# Happy Birthday America! Have a Safe Independence Day!

The Observer offfice will be closed on O7080-3531

SECAR-RT LBTXXC026
S21 P1
O7080-3531 Friday, June 29 and on Wednesday, July 4.

VOL. 10, NO. 43

Member New Jersey Press Association

**50 CENTS** 

**JUNE 29, 2007** 

# Moretti Killed in Iraq



**U.S Army Sergeant Trista Moretti** 

Sergeant Trista Moretti, daughter of Frederic and Judith Moretti and sister to Jennifer, was killed in Iraq on Monday, June 25. In honor of Trista, Mayor Charles Butrico ordered all flags on public buildings in South Plainfield to be flown at half mast.

Trista was 27 years old and a 1998 graduate of South Plainfield High School. She had been in the army for over three years, specializing in military intelligence. She was stationed in Iraq since October and scheduled to return to the states in early November.

No funeral arrangements have been made as of yet.

# harged in Bar Raid

Sal's Spirit Shoppe on Park Avenue has been the subject of an ongoing investigation by the State Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) in which three borough residents were recently issued summonses.

Last Thursday evening, Sal's owner, Salvatore Severini, 48, was issued a summons for possession of a controlled dangerous substance and one count of selling alcohol to minors. A spokesperson for the ABC would not comment on the drug found.

Amos Ramagado, 20, was cited for providing false ID and purchasing alcohol under the legal age of 21 and a 17 year-old male was also charged with purchasing alcohol.



Tony Cotoia and Kennedy School Librarian Amy Carlos with some of the books donated to the school library in memory of Janice Cotoia.

# Family Honors Mom Through **Annual Book Donation**

By Libby Barsky

Janice Cotoia, Kennedy School teacher from 1971 until her death in 2002 and she loved books. Her favorites were books with palindromes-words or phrases that can be read backwards or forward, and books

"Mom was the reading teacher at Kennedy School. She was very devoted to books and understood their power in developing understanding and imagination. When she passed away in 2002, our family decided that donating books to the school library in her memory would be the perfect gift to the school," explained Janice's daughter, Patty Cotoia.

In the spring of 2003, with contributions from her colleagues and fam-

ily, approximately 60 new books were donated to the school library honoring Janice Cotoia's memory. The family has since purchased and donated 25 new books to the school library each year.

"We purchase what the library doesn't own and what the curriculum needs," said Eleanor Jordan, Kennedy School librarian, who helped start the book donation program, along with colleagues Sheryl Lawrence and Connie Barca. Jordan retired two years ago and is still recommending books and consulting with current librarian,

"Each book is purchased to reflect Mrs. Cotoia's interests. They really choose books that mom would have loved. She loved books that had palindromes and history. They make sure (Continued on page 12)

They arrived at a decision and gave local coordinator, Sue Nelson, their top three choices. After a very successful home visit with Nelson, they signed the papers to become the host

still wanted to come to the United



MOVING UP! South Plainfield Middle School students Sarah Hageman, Erin O'Connor, Ryan Lind and Ellen Zinsky, show their excitement at their graduation on June 20.

# **Local Family Gives Exchange** Students Experience of a Lifetime

By Patricia Abbott

South Plainfield High School students Yuka Moritaka and Markus Westphal are at first glance your typical all American teenagers. They go to school, do homework, play sports, watch TV, go to the mall and hang out with friends. So what's the catch? Their homes are literally thousands of miles away, but there is no worry about the commute as these youths are exchange students living with a host family, South Plainfield residents Joanne and Mark Zeliff. As the school year draws to an end, it is nearly time for this unique family to say their goodbyes.

The journey for both Yuka and Markus and the Zeliffs began in March of 2006, when Joanne saw an article in the Observer seeking host families to house American Scandinavian Student Exchange (ASSE) students.

"We have no children and thought it might be great to have a teenager living with us. So I called," Joanne Zeliff said.

Once the red tape and paperwork cleared and the Zeliffs were accepted, they received detailed information about potential students. Paring down the list of youths was not an easy task. "All of them sounded so interesting," Joanne noted.

family for Japanese student, Yuka. "She was our first choice and we could not have picked a better student. She is bright, sweet, fun and just all around great!" Joanne said.

In early fall, ASSE sent a letter to the Zeliffs listing all the students who



Joanne and Mark Zeliff with Yuka Moritaka and Markus Westphal.

States. They decided it might be really great for Yuka to have another teenager in the house and another new friend. Markus arrived the end of October. He is from Mecklenburg-

Western-Pomerania in North-Eastern Germany near the Baltic Sea. He flew in on a Sunday and went to SPHS on Monday to get a schedule. He started classes on Tuesday. Joanne said, "He is an amazing young man!"

Yuka and Markus enjoyed sharing their countries' traditions. New Year's Eve was celebrated Japanese style. Yuka delighted the family by cooking a traditional Japanese meal. Markus has also done some cooking for the family. On St. Nicholas Day, Dec. 8, they woke up to find candy in their newly polished shoes.

Joanne said, "They act very much like a true blood brother and sister do. They are both very adaptable and easygoing. I love to watch them do homework together or watch them learn each other's language. The school has been great for them and made adjustments easily for the kids."

(Continued on page 14)

# **Two Baseball Club Pioneers** Named "Cappy" Recipients

Two pioneering volunteers from the early days of the Junior Baseball Club, Owen Kelly and Nancy Pauls, are this year's recipients of the Cappy Award. Pauls will receive the award posthumously.

The Cappy Award is named in honor of Deputy Chief Tulio "Cappy" Capparelli, a volunteer dedicated to the youth of South Plainfield. He was a member of the South Plainfield Police for 30 years before retiring as deputy chief. He organized the South Plainfield Police Athletic League (PAL) and served as its director. He and was instrumental in getting the original

PAL building constructed.

A plaque was placed in his name at the entrance of PAL (known as the Wall of Honor), when it was expanded in 2001. Each year the names of the Cappy Award recipients are placed on the Wall of Honor in recognition of their dedication to the community.

Owen Kelly was an early volunteer at the Junior Baseball Club. He was instrumental in obtaining the land from the Borough that is now the Junior Baseball Complex, so that the boys could play in one location. Up until that time the

(Continued on page 12)



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

MARK YOUR **CALENDARS** 

Log on to southplainfieldnj.com for the latest meeting agenda

### council

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

**Agenda Meeting** July 17 Immediately following 7 p.m. Immediately following August 7 7 p.m. 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 July 10 and 24, Aug. 14 and 28, Sept. 11 and 25, Oct. 9 and 23, Nov. 27 and Dec. 11.

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

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

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

### recreation:

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

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

Meets once a month (first Wednesday)

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

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.



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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NANCY GRENNIER Publisher/Editor-in-Chief Web page: www.spobserver.com (under construction)

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

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ROXANNE CORTESE JANE DORNICK Advertising Sales

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

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

### SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in the South Plainfield Observer:

 Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.
 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 num-

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters may be submitted by mail to South Plainfield Observer, Editorial Dept., 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 18, 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



Nearly 100 Girl Scouts, adult volunteers, council staff and friends represented the Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Council in Washington, D.C. on June 9 to take part in the Girl Scouts 95th Anniversary Sing-Along billed as the world's largest such happening. Girl Scouts and Girl Guides from 49 of the 50 states and a multitude of foreign lands descended upon the National Mall at the base of the Washington Monument to belt out tunes such as "This Land is Your Land," "I've Got the Girl Scout Feeling" and many, many more. More than 120,000 jammed the mall to sing and show their Girl Scout pride. Participants boarded busses outside the Council Service Center in Westfield in the wee hours of Saturday morning and spent the day bonding with each other before returning home close to midnight the same day. In the midst of celebrating its 50th Anniversary, GSWRC proudly delivers the optimal girl scout experience to over 11,000 girls and adults in 24 communities. Be sure to visit www.westfieldnj.com/girlscouts for more information.

# Stormwater Management Rules **Lead To New Ordinances**

Environmental Protection has adopted comprehensive regulations designed to improve the water quality in our streams, lakes and coastal areas. All municipalities are adopting local ordinances to comply. This is the first of several reports that will highlight ordinances that our mayor and council have recently adopted.

There was a time when pipes led from factories into our streams and sewage discharged into the rivers and bays. These "point sources" have been almost eliminated after several decades of regulation and enforcement. Today, most of New Jersey's rivers and streams are still not clean enough to swim in. This is not because of what we deliberately put into the water, but because of what we unthinkingly put on the ground. Today's concern is with "nonpoint source pollution," the contaminants that wash into the streams from parking lots, streets and

Residents may have noticed signs posted around the Borough that remind you to clean up after your dog. "Pet Waste is a Threat to the Health of our Children-Degrades our Town-Transmits Disease. Leash and Clean up after your Pet. It's Required by Law! Ord. No. 1766 \$2,000 Fine."

Ordinance 1766 states that "all pet owners and keepers are required to immediately and properly dispose of their pet's solid waste deposited on any property, public or private, not

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The New Jersey Department of owned or possessed by that person."

The ordinance defines "Proper disposal" as: "placement in a designated waste receptacle, or other suitable container which is regularly emptied by the municipality or some other refuse collector; or disposal into a system designed to convey domestic sewage for proper treatment and disposal."

That last point is very important. One reason for pooper-scooper laws is to keep the streets clean so you don't have to watch where you are walking. The other reason is to keep feces out of our waterways. Many people do not realize that our storm sewers are not part of the sanitary sewer system. They are only pipes that allow rainwater to collect and run underground instead of flooding the streets. You may carefully pick up after your dog, but if you then throw the waste into a storm sewer, it is the same as if you were tossing it directly into Spring Lake or the Bound Brook. Then the

fecal coliform levels rise and the water quality falls

Clean Communities volunteers have found that some pet owners throw their doggie-do not only into the storm sewers, but into open space vacant land. Imagine the disgust of our public-spirited citizens who while picking up litter come upon a pile of dog waste baggies accumulated in a drainage course. If these piles are not cleaned up, then the next major storm will wash them into the streams, and eventually downstream to Raritan Bay, and out into the Atlantic along the shore. People should think about what they will be swimming in this summer before discarding anything on the

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

## Paper Mill Announces 2007/2008 Season

Paper Mill Playhouse has announced their 2007-2008 season with six outstanding titles—some new to the Paper Mill stage and some returning favorites-with exciting, innovative, creative teams and casts that will make each show a one-of-a-kind theatre experience.

The productions are: "Happy Days: The Musical"-Sept. 26-Oct. 28; "Meet Me in St. Louis"-Nov. 7Dec. 16; "The Miracle Worker"-Jan. 23-Feb. 24, "Steel Magnolias"-Mar. 5-Apr. 6, "Kiss Me, Kate"-Apr. 16-May 18 and "Little Shop of Horrors"-June 4-July 6.

Single tickets go on sale on Aug. 13 and range in price from \$25 to \$92. Purchased by calling (973) 376-4343, or at the Paper Mill Box Office on Brookside Drive in Millburn, or online at www.papermill.org.



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# Anesh and Bengivenga **Push Ethics Reform**

Councilmen Rob Bengivenga and Matthew Anesh this week introduced a reform ordinance that will force developers to disclose political contributions when they apply to build large projects and seek exceptions from the borough's zoning requirements. The ordinance is known as a "developer disclosure ordinance" and has been enacted in several New Jersey com-

"I'm excited about the chance to pass real reform," said Bengivenga. "Big builders often make large political contributions right before they seek variances and other approvals from the zoning or planning board. By requiring them disclose these contributions, the public is in a better position to judge whether anyone is getting special treatment."

"This ordinance is a great first step in much-needed reform," added Anesh. It will go a long way in restoring the lost faith of many borough residents." Anesh explained that this is just one of several reforms the two GOP councilmen would like to see: "We'd also like to get real pay-to-play reform passed."

"The council passed a pay-to-play ordinance last year, but the new regulations failed to solve the problem. No-bid contracts are still going to campaign contributors, which is something residents find unacceptable," added Bengivenga.

"We're also looking at some other reforms that will help restore public trust in our local government," Anesh explained. "The goal is to be more transparent and raise our standards, which will benefit the community."

The developer disclosure ordinance is expected to be up for final adoption at the council's July meeting. Both Anesh and Bengivenga are optimistic about it passing, even though they are in the minority on the council. ""We're confident this will pass," said Bengivenga. "It's something our community needs."



The John E. Riley Elementary School Student Council recently held a "Penny Wars" contest and raised over \$500 for the Special Olympics. Pictured are Student Council Advisor Christine Dispenziere, Student Council members Briell Melendez, Dakota Pauls, Brett Temple, Angela Raimondo, Katie Saravia, Laura Weinberger, Hannah Abrego, Anthony Santone, Manny Barrios, Paola Lopez, Kimberly Sheedy, Jenna Calderone, Gianna Marcovecchio, Nicole Bythell, Richard Marcovecchio and Tyler Curtis, Volunteer Special Olympics Coach Angela Raimondo, Board of Education member Debbie Boyle and Sen. Barbara Buono, who awarded the "What My State Means to Me" writing contest winner at the school that day.

# Middle School Students Recognized for Academic Excellence

Middle School Students Navneet students who took the college en-Goraya and Sarah Hageman were among those honored at a statewide awards ceremony for gifted children held by Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth (CTY) at Kean University.

The two middle school students were invited to the awards ceremony based on their exceptional performance on the SAT or ACT—the same tests used for college admissions. The students were invited to take the exams after scoring above the 95% percentile on standardized tests given by their school (NJ ASK, Terra Nova, etc). In order to be invited to the awards ceremony students needed to have a score at or above 600 on the math or critical reading sections of the SAT or a score above 24 on the math or reading sections of the ACT.

Since 1979, CTY has sought the most academically able elementary and middle school students and encouraged their enrollment in the annual fall CTY Talent Search, open September through November. Only about 25% of the seventh and eighth grade trance exams earned scores high enough to get an invitation to be honored at the award ceremonies.

Three artistically gifted middle school students exhibited their work at the Middlesex County Arts Middle School Festival recently. The Middlesex County Arts Middle School is run by the Arts and Education Center which was founded in 1969 as a county arts council.

The talented art students representing South Plainfield this year were: Jillian Cortese-visual arts, Sarah Hageman-art photography and Tyler Holoboski-musical theater.

Arts Middle School Students audition for admission to the program in various areas of the visual and performing arts. Students accepted into the program are released from their home school and bussed to a central location for weekly classes. Classes offered many disciplines including: creative writing, music, dance, photography, theater and visual arts and are taught by highly accomplished professional artists and educators.

# Stolen Valor' Bill Passes Senate

The Senate has passed legislation Assemblymen David R. Mayer, Patrick Diegnan and Jack Conners sponsored that would make it a crime for any person to impersonate-with the intent to deceive-a member or veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces or the New Jersey National Guard either by wearing a uniform, medal, or insignia authorized for official military use.

The bill was crafted to combat rising instances nationwide of individuals impersonating military personnel or wearing military medals they did

"Members of the armed forces earned the right to wear their uniforms and service medals through dedication, personal sacrifice and acts of valor," said Mayer (D-Gloucester). "Unscrupulous individuals who lie about their service records or who fraudulently display medals they did not earn dishonor everyone who has ever put on a uniform in service to our country. These shysters deserve to have their actions criminalized under the law."

Currently, only those people who impersonate or fraudulently display the uniform, medals, or insignia associated with the New Jersey National Guard are considered to be in violation of the law, facing misdemeanor

The measure (A-1162) would expand the scope of the current law to include any member or veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces. The legislation also would increase the penalty for "stolen valor" violations, making it a fourth degree crime punishable by up to 18 months in jail and \$10,000 in fines.

"Our country's military services are noble institutions and we cannot af-

ford to have weak laws governing the impersonation and improper display of military accolades," said Diegnan (D-Middlesex). "Increasing the penalties associated with lying about one's service record will make wannabe heroes think twice before deciding to impersonate the real thing.

The measure was unanimously passed by the Assembly in March as part of a landmark military veteran's agenda targeted toward assisting veterans, military personnel, and their families. The bill passed 37-0. It now heads to the Governor, who may sign it, veto it, or modify it in the form of a conditional veto.

# Open House Sunday, July 1st-1pm to 4 pm

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# Daily at 8am except Wednesdays (908) 756-1333 Tues.-Miraculous Medal Novena followed by Mass Weekend Schedule: Saturday evenings 4:30 pm Sunday mornings 8am and 11am

### Food N' Fun! Saturday, June 30th 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Open To The Public PREVIEW NEW CLASSES: w/coupon Boot Camp • Afro-Latin Dance ONE DAY ONLY! Boxing • Kinder Karate/Yoga LADY OF AMERICA - EDISON Lady of 1199 Amboy Avenue - Tano Mall 732-494-3350 www.ladyofamerica.com

# Around Town

### **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 begin 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.

### **VFW Dinner**

June 29

The South Plainfield VFW on Front Street is holding a stuffed cabbage dinner on Friday, June 29 from 5 to 8 p.m. Public welcome. Final dinner until September. For information call (908) 668-9751.

### **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 Star 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.

### What's JUNE/JULY South Plainfield SENIOR CENTER **TUESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY** MONDAY WEDNESDAY Bingo 29 **Hunterdon Hills Trip - July 12** 10am-2pm "The Musical Time Machine" UPCOMING VENT Program on Memory - July 12 "I Remember BINGO" Bingo 10am-2pm Shopping 9am Bingo Knitting/Crochetting 6 **Practical Crafts** 10am-2pm 9:30am-11:30am Ladies Social CENTER CLOSED Yoga 10:30-11:30am Group 10am 10am Computer Class 10am, Art Class 11:30am FOR 11am, 1pm JULY 4TH HOLIDAY Exercise Class 1:15pm TO SIGN UP FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER, VISIT THE CENTER.

### Recreation Trip to Camden Yards

July 29

The Recreation Department has announced a trip to see the Yankees vs. Orioles at Camden Yards in Baltimore, Md. on Sunday, July 29. Tickets on sale at the PAL Building.

### Wesley Methodist Vacation Bible School

July 29-Aug. 2

Wesley United Methodist Church invites all children to become sky scouts at their summer Vacation Bible School, Lift Off! Soaring to New Heights with God, from July 29 to Aug. 2 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

This program offers fun, interactive activities that combine the world of hot air ballooning with the discovery of how to reach new heights with God. Each lesson will be supported by Bible stories, science activities, songs, crafts, games and snacks. The program is open to children ages four through 12. Registration fee is \$10 per child, not to exceed \$20 per family. Please register by July 22.

Meet us at Wesley United Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave., July 29. Sign in will begin at 6 p.m. For information, call (908)757-2838.

### Car Club Fundraiser for Alyssa Riccardi

The Street Dreams Car Club will be hosting a "Cruising for Alyssa Ricciardi" car show on Tuesday, July 31 at Fuddruckers, Route 22 West in

Bridgewater from 6 to 9 p.m. As many people know, Alyssa suffers from neuroblastoma. A Weber grill valued at \$900 (donated by Jaeger Lumber) will be raffled. There will also be two monetary prizes. For info and raffle tickets, call Ron at (908) 482-0008. Come out and see some classic cars while helping Alyssa and her family.

### First Baptist Vacation Bible School

August 6-10

Come and join us at Children are Important in God's World Vacation Bible School. It's all happening at the First Baptist Church of South Plainfield Aug. 6 through 10 from 6:30 to

Children ages five through entering the fifth grade are invited for a week of exciting games, crafts, songs and Bible stories. Registration is \$5 a child or no more than \$10 a family. Registrations are now being accepted through July 30.

For information or to register, call the church office at (908) 753-2382.

### — Out of Town —

### Singles Dinner June 30

The NJ Single Professionals Group will hold a Japanese cuisine singles dinner at Sushi Yokohama, 164 W. Main St. in Somerville on Saturday, June 30 at 6 p.m. Cost is what you order plus 25% for tax and tips. Private group. RSVP to AngelButterfly37@aol.com or (732) 764-9073.

### Feeney Golf Classic July 30

The 2007 John T. Feeney Memorial GMS Golf Classic will be held at the Plainfield Country Club in Plainfield on Monday, July 30. All proceeds will directly benefit patients with advanced illness and their families at the Saint Barnabas Hospice and Palliative Care Center. The golf classic is an annual sellout event.

For information or to inquire about sponsorship opportunities, please call (973) 322-4863.

### Phantom Concert at **Blairstown Theatre**

June 30

The "Phantom" will visit the 94year-old landmark theater, Roy's Hall, in Blairstown at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 30, when the Blairstown Theater Festival presents, "Music of the Night," a concert of Broadway and pop classics (including the Beatles) sung in the hauntingly beautiful voice of Broadway performer Cris Groenendaal, who has performed the role of the Phantom in Phantom of the Opera more than 860 times.

General admission is \$27.50. Purchased online with no service charge at www.blairstowntheaterfestival.com.

# Middlesex WOWs

July 2

The Middlesex East Widows Or Widowers will conduct a business meeting on Monday, July 2 starting at 7:30 at the Carteret Community Center located in Pershiong and Cooke avenues. Light refreshments to follow. All widows and widowers are invited.

For more information, contact Dorothy at (732) 541-2174 or Lois at (908) 757-0515.

### 125th Anniversary/ Atlantic Highlands FD

The twelfth annual Atlantic Highlands Fireman's Fair will be held on Tuesday, July 3 through Saturday, July 7. Fireworks night is Friday, July 6. This event will celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Atlantic Highlands allvolunteer fire department, and will feature many regional fire departments in the Saturday parade.

For more information, call (917) 282-7491.

### NJPAC Summer Concert Series

July 8-September 21

The NJPAC will be holding the Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of NJ Summer Concert series from July 8 through September 21. Tickets range from \$15-\$125 and may be purchased by telephone at 1-888-GO-NJPAC (1-888-466-5722), at the NJPAC Box Office at One Center Street in downtown Newark, or by visiting the NJPAC Web site at www.nj pac.org.

### MCCC Good Morning Middlesex

The monthly morning networking event of the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce will be held on Thursday, July 12 from 7:45 to 9 a.m. at Port City Java in New Brunswick. \$15 members; \$25 non-members.

For information, call Fred Seitz, (732) 821-1700, ext. 203.

# Singles Hike

July 14

Young Sierrans 20/30s-Sierra Club will host a hike on Saturday, July 14 at noon at Ringwood State Park. Meet in parking lot C. RSVP required in case of changes to MistyAngel22 @aol.com or (732) 764-9073. Rain cancels.

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# 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.

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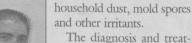
# All About Pets....

### By Dr. Anthony Loomis

Just as allergies can be a concern for you during this time of year, they can also wreak havoc on your pet. Pollen, mold and dust granules are inhaled by animals just as they are by us, but instead of

producing sinus congestion and a sore throat, they cause the skin to itch, the hair to fall out, and, with prolonged scratching or licking, the eruption of pustules that often become infected. Like in human sufferers, the allergy is an inherited predisposition with certain breeds being more susceptible.

Allergens are substances in the environment that cause the immune system to react as if invaded by a foreign material. Some inhalant allergies are seasonal, occurring less then three months out of the year. Dogs and cats may be affected by inhaling grass pollen in spring and summer or ragweed pollen in late summer and early fall. However, many pets suffering from allergies itch somewhat year-round because they are also affected by



The diagnosis and treatment of allergies can vary from one pet to the next. It depends on the severity, duration and frequency of irritation. In mild cases antihistamines, creams, shampoos

and nutritional supplements can be used. In more severe cases steroids, like cortisone, or immunotherapy medications are needed to control the problem. Often antibiotics are also needed because the excessive licking or chewing can cause secondary bacterial infections. Pets that frequently suffer can be given an allergy test to pinpoint what allergies the animal is sensitive to. Medication can then be made specific for your pet's allergies to build up immunity in their system.

If you suspect that your pet may be suffering from allergies this season, please visit your veterinarian to give your pet some relief.

-Dr. Anthony Loomis is a veterinarian at Plainfield Animal Hospital.



Middlesex County officials showcased their newest crime fighting tool, an integrated law enforcement system that enables various county departments and municipal police departments the ability to share records information instantly and electronically.

The Regional Data Exchange system acts as a central repository for database information from all participating departments, each of which utilized different vendor systems for their reporting and record keeping data. Until now, no law enforcement information was accessible outside a jurisdiction via electronic means.

"The Regional Data Exchange system will ease investigations and offer tracking and alert capabilities at the push of a button," said Freeholder Christopher D. Rafano, chair of the county's Law and Public Safety Committee. "The system will assist in routine traffic stops and warrant searches. It will also help in chase situations and regional concerns, such as the recent series of bank robberies, because incident information will be shared."

The system, manufactured by Enforsys of Roseland, through AT&T, integrates all database information entered by the various participating departments. Each of those departments can then access the information either in headquarters or even from

The county has completed a twoyear pilot project of the system and can successfully share data with and among the county's prosecutor, sheriff and adult corrections' departments, and among police departments in Woodbridge, New Brunswick, Plainsboro and Highland Park.

"It's great to be able to communicate and share this information, especially with neighboring towns," said New Brunswick Police Lt. William Milligan. "Criminals cross boundaries. This will definitely improve our enforcement capabilities.

"Middlesex County Sheriff Joseph Spicuzzo, Prosecutor Bruce Kaplan and I see the Regional Data Exchange as a potentially powerful took in our joint efforts to keep our residents safe," Rafano said. "It's a system that can help us track trends and keep each other formed. The better informed we are, the better we can do our jobs."

# Shoes for the Needy Program

Family Foot & Ankle Specialists will be holding their annual Shoes for the Needy program, in which they collect shoes in good and excellent condition for those who are in need. They are asking that people drop off their bundles of shoes at either of their offices, 84 Stelton Rd. in Piscataway or

349 Rt. 206 in Hillsborough. With everyone's help they hope to collect over 500 pairs of shoes.

All shoes collected are donated to the Plainfield Salvation Army in hopes of helping the needy individuals.

For more information, call (732)





Franklin Elementary School students who participated in Celebrate NJ!

# Franklin Elementary School Fourth Grade Students are Honored

Franklin Elementary School fourth Devils, Bill Bradley and Sandy Hook, grade students were recently honored for articles they wrote about New Jersey. The students participated in a program called, "Celebrate NJ!" in their Social Studies classes

The program was open to all fourth grade students in New Jersey. Mrs. Moritz and Mrs. Rodger registered their classes and students participated in a Web quest to research the people, places, history and events of New Jer-

Students chose a variety of topics to research, including the New Jersey to name a few, and then each wrote a newspaper article about their chosen

Thirteen Franklin School students' articles were chosen for publication. There were over 9,000 participants in the contest.

On May 22 the students were honored at the Brunswick Square Mall, along with the other winners from Middlesex County.

The winning students are Jhordanne Anderson, Katie Addario, Podlovits, Xavier Wilson, Emily Smith, Naomi McNeill, Michael Petritsch, Elizabeth Abate, Carl Cirilli, Chris Cieszkiewicz and Chris Graves.

Students who participated in the contest each received two tickets to a Somerset Patriots game. On June 4 the students, their families and teachers gathered at the Somerset Patriots Ballpark. Karen Katcher, director of "Celebrate NJ!" recognized the students and their schools before the game. It was an enjoyable evening and a fun way to celebrate the students'

Courtney Maino, Erin Jones, Kara

### Celebrations Committee Seeks Grand Marshal Nominations

The Public Celebrations Committee is seeking nominations for Labor Day parade honorary grand marshal. This year's theme is "Celebrating 50 Years." 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. In-

clude candidate's name, address, evening phone number and accom-plishments. 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 infor-

# Library Offering Babysitting Course

Deck and Patio Owners: Outsmart the Weather!

There will be a babysitting class hosted by South Plainfield Library on Monday, July 9 and Tuesday, July 10 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The class will be held in South Plainfield Borough Hall, across the parking lot from the

The class is for young people ages 11-18. It's designed to teach young people the safest approach to child care, including basic instruction re-

unSetter

\$200 OFF INSTALLATION Must book by 5/31/07

garding safety and discipline. Each participant will receive a certificate upon completion of the course. The class is being presented free of charge by the Middlesex County Public Health Department. Space is limited; pre-registration for the course is required.

For information, please call (908) 754-7885, or visit the library's Web site at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us.

mational table at the PAL grounds at the conclusion of the parade should complete an application located in Borough Hall or online at www.south plainfieldnj.com. Send application to the Public Celebrations Committee, Kim Gallagher, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

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





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# WHAT'S GOING ON IN MY TOWN FROM A BUSY BUSY MOM

a last minute decision to hold graduation exercises in the gym after thunderstorms were predicted last Thursday evening. Superintendent Dr. Robert Rosado, the Board of Education and administrators did everything they could to ensure the ceremony was a success. Mayor Charlie Butrico and Councilmen Matt Anesh and Rob Bengivenga were on hand to congratulate the graduates.

Project Graduation at The Club at Ricochet ended at 5 a.m., an hour later than planned, because graduation was delayed. The Project Graduation committee planned many activities that kept the chaperones, teachers and students very busy. Diana Joffe and Michele Fugazzi, senior class advisors, port for an organized event.

SPHS Principal Dr. Ken May made also did a wonderful job with the senior class and their events this year.

Congratulations to high school teacher and coach, Fran Flannery, who won \$805 in the SPHS Athletic Booster Club's Super 50/50. The drawing was held at the Meet of Champions track meet on June 6 and the winning ticket was picked by high school student Doug Porzio. The money raised will go towards the purchase of new indoor bleachers for the

Our thoughts and prayers are with Darlene Yurinko Cassio and her fam-

Please continue to support businesses in the borough that are always there for us when we need their sup-

# policereport

· On June 19, Tynisha Tucker, 20, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant.

• Jorge L. Rivera, 33, of Dunellen was arrested for driving without a license, a loud muffler and two outstanding warrants.

· On June 20, Michael Fotheringham, 46, of Edison was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant.

• A Case Drive resident reported that their 48-foot trailer had been spray

. On June 21, Todd M. Kilduff, 34, of Hoboken was arrested for improper passing, failure to exhibit an insurance card and an outstanding

· Curves on South Plainfield Ave-

nue reported the theft of a sign from outside of the building.

· A Middlesex resident reported that the passenger side rear vent window of their vehicle had been smashed while parked at Stepping Stones Learning Center on Hadley Road.

· On June 22, Gerardo Rodriguez-Garcia, 33, of Bound Brook was arrested for receiving a stolen vehicle.

· Stephen E. Cronin, 36, of Edison was arrested for driving while intoxicated, no insurance, reckless driving, possession of an open alcohol container and driving on a suspended li-

· On June 23, Julio Ceaser Colcas-Mendez, 42, of Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, reckless driving and driving on a suspended

# 7-Eleven Hit A Second Time

On June 20, Nirav Patel of Piscataway, struck 7-Eleven convenience store on Plainfield Avenue. Patel, 21, was operating a 1997 Honda Civic owned by Satishkum Patel of Piscataway, said he was attempting to park his vehicle along the west side of the building when it jumped the curb and struck the building.

The vehicle hit the brick and masonry wall, causing the wall to be displaced by approximately 11/2 feet. In addition, a walk-in cooler was damaged inside the store. The store was permitted to remain open after an inspection by South Plainfield Building Department. Employees and customers in the store were not injured.

Patel declined medical attention. He was charged with careless driving by investigating officer, Sherlyn Courtney.

This is the second time a vehicle has struck this 7-Eleven in the past six weeks. The store was damaged on May 4 when a vehicle operated by Frangene Copper of Plainfield crashed through the windows in front of the

Anyone with additional information about this accident should contact Lt. Kevin Murtagh at (908) 226-7679.

## Live Acoustic Concert to Aid **Knights Charities**

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus will host the third annual live acoustic concert with pop recording artists Billy and Rose Falcon on Saturday, Aug. 18 at 7 p.m.

Billy Falcon, a well respected major label recording artist, singer songwriter and producer, will perform with his daughter, recording artist Rose Falcon, in this up and close live event. Tickets are limited and by advance sales only. All proceeds will go towards the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus char-

Tickets are \$20 for adults and include the concert and the "after show" party. Refreshments are included. Doors will open at 6 p.m. Concert starts at 7 p.m. Performers will be around afterwards to sell CDs and mingle with the guests.

For tickets, call Brian Cargill at (908) 755-9717.



Jesters entertain visitors at St. Peter's Hospital Cancer Survivor's Day Picnic.

# Almost Famous Players Entertain At Cancer Survivor Picnic

The Almost Famous Players (AFP) recently performed at the St. Peter's Hospital Cancer Survivor's Day Picnic. Over 35 performers participated in the Mardi Gras themed event. Outside jesters and clowns roamed the grounds. There were carnival type games-bean bag tic tac toe, a lollypop tree game, duck pond and a sponge toss at a 12-foot ogre cut out. Inside there was face painting and crafts, as well as entertainment by members of the SPHS chorus and others. Songs from the recent Disney concert were featured.

Special thanks to Mohn's Florist for donating flowers which were given to guests and to resident Barry Gould, a member of the Salaam Shrine String Band of Livingston, who loaned AFP three beautiful Shriner's parade costumes.

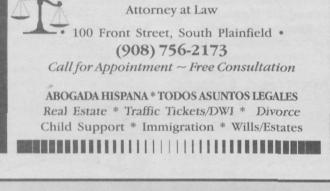
The highlight of the day was the selection of the prince and princess by Mardi Gras King Darren Kaczowski and Queen Marissa Kline. After crowning, the young royalty led a mini parade around the picnic grounds. This is the third year AFP has performed for the event.

South Plainfield talent doesn't end with AFP, members of South Plainfield's Shades of Blue, a jazz band conducted by resident John Roesch, provided music outside.

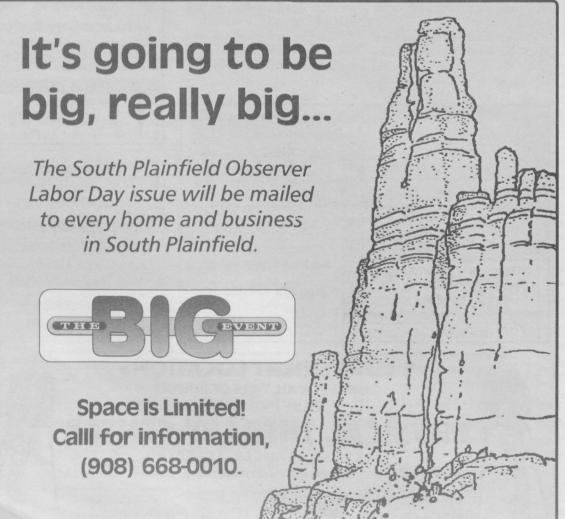
Fire Dept Parade-AFP's Fight a Pirate booth at the Fire Department's 100 anniversary parade was a big hit. The fight-a-pirate or knight game and other entertainment is also available for birthday parties, block parties and other events large and small. They offer pirate, knights, circus and Mardi Gras themes, as well as smaller juggling shows. Call (908) 346-2290 for information and prices.

Halloween 2007-AFP is hard at work planning the 2007 Putnam Park Haunted Woods Tour. If you are interested in auditioning, email almst famousplyrs@aol.com or call (908) 756-8011. Leave a clear message with name and phone number. Auditions are open to those in grades eight and up. This year's show will feature more scares and require a larger cast, there will be some opportunities for performers to qualify for their own incidental scare. When AFP is ready to hold auditions, you will be contacted in advance. AFP Myspace can be found at myspace.com/almostfamous playerspattie.

AFP is in need of old bike helmets for oversized masks and jeans and hooded sweatshirts for props. Call (908) 346-2290. Upcoming events include garage sale, spaghetti dinner and a bachelor auction.



Brenda Vallecilla, Esq.







From the South Plainfield Library

# ookmarks

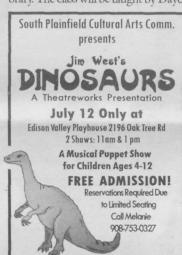
By Sunnie Randolph

Summer is finally here! There are many exciting programs at the South Plainfield Library. It's time to sign up for our summer reading program. There are programs and prizes for children, teens and adults. Stop in the library and sign up as soon as possible and start reading and winning.

The library has some copies of South Plainfield school district's summer reading lists. The library's copies of reading list books are limited. If a particular book is not in the library, a hold can be placed on the book so when it is returned the next person on the hold list will be notified. There is a \$.50 fee for a hold on a book. Books may be borrowed for only two weeks and cannot be renewed. The library tries to make the books available to as many people as possible. South Plainfield library card holders may use their library cards at neighboring libraries. The neighboring libraries may have copies of the summer reading books because their schools are not reading the same books. Copies of the reading lists are on the library Web site.

The South Plainfield Public Library will be closed on Wednesday,

There will be a scrapbooking class for children on Saturday, June 30 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the library. The class will be taught by Dayel



Giammarino of Creative Memories and is for children eight years and older. The children will learn scrapbooking basics including photo cropping, matting and journaling. They will also make an accordion-style "photo sharing card" which allows for 10 photos. Space is limited so pre-registration is required. There is a participation fee of \$10 to cover the cost of materials. This is a great project the children can work on all summer.

There will be a babysitting class hosted by the library on Monday, July 9 and Tuesday, July 10 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The class will be held in the South Plainfield Municipal Building at 2480 Plainfield Ave. The class is for young people ages 11-18. It is designed to teach young people the safest approach to child care, including basic instruction regarding safety and discipline. Each participant who attends both days will receive a certificate upon completion of the course. The class is presented free of charge by the Middlesex County Public Health Department. Space is limited. Call the library at (908) 754-7885 to regis-

If you are going to be riding in the car for long distances this summer or just commuting back and forth to work, try out a book on tape or a book on CD instead of listening to the radio. There are adult and children's titles in fiction and nonfiction. The library has a large collection to choose from-even bestsellers with no holds. From the library's Web site-www. southplainfield.lib.nj.us-there are two audio books sites to download titles to your computer or MP3 player. NJListen allows many titles to be burned to CDs. If you can't fall asleep at night, play a boring audio book, not that there are any boring ones and you may quickly fall asleep. If you really like to read and think you won't like an audio book, try one, you may like them. I suggest getting a book that you would really like to read but think you may not have time. Try it in audio book. You can be listening to one book and reading another.

# DARE Graduates Party at the Pool





By Jane Dornick

Grant Elementary School fifth grade DARE program graduates spent the day having fun in the sun at the community pool on June 12.

In between swimming, dancing, volleyball and miniature golf, there was plenty pizza, sandwiches and Häagen Daz ice cream for everyone to enjoy.

The party is held in celebration of the students' participation in the drug awareness resistance education (DARE) program taught over several months by South Plainfield Police Officers Dave Franchak and Al LaMonda. Numerous prizes were raffled off at the picnic by the officers including T-shirts, basketballs and an iPod that was won by Tucker Merkler.

Officers Franchak and LaMonda are grateful to the individuals and businesses that help make the DARE program possible each year: Chief John Ferraro, Mayor Charlie Butrico and the Borough Council, Lt. Chuck Siedenburg, Lt. Kevin Murtagh for taking time off to DJ, Kevin Hughes for the use of the pool and lifeguards, South Plainfield Elks Lodge #2298, Principal Leo Whalen, Assistant Principal Rob Richkus, Grant School PTO, Hall's Fast Motor Frieght owners Billy, Bruce and Dale Jayne, Regal Cinema, Ron Sward, owner of Physical Therapy of South Plainfield; Restaurant Depot, Hometown Heros and Dunkin Donuts.





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# South Plainfield Middle School I Annual Promotion



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# Sports

# Tiger Sharks Win First Swim Meet

South Plainfield

**Tiger Sharks** 

Tickets to Yankees and Mets

Shotman Summer Basketball Camp

9. Cost is \$135.

The South Plainfield Tiger Sharks traveled to Hillsborough last Saturday to swim against their toughest competition, and were victorious with a score of 159 to 151.

The meet started with Kelly O'Brien (10-and-under) and Gracie Piekarski (11/12) taking first place wins in the Individual Medley. Madison Faustini (10-and-under) placed second. While the older girls didn't place first, Emily Piekarski placed second and Maggie Valentino placed third in the 13-18 age group.

Philip Luzny (13-18) was the only one to place first in the boys' longer freestyle. Second place finish went to Anthony Guerrieri (11/12), while Liam McDermott (11/12) and Alan Kasmer (13-18) placed third.

The girls next event was butterfly. Megan McDermott (8-and-under) placed third. Kelley O'Brien took first place in the 9/10 year old category and Chelsea Cullen placed first in the 13/

The Club at Ricochet has tickets

available for the following baseball

games. The trip includes transporta-

tion 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. Yan-

Mike Lanza's Shotman Basketball's

Girls Basketball Camp will begin July

16 and will run through July 20 from

Foul shooting, stationary shooting,

off the dribble shooting, ball handling

9 a.m. until noon.

Girls: Expand Your Game at

14 age group. Sisters Amy (11/12) and Ellen (13/14) Zinsky both placed third, along with Michelle Gustafson in the 15-18 age group.

The boys took four out of five first place

wins for the breaststroke. First place finishers were Nicholas Guerrieri (8-and-under), brothers Enzo (9/10) and Charlie (11/12) Butrico and Zak Post (13-14). The youngest Butrico brother, Christian, placed third in the 8-and-under category, while Alan Kasmer and Matt Moates placed second and third respectively in the 15-18 age group.

The girls swam freestyle with Megan McDermott taking first place in the 8-and-under category. Madison Faustini prevented a sweep by Hillsborough and captured third place in the 9/10 age group. Grace Pickarshi placed first and Amy Zinsky placed third in the 11/12 age group. Chelsea Cullen and Maggie Valentino captured the first and second place in the 13/

kees vs. Chicago White Sox on Tues-

day, July 31; bus leaves at 4:30 p.m.

Mets vs. Florida on Saturday, Aug. 11; bus leaves at 4 p.m. Yankees vs. Balti-

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14 age group, while Emily Piekarski placed second for the older girls.

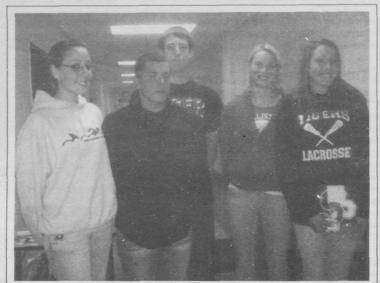
The boys did it again, taking another four out of five first place ribbons. Nicholas Guerrieri (8-and-under), his brother, Anthony (11/12), Zak Post (13/14) and Philip Luzny (15-18) took home the blue. Newcomer Marcel Green placed second in the 9/10 age group, while Matt Moates placed second for the older boys. Newcomers Nicholas Pezzolla (8-and-under) and Anindya Menta (11/12) took third place ribbons and veteran Ryan Lind also took home a third place ribbon for the 13/14 year olds.

At this point the meet could have been either team's victory. The win would be determined by the relay races. First place ribbons went to 8-and-under Nicholas Guerrieri, Ben Sheaffer, Donovan Carter and Christian Butrico in the free relay; 13-18 Anthony Guerrieri, Zak Post, Matt Moates and Philip Luzny also in the free relay. In the medley relay, first place went to 9-12 Kelly O'Brien, Gracie Piekarski, Amy Zinsky and Madison Faustini; 13-18 Emily Piekarski, Kate O'Brien, Chelsea Cullen and Maggie Valentino.

Because of a change in rules by the league, second and third place relay wins were given points starting this season. Because of the following second and third place wins, the Tiger Sharks were able to capture the meet: second place free relay 9-12 went to Charlie Butrico, Enzo Butrico, Liam McDermott and Marcel Green; 13-18 went to Alan Kasmer, Ryan Lind, Brian Babinetz and Michael Boyle. Second place in the medley relay 8and-under were Olivia George, Mackenzie O'Brien, Megan McDermott and Grace Hageman. The 8-and-under boys who also placed third in the free relay were Nicholas Pezzolla, Michael Stanczek, Joe Malaoski and Drew McKenzie.

There are many newcomers to the team and because of their efforts South Plainfield has a growing team with depth. Newcomers who are 8-and-under and swam were Nicholas Pezzolla, Ben Sheaffer, Gregory Forbes, Michael Stanczek, Joseph Malaoski, Mackenzie O'Brien, Isabella Mosquera, Kaitlyn Vorsos, Sydney Christian, Elizabeth Lee and Maggie Mugollan.

A big thank you to all the parents who helped out and especially to head coach Laurie Post and assistant coaches Sarah Blessing, Mary Otlowski and Shannon Dabrio.



For the first time SPHS students on an independent swim team were recognized by the Board of Education for competing in the GMC Championships at the DeNunzio Pool in Princeton. From the left are Teresa Gustafson, Michael Boyle, Matt Moates, Emily Piekaishi and Michelle Gustafson.



Members of the SPHS Girls Varsity Basketball Team were recognized at the June 14 Board of Education Meeting for winning the GMC White Division Championship, the North Jersey Section 2 Group 3 Sectional Title and for their top twenty state ranking. Also recognized was coach Maureen Barnett, for being named Courier News Woman's Basketball Coach of the Year. Team members present to receive recognition were Blaire Houston, Taylor Deskins, Elizabeth Flannery and Katie Muglia. Also pictured is coach Kiley Jackson, second from left.







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Notes from

### **Submitted By Bob Nilan**

Matt Ward of Patti's Construction did not have a playing partner, so he faced Howard Adler and Kevin Bickunas of Witty's Liquors by

himself. He made an Homeric effort by firing three birdies in posting the low-round of the night; a superb 1over 34. Teammate Mike Behr chipped in with a 36, but Patti's could not overcome the handicap of having a lineup of just three golfers. Howard "Awesome" Adler, who is now playing better than anyone in the league, had an impressive 3-over 36 and Kevin "Boom Boom" Bickunas registered a 37 as Witty's cruised to a 12-8 victory to move into a tie for second place in the National Division.

Pornovets strengthened their hold on first place by sweeping aside Plainfield Animal Hospital, 16-4. Marty "Mr. Amazing" Van De Vaarst usually earns medallist honors for Pornovets, but he had one of those nights where even the two-footers wouldn't drop. Fortunately, the best sub in the league, Mike Kavka, in his super-casual golf attire, had a nice round of 37 and Jim Pornovets, Jr. got a lot of valuable help with his putts from his caddy and shot a solid round of 39.

It was a bit of an off-night for the Roughriders-the new Gatesey champions, Frank Weingart and Andy Hayward, could only manage scores of 40 and 41 respectively and Bob Nilan contributed a 42, but that was more than enough for the Roughriders to defeat Sport & Social handily, 14-6.

Pat Romano smoked a couple of beauties right down the middle on the first two holes, but then had difficulty finding the greens. Partner Dennis Bibby uncharacteristically couldn't get off the tee until the last hole where he smashed a towering drive that left him

**South Plainfield** with just a little wedge to **Golf League** the green. But the problems for Sport & Social continued as Romano, after his two fine drives, couldn't get his game together and Bibby

made double-bogey on the ninth hole after his superb drive.

Over in the American Division, Oak Tree Buy-Rite put the final nail in KC's Korner's coffin by crushing the two-time defending champions, 16-4. Irish Danny Griffin posted another superlative round, a 1 over 34, to earn the medal for Buy-Rite, and Al Schroeder, who has kicked his game up a notch now that he's getting in some practice sessions, shot a nice round of 38. For KC's Korner, Tony Cotone, Jr. had a 38 and Greg Kilmer shot a 39. It is hard to believe that KC's Korner who won back-to-back league championships have dropped seven matches in-a-row and now rest in last place.

The red-hot Hackers extended their winning streak to five matches as they squeaked by Twin City, 11-9, to move into third place. Bill Mann led the way for the winning Hackers with a 37, while Joe Diller had a 38 and Guy Severini registered a 39 in a losing effort for Twin City.

In the final match of the night, 2 Buds, 2 Dubes upended Eddie's Grinders, 18-2, sparked by the fine play of Jeff Orth who fired a 36. Dale Dube and Chris Nuzzo contributed a pair of 39's as 2 Buds, 2 Dubes earned a surprisingly easy victory. Fred "Catfish" Kirchofer had another good round for the Grinders, a 3 over 36, and Chris Dillon shot a 38.

Low scores for the night-Matt Ward, 34; Danny Griffin, 34; Jeff Orth, 36; Fred Kirchofer, 36; Mike Behr, 36; Howard Adler, 36; Bill Mann, 37; Mike Kavka, 37.



Congratulations to the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club Small Fray A League champion Athletics. Pictured are Coaches Glenn Cullen and Gary Marks with players (top left to right) Cody Decker, Michael Dolan, Sean Cullen, Claude Payne, Tyler Calderone, Michael Miller and Nick Huber. Bottom (L to R) Joel Curran, Alex Dornick, Cody O'Connor, Justin Marks and Patrick Boyle (center).



**LEAGUE STANDINGS** 

American Division	National Division
W L T	WLT
Oak Tree Buy-Rite ,,,,, 7 2 0	Pornovets 6 2 1
2 Buds, 2 Dubes ,,,,,,, 6 3 0	PAH 5 4 0
Hackers ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, 5 4 0	
Twin City ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, 4 5 0	Patti's Const 4 1
Eddie's Grinders ,,,,,,, 3 5 1	Roughriders 4 5 0
KC's Korner ,,,,,,,,,, 1 7 1	Sport & Social 2 7 0

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# **Baseball Club Pioneers** To Receive Cappy Award

(Continued from page 1)

boys played at parks and schools around South Plainfield. He helped build the dugouts, as well as the club house, fencing and more. He also served as a baseball commissioner for the club, as well as a Borough coun-

Nancy Pauls, who died last year, volunteered her time to start up a snack stand so the players would be able to have refreshments after the games. It didn't take long for her to realize that more than soda and chips

were needed. She expanded the stand to include hot food and purchased the equipment needed to cook and serve the food. Each day during the baseball season, she would cook her family dinner at noon and head out to the fields to run the stands. She was also a member of the Woman's Auxiliary. Pauls will be the first woman receiving the Cappy Award.

Both Kelly and Pauls will be honored at a dinner at the senior center on Saturday, Nov. 17. Tickets will be on sale for the dinner in the fall.

## Family Honors Mom With Donation

(Continued from page 1)

that the books they pick would have appealed to her sense of humor or her interests. Everything that would be appropriate for students in grades K-4," said Patty Cotoia.

Inside each donated book is a dedication plate with Janice Cotoia's name and the years she taught at Kennedy

Last year an assembly was held to introduce the students to Cotoia's family-husband Anthony, a retired South Plainfield High School teacher and coach, and daughters Patty, a principal at Menlo Park Elementary school in Edison, and Margaret, an attorney for the State of New Jersey.

This year a reception was held with the Kennedy School teachers. At the reception, organized by Sheryl Law-

rence, all the new books were on display and librarian Amy Carlos, who orders the books, spoke about each one. "The teachers and parents browsed through the books, then shared some favorite memories of mom. It's a way for her memory to live on," said Patty Cotoia.

"I feel that I know her personality in her spirit. It's touching to know someone in that way," said Principal Fred Oberkehr, who came to Kennedy after Cotoia's death.

The book donation program was established to honor Mrs. Cotoia, but Patty Cotoia views an additional purpose for the program. "We hope others will enjoy reading as much as mom did and help inspire the new generation as they come from Kennedy school," she said.

### **LEGAL NOTICES**

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

NOTICE

Take notice that application has been made to the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield for a hearing to be held on July 17, 2007 to permit the place to place transfer of the Plenary Retail Consumption and License #1222-33-019-005 heretofore issued to Brinel, LLC trading as Paulo's Bar & Restaurant located at 2341 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080 to exclude the premises located at 2239 South Clinton Avenue (Unit #4), South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080-1471.

The person who will hold an interest in this license is

Paulo M. Simoes 75 Hillcrest Dr. Clark, NJ 07066-2936

The applicant intends to engage in the retail sale of alcoholic beverages at 2341 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080 under the terms and conditions allowed by law.

Objections, if any, should be made immediately in writing to:

Vincent Buttiglieri, Borough Clerk at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080 or Director, Division of Alcohol Beverage Control.

Brinel, LCC

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June 29 and July 6, 2007

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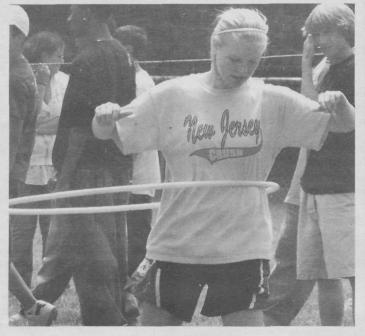


1110 Hamilton Blvd. South Plainfield, NJ 07080

For info, call 908-668-0010.









# 300 Attend SPHS Gold Card Picnic

The South Plainfield High School Gold Card picnic took place on last month. Over 300 students attended the picnic; however, many more students received a gold card during the school year.

To be eligible for a gold card, students must have a 3.5 GPA, be involved in two extra-curricular activities and have no discipline or attendance infractions. The students participated in the picnic from fourth period until the end of the school day. Food, games and music were part of the festivities the entire day.

The picnic was sponsored and paid for by the Education Foundation Vision 2001. Thank you to Marge Reedy and the Education Foundation for their continued support.

The administration would also like to thank key contributors, Roma Foods (Bob and Debbie Boyle), Hometown Heros (Charlie and Debbie Kurland), Rita's Italian Ice, Sodexho, Paula Dick, Bonnie Vigneri, Roger Vroom and the South Plainfield High School Guidance Department. Special thanks to Lou Mormile for providing the pictures.

Hometown

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# Adult School Offering a Variety of Summer Classes

Brochures have been sent to all area residents for the summer 2007 semester of the South Plainfield Adult School. If you have not received a brochure, and would like one, please call the Adult School at (908) 754-4620 ext. 213. We welcome all area resi-

The Adult School offers a variety of classes including computers, Tai-Chi, yoga, exercise, volleyball, golf CPR infant/child, and babysitters training. There is also an extensive range of exercise and swimming classes for adults and children offered through The Club at Ricochet.

You may register over the phone with either a Visa or MasterCard or, come to the Adult School Office, in the Roosevelt Administration Building, 125 Jackson Ave. between 8 and

There are also tickets (\$85 each) available for the U.S. Tennis Open on Monday, Aug. 27, and on Wednesday, August 29. The bus leaves at 9 a.m. from South Plainfield High School.

The Adult School is continuing its very popular series of tours of New York City on Saturday, Aug. 11, with "A Slice of the Villages." This trip highlights the East Village and Greenwich Village. On Sunday, Sept. 23, there is still space available for the Feast of San Gennaro and Manhattan Sampler.

For information on the above trips and our many other trips, please call the South Plainfield Adult School at (908) 754-4620 ext. 213.

# Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation **Fellowships Applications**

announced today the immediate availability of year 2008 New Jersey State Council on the Arts individual artist fellowship guidelines and applications. The funding categories available for 2008 include: choreography, design, emerging and new genres-visual arts, media, music composition, painting and works on paper.

All applications must be submitted online. Applicants can go to www. njartscouncil.org or www.midatlantic arts.org and click on the link to the NJSCA Individual Artists Fellowships Application. Applicants who do not have access to a computer can visit any county library in New Jersey for access to the Internet and the applica-tion or call (410) 539-6656, ext. 114

Visual artists will have to upload work sample images online and submit them with their application. Prospective applicants with specific questions regarding the online application process may call the number above. The online submission deadline for applications is July 16.

To be eligible, one must be an artist in one of the disciplines offered and a permanent New Jersey resident. Fellowships are awarded solely on the

The Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation basis of artistic excellence and not other merits that may be associated with a project or other factors.

Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation administers fellowship grants for the New Jersey State Council on the Arts on a contract basis. This is the 11th consecutive year that the foundation has administered the fellowships. It has proven to be a cost-effective way for the council to provide fellowships to individual artists.

# Obituaries



Jamie L. Cammarata

### Jamie L. Cammarata, 26

Jamie L. Cammarata died after a long battle with Leukemia, on Saturday, June 23 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Bruns-

Born in Elizabeth, Jamie was raised in Linden and resided in South Plainfield for the past 14 years.

She was a 1998 graduate of South Plainfield High School where she was a member of the cheerleading squad and during her senior year, Jamie participated in the work study program.

In 2000, Jamie graduated form the Katherine Gibbs School Piscataway campus and currently was enrolled at Middlesex County College in Edison where she was pursuing a degree in early childhood education.

For the past six years, Jamie was employed by Bohler Engineering in Warren working in the administrative department where she was also a member of their softball team.

Jamie enjoyed camping and more importantly, she love spending most of her time with family and friends.

She is predeceased by her maternal grandfather, Frederick Hanger and her paternal grandfather, Joseph Cam-

Surviving are her fiancé, Jason Campbell of South Plainfield; her mother and step-father, Betty and Arthur Hoff of Manalapan; her father and step-mother, John and Karen Cammarata of South Plainfield; two sisters, Tammy Diem of Plainsboro and Lauren Steinach and her husband Edwin of Palmyra; maternal grandmother, Beatrice Hanger of Barnaget and paternal grandmother, Lois Cammarata of South Plainfield. Also surviving is a step-brother, Ryan Woods of South Plainfield.

Funeral services were held at Mc-Criskin-Gustafson Home For Funer-

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Jamie's name to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, Northern New Jersey Chapter, 116 Euclid Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090.

# Marian J. Ogonowski, 52

Marian J. Ogonowski of South Plainfield passed away suddenly at his home on Tuesday, June 19.

Mr. Ogonowski was born in Germany and resided in South Plainfield

Marian was a 1972 graduate of South Plainfield High School.

He was employed by Campbell Soup Supply Co. since 1974 as a process helper.

Marian was an avid baseball and basketball fan.

Mr. Ogonowski is predeceased by his parents, Marian and Bernice; a brother, Frank and other relatives in Australia.

Marian is survived by two brothers, Casimir and wife Sesie and Joe; two nephews, Matthew of Piscataway and Gregory and a niece, Kristina, all of South Plainfield.

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

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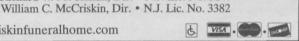
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### LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Ray Jazikoff requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit existing shed exceeds the maximum square foot area of 200 sq. ft. allowed by ordinance, 325 sq. ft. proposed, and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 9 Ward Place, Block 266, Lot 12.02 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plain-field Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, July 12, 2007 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 248v 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 pm

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY NOTICE

### ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

Take notice that Witty's Liquors at South Plainfield, LLC, trading as Witty's Discount Wines & Liquors has applied to the Borough Clerk of South Plainfield for a Change of Corporate Structure for Plenary Retail Distribution license number 1222-44-004-006 for premises situated at 2370 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield,

The person(s) who will hold an interest in this license

Hemendra Patel

22 Boxwood Circle Edison, NJ 08820

50% Stockholder President

Hitesh Patel

22 Boxwood Circle Edison, NJ 08820 50% Stockholder

Objections if any should be made immediately in writing to: Borough Clerk at Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey

Applicant: Witty's Liquors at South Plainfield, LLC 2370 Plainfield Avenue South Plainfield, NJ 07080

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www.southplainfieldfuneralhome.com Franklin H. Rainear, Jr., Manager, N.J. Lic. No. 4543 Tamara L. Hawbaker, Director N.J. Lic. No. 4577 Glenn J. Scarponi, Director, N.J. Lic. No 4411

All facilities are handicapped accessible.

# Local Family Gives Exchange Students Experience of a Lifetime

(Continued from page 1)

Over the months, Yuka and Markus had the opportunity to experience different aspects of America, from visiting famous places to traditions large and small. They have been camping and pumpkin picking. In November, they had the honor of attending the Marine Corps Ball and were very impressed with the event. They traveled to New York to see the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree and enjoyed dinner in Little Italy. A day trip took them to visit Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty. They had a great time at the American Legion's St. Patrick's Day Dance in March. "It's amazing to watch them grow and change while here with us," Joanne said.

Yuka has always been interested in other countries. When she saw a poster for a Japanese exchange program, she sought more information and applied to travel to the United States. She explained, "My host parents are very nice and care for us. They always ask us questions about our day and if we need anything. The family is so wonderful-I love them all!" She likes having Markus with her at home, saying, "It is good for me, because I can talk with another student in my home. We may have the same problems and we can help each other. I like to live here because I'm interested in everything about American life. It is so different than Japanese life. We don't wear shoes in the house, but most



Yuka Moritaka and Markus Westphal at SPHS Cultural Heritage Day, where Yuka performed a fan dance.

Americans do. It was weird for me."

She found daily meals quite different as well, noting that in Japan they eat a lot more vegetables. The school's cultural diversity made a big impact on Yuka. "America's a country that has many cultures of people. I can meet and make many friends who are American and non-American. They are more friendly than Japanese, I think that I should learn about this. I have made many friends at school, most are American but some are Asian or Spanish. I feel that I'm an international person. I have a best friend I can talk to about everything. At first I was confused about the American school system. I

have to move to a different classroom for every class. I didn't know where my class was then my friends helped me. America is a big country and many kinds of people live in America. Most of population of Japan is Japanese. It feels weird. I am proud of Americans because the women have freedom that Japan woman do not," she added.

Yuka hopes to attend college in America. She has definite plans for the future, and said, "My life is just beginning and I want to keep trying new things and places. I don't want to forget English. I think I need to study harder. Someday maybe I will work as a nurse in America. I would also like to go to Africa as a nurse and help people. This is just the beginning for me.

Yuka was a member of the International Club, Jerseyan Club and ESL Club and she played softball.

Markus became interested in the exchange program after hearing friends talk about the United States. He said, "It is interesting to see this country, get to know something about the history and the 'American Way of Life.' I like living here because it's very different from Germany. I like school a lot; my classmates are all very nice to me. I have made a lot of friends here and it's always fun to hang out with them.

Markus compared German and American schools, saying that in Germany students don't have to have hall passes to go out of the classroom or lunch room. They are allowed to leave school-property at lunch time, are in school longer hours and have a summer vacation of just six weeks.

Markus stated, "The most different part is that in Germany school is more difficult. I didn't learn anything new here in school. We go to school at 7:30 a.m., tests and quizzes are almost never announced and are much harder. We learn British English from grades five to eight and in grades 9-12. The grading is also much harder, an A is a 96%.

His favorite classes at SPHS were history, chemistry (which his mother teaches in Germany) and architectural technology. He played baseball with the high school team. He has discovered a few things about this country he really likes, such as pepperoni pizza, barbecue sauce, Mountain Dew and Dr. Pepper. He also noted things are much less expensive in the United States. In Germany he lives with his mother and is very close to the rest of his familygrandparents, a cousin, two aunts and two uncles. Markus hopes to attend college in the U.S. He said, "I would prefer to study here and I am looking forward to it. This was also a reason for me to come here. My future goals are to graduate in Germany and to become a coroner."

Both students noted many other differences in television and clothing. Yuka said, "There are many kinds of TV shows here. In Japan we only have 12

channels. I think that clothes and hairstyles are pretty different. We wear more baggy clothes to not pronounce the shape of our bodies."

Coming to the United States was a big commitment for both students. Yuka would have graduated from high school had she stayed in Japan; here she'll finish school next year. Markus has two more years to complete in Germany.

ASSE also places American students wanting to study abroad. Students arrive in America with their own insurance, money and clothes. The host parents job is to make them part of the family. They provide a bedroom, include them in family activities and make sure they attend school.

Joanne has become area representative for ASSE. She conducts in-depth interviews with students wishing to go to another country, as well as families wanting to host an exchange student. She conducts orientations with the new arrivals and the host family to discuss rules. She provides support for both the student and host family and keeps in touch with the student every month and is also available for the host family should they have an issue with the student. They are actively seeking host families for the upcoming school year.

For more information, contact Joanne Zeliff at (908) 565-6846 or email: exchangerep@aol.com or Sue Nelson at (732) 251-1517.

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