

The SPVFD 100th Anniversary - A pictorial... See page 7.

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JUN 01 2007

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 10, NO. 38

MEMBER NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

50 CENTS

JUNE 1, 2007

Guidance Center Named For Longtime Counselor



Steve and Chris DeCarlo unveil a plaque dedicating the SPHS Guidance Center in their father's name.

By Jane Dornick

South Plainfield High School held a ceremony on May 8 to dedicate the Guidance Center in memory of former guidance counselor and director, the late Michael A. DeCarlo, who served the school for 35 years.

DeCarlo, born and raised in South Plainfield, graduated from North Plainfield High School in 1945, before the borough had its own high school. He worked in manufacturing prior to being accepted at Tusculum College in Greenville, Tenn. in 1949 on a football scholarship. He transferred to East Tennessee State University after two years, graduating in 1953. He married and had three children, Suzanne, Michael and Christopher. He also served in the U.S. Army from 1953 to 1955 as a corporal. Upon discharge, he began teaching English and social studies in South Plainfield and was also an assistant football coach. DeCarlo received an MA degree from Rutgers University

and attended Montclair State College for graduate courses in guidance. He became a SPHS guidance counselor in 1963 and was honored to have the school yearbook dedicated to him in 1965. In 1966 he replaced Charlie Cann as guidance director.

Aside from his position as guidance director, DeCarlo belonged to the SPEA, MCEA, NJEA, NEA, MCPGA and the AASC. He was a member of UNICO, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Sacred Heart Church, was involved in boy scouts and served as the chairman of the Labor Day Parade Committee.

Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan presented a plaque to the school with a resolution from the State of N.J. on behalf of DeCarlo, as well as a Borough proclamation from Mayor Charlie Butrico. Diegnan said, "He worked with a sense of calm, reassurance and respect and presented students over the years with the many opportunities in this country to go to college."

Longtime friends Anthony Cotoia and Tulio Capparelli, who were instrumental in naming the Guidance Center after DeCarlo, thanked Principal Dr. Ken May for his efforts. Cotoia had been a closed friend of DeCarlo's for 40 years and coached the football team with him. Capparelli said, "This is an historical school," referring to the naming of the high school auditorium after Joseph Mondoro and the gymnasium after Anthony Cotoia. There is also a plaque in the school commemorating a visit to the school by former Dallas Police Officer Nick McDonald, who was instrumental in the capture of Lee Harvey Oswald.

Steve and Chris DeCarlo attended the ceremony where they unveiled two plaques with their father's picture, one outside the Guidance Center door and one inside. Steve said, "We appreciate you honoring him in this way." Their sister Suzanne resides in the Netherlands.

DeCarlo passed away in 2003 and their mother, Kitten, is also deceased.



Marge Sheldon, president of VFW Post 6763 Ladies Auxiliary, and Vice Commander Rudy Poczak place a wreath in front of the post building in honor of deceased veterans on Memorial Day. For more turn to page 5.

Math-a-thon for St. Jude Sets New Record

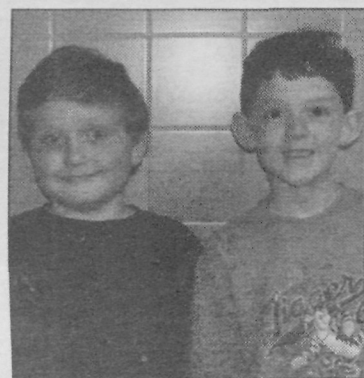
The students at Franklin School recently completed this year's Math-a-thon to raise money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and were once again very successful, raising \$7,531.99.

The top fundraiser this year, Sam Campbell, set a new record. He brought in over \$1,000. Another second grader, Andrew Bisgaard, raised close to \$500. Both of them were recognized for their great efforts and both received special gifts as rewards.

The Math-a-thon is sponsored nationally by Six Flags Theme Park.

Every participant received a certificate and those who raised \$35 or more received not only a certificate, but a math-a-thon t-shirt and a free pass to Six Flags Great Adventure. Any student who raised \$75 or more also received a math-a-thon backpack.

Even though the students all received rewards for their efforts, the biggest winners are those children who benefit from the research being done with the contributions. St. Jude's is working on new treatments that may one day lead to a cure for many forms of cancer. Students can feel proud that they have helped.



Franklin School students Sam Campbell and Andrew Bisgaard.

Motor Vehicles Commission Relocates to Golden Acres Shopping Center



(L to R) Councilman Rob Bengivenga, Freeholder John Pulemena, Freeholder Director David Crabel, Butrico, Councilman Matt Anesh and Motor Vehicles Commission Chief Administrator Sharon Harrington cut the ribbon at the opening of the commission's new location on Oak Tree Avenue.

N.J. Motor Vehicles Commission (MVC) Chief Administrator Sharon Harrington celebrated the grand opening of the latest model agency in the Golden Acres Shopping Center on Tuesday. The former site in Middlesex Mall closed permanently on May 24. The new site at 698 Oak Tree Ave., next to Shopper's World and Big Lots, was funded through a capital improvement bond as a part of the 2003 Motor Vehicles Customer Service and Security Act.

Harrington, joined by Middlesex County Freeholders David Crabel and John Pulemena, Mayor Charles Butrico and Councilmen Rob Bengivenga and Matt Anesh, highlighted features of the new facility and expressed the MVC's strong commitment to providing clean, comfortable and modern facilities for its customers. "We are making every effort to modernize our

facilities statewide to better serve MVC customers. This new agency is another step in accomplishing this task," said Harrington. "Through careful planning, the MVC has wisely invested in customer service, technology and security for its facilities. This investment allows us to continue down the path of becoming a model of excellence in motor vehicle services."

The model agency concept was established following a 2004 comprehensive MVC Siting Study performed by Standard and Poor's Corporate Value Consulting. The study analyzed all aspects of MVC facilities, including locations, service times, transit access, population growth trends and transaction volume projections over a five-year period. The new agency provides approximately 8,500 square feet of business space, almost double the size of the old facility, and includes

12 customer service counters and four digital driver's license camera stations. There are also expanded waiting areas and restrooms, along with plenty of parking. In addition to customer amenities, the new locations provide the MVC with invaluable training space for employees, where essential programs such as document fraud detection and driver history training can be taught.

There are 24 full-time and seven part-time staff members. Hours of operation are weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Tuesday evenings until 7:30 p.m. and Saturdays 8 a.m. to noon. Harrington encourages customers to avoid the end and beginning of the month rush by planning to visit mid-week and mid-month. Additional information and a number of transactions may also be completed online at www.njmvc.gov.



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

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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.

siteplansub-committee

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

June 19, July 17, Aug. 21, Sept. 18, Oct. 16, Nov. 20 and Dec. 18.

recreationcommission

Meets once a month on the second Tuesday of the month, except July and August

PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7716

June 12, Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 13, Dec. 11

July and August: No scheduled meeting

environmentalcommission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)

Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7621

businessadvisorygroup

Meets once a month (first Wednesday)

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 5 p.m. • Questions? 908-757-8100

trafficsafetyadvisorycommission

Meets once a month (fourth Wednesday) at 7 p.m.

in the Conference Room, Borough Hall (No Meeting in August)

boardofeducationcurriculum/technology meetings

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

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

To get an article published in the South Plainfield Observer:

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

IN MY OPINION

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

To the Editor:

On May 12, the South Plainfield Police Department hosted its 10th annual bicycle rodeo at Spring Lake Park. More than 200 residents attended the event, which promoted bike safety and theft prevention. Over 50 children took part in a bicycle safety course staffed by volunteers from the South Plainfield High School Peer Leadership Group. After completing the course, participants all received a certificate.

As part of the "Baron Von Pedaloff" anti theft program, approximately 50 children registered their bikes with the police department. This program, designed by retired South Plainfield Police Officer William Frink, encourages the children to register their bikes with the police department in the event they are stolen.

The department distributed over 60 bicycle helmets to children that attended who did not have a helmet. The South Plainfield Traffic Safety Advisory Commission provided the helmets. Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital's Injury Prevention Coordinator Diane Starace staffed a booth where the children observed a demonstration utilizing a Jell-O brain, emphasizing helmet use to prevent brain and head injuries.

The children then feasted on hot dogs, soda, ice cream and Rita's Italian Ice, Hall's Fast Motor Freight, Freihoffers Bakery, Roma Foods, Canada Dry, and Bett-A-Way Trucking donated these items.

Finally, five lucky children won bicycles which were raffled off. The bikes were donated by the I. Lechroff & Co. of Edison and Ron and Lynn Sward of the 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 and Nick Scalera—Diamond-back bike.

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.

**SINCERELY,
LT. KEVIN MURTAGH, TRAFFIC
SAFETY UNIT**

Dear Editor:

Recently I read in the *Home News Tribune* about one of our wrestlers who, at the recommendation of the school superintendent, was perma-

nently suspended from attending South Plainfield High School. The problem with this situation is that there have been far greater altercations at the school and in this situation the punishment does not fit the crime.

Now this letter is not about the wrestler, but the abusive power of Dr. Rosado, the superintendent of education. He continues to disrupt our education system with his Gestapo tactics. The pattern here is that in September he will be absorbing his accrued sick and vacation time, which will bring him to finally officially leaving our system in January. (I wish I had those benefits in my job).

The problems, however, go far beyond the wrestler situation. This month, Dr. Rosado took it upon himself, without interacting with the staff at the high school or the board, to fire two non-tenured teachers for having satisfactory evaluations. Both teachers, on their reviews were recommended for rehire by their respective supervisors as well as a pay raise, but here again the superintendent, without just cause and any input or interaction, fired both teachers. One of the teachers reported a sexual harassment complaint after being assaulted by a fellow teacher earlier this year. The board, after an investigation, resulted in the firing of a teacher (he actually resigned) and the relocation of another teacher to a different school. Now was the non-tenured teacher fired for having a satisfactory evaluation or for reporting a sexual harassment complaint?

Both teachers have asked for a hearing in front of the board, which has the power to overturn Dr. Rosado's decision. It is time the board got a hold of itself and realize that it must take back control of our school system. The superintendent is leaving. He cares nothing about the mess he will leave behind. Just like past superintendents who have left the district (see English vs. The South Plainfield Board of Education), the legal battle will ensue and cost the taxpayers of this town thousands of dollars to defend the actions of an obvious violation of the right for an employee to work in an environment free of sexual harassment.

Our Board of Education is an

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.

elected position and given a trust to do what is best for our students, teachers, and citizens. Both of the teachers, from what I understand, are adored by their students. Ask any high school administrator and they will tell you the value these teachers add to our system, but are powerless to do anything about it. How can an individual fire an employee who is recommended to be rehired by their supervisor, who has never observed the teacher in a classroom environment, has rave documented reviews from not only the assistant superintendent, but by the staff coordinator? To me this is a retaliation move against the teacher. The superintendent is abusing his power and the board needs to recognize this abuse, and take corrective action by overturning his decision not to rehire the teacher who reported the sexual abuse. This corrective and rightful action might eliminate the legal battles that will probably ensue, the involvement of the State and Federal Government and save the taxpayers thousands of dollars in legal fees to defend an act that is obviously revengeful. But most of all it will send a message that our elected officials are the ones who represent our interests and our children.

KEVIN MULLENS

Affordable Housing Agency Special Meeting

A public meeting has been called by the Affordable Housing Agency of the Borough of South Plainfield to discuss the Affordable Housing Program. The meeting will be held on Monday, June 11 at 6:30 p.m. at Borough Hall.



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The South Plainfield Education Association's 2007 N.J. Governor's Teacher Recognition Program honorees just prior to departure to the awards luncheon at the Pines Manor in Edison on May 23. Pictured (L to R) are Superintendent Dr. Robert Rosado, Jacquelyn Barton, Mary Rodger, Michele Bloch, Kristin Redziniak, Joan Stasio, Martha Klink, Anthony Barca, Don Panzarella and Susan Gwiazda.

Keep Kids Alive Drive 25 Continues

The South Plainfield Police Department will again be sponsoring the pedestrian safety campaign, "Keep Kids Alive, Drive 25." The goal of the campaign is to target observance of speed limits on residential streets.

In most towns and cities across the United States, the residential speed limit is 25 miles per hour. The campaign reminds drivers to check their speed when driving through borough neighborhoods. The vision of the "Keep Kids Alive, Drive 25" campaign is to unite neighborhoods across the United States in creating safer streets for the benefit for all pedestrians and motorists. As the school year ends, pedestrian traffic will increase in our neighborhoods and on our roadways. Our goal is to make these neighborhoods as safe as possible. A "Keep Kids Alive" banner will be displayed throughout the borough on main roadways as a reminder to motorists of our safety efforts. The South Plainfield Business Association purchased lawn signs, which can be obtained at no cost to South Plainfield residents, by calling Lt. Kevin Murtagh of the Traffic Safety Bureau at (908) 226-7679. The signs can be displayed in residential neighborhoods, espe-

cially those areas used a cut-through streets to avoid traffic signals or congestion. Traffic enforcement will also be increased throughout the borough, targeting speeding violators.

The campaign has proven to be highly successful throughout other states. The campaign is part of the

police department's continuing effort to provide a safer borough by raising the awareness of speed limits throughout neighborhoods where our children play and pedestrians walk.

For additional information, you can go to the Web site, www.keepkidsalive.org.

American Water Offers Residents a Helping Hand

Water is one of life's essentials: perhaps something most of us take for granted. Unfortunately, some people worry they could be without it. Across New Jersey, there are families and individuals who need help paying their water bills. That is why New Jersey American Water is expanding its H₂O Help to Others Assistance Program by offering a Discount Program.

Our existing H₂O Help to Others Assistance Program pays a portion of a customer-in-need's bill. The H₂O Help to Others Discount Program goes a step further by providing aid to New Jersey American Water's most economically challenged customers through rate reductions amounting

to approximately 20% of a customer's monthly bill. To qualify for this program, customers must have annual income at or below 175% of the Federal Poverty guidelines.

New Jersey American Water's H₂O Help to Others Assistance Program and Discount Program are administered by the \$1 Energy Fund, which is an independent, non-profit organization established to help those in need pay their utility bills.

Customers who need help and who qualify for the H₂O Help to Others Discount Program can apply by contacting \$1 Energy Fund toll free at (888) 282-6816.

Opposition Leads Builder to Modify Martin Drive Plans

By Libby Barsky

The application to build five houses on Martin Drive ran into opposition at Tuesday night's Planning Board meeting causing builder Nick Lemmo to modify the plans and reduce the number of homes to four.

The initial plan called for five single family homes to be built around a cul-de-sac. One of the lots was on a site which had a 40-foot slope with a seven foot drop in what would have been its rear yard.

"I feel this is overuse of property. That [site] isn't usable," said Mayor Charles Butrico during the first hearing on the application held in March.

Although fewer neighbors were present at the second hearing, their concerns about additional housing in the area were the same—the impact of rain runoff and potential flooding in their homes, despite assurances from engineer Edward S. Dec that plans include retention basins to capture water to provide less discharge and reduce runoff.

Maureen Terhune, who lives at 205 Fred Allen Drive, recalled moving into her home and not needing to purchase flood insurance in order to get a

mortgage. Roy Brubaker of Norway Lane brought in photos of his home, showing the flooded side yard. The flooding occurred from a heavy rain in October, a situation that hadn't occurred before his neighbor paved his driveway. Brubaker was also concerned about the possibility of contaminants in the soil from buried demolition debris and said it should be investigated.

"I pull out glass, concrete and other items when I plant a tree," said Richard DeFrancisco of 161 Martin Drive.

Attorney Walter Abrams disputed the charge of contaminants on the property. "Applicants must get approvals for landfill and buffer areas and are subject to approval of their plans by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

DeFrancisco also noted that the planned extension of a 50-foot paved road on Martin Drive leading into and out of the cul-de-sac will bring drivers into his driveway at 161 Martin Drive in order to turn around.

The Planning Board will review the revised plan for the development of four houses on the site at their June 12 meeting.

2007 Elks Poster Contest Winners

On May 15, South Plainfield Elks Lodge #2298 hosted an awards event at the senior citizen center to honor the 2007 poster contest winners.

Each year the Elks organization runs a poster contest which is open to local students, kindergarten through high school. Participants included students from Riley, Franklin, Kennedy, Grant and the Middle School.

This year 74 posters were sub-

mitted for judging. Of the 74, there were 21 lodge winners, 19 district winners and two state winners.

The recipients were awarded certificates, medals and trophy medal stands. In addition, winners at the state level received cash prizes.

Thank you to the senior center for providing the room and kitchen for the party.

Congratulations to the winners!

—Submitted by Debra Czech, Exalted Ruler Lodge #2298

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Around Town

Spaghetti Dinner

June 2

Wesley United Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave., will hold a spaghetti dinner with homemade marinara sauce served with choice of meatballs or sausage on Saturday, June 2. Enjoy the fresh salad bar, bread, butter, beverage and homemade dessert 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 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,

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.



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What's happening at the South Plainfield

SENIOR CENTER

JUNE

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>UPCOMING EVENTS</p> <p>NJ Motor Vehicles Commission at Senior Center-June 21</p> <p>Hunterdon Hills Trip - July 12 "The Musical Time Machine"</p>				<p>Bingo 10am-2pm</p> <p>1</p>
<p>Knitting/Crocheting 9:30am-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Art Class 11:30am</p> <p>7</p>	<p>Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social Group 10am</p> <p>8</p>	<p>Aerobics 8:45 am Computer Classes 10am, 11:20am, 1pm Line Dancing 10am Crocheting 1pm Tai Chi 2pm Taj Mahal Trip 9am</p> <p>9</p>	<p>Shopping 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 10am, 11am, 1pm Exercise Class 1:15pm</p> <p>10</p>	<p>Bingo 10am-2pm</p> <p>11</p>

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

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 senior 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 — Indoor Yard Sale

June 1-2

Resurrection of Christ Church, located at 649 Bound Brook Rd. in Dunellen, will hold an indoor yard sale on Friday, June 1 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, June 2, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Clean items and well organized, electronics, jewelry, toys, dolls, household, new and gently used clothing.

Outdoor Flea Market

June 2

St. Francis Episcopal Church 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.

Blackrose to Perform

June 2

Blackrose, a band performing classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will perform at Rugs & Riffy's, 493 Rahway Ave. in Woodbridge on Saturday, June 2 at 10 p.m. No cover charge.

Family Day

June 3

The second annual Family Day for Prevention Ride, Walk, Run and Play will be held on Sunday, June 3. Registration at 8 a.m. in Grove 4 in Johnson Park. Activities start at 9 a.m. and conclude at 3 p.m., rain or shine. Ample parking is available. Registration is \$25 for adults and \$5 for children. For information, call (732) 254-3344 or register online at 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.

For more information, contact Brian at 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 to MistyAngel22@aol.com or (732) 764-9073 or visit 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.

Summer Carnival Extravaganza

June 20-24

The Eula Mac Amaker Family Life Center, Inc. will hold their 2nd Annual Summer Carnival Extravaganza, Wednesday, June 20 through Sunday, June 24 on the Plainfield High School Grounds, 950 Park Ave. in Plainfield.

Singles Night on the Boardwalk

June 23

Young Sierrans 20s & 30s Singles Night on the Boardwalk will take place on Saturday, June 23 at 3 p.m. at Point Pleasant Beach Miniature Golf & Diner.

For information and meetup area, RSVP to MistyAngel22@aol.com or (732) 764-9073.

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 or call (732) 983-1100.

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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

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South Plainfield Observer



Memorial Day Observed Locally

On Monday South Plainfield dignitaries joined residents and veterans at the annual Memorial Day ceremonies to pay homage to the members of the armed forces who served, were wounded or died while defending our country. The services were co-sponsored by the American Legion and VFW.

Last week members of the VFW and American Legion placed flags on almost 2,000 graves of local servicemen who are buried in South Plainfield.

Memorial Day, once called Decoration Day, was designated as a day to decorate the graves of veterans from all branches of the service. The day has since been renamed Memorial Day.

Monday's services began at the American Legion Post with Rev. Charles Mingle reading an opening prayer. Post Commander Joe Penyak welcomed everyone and introduced Mayor

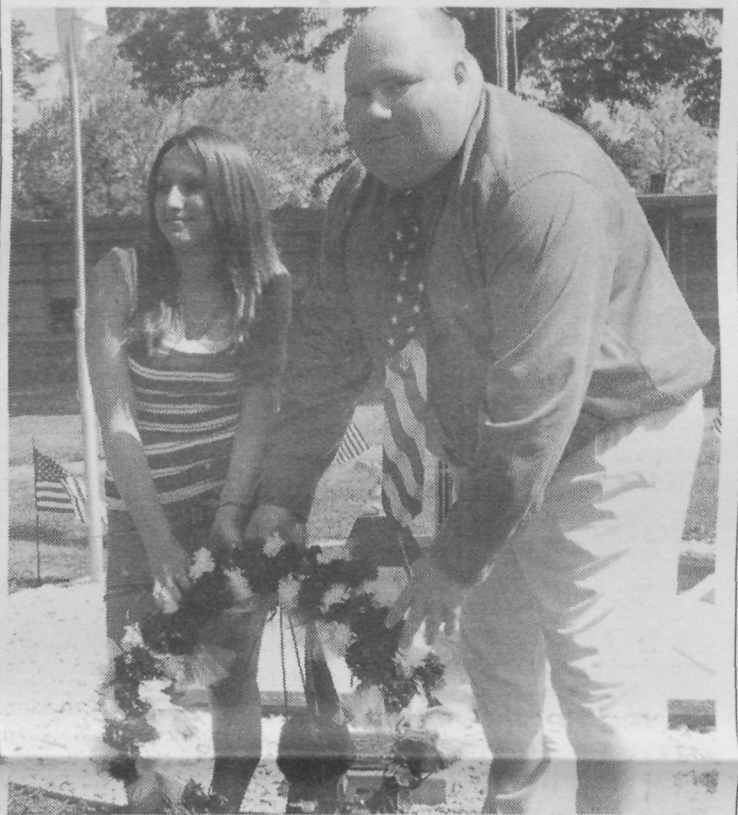
Charles Butrico and other dignitaries who attended the ceremonies. A wreath was placed in front of the American Legion and "Taps" were played before the group proceeded to the three cemeteries in town and the Veterans Memorial behind the senior center.

At each stop, South Plainfield High School students Ricky Sierzega, Andy Kerago, Paul Cantarella played drums while leading a solemn procession of veterans and residents. Also at each site a prayer was read, and a wreath was placed followed by a four gun salute. "Taps" was played by Grant School student Corey Singer. The drummers were assisted by Bob Publik and Andy Kerage.

Closing ceremonies took place at the VFW on Front Street. A wreath was placed in front of the building, "Taps" was played and there was a gun salute. Speakers included Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan and Mayor Charles Butrico.

The South Plainfield High School Traveling Choir concluded the ceremonies by singing "The Star Spangled Banner." Singing were Davonna Approvato, Kelsey Hoffman, Allison Paterek, Catheryn Paterek, Darren Kaczowski, Alan Kasmer, Chris Duquette, Nate Udel, Dan Sambat, Michael Duquette, Brittany Penevolpe and Trevor Hankins.

The ceremonies were followed by a lunch prepared by members of the VFW Auxiliary.



On May 24 the Middle School held a Memorial Day program. The courtyard where the event was held was decorated in red, white and blue with American flags. Principal Steve Novak spoke about the significance of Memorial Day and the importance of having a sense of nationalism as well as patriotism. He asked students to always remember those who died to keep our country free so that it would remain that way for their children and their children's children. Student Council President Constance Calderoney was also a speaker. Guests included Dr. Robert Rosado, superintendent; Kaye Crown, assistant superintendent; Laurie Hall, supervisor of special services; William Beegle, director of guidance; MaryEllen Martko, staff developer; and BOE members Debbie Boyle and Robert Jones. Members of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department were also in attendance. The ceremony concluded with the playing of "Taps." Pictured above are Joe Blondo, Middle School teacher and Constance Calderoney. —By Patricia Abbott

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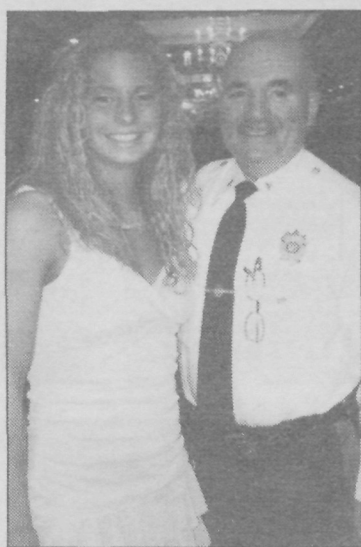
southplainfieldpeople

Milestones

Ashleyanne Chosney Awarded Academic Scholarship

Ashleyanne Chosney of South Plainfield, a senior at Bishop Ahr High School in Edison was recently awarded an Academic Scholarship from the 200 Club of Union County, and the Plainfield PBA Local 19 Scholarship. From the day Ashleyanne decided to attend Bishop Ahr, the gymnastics team was ranked number one in the state of New Jersey and remained undefeated for the past four years earning GMC, Sectional, Regional and N.J. State Championship titles.

Ashleyanne earned her varsity letter freshman year as a starter and full time competitor for Bishop Ahr competing in every meet and every event with a status of first team all area and all state nominations up until her season ending injury the first practice of her senior year. As team captain, Ashleyanne was performing her floor routine at Bishop Ahr on Sept. 11 when she suffered a high-risk-fully torn ACL and torn meniscus with bone damage. Chosney stated, "As an athlete, I have been through grueling, often painful conditioning, but nothing could ever compare to the challenge



Ashleyanne Chosney and Edward Santiago, Chief of Plainfield P.D.

and uphill battle I was facing!"

Initially the doctors claimed that Ashley would never tumble or perform gymnastics again, but being the competitor she is, Ashley refused to lie down and sit back! Prior to her injury, Ashley was receiving letters and phone

calls from Division One programs but is extremely proud of the scholarship she received from the 200 Club of Union County based on her values and respect for law enforcement.

One week after surgery, Ashley began her excruciating rehabilitation after her knee was literally reconstructed. The timeline from her date of surgery was a minimum of one year before the doctors would allow her back in the gym. As the interest from Division One programs continued, even after the major injury, Ashleyanne held a place deep in her heart for Rutgers University. Chosney stated, "My parents have season tickets for Rutgers football and when we were all at the Louisville game last year, sharing in the excitement, I knew then and there, Rutgers is the place for me!"

Ashleyanne was offered a spot on the Rutgers Gymnastics Team. Based on the fact that she is still undergoing rehabilitation from her major injury, Ashleyanne recently attended tryouts for the Rutgers cheerleading team and was awarded a position on the team. Over three hundred girls attended the highly competitive tryouts and Ashleyanne made the team!

"We are so proud of Ashleyanne," said Mark and Mary Chosney—her parents, "Ashley has maintained honor roll status her entire high school career at Bishop Ahr, with countless academic and athletic awards. She literally spends 30 hours a week in the gym conditioning, volunteers to help the poor, coaches and helps handicapped children and has always maintained the highest level of respect for her teachers, her parents and her peers, while possessing the killer instinct and drive towards academic and athletic excellence. Our daughter has grown into a beautiful, kind, caring, intelligent and dedicated young woman that has become a model for high level high school athletes proving that academic and athletic prowess can and must, co-exist."

Jennifer GaNun Graduates from Springfield College in Massachusetts

Jennifer L. GaNun graduated from Springfield College in Mass. on May 13 with a BS in Health Sciences and Rehabilitation Studies and a minor in dance with a grade point average over 3.5.

While on campus she was the recipient of the 2007 Student Humanitarian Award, which is given to a student who has committed themselves to serving humanity and working towards the pursuit of social justice in

society. The nomination for this award is made by faculty. Jen participated in AmeriCorps and did volunteer work with ARISE for social justice working for the rights of people living in poverty. She was also a SC Dancer for four years and Best of Broadway, dancing and singing in musicals.

Jen is the daughter of proud parents Alan and Cindy GaNun of South Plainfield.

Ashlen Udell Named to Dean's List At Montclair University

Ashlen Udell, a junior at Montclair State University, attained Dean's List status for the fourth semester in a row.

Ashlen is a music education major, studying flute with Stephanie Starin, piano with Lana Ivanov and is minor in dance performance. She is presently performing in Prague and Vienna with the Montclair State University Chorale and Associated Choral singers with members of the Czech Radio Orchestra under the direction of Heather Buchanan at the Dvorak festival.

This summer, Ashlen will be studying modern dance at the Martha Graham Dance Intensive in Manhattan. He will also be participating this August in the Skidmore Summer Flute Institute at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York. This past

April, Ashlen achieved "honors" status in piano performance at the Young Pianists Competition of New Jersey.



Ryan M. Decker

Decker Names to Dean's List at Virginia Tech

Ryan M. Decker, a junior Mechanical Engineering major at Virginia Tech University in Blacksburg, Va., earned a position on the Dean's List for the Spring 2007 semester. He is also the Social Chairman of the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity.

Ryan is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Decker of South Plainfield.

Doris Haley Graduates from Drew University

On Saturday, May 19, Doris L. Haley graduated from Drew University. Doris received a Master of Divinity Degree and graduated Magna Cum Laude. She is currently a pastor at Inesville UMC and West Portal UMC.

Doris plans to continue in the ordination process of the United Methodist Conference. Doris and her husband, Dale, have been residents of South Plainfield for 32 years.

Share Your Good News... Send us your Milestones!



Brother and sister, Alan and Shelly Graziano

Alan Graziano, Shelly Graziano Earn Degrees at Cook College

Alan D. Graziano graduated from Cook College, Rutgers University on May 18 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Meteorology. He graduated from South Plainfield High School in 2002.

Shelly A. Graziano graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from

Cook College, Rutgers University on May 18. She is attending graduate school this summer at Rutgers Graduate School of Education and will complete her masters degree in May 2008.

Both Alan and Shelly are the children of Alan and LeeAnn Graziano.

Nathanael Udell Named Governor's School Scholar in Music

Nathanael Udell, a junior at South Plainfield High School, was named Governor's School Scholar in Music for the summer of 2007.

Nathanael was one of two horn players from the state of New Jersey selected to participate in an intensive chamber music program during the month of July. He has already distinguished himself as an outstanding musician, participating in both Region Orchestra as well as All State Wind Ensemble and Orchestra for 2007, and is presently ranked as the top junior horn player in the state. He is a member of the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra, a select group of young musi-

cians from the New Jersey and Philadelphia area.

Nathanael was awarded "High Honors" in piano in the Young Pianists Competition of New Jersey this past April. He is also a full scholarship student at the Kendall Betts International Horn Camp, taking place this June in New Hampshire. Nathanael studies horn with Jeffry Kirschen of the Philadelphia Orchestra, Jeff Nelsen, associate professor of Music at Indiana University and Bernhard Scully of The Canadian Brass. He is a violin student of Gordon Tedeschi and studies piano with Yelena Ivanov.

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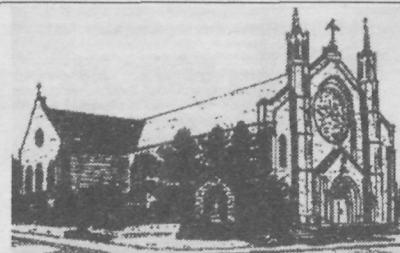


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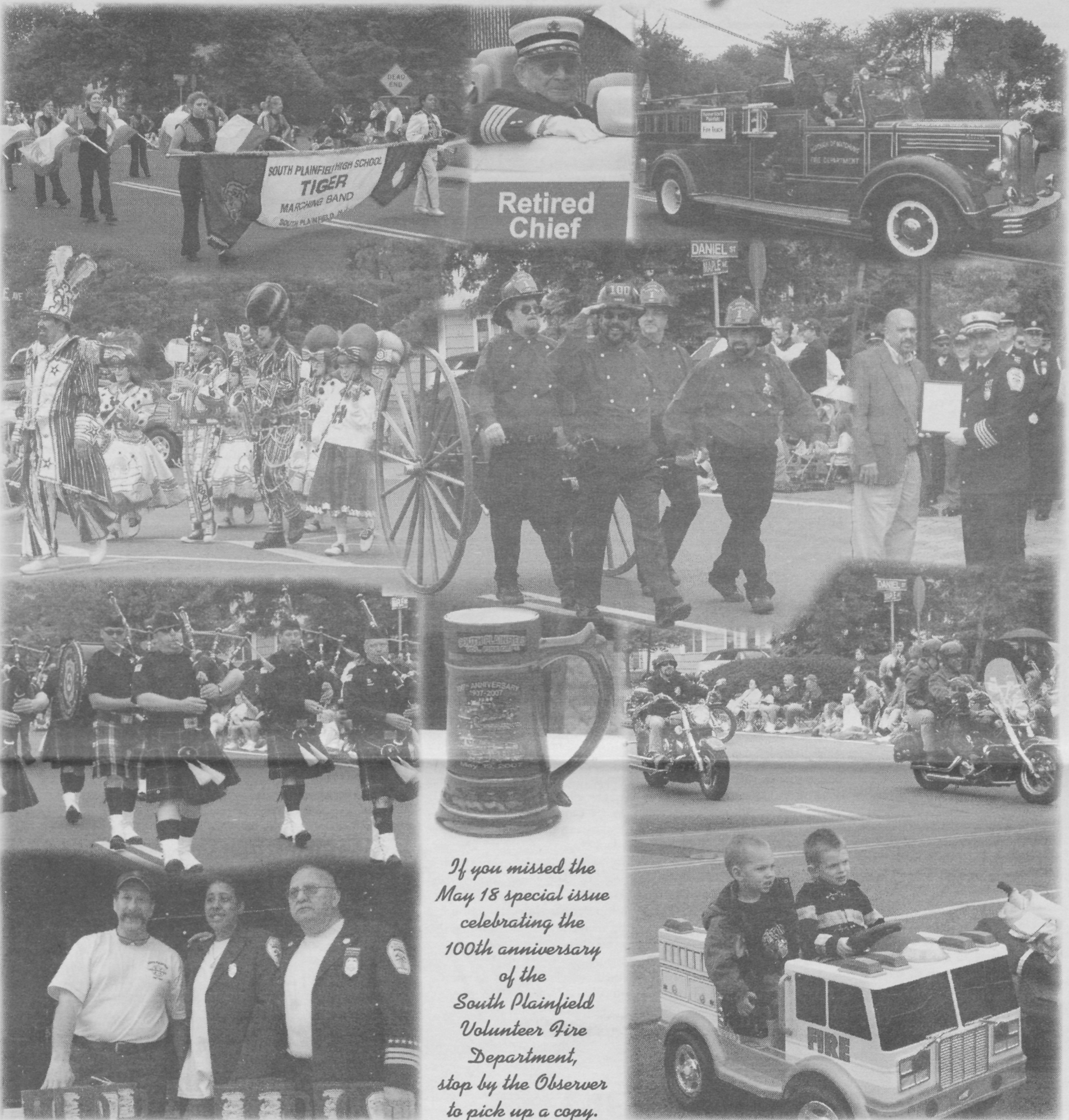
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.

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.

SPVD Celebrates 100 Years of Volunteerism



If you missed the May 18 special issue celebrating the 100th anniversary of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department, stop by the Observer to pick up a copy.



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Sports

13 Become Members of 1,000 lb. Club

By Scott Barton, Junior, SPHS

For those who do not already know, the 2006 Varsity Football team had a very successful and productive season. We posted a 6-5 record while winning the first playoff game in Head Coach Philip McGuane's coaching history at South Plainfield.

As a starter on the team, I know from firsthand experience the hard work and determination it takes for a football team to become successful. The quest for success begins in the off-season through our weightlifting program.

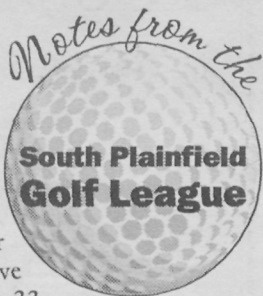
Our weightlifting program is primarily run by our head coach and Superior Strength and Conditioning Coach, Tom Rizk. Throughout the off-season, a player is required to attend the weight room a certain number of times to be eligible to play football. While attending the weight room, our goal as a team is to get bigger, faster and stronger. However, there is another goal that every individual strives to achieve. This goal is to be part of the 1,000 Pound Club. To become a member, an individual has to accumulate 1,000 pounds in four of the five lifts in our workout. Such lifts include flat bench press, incline bench press, squat, push press and power cleans. Although most people are not aware of what most of these lifts are, they take tremendous technique and practice to perfect.

In our 2006-2007 off-season lifting program, an abundance of players have become members of the 1,000 Pound Club. The members include myself, as well as Huy La, Troy Russell, Scott Hunterton, Kyle Darr, Chris Uribe, Kyle Smith, Akil Nurse, Nick Levensdusky, Russell Pomovets, Navendra Itwari, Steven Chen and Keith Campbell.

The guidance of our coaches and work ethic of our players should lead to another successful year for the Tigers in the fall of 2007.



Freshman Team Runner Up in GMC—Last Thursday the SPHS Freshmen Baseball Team were runners up in the Greater Middlesex County Tournament. The Tigers had a remarkable season, going 15-4 overall and received the number one seed in the GMC's held May 12-24. On the road to the championship, they had to face Spotswood, East Brunswick and Monroe. They beat Monroe in the semi-finals and were defeated by Bishop Ahr in the championship game. Congratulations on a great season to the players and coaches. Pictured above standing left to right are Coach Pat Sarullo, Joey Vetusch, Ryan Harrington, Bobby Sacks, Carlos Ruiz, Kyle Hughes and Assistant Coach Mike Delucca. In the front row are Ryan Flanagan, Matt Miceli, Dylan Papa, Robert Pasternak, Karov Parikh, Mark Benak and Mark McCullen. Not pictured is Matthew Cesare.



Mike King turned in another superlative even-par 33 and teammate John Gavin had a solid round of 36, but it just wasn't enough as Oak Tree Buy-Rite was toppled from the ranks of the undefeated, 16-4, by Witty's Liquors who finally came to life. Howard Adler smashed some awesome drives on his way to a 38 and Kevin "Boom Boom" Bickunas, who seems to be slowly getting back to his old form, had a 39 for Witty's.

Eddie Banach of Eddie's Grinders fired a beautiful one-over par, 34, and got a lot of help from his talented teammates as the Grinders totally demolished Patti's Construction, 20-0. Fred "Catfish" Kirchofer ably assisted in achieving the shutout by contributing a nice round of 36. Jay Bertleson and Chris Dillon both played well and had a pair of 37's. For Patti's, only Fred Behr managed to break 40 with his score of 39.

Submitted By Bob Nilan

Coming off last week's big 18-2 win over Witty's, Pornovets put on another power display and knocked off KC's Korner, 12-8, administering the fourth loss in a row to the defending league champions. Marty Van De Vaarst earned the medal again for Pornovets with his round of 38, while Mark Dugan's 36 was the low score for KC's Korner.

Andy "The Florida Feather" and Frank "I'm Working on a Nickname" Weingart have quickly established themselves as a formidable partnership as they led the Roughriders to a 14-6 victory over Twin City. Weingart captured medallist honors again for the Roughriders with a 39. No one on

Twin City shot below 40.

Frank Matthews of Sport & Social may have to take a course in potions at Hogwart's and put some magical elixir in a goblet of Merlot and have all his players take a healthy drink before teeing off. Something has to be done to turn this team around. Last week they were wiped out by Plainfield Animal Hospital, 19-1, and this week they were hammered by 2 Buds, 2 Dubs, 15-5. Jeff Orth led the way for 2 Buds, 2 Dubs, with a 39, while

everyone on Sport & Social had a tough time making pars.

Full results were not available for the Hackers-Plainfield Animal Hospital match because of a failure to turn in scorecards.

Low scores for the night: Mike King, 33; Ed Banach, 34; Fred Kirchofer, 36; Mark Dugan, 36; John Gavin, 36; Jay Bertleson, 37; Chris Dillon, 37; Howard Adler, 38; Marty Van De Vaarst, 38.

LEAGUE STANDINGS

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

*Does not include the results of Week #5 (May 22)

TRAVELING SOCCER

Two More Wins For Arsenal

Recently, the U-8 boys traveling soccer team added two more wins to their already amazing record. The first win was against the Berkeley Heights Bears. The ending score was 2-0, with the goals scored by Jake Hoffman and Jake Giordano.

The second win was against the Monroe Twp. Hotshots. This game ended with a score of 4-3. Goals were scored by Alec Paez, Jake Hoffman, and Jason Cieszkiewicz.

During both home games, the boys

played hard to keep their record of being undefeated this spring season.

With the great teamwork and passing skills by Jose Arubla, Tyler Curtis, Ricky Pellegrino, Nicholas Plate, Samardhi Jeedigunta, Jake Smith and Daniel Haus, Arsenal hopes to finish out this season on top. With only three games left, let's hope they can achieve this goal!



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Weekend Schedule: Saturday evenings 4:30 pm
Sunday mornings 8am and 11am





Photo courtesy of Tom Stillman

Participants in the Emil Leporino Memorial Golf Outing

What a Way to Celebrate One Man's Vision!

The weather was around 85 degrees, the sun was bright and despite the winds coming from the south, everyone who took part in the Emil Leporino Memorial Golf Outing, which was held on Tuesday, May 1 at the Cranbury Golf Club in West Windsor, had one goal in mind, to raise money for a scholarship to benefit the youth of our community.

Golf committee members Carolyn Allen, Marge Reedy, Bob Longo, Rickie McCriskin and Debbie Leporino, along with volunteers Ken LaFrenniere, Frank Rainear, Sharon Jeffreys, Colleen and her staff at the Cranbury Golf Club, the 62 golfers who participated, the vendors who donated prizes and the sponsors for the outing, participated in a fundraiser that not only benefits the youth of our community, but also followed one man's vision.

Throughout the day, participants who knew Emil and worked with him

spoke very highly of him and all of his hard work and dedication to the youth of this community and how great a person he was. Participants who never met Emil, knew of him and truly wanted to follow through with the visions he set forth for both the South Plainfield Education Foundation and the South Plainfield Business Association. This really set the tone for the day and made it seem as if Emil was right there golfing with everyone.

There were a lot of door prizes and raffles included tickets for the Yankee vs. Minnesota game on July 5, along with a 50/50 also helped to raise funds for a scholarship in Emil's name.

First place team members this year were Mike Cortese, Scott Linick, Rick McElhiney and Mike Sicanowits. Prizes went to Dr. Robert Rosado, Rich O'Connor and Armand Pizza, Jr. for Closest to the Pin; Guy Moretti for Longest Drive and Bill Buttrick for Straightest Drive.

To memorialize the yearly golf outing, its purpose and the man who started this vision, a plaque will be displayed in Borough Hall with the names of the first place winners of this yearly event.

The golf committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people and the companies who were involved with and supported the golf outing. Also, additional thanks to Tom Stillman of Stillman Photos for taking photos at the outing and the staff of the *Observer* for their usual great cooperation and support. The support we receive for an event such as this is one is the best gift you can give to the youth of our community.

Next year's outing will be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2008, at the Cranbury Golf Club.

Details to follow in future editions of the *Observer*.

Submitted by Debbie Leporino

Obituaries

Doris J. (Irving) Rinker, 83

Doris J. (Irving) Rinker died on Monday, May 28 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Plainfield, Doris lived in North Plainfield and Scotch Plains for a few years before settling in South Plainfield 57 years ago.

For several years Mrs. Rinker worked in the loan department at the First National Bank of Dunellen.

She enjoyed carousel horses and trips to Atlantic City.

Doris was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother who will be sadly missed by her family.

Surviving are her husband of 60 years, Eugene Rinker; a daughter, Robin Rinker of South Plainfield; a son, Glenn E. and Marica Van Denmark of Bainbridge, N.Y.; a sister, Myrtle Nissen and husband Harry of Virginia; a daughter-in-law, Jill Reilly of South Plainfield and two grandchildren, Brandon Rinker and Charlotte Kaplan and her husband Adam. Also surviving is a great-granddaughter,

Madison Kaplan and a great-grandson to be, baby boy Kaplan.

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

Anne L. (Sankner) Ugi, 92

Anne L. (Sankner) Ugi died on Thursday, May 24 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

She had resided in the Central Jersey area for most of her life before settling in Middlesex in the early 1990's.

Many years ago, Anne had been employed with Revlon in Edison for several years and had been a former member of the VFW Women's Auxiliary.

Predeceased by her husband, John Ugi, she is also predeceased by three sisters and a brother.

Surviving are a daughter, three grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

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

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Middle School Music Department members at Dorney Park Music Festival.

Middle School Music Dept. Wins 13 Trophies

On May 18, members of the South Plainfield Middle School Music Department participated in the Music Showcase Festival in Allentown, Pa. At the festival, musical ensembles were played for adjudication in Allentown's

Center City and then they spent the rest of the day at Dorney Park.

The Gems, under the direction of Donna Markiewicz, won first place in the choral division with a rating of superior, which is the highest rating

any group can achieve. Ellen Zinsky, a soprano soloist, achieved a best soloist award. The Middle School Orchestra, under the direction of Carleen Tedeschi, also won first place with a rating of superior. In addition, they won section awards for best violin section and best bass section. Flute player Angela DeSantis won an award for best soloist. The Middle School Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Andrew Veiss, also won first place in the concert band division with a rating of superior. The ensemble won section awards for woodwinds, brass and percussion. Trumpeter Justin Lesky and timpanist Matthew Kanaley achieved soloist awards. The wind ensemble also attained the award for the top instrumental group at the festival.

All of the directors are proud of the students' accomplishments and expect them to continue to do well in the future.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by James O'Mara requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit proposed detached garage exceeds 15' height; 20' proposed, and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 115 Fred Allen Drive, Block 282, Lot 55 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.

\$38.50

June 1, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Francis V. Fusaro requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit proposed 6 x 32 porch lacks 30' required front setback; 25' proposed, and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 66 Leeds Drive, Block 122, Lot 78 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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June 1, 2007



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Celebrate NJ Honors Sacred Heart Students for Their Writing Skills

Spirits were soaring as 60 student authors from Middlesex County, whose articles were selected for publication by Celebrate NJ!, were honored at a special award ceremony at Brunswick Square Mall on May 22.

All of the students participated in an interactive online program designed to make the required study of New Jersey a fun and engaging project. The challenge was to help create a newspaper written by and for New Jersey kids about New Jersey, researching subject areas from arts to science to sports and everything in between.

Karen Hatcher, executive director of Celebrate NJ! says, "I was impressed with how poised these students were when summarizing their projects. They chose some very challenging topics, from the environmental impact of the Meadowlands to a New Jersey historical timeline to the Statue of Liberty. By making connections to New Jersey's people, places, businesses, events and history, we hope these students are inspired and feel proud to call New Jersey home. The awards event gives the rest of us the opportunity to be inspired by them—New Jersey's future."

Linda Goetz, a fourth grade teacher from Sacred Heart School added, "This program is great for getting kids really interested in studying New Jersey. Now, when things come on the news, the kids will know more about the state. It helps them appreciate where they live."

South River Mayor Robert Szegeti, Monroe Township Councilwoman Leslie Koppel-Egierd and the Somerset Patriots Mascot Sparkee were on hand to congratulate the children.

Each student who participated in the program, whether selected for an award or not, has also been invited to take part in one of eight Celebrate NJ! nights which will be held at minor league baseball parks across the state. Students from Middlesex County will attend the Somerset Patriots game on Monday, June 4 or the Lakewood BlueClaws game on May 31.

Students from the following schools were honored at the event: Appleby School, Spotswood; Brookside Elementary School, Monroe Township; St. Bartholomew School, East Bruns-

Cappy Award Nominations Sought

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

Send nominations to the police department or directly to the Recreation Department, 1250 Maple Ave., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080; Attn: Kevin Hughes, recreation director.

LEGAL NOTICE

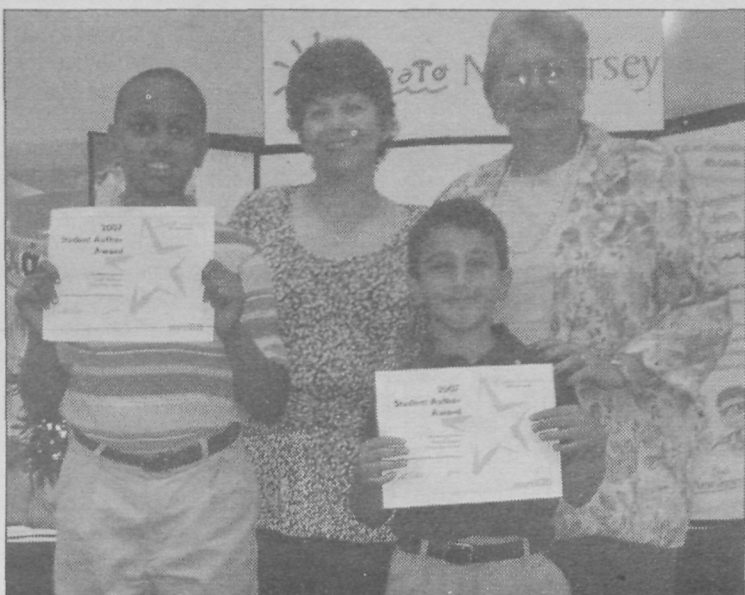
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE

May 25, 2007—Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its' meeting held on May 24, 2007.

A. Case #51-06—Site/Use/V—EES Realty, LLC. Block 308; Lot 18; 1301 New Market Avenue. The applicant's request for a use variance to allow a rental equipment business with a contractor storage yard, a variance for the height of the side and rear fencing, continuation of the nonconforming lot width, a waiver for an EIS & preliminary site plan approval was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

B. Case #13-07—Starbucks Coffee Company, Block 222; Lot 1; 907A Oak Tree Avenue. The applicant's request for a use variance to permit an outdoor seating area was hereby DENIED; however, the property owner or applicant may install a maximum of (2) 5-foot long benches on either side of the Starbucks entrance door.

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



Back row from left to right: Karen Hatcher, executive director of Celebrate NJ!, and Linda Goetz of Sacred Heart School in South Plainfield. Front row left to right: Justin Durham and Italo Cardoso, fourth grade students at Sacred Heart School.

wick; Chittick School, East Brunswick; St. Frances Cabrini School, Piscataway; Franklin Elementary School, South Plainfield; Matthew Jago School, Woodbridge; Sacred Heart School, South Plainfield; South

River Elementary School, South River; and St. Joseph School, Carteret.

To read the student's online newspaper and learn more about the Celebrate NJ! school program, go to www.CelebrateNJ.org.

WHAT'S GOING ON IN MY TOWN

FROM A BUSY BUSY MOM *jd*

SPHS's Senior Prom is Friday, June 1. Students are required to be in school on Monday, June 4 to participate in any type of after school activity and must be present in school on Tuesday, June 5 in order to attend the scholarship awards along with the National Art Honor Society and World Language Honor Society ceremonies that evening at 6 p.m.

Dates to remember—SPHS instrumental concert will take place on Wednesday, June 6 at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 7 is the last day for books to be turned in to the Information Cen-

ter; June 8-12 is exam review; Friday, June 9 is the Music Boosters Dinner at the Italian American Club in North Plainfield.

On June 13, period 1 exam, omit periods 2 and 3, then regular schedule; June 14, 15, 18, exams ½ day; June 14, Senior Letter Dinner Athletic Booster Club, 6 p.m. at Italian American Club in North Plainfield; June 19-20, half day graduation practice; June 21 graduation practice, cap and gown distributed, SPHS graduation begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by Project Graduation that evening.

police report

• On May 22, Robert P. Stein, 62, of South Plainfield was arrested for lewdness.

• Paul L. Kyser, 63, of Piscataway was arrested for driving an unregistered vehicle and an outstanding warrant.

• Bryan Ascrizzi, 26, of Somerset was arrested for exhibiting fraudulent documents to obtain a drivers license.

• On May 23, Gregory S. Copeland, 21, of South Plainfield was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.

• Akwasi P. Amponsah, 28, of Lindenwold was arrested for speeding and two outstanding warrants.

• Diane J. Bray, 42, of Colonia was arrested for driving while intoxicated and reckless driving.

• On May 24, an Audubon Ave. resident reported that the trunk of their 2002 Mercedes Benz had been keyed.

• On May 25, William E. Spann, 40, of Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, speeding and reckless driving.

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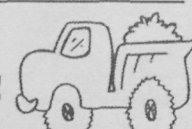
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Once Upon A Mattress Entertains

By Patricia Abbott

On May 16 and 17, the Grant School Drama Club proudly presented "Once Upon a Mattress Jr." Over 60 youths filled the stage with song and dance as they portrayed a version of Hans Christian Anderson's delightful fairy tale "The Princess and the Pea." They were also supported by approximately 25 crew members. The cast and crew spent many months working hard to perfect the musical comedy.

The show was directed by teachers Joan Stasio and Lizbet Arriola. South Plainfield High School student Nora Stasio helped with choreography.

Lead and supporting cast members included Alyssa Liszewski, Cory Singer, Alyssa Adamson, Rusty Teller, Christina Kasmer, David Landy, Charlie Butrico, Dominick Scalera, Joshua Rochotte, Janet Kelly, Brianna Swenson and Emily Reineke.

Grant School performers portrayed roles played by several well known actresses. "Once Upon a Mattress" opened on Broadway on May 11, 1959 and marked the Broadway debut of famous comedian Carol Burnett. A 1997 revival starred Sarah Jessica Parker.



OLC's Feast of Saint Anthony Opens 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 home-made 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 Chek; Oak Tree Farms in the Drug Fair Shopping Center, Sal's Spirit Shoppe, 1645 Park Ave., and Buy Rite Liquors on Oak Tree Road.

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