE STANDINGS

American Division				National Division			
	W	L	T		W	L	T
Oak Tree Buy Rite	4	0	0	PAH	4	0	0
Twin City	3	1	0	Patti's Constr.	3	1	0
2 Buds, 2 Dubs	2	2	0	Pomovets	2	2	0
Eddie's Grinders	2	2	0	Witty's	1	3	0
KC's Korner	1	3	0	Sport & Social	1	3	0
Hackers	0	4	0	Roughriders	1	3	0

## TRAVELING SOCCER

### Fusion Faces Montclair Meteors

As we get closer to wrapping up another soccer season, Fusion traveled to Montclair this weekend and picked up a 4-1 win. Brookdale Stadium was our venue for this game, complete with turf fields, concrete stadium seating and an illuminated scoreboard!

Two goals were scored in the first half, the first was by Gary Pastuna, who was assisted by Jake Salerno and the second by Matt Palma, with an assist from Ryan Billich.

The second half continued with strong play and additional goals scored by Jake Salerno and Edgar Callejas.

Sharing time in the net and on the field were Jason Pattison and Nick Ross, who consistently make the team proud as they protect our goal.

Also contributing to the success on Sunday were Mike Dispenziere, Jeff Gillen, Lucas Goitandia, Steve Lanza, Edwin Molina, Kyle Pompilio and Mike Zelasko.

The U14 Fusion's record stands at 6-2-1 with one game to go. Please continue to come out and support the South Plainfield Traveling Soccer Club.

Submitted by Michele Billich

### Bullets Dominate Parsippany Lions

The U-13 boys traveling soccer team recently took on the Parsippany Lions in what was thought to be a difficult game for the Bullets.

They started the game down two players due to injuries. This just made the boys fight harder for a win which they wanted so much and deserved.

At half time, the players took a much needed water break after fighting their way to finish the half on top. The score at this point was 1-0, with the goal being scored by Tony Franczak. The boys caught their breaths and regrouped knowing that they needed to keep the pressure on if

they wanted to stay ahead of the game.

Their goal was achieved when the game ended with a score of 2-1. The second goal was also scored by Tony Franczak. The Bullets' offense and defense was a wonderful sight to see. These positions were played by Joey Skwiat, Ryan Aguiar, Ryan Riccardi, Marc Paez, Jimmy Gerber, Zach Noll, Stephen Bichler and Tony Franczak. Great goalkeeping was accomplished by Shane McCoid.

Thanks to the coaches and Joey Krawiec and Ryan Marcoux, who cheered from the sidelines due to injuries preventing them from playing.

### Mother's Day Win For Arsenal

The U-8 traveling boys soccer team added another win to their record against North Plainfield on Mothers Day weekend. They had already play this team earlier in the season.

The game started out in North Plainfield's favor, with the score of 2-0 at the end of the first quarter. It didn't stay that way for long. Arsenal took the lead during the second quarter and kept it, winning the game 6-3.

Goals were scored by Daniel Haus, Jake Hoffman and Jake Giordano, each scoring two goals. Again, great teamwork by Nicholas Plate, Jake Smith, Alec Paez, Jose Arrubla, Jason Cieszkiewicz, Tyler Curtis, Samardhi Jeedigunta and Ricky Pellegrino.

What a great way to make your mothers' even more proud of you than they already are. Go team Arsenal.

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<p><b>VINA DONA PAULA</b> 6.99</p> <p>Chardonnay Los Cardos 2005</p> <p>Exhibits the standard Chardonnay profile of apple and pear, with an extra dimension of tansy minerality as well, which drives the finish. Drink Now - Chosen as a Best Value by the Wine Spectator on October 15, 2006.</p>	<p><b>SMOKING LOON</b> 7.99</p> <p>Sauvignon Blanc 2005</p> <p>Lime peel and pink grapefruit flavors are zesty and refreshing, with a grassy herbal note and a minerally pebble quality. Drink now - Chosen as a Best Value by the Wine Spectator on May 15, 2007.</p>	<p><b>COLUMBIA CREST</b> 8.99</p> <p>GRAND ESTATES Merlot 2004</p> <p>Bursting with blueberry and currant fruit, this Merlot zips across the palate with a racy texture and refined tannins. Lingers enticingly with a hint of mocha on the finish. Drink now through 2009 - Chosen as a Best Value by the Wine Spectator on May 31, 2007.</p>	<p><b>CHATEAU SOUVAIN</b> 13.99</p> <p>Chardonnay 2004</p> <p>This Chardonnay is sleek, with well-defined green apple, lemon-lime, mineral and citrus flavors. Turns subtle and elegant on the finish. - Chosen as a top value of the 2004 vintage by the Wine Spectator on July 31, 2006.</p>
<p><b>SUTTER HOME</b> 3.99</p> <p>White Zinfandel</p>	<p><b>SUTTER HOME</b> 4.99</p> <p>Cabernet, Merlot, Chard., Pinot Grigio</p>	<p><b>VENDANGE</b> 6.99</p> <p>Cabernet, Merlot, Chardonnay, White Zinfandel</p>	<p><b>ROBERT MONDAVI</b> 7.99</p> <p>WOODBRIDGE White Zinfandel</p>
<p><b>CLINE</b> 7.99</p> <p>Zinfandel</p>	<p><b>SMOKING LOON</b> 7.99</p> <p>All Types</p>	<p><b>COLUMBIA CREST</b> 8.99</p> <p>GRAND ESTATES All Types</p>	<p><b>SERENITY</b> 9.99</p> <p>Cabernet, Merlot, Chardonnay</p>
<p><b>C.K. MONDAVI</b> 10.99</p> <p>Cabernet, Chard., Merlot</p>	<p><b>FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA</b> 12.99</p> <p>DIAMOND SERIES Cabernet, Merlot, Syrah, Zinfandel</p>	<p><b>SERENITY</b> 14.99</p> <p>Pinot Noir</p>	<p><b>MARKHAM</b> 18.99</p> <p>Cabernet Sauvignon</p>
<p><b>LIVINGSTON CELLARS</b> 8.99</p> <p>Cab., Chard., Merlot</p>	<p><b>FRANZIA</b> 10.99</p> <p>Burg., Chablis, Chianti, Rhine</p>	<p><b>ALMADEN</b> 12.99</p> <p>Cabernet, Merlot, Chard., White Zinf.</p>	<p><b>COOKS</b> 5.99</p> <p>Brut or Extra Dry</p>
<p><b>SMIRNOFF</b> 19.99</p> <p>Vodka 80°</p>	<p><b>TOMMY BAHAMA</b> 22.99</p> <p>Gold or White Rum</p>	<p><b>MILLER HIGH LIFE &amp; HIGH LIFE LIGHT</b> 12.99</p> <p>12 oz. Cans</p>	<p><b>MILLER LITE &amp; MGD</b> 15.99</p> <p>REGULAR or LIGHT 2/12 Packs 12 oz. N.R. Bottles or Cans</p>
<p><b>CORONA</b> 23.99</p> <p>EXTRA or LIGHT 12 oz. N.R. Bottles</p>	<p><b>STOCK</b> 4.99</p> <p>Dry &amp; Sweet Vermouth</p>	<p><b>PHILADELPHIA</b> 11.99</p> <p>Blended Whiskey</p>	<p><b>MAJORSKA</b> 12.99</p> <p>Vodka 80°</p>
<p><b>BACARDI</b> 12.99</p> <p>Party Drinks</p>	<p><b>BLACK VELVET</b> 13.99</p> <p>Canadian Whisky</p>	<p><b>RON RICO</b> 14.99</p> <p>Silver or Gold Rum</p>	<p><b>CLAN MACGREGOR</b> 15.99</p> <p>Scotch Whisky</p>
<p><b>CHRISTIAN BROTHERS</b> 16.99</p> <p>Brandy</p>	<p><b>KAHLUA</b> 16.99</p> <p>Coffee Liqueur</p>	<p><b>JACK DANIEL'S</b> 18.99</p> <p>Whiskey</p>	<p><b>LICOR 43</b> 18.99</p> <p>Cuarenta Y Tres Cordial</p>
<p><b>JOHNNIE WALKER BLACK</b> 28.99</p> <p>Premium Scotch Whisky</p>	<p><b>DEWAR'S WHITE LABEL</b> 29.99</p> <p>Scotch Whisky</p>	<p><b>COURVOISIER VSOP</b> 30.99</p> <p>Cognac</p>	<p><b>BALVENIE</b> 34.99</p> <p>10 Year Old Single Malt Whisky</p>
<p><b>DON JULIO</b> 35.99</p> <p>Silver Tequila</p>	<p><b>MALIBU</b> 15.99</p> <p>Rum All Types</p>	<p><b>ABSOLUT</b> 18.99</p> <p>Flavored Vodkas</p>	<p><b>BOMBAY</b> 19.99</p> <p>Sapphire Gin</p>
<p><b>SOUTHERN COMFORT 76</b> 24.99</p> <p>Cordial</p>	<p><b>ZYR</b> 26.99</p> <p>Vodka 80°</p>	<p><b>STOLICHNAYA</b> 30.99</p> <p>Vodka 80°</p>	<p><b>SAUZA</b> 30.99</p> <p>Gold or Blanco Tequila</p>
<p><b>TANQUERAY</b> 31.99</p> <p>London Dry Gin</p>	<p><b>COORS LIGHT</b> 11.99</p> <p>12 oz. Cans</p>	<p><b>HEINEKEN</b> 22.99</p> <p>12 oz. Cans</p>	<p><b>FOSTER'S LAGER</b> 19.99</p> <p>2/12 Packs 12 oz. N.R. Bottles</p>
<p><b>STELLA ARTOIS</b> 22.99</p> <p>12 oz. N.R. Bottles</p>	<p><b>ROLLING ROCK &amp; GREEN LIGHT</b> 10.99</p> <p>12 oz. Cans</p>	<p><b>BUCKLER NON-ALCOHOLIC</b> 13.99</p> <p>4/6 Packs 12 oz. N.R. Bottles</p>	<p><b>MIKE'S HARD LEMONADE, CRANBERRY LEMONADE OR LIME</b> 22.99</p> <p>11.2 oz. N.R. Bottles</p>

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Thurs. Fri. Sat. 9-10  
Sun 10-6



By Glenn Cullen



## JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

The SPJBC regular season is coming to a close. Good luck in the round robin tournaments which begin next week. The SPJBC would like to thank Jerry (Texas) Harris for a very successful canning weekend. Also, the SPJBC would like to thank all of the snack stand captains and all of the volunteers that have helped make 2007 a memorable year.

This weekend the SPJBC will host a Memorial Day Tournament for 10 and under and 12 and under age groups. 10 and under parents have field duty on May 26 at 7 a.m. and 12 and under parents have field duty on May 27 at 7 a.m. Monday morning the club will need volunteers from both age groups.

## Yankees and Mets Tickets

The Club at Ricochet has tickets available for the following baseball games. The trip includes transportation from the South Plainfield High School parking lot and tickets to the game. The games are Mets vs. Arizona on Saturday, June 2, bus leaves at 10 a.m. Yankees vs. Toronto on Monday, July 16, bus leaves at 4:30 p.m. Yankees vs. Chicago White Sox on Tuesday, July 31, bus leaves at 4:30 p.m. Mets vs. Florida on Saturday, Aug. 11, bus leaves at 4 p.m. Yankees vs. Baltimore on Monday, Aug. 13, bus leaves at 4:30 p.m. To obtain tickets call (908) 753-2300.

Please (908) 561-0733 or e-mail me at J0209lenox@aol.com.

## Soccer Day Camp

The South Plainfield Soccer Club and Soccer Development Schools will be holding a soccer day camp for children ages 5-14. Half and full day camp openings available. Go online to [www.soplidsoccerclub.com](http://www.soplidsoccerclub.com) or [www.sdsoccer.com](http://www.sdsoccer.com) for more information or to register. All campers get a ball, t-shirts and water bottle.

## LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Anthony Klett requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit proposed deck lacks 30' required front setback; 17' proposed, and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 806 Bergen St., Block 323, Lot 3 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

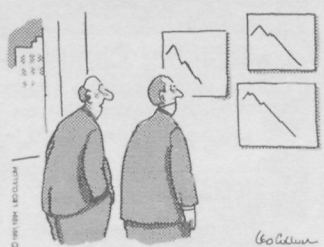
For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, June 14, 2007 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at 8:00 p.m.

The files and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Planning/Zoning Office in Borough Hall between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

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## Archie L. "Sandy" Dean, 57

Archie L. "Sandy" Dean died suddenly on Tuesday May 15 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick.

Born in New Haven, Conn., he grew up in Northern New Jersey and Scotch Plains before settling in South Plainfield. After serving in the United States Air Force in the early 1970's he became an active 30 year resident of South Plainfield before recently relocating with his wife to Monroe.

Employed with Belco Biotechnology in Vineland, Sandy began his tenure with the company over 30 years ago as a salesman continuing to succeed with the company, recently being promoted to chief operating officer.

Sandy enjoyed being active locally with his family by assisting and coaching with the South Plainfield Pop Warner Football, South Plainfield Ponytail Softball and South Plainfield Wrestling Club. He is a former communicant of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church where he was a member of the Holy Name Society and had served as chairman of the Feast of St. Anthony. He also was a member of the South Plainfield Italian American Club, the Belmar Fishing Club and a communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church. In addition, Sandy was an avid golfer, who was the assistant pro for two years at the Westchester County Club. He participated in numerous golf tournaments and won various awards. Most importantly, he was a great husband, father and grandfather.

Surviving are his wife, Linda (Barnes); three children, Kelly Dunn and husband Kevin, Archie Leigh Dean IV and Jon Dean and his fiancé Kathryn Katsiaticas; his parents, Dr. Archie L. Dean Jr. and Ellen (Emer-

son) Dean; three sisters, Martha Hassel, Sara Maxwell and Betsy Clasper; a brother, Peter Dean and his two beloved grandchildren, Hanna Leigh and Jacob Salvatore Dunn.

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



Sandy Dean

## Alice M. Caulfield, 85

Alice M. (Masuy) Caulfield died on Friday, May 11 at Capital Health System in Trenton.

Born and raised in Plainfield, Alice resided in South Plainfield for 50 years. For the past three years Mrs. Caulfield resided at St. Mary's at Morris Hall in Lawrenceville.

A former member of Sacred Heart RC Church, Alice volunteered at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Past president of the South Plainfield Senior Citizens, Alice served on the Senior Citizens Advisory Council at the South Plainfield Adult School.

Mrs. Caulfield was also a member of the knit and chatting group in St. Mary's at Morris Hall.

She is predeceased by her husband, James, who died in 1990 and her sister.

Surviving are a son, James and his wife Meg of Pennington and two grandchildren, Katie and Jim Caulfield.

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

## Joseph L. Ruzicka, Jr., 64

Joseph L. Ruzicka, Jr. died Thursday, May 17 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Born in Bound Brook Hospital, Joe grew up in South Plainfield and settled in Piscataway with his family where he has resided for most of his life.

He was employed with the family business, Ruzicka Landscaping, for more than fifty years before retiring three years ago.

## Obituaries

Joseph was a devoted father and grandfather who enjoyed working in his yard.

He is predeceased by his father, Joseph L. Ruzicka, Sr.

He is survived by his wife, Janice (Giles); three children, Joseph and wife Geannine and their children Nicholas and Gianna, David and wife Paula and their children Lauren, David Joseph and Nina and Louise and son Christopher; his mother, Pauline; three sisters, Janet Fisne, Judy Logan and Faye Ruzicka and a brother, Larry. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

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

## George "Buster" Sofield, 72

George Sofield lived most of his life in South Plainfield. He moved to Bayville, NJ with his wife and children in 1979, where he resided for 25 years before relocating to Broken Arrow, Ok. in 2000, where he spent his remaining years. He served proudly in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1948-1950.

He was a million mile driver with the ATA (American Trucker Association) and made many friends along the way. He was a full member of the Brotherhood of Teamster's locals and served as shop steward for local #701, local #560 in Hoboken and Local #469 in Perth Amboy.

Some of his former employers include Chicago Expressway, Roadway, Mid-State's Trucking, Meeker Trucking, D&S Construction and Stilo Paving from which he retired.

Surviving are his loving wife of 39 years, Julia; three sons, Dominic, George Jr. and Michael; four daughters, Donna Clark, Erin Sofield, Michelle Lamm and Danielle Whaley; a brother, Jack; nine grandchildren,

Jashona Clark, Christian Sofield, Nicole Gonzales, Sean Clark, Emma Clark, Nico Gonzales, Lilly Gonzales, Jaxen Sofield, Daniel Sofield. George is now united in heaven with grandson, John Daniel Sofield and Joseph and Mary Kelly.

## Major Ralph Walters, 88

Major Ralph Walters (retired, Army) died on Wednesday, May 2 at the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home in Menlo Park.

Born on Oct. 28, 1918 in Taunton, Mass., he resided in Edison for the last 57 years. He was a graduate of Taunton High School. He was a member of the Fords VFW, the 82nd Airborne Association in the European Theater and participated in the Normandy invasion and the Battle of the Bulge. He received a battlefield commission and was a recipient of the Purple Heart. His post-war assignments included Germany, commandant of the 25th Infantry Division. In his post-military career, he spent 20 years as a civilian adviser and technician with the 78th Army Reserve training division in Edison.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Leona (Gillham) of South Wales, United Kingdom, who now resides in Edison; a son, Lt. Col. Glenn Walters and wife Carol of Sewell; four daughters, Cheryl Sweers and husband Tom, Karen Van Hoose and husband Barry of Shovewook, Ill., Robin Arce and husband Arnie of Brick Township and Heather Roman and husband Marcos of Ewing; a sister, Ruth Bennett of Pawtucket, R.I.; 12 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at Flynn and Son Funeral Home in Fords.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Heart Association or Father Flanagan's Girls and Boys Town, c/o Flynn Charities program.

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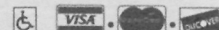
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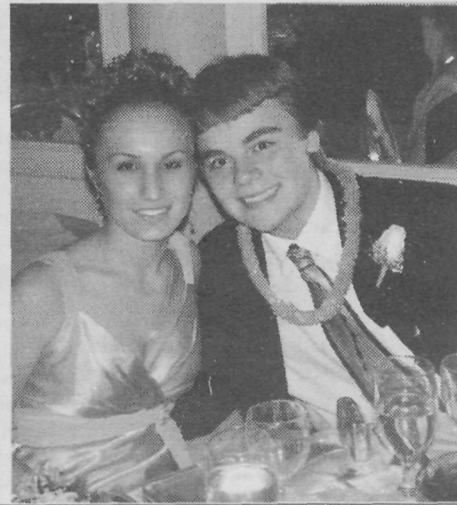
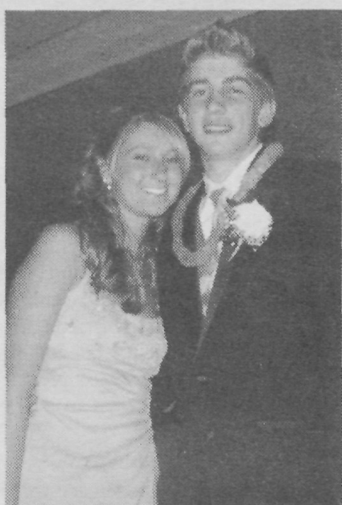
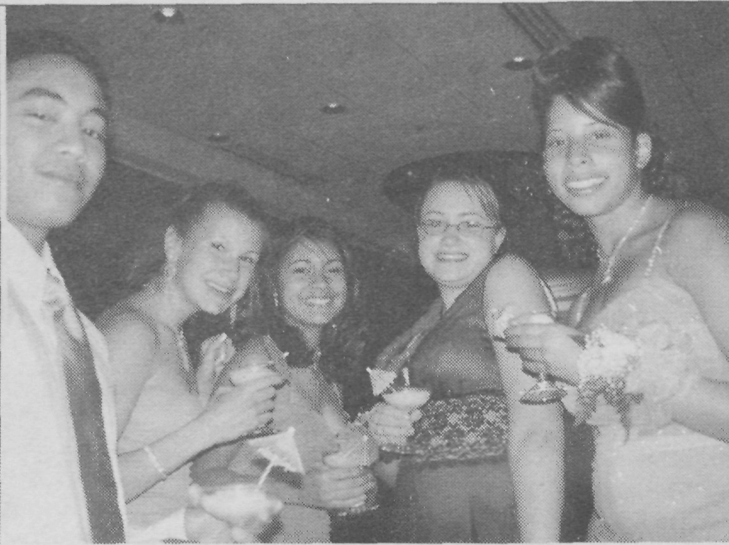
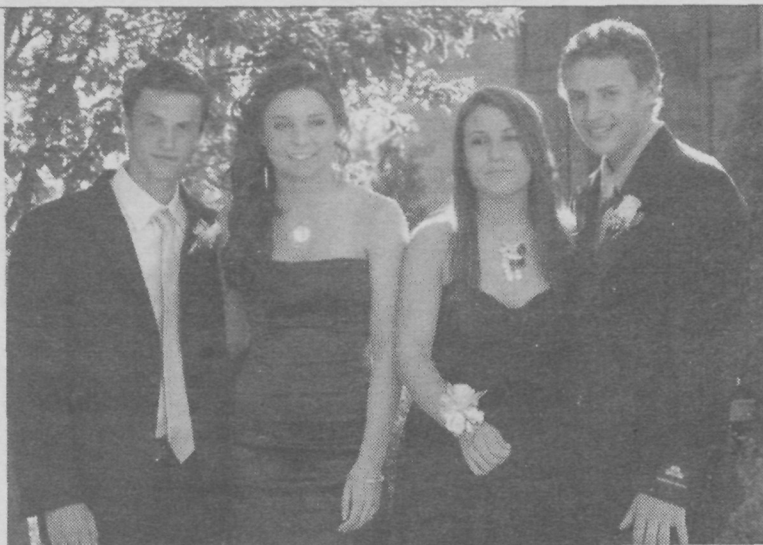




## Juniors Escape to a Tropical Island Getaway

The SPHS Class of 2008 held a Tropical Island Getaway Junior Class Semi-Formal on May 4. The glamorous event took place at the Pines Manor in Edison in a room transformed into tropical paradise.

Guests and their dates enjoyed hors'd'ouevres, non-alcoholic frozen drinks complete with little umbrellas and a buffet dinner. A deejay kept the crowd dancing throughout the evening. Over 240 attended.



## policereport

• On May 15, Domingo Corsino, 39, of Perth Amboy was arrested for failure to inspect, improper safety glass and an outstanding warrant.

• May 16, Nicholas A. Sacco, 23, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license, reckless driving, failure to stop at a stop sign and driving while intoxicated.

• Bernard L. Jennings, 50, of Plainfield was arrested at CVS on Plainfield Ave. for shoplifting.

• On May 17, Jason T. Cagle, 23, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant.

• A Piscataway resident reported that the passenger side of their vehicle had been keyed while parked at Macy's.

• On May 19, Kyon Stevens, 25, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant.

• Christopher E. Bearce, 25, of Lynchburg, Va. was arrested at Best Western for possession of a controlled substance.

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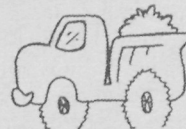
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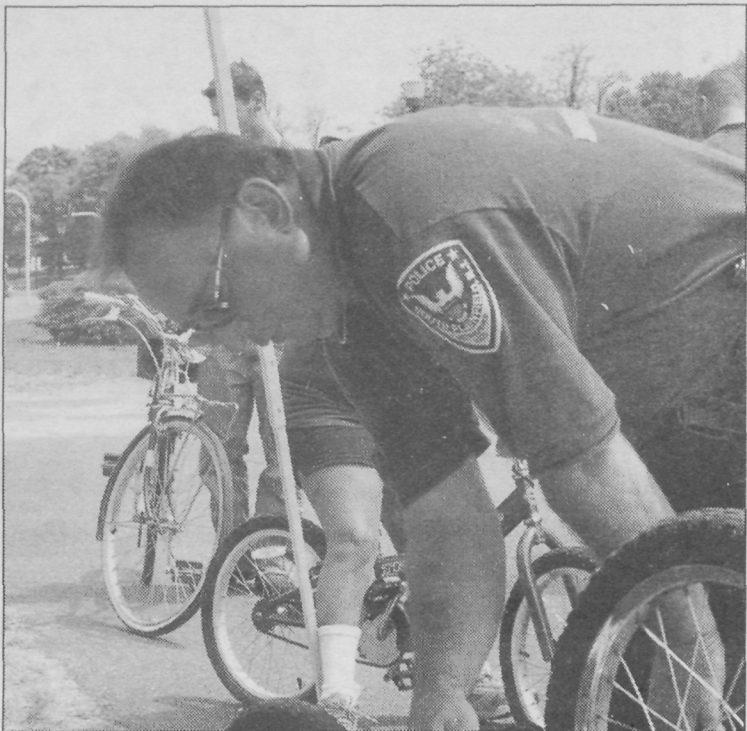
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## Five Get New Wheels at Annual Bike Rodeo

By Patricia Abbott

Bike thief "Baron Von Pedaloff" has been foiled again thanks to the 10th annual South Plainfield Police Department Bike Rodeo. The event, an anti-theft and bike safety program, took place on May 12 at Spring Lake Park. Over 200 people attended the rodeo and more than 50 bikes were registered.

South Plainfield Traffic Safety Advisory Commission provided helmets for those who did not have them. Approximately 60 helmets were distributed. Members of the South Plainfield High School Peer Leadership Group staffed a bike safety course.

Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital's Injury Prevention Coordi-

nator Diana Starace staffed a booth where children observed a demonstration utilizing a Jell-O brain, emphasizing helmet use to prevent brain and head injuries.

Visitors enjoyed a variety of goodies, including hot dogs, soda, ice cream and Rita's Italian Ice. The food was donated by Rita's Italian Ice, Hall's Fast Motor Freight, Freihoffers Bakery, Roma Food, Canada Dry and Bett-A-Way Trucking.

Children who registered bikes each received a raffle ticket for a chance to win a new bike. The bikes were donated by the I. Lehroff & Co. of Edison and Ron and Lynn Sward of Physical Therapy Center of South Plainfield. The winners were Tony

Russell, Pacific Stratus bike; Tommy Pomovets, Schwinn Mavem bike; Gina Abbruzzese, Mongoose Chill bike; Gordon Braun, Pacific Stratus bike; Nick Scalera, Diamondback bike.

The Baron Von Pedaloff anti-theft program was designed by retired South Plainfield Police Officer William Frink. The program encourages the registration of bicycles. Stolen bikes that are registered are more readily reunited with owners.

Lt. Kevin Murtagh of the Traffic Safety Unit said, "I would like to personally thank the sponsors for their generous support of this annual event. It is nice to see that their efforts have a positive impact on protecting the safety of our children."



## Historical Society Raffling Quilt, Expanding Hours

It's back... by popular demand. The South Plainfield Historical Society is once again raffling off a hand-made quilt. The queen size quilt was hand made by the Mennonites of Missouri. It is in the lone star pattern in shades of blue and maroon on a white background.

The quilt will be on display June 10 at the senior center, 2-3:30 p.m. during the Ellis Island program. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased that day from any Historical Society member. The raffle will be drawn after the Labor Day Parade at 2 p.m. at the PAL Building.

The History Center in the lower lever of the old Roosevelt School, is expanding its hours for the summer. In addition to being open every Tuesday from 2-5:30 p.m., beginning June 19 through August 21, the center will be open on Wednesdays from 10 to 2.

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