

South Plainfield Observer

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MEMBER NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

50 CENTS

JULY 27, 2007



South Bound Brook Police Officers with their K-9 dog at the Junior Police Academy.

Junior Police Academy Graduates 29

By Jane Dornick

The South Plainfield Recreation Department's Junior Police Academy program held their second program the week of July 10 and graduated

29 cadets. In the three-year old program, South Plainfield Police Officers Dave Franchak and Al LaMonda take children ages 10 through 14 through a condensed version of real police academy training, along with other

officers who share their expertise.

The cadets' day begins with calisthenics and marching techniques. Cadets are shown how police officers conduct car stops and the tactics used to "take down" an unarmed suspect. The police shooting range in the recycling area is used for paintball gun target practice.

Middlesex County Prosecutors Office Investigators Sgt. John Rodriguez, Gabriela Nieves and intern Carrie Roberts conducted a lesson on how gangs operate and how to spot their activities. Det. Jim Darby helped out with a fake crime scene and Lt. Kevin Murtagh spoke about the hazards of drunk driving. The South Plainfield Fire Dept. displayed their rescue training by demonstrating extrication techniques using an old car. The South Bound Brook Police Dept. and their K-9 dog showed off the talents of their drug and arson sniffing dog.

The landing of the N.J. State Police Homeland Security helicopter, manned by Troopers Daryl Lynch and Dan Nelson, is always a much anticipated event. The pilots discussed avionics and the use of the helicopter in police work.

(Continued on page 7)

U12 Girls Take First in All-Star Tournament

What a weekend for the Ponytail U12 Softball All-Stars. It was the first tournament of the season held in Whitehouse Station/Readington on the weekend of June 30. The girls had been practicing for weeks preparing for the tournament and the start of a brand new season. They showed up at this tournament with their game faces on and ready to play.

The first game on Saturday they faced the Flemington Flames, and won 14-2. They also won the second game against the Skyline Pride, 11-5, with Andrea Muglia pitching once again. In the third and final game of the day, with Andrea pitching the third game in a row (looking as if it were her first game), the girls faced the Hamilton Hurricanes. The girls struggled a bit in the beginning offensively and defensively, and were actually losing at the bottom of the fifth inning, 10-5. But once again, South Plainfield did not give up. The girls fought back but with the time constraints they placed on each game (90 minutes), the game ended in a tie, 10-10. Their confidence level for Sunday's games was very high and they were determined to return to the field the next day ready to play.

On Sunday morning, Andrea Muglia returned to the mound once again. The girls were fresh and anxious to challenge anyone. With Andrea's awesome pitching skills and composure and with the help of her teammates, they beat Bridgewater easily, 11-1, making it to the semi-finals to face the Jersey Fusion.

They could not take this team lightly. They were also undefeated going into the semi-finals. The girls had limited time to rest and had to be ready. Andrea took to the mound again. All the girls played terrific offensively and defensively, and were able to beat the Jersey Fusion, 11-3, making it to the finals to play against the Hillsborough Hurricanes—another team they could not take lightly.

Every single girl was ready to play. They were ready, and the crowd was watching every movement on and off the field. There was cheering and chanting from both sides. The game was ready to begin. Feeling a bit fatigued, Andrea took to the mound for the final game. She and her teammates were ready to give it their all. Manager Rick McMahon, along with coaches Dave Ratti, Bill McLaughlin and Carmine Louise, had no doubt in their minds that they could walk away with first place. The girls came out swinging and fielding to their highest potential. It was a close game for a long time with both teams playing well. The girls knew if they wanted to win, they had to step it up another level. Their bats and gloves became flawless. What a fantastic final game it was. They won the game, 7 runs to 3.

Andrea Muglia, who pitched all six games in this tournament, was awarded a trophy for her defensive ability. Ashanti Bishop was also awarded a trophy for her offensive.

(Continued on page 8)

Municipal Land Sale Delayed

While more than 20 potential bidders attending last week's Borough Council meeting intending to bid on four municipal lots advertised for sale, the council delayed the sale after objections from Republican Councilmen Matthew Anesh and Rob Bengivena, as well as Republican Organization Chairman Bob Jones. The sale will be held at the next regular council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 7.

The first objections came from Anesh and Bengivena, who questioned whether the land was designated as open space property. Mayor Charles Butrico insisted

that it was not, but was borough owned property. He conceded that there was an open space sign near the property, but the entire property in question has been not designated as open space. He explained that open space applied only to the lot where the sign is located. Anesh and Bengivena disagreed, saying they thought the sign indicated the entire area was open space. Butrico refused, saying that it was impossible to think that since a house already occupies a portion of that land. The lots in question are

(Continued on page 19)



South Plainfield Police Athletic League Charity Softball Tournament Men's League Champions, Team Bada Bing, with tournament organizers Gary Cassio, Kevin Hughes and Chris Colucci. Also pictured, Kirsten Culver. For story and additional photos, see page 9.



South Plainfield Ponytail Under 12 All-Stars Champions.

We're Celebrating 10 Years!

This year's Labor Day issue marks the 10th anniversary of the South Plainfield Observer. To celebrate this benchmark, we invite our readers and advertisers to join us at an open house on Friday, Sept. 7 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Observer office at 1110 Hamilton Blvd. No reservations required.

We are asking everyone who likes or dislikes the newspaper to join the celebration. We are eager to hear suggestions, complaints and, of course,

compliments. We will display the photos from the Labor Day Parade, as well as many of our favorite front pages from the past 10 years. So stop by and enjoy the celebration. There will be plenty of food and refreshments.

The Observer and Hometown Heros will be participating in the Labor Day Parade this year. We are asking all past Junior Journalist winners to join us on our float and show South

Plainfield how proud we are of all the students who have won during the past years. If you are a winner, please call Charlie at Hometown Heros at (908) 755-4376 or Nancy at the Observer at (908) 668-0010 to sign up. Everyone who participates will receive a t-shirt and refreshments.

Remember, it is not only our birthday, but the 50th year of the South Plainfield Labor Day Parade, so let's make this year a year to remember.



**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

councilmeetings

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

Date	Agenda Meeting	Public Meeting
August 7	7 p.m.	Immediately following
September 4	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
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
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.-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.-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.
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
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.

IN MY OPINION

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

Submit Letters to the Editor:

Please be advised that the Observer
does not 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.

Thank You... South Plainfield Residents:

The family of Jamie Cammarata and Jason Campbell would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for all the love and support so generously given during Jamie's struggle with leukemia—the blood drives, benefit luncheons and dinners, PAL softball tournament and the many, many donations to help Jamie as she so bravely fought this horrific disease.

Jamie lived 14 of her short 26 years in South Plainfield. She had such a love for life; always wearing a smile that would light up the world. She taught us about courage, strength and hope.

As Jamie touched the lives of so many people; we, her family, have been so touched by all the wonderful people who stood by us during this very difficult time. What a wonderful tribute to her, thank you, from the bottom of our hearts.

THE HOFF/CAMMARATA FAMILIES AND JASON CAMPBELL

Dear Editor,

Last week I went to the Borough Council meeting to express my concern about the auction of open-space property on Harvard Avenue. After seeing ads about the land sale, I drove by and was shocked to see an open-

space sign on the property. After years of hearing about how our town was preserving open space, I could not believe they were selling property they promised would never be developed. While sitting at the meeting I learned something equally disturbing. The council (with the exception of GOP Councilmen Anesh and Bengivenga) also wanted to swap land with a developer that evening. They decided to swap the land because the town is taking a small piece of the developer's property to widen South Clinton Avenue. The lot being swapped is right next to one of the properties that was up for public auction. Both are 100 feet by 100 feet. The minimum bid for the property being auctioned was \$220,000. The price used for the property being swapped was only \$177,000—which is \$43,000 less than the one being sold right next door. This doesn't seem right. Even more troubling is the fact that the person swapping the land with the town (and making this killing) contributes money to the South Plainfield Democrats and Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan. During the meeting a member of the audience suggested postponing the swap until the surrounding properties were auctioned off. This way, the council could see what the swap property was really worth. The four properties for auction had minimum bids of \$220,000 (one) and \$235,000 (three), and the room was packed with bidders. As a result, if the auctioned properties were going for higher than the minimum bid, the council could have demanded a higher price for the property being swapped, or it could have auctioned the swap piece instead of trading it (then directly paid for the property the town was taking for the road widening). The

council ignored this suggestion. Putting aside the fact that these properties are all open space and should not be sold, these sales are being mismanaged in ways nobody can imagine. In fact, if these people worked in the private sector they'd lose their jobs. As taxpayers, we deserve better.

ALEX BARLETTA

Dear Editor:

As a member of the Borough Council, I take very seriously the commitments we make to the public. One of those commitments involves preserving open space. When we put a sign on property saying that land has been permanently preserved and will never be developed, we have an obligation to keep that promise. Last week, however, the council's Democratic majority broke that promise. That's when the council was scheduled to sell at auction land that is part of our open space. The property has an open-space sign on it, and I have a copy of a letter in which the mayor admits that it's open space. Both Councilman Bengivenga and I objected to the auction and asked that it be removed from the agenda. Council members Cerami, Thomas and Petronko said no. While the auction did not occur, that was only because a member of the public, Bob Jones, pointed out how the council failed to adhere to the legal requirements for selling public property. Those problems have now been corrected and the sale is scheduled for Aug. 7. South Plainfield should not be selling open space to developers, and I plan on objecting to the sale once again at the Aug. 7 meeting. It's appalling that the council majority would go back on the promise they made to our town. They should be ashamed.

COUNCILMAN MATT ANESH

Workshops on the State Property Tax Rebate

Senator Barbara Buono, Assemblymen Patrick Diegnan and Peter Barnes III will host two property tax rebate workshops to help residents properly file their homestead rebate applications before the August 15 deadline.

The first workshop will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 8 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the East Brunswick Senior Citizen Center. The second will be held on Thursday, Aug. 9 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the South Plainfield Senior Citizen Center. Representatives of the N.J. State Division of Taxation will assist with the application process and answer questions about the rebate.

Under the new formula, homeowners will receive a rebate based on

the percentage of the first \$10,000 in property taxes paid—20 percent for incomes \$100,000 or less, 15 percent for incomes between \$100,001 and \$150,000 and 10 percent for incomes between \$150,001 and \$250,000.

Homeowners who were age 65 or older or disabled as of Dec. 31, 2006 will receive the larger of either the amount determined by the percentage-of-property taxes formula, or the amount they would have received under the rebate rules in place for tax years 2004 and 2005.

Applicants are required to file for rebates by phone or over the Internet. By following instructions in the mailed packets they receive, homeowners can file easily and accurately.

The automated homeowner rebate telephone filing system is (877) 658-2972 or the Internet filing application is accessible at www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/. Both are available to residents around-the-clock during the filing period.

For additional information, residents are encouraged to call Senator Buono's office at (732) 819-8141, Assemblyman Diegnan's office at (908) 757-1677 or Assemblyman Barnes' office at (732) 287-5609.

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(908) 668-0010
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NANCY GRENNIER
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Web page:
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WAYNE GRENNIER
Associate Publisher
SUSAN KANEPS
Art Director/Associate Editor

PATRICIA ABBOTT
Staff Writer/Photographer

LIBBY BARKSY
Staff Writer

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in the South Plainfield Observer:

1. Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.
2. Mail, fax or drop it at: South Plainfield Observer, Editorial Department, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or drop it in the box at Mohns 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.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Sunnie Randolph

The South Plainfield Public Library still has books for sale for \$1 a bag. During the summer, the library staff "weeds" books from the adult collection. These are books that have not been checked out in years. To make space for the new books the library purchases each month, old, unread books have to be weeded out. These are the books you will find on the library sale shelves.

If you haven't joined one of the summer reading clubs, come into the library and sign up. There are children's, young adult and adult reading clubs.

If you have requested an interlibrary loan or a hold on a library book, please come in and pick it up as soon as possible. There are many people waiting to read the new bestsellers. Books with holds are kept on the holds shelf for five working days. If not picked up, they are moved to the next person on the holds list. All the days a book sits on the hold shelf waiting for someone to pick it up, makes the waiting period longer for everyone else who is waiting to read it also. If you don't

like to wait a long time for a hold on a bestseller, please be courteous by thinking of the other readers who are also waiting. The library purchases multiple copies of bestsellers—regular print, large print and audio. The bestseller audio books seldom have holds placed on them. If you want to "listen" to a new book, try putting a hold on the audio version. The library charges a \$.50 holds fee. This fee is for the library notifying and holding the item for the person who requests it. "Elvis" will call patrons to tell them when the item they requested is in and ready for pick up. If "Elvis" doesn't contact the person, a library holds notice will be sent.

There is a limited supply of school summer reading books available in the library. Some of the same titles can be downloaded from the library's website—go to ListenNJ. These titles can be burned to CDs. The audio books are the same as the book except you listen to it instead of reading it.

For library program information, stop by the library and pick up a calendar or go to the library's Web site—www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us—click on library calendar of events.

Board of Ed Puts Drug Testing Hearing on Hold

By Libby Barsky

There was no public hearing on adopting a policy on substance abuse during last Wednesday's Board of Education meeting.

According to board member Pio Pennisi, the policy would extend random testing of all students to determine their status and include not just student athletes but the general high school population.

Before the meeting began, Dr. Robert Rosado, superintendent of schools, removed the policy from the agenda because further study was needed on who would be required to collect and test for substance abuse so that the costs of testing wouldn't be onerous to the district.

Discussion on the policy will be held at the August meeting.

During the superintendent's report, Dr. Rosado presented a tenure certificate to Robert Richkus as assistant principal of Grant School. Richkus, a graduate of South Plainfield High School, began his career teaching social studies in the middle school in 2000.

Also, the board appointed Robert Diehl as assistant principal at South Plainfield High School. For the past two years he has been disciplinarian at the high school, but last month the board cut that position. Diehl has been in the district for 10 years, eight years as social studies teacher in the high school.

GOP Endorses McConville and Rusnak

"Let's Do Better" is Theme of Republican Campaign

Borough residents Tim McConville and Ray Rusnak are the choice of South Plainfield Republicans to be their party's candidates for borough council this fall.

According to GOP Chair Bob Jones, both are top-flight candidates: "Tim and Ray have the right vision for South Plainfield's future. They are a dynamic team with a strong desire to get our town back on track. I can't think of two people who would better serve our town."

Councilman Matthew Anesh also thinks highly of the two candidates. "Ray made an excellent candidate three years ago, and having known Tim personally for many years, I know he will be an asset to our town. These are two people who will do great things for South Plainfield when they are elected in the fall."

"Tim and Ray have the integrity and determination to make a difference," added Councilman Robert Bengivenga. "They will be superb additions to the council."

McConville and Rusnak plan to make reducing wasteful spending and controlling taxes a priority. They also agree on the need to control the rampant overdevelopment in town and enact ethics reform.

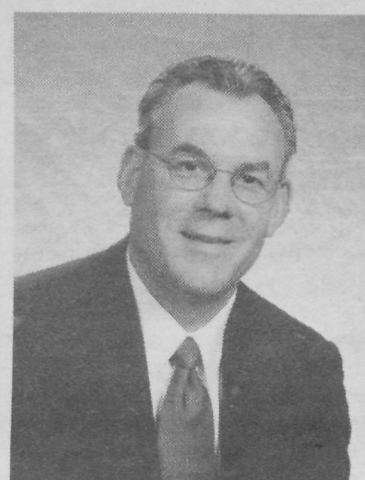
Rusnak is anxious to start campaigning on the issues. "We need to start dealing with the out-of-control building, plus we have to get the Borough's fiscal house in order. Over the past few years the town's been spending like there's no tomorrow and much of that money is being misspent."

McConville agreed, and he also pointed to the need for ethics reform. "I have several ideas for making sure South Plainfield residents come first. I'd also like to see a return to open government, where decisions are made for the right reasons and with input from the public."

Rusnak and his wife, Robyn, live on Field Avenue. His background includes more than 20 years of experience in insurance, investments, banking and lending. Ray takes the place of Dave Sesok, who had to step down from running due to family commitments.



Tim McConville



Ray Rusnak

McConville and his wife, Gina, both graduated from South Plainfield High School. They have three children: Sean, Caitlin and Jillian. He is a graduate of Cittone Institute in Edison and is employed as a systems administrator by Packeteer in South Plainfield. He's also an assistant coach with the PAE's soccer program and a member

of the Sons of the American Legion.

"We could not be more proud of these two candidates," said Jones. "Ray and Tim will be out knocking on doors soon, and I'm sure the voters will be as impressed as I am. South Plainfield will be fortunate to have Tim McConville and Ray Rusnak on the Borough Council."

Historical Society Raffling Quilt

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

The quilt will be on display during the month of August at the South Plainfield Public Library. Tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased at the History Center on Tuesdays from 2 to 5:30 p.m. or Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. You may also purchase tickets by mail. Send your request to: Attn: Linda Mackenzie,

P.O. Box 11, South Plainfield, N.J. 07080. The raffle will be drawn after the Labor Day parade at 2 p.m. at the PAL Building.

In other news, the History Center, located in the lower lever of the old Roosevelt School, has expanded its hours for summer. In addition to being open every Tuesday from 2 to 5:30 p.m., the center will be open on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through August 21. Please stop by and explore the many treasures the Historical Society has to offer or visit our Web site at www.geocities.com/sphistoricalociety/.

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Around Town

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 are on sale at the PAL Building.

Wesley Methodist Vacation Bible School

July 29-Aug. 2

Wesley United Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave., invites all children to become sky scouts at summer Vacation Bible School, Lift Off! Soaring to New Heights with God, July 29 to Aug. 2, 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. Open to children ages four through 12. \$10 per child; not to exceed \$20 per family. Register by July 22.

Questions? Call (908) 757-2838.

Free Vacation Bible School at Cedarcroft

July 30-August 3

Cedarcroft Bible Chapel is offering a free, fun-packed week for young people entering first through eighth grades, July 30-Aug. 3, 6:30-9 p.m.

Awesome activities, marvelous music, flavorful food, special features, prizes, quizzes and more will make this week a week to remember! The Cedarcroft Pals Puppets will also be there.

"B Vitamins from the Bible" is the theme for the week. Five parables will be retold with Powerpoint pictures using "Nebbishes."

— SPHS Reunions —

SPHS Class of 1977 30-Year Reunion

October 27

Save the date! Our 30-year reunion is set for Saturday, Oct. 27 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 Maureen Readie at (908) 754-3455 or email gveinott@comcast.net, or contact Francine Martin-kovic at (818) 990-6843 or email kit961@earthlink.net. Hope to see you there!

1987 Class Reunion

November 23

A 20-year reunion for SPHS Class of 1987 has been planned for Friday, November 23. The reunion committee is still in need of addresses for members of the graduating class. The invitations with all details will be sent in early July. Send your contact information (name, address, phone and e-mail address) to michele.raber@ey.com or call (908) 226-0909 for information.

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

JULY/AUG

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
UPCOMING EVENTS Atlantic City Trips Taj Mahal August 5 & Claridge August 16 Summer Picnic 12 noon - August 8				Bingo 10am-2pm 27
Knitting/Crocheting 9:30am-11:30am 30 Yoga 10:30-11:30am Art Class 11:30am	Bingo 10am-2pm 31 Ladies Social Group 10am	Aerobics 8:45 am 1 Computer Classes 10am, 11:20am, 1pm Line Dancing 10am Crocheting 1pm Taj Mahal Trip 9am	Shopping 9am 2 Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 10am, 11am, 1pm Exercise Class 1:15pm	Bingo 10am-2pm 3

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

There will also be a program for ninth through twelfth grades from 9-10 p.m. at the chapel. Discussions will focus on "Does God Pay Any Attention to Me When I Talk to Him?"

For mothers who would like to stay for the evening, a special mothers' class will be offered. For information, call Liz Marder at (908) 757-7598.

To pre-register, or for information, go to www.cedarcroft.org, click on "Sign up for VBS" and then click again on "Register For VBS Now." Or call Bonnie Ward at (908) 754-3081 or Kingsley Bachr at (908) 757-7598.

Cedarcroft Bible Chapel is located at 1715 Kenyon Ave.

St. Stephen Church Benefit Piano Recital

August 3

A Lutheran World Hunger benefit piano recital featuring Rev. Richard A.

Mathisen will be hosted by St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 3145 Park Ave. on Friday, Aug. 3. The concert with commentary will begin at 7 p.m. Cost is \$7. Refreshments will be served.

For information, call (908) 757-4474. All proceeds to benefit Lutheran World Hunger campaign of the ELCA Lutheran Church.

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. 6-10, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

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. Register through July 30.

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

E-mail Your Events to:

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Blackrose to Perform

July 27

Blackrose, the band playing classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will be performing at Tim Kerwins Pub, Rt. 28 in Middlesex on Friday, July 27 at 9:30 p.m. No cover charge.

Sierra Club Slideshow

July 28

The Sierra Club will hold a free special slideshow presentation and speaker on the N.J. Highlands situation in Meeting Room C at Somerset County Library in Bridgewater on Saturday, July 28 at 3:30 p.m.

RSVP to Angel Butterfly37@aol.com or call (732) 764-9073.

Singles Bowling

July 28

The NJ Young Sierrans Singles (18-29) will hold a bowling event at Strike 'N Spare Lanes in Green Brook on Saturday, July 28 at 8 p.m. Cost: \$5 per game, plus \$4.75 for shoes.

AIDA SANTOS

VICE PRESIDENT
BRANCH MANAGER

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Fax (908) 757-0494

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

Sierra Singles Dinner

July 28

The Sierra Club Singles will hold a dinner and game night at The Office Restaurant in Bound Brook on Saturday, July 28 at 5:30 p.m. Cost is what you order plus 25% tax and tips. RSVP to AngelButterfly37@aol.com or (732) 764-9073.

Woodbridge WOWs to Hold Dance

July 29

The Woodbridge Widows Or Widowers (WOWs) will hold an open dance on Sunday, July 29 from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. at the Elks Hall, 665 Rahway Ave. in Woodbridge. Music by Jimmy Ray. Refreshments. Admission \$8 member, \$10 guests.

All are welcome. For information contact Phyllis at (732) 381-3255 or Lois at (908) 757-0515.

Summer Convocation

August 7-10

Rose of Sharon Community Church in Plainfield is hosting Summer Holy Convocation 2007 beginning Tuesday, Aug. 7 through Friday, Aug. 10. Convocation includes 9:30 a.m. morning glory prayer, 10 a.m. service, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. workshops and 7 p.m. evening worship.

For information, call (908) 561-9070 or visit www.roscommchurch.org.

Poetry Reading

August 8

Poetswednesday will feature poets Bob Rosenbloom and Linda Radice on Wednesday, Aug. 8 at 8 p.m. at Barron Arts Center, 582 Rahway Ave. in Woodbridge. An open reading will follow and refreshments will be served.

For more information, call Edie at (732) 381-7691.

"Thoroughly Modern Millie" at Bucks

Through August 12

The Bucks County Playhouse, 70 So. Main St. in historic New Hope, Pa. presents "Thoroughly Modern Millie" through Sunday, Aug. 12. Ticket prices are \$23-\$25; day of show discounts for students.

For information and reservations, call (215) 862-2041 or visit our Web site at www.buckscountypayhouse.com.

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

IS THERE 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.

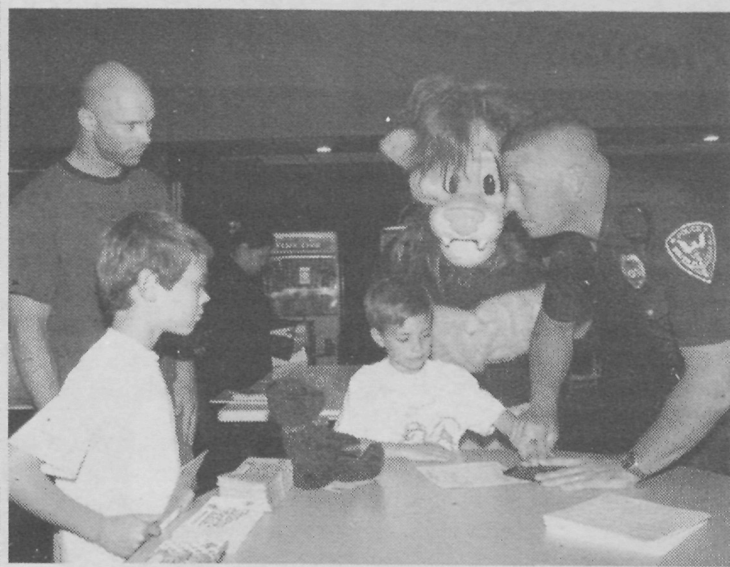
SUBMIT LETTERS TO THE EDITOR to allow readers to discuss and react to issues.

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: spobservers@comcast.net.

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South Plainfield Observer



South Plainfield DARE Police Officer Dave Franchak fingerprints River Chapdelaine while his brother Calab and dad look on. Franchak was at Regal Cinemas recently promoting the program where children are fingerprinted, which can be used for identification in case they are reported missing.

southplainfieldpeople

Milestones

Virginia Palmer Honored at Sacred Heart Church

After 25 years of dedicated service to Sacred Heart Church, Virginia Palmer has retired as coordinator of religious education. She was honored at a reception held after a Mass, where Father John Alvarado recognized her and thanked her for her dedication on behalf of all of the children she has taught and guided over the years.



Virginia Palmer

Replacing Palmer as coordinator of religious education is Carol Mascola.

Steven Jude Tietjen Named to Dean's List

Steven Jude Tietjen, a 2006 graduate of South Plainfield High School, has been named to the Dean's List at Carnegie Mellon University, College of Fine Arts, in Pittsburgh, Pa. To receive this honor, students must maintain a GPA of 3.5 and above. Steven is pursuing a degree in music, a certificate in accompanying/collaborative piano performance and he is preparing to enter the accelerated master's program in Arts Management. In addition to his studies, Steven is a volunteer for the East End Youth Project, tutoring students at the Sterrett Classical Academy.

Megan Pulomena Graduates from Wagner College

Megan Pulomena was awarded the Bachelor of Science degree by Wagner College at the school's 122nd commencement exercise on May 18.

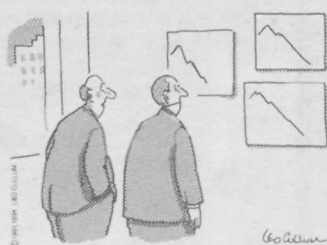
Wagner College is located on Grymes Hill in New York City's Borough of Staten Island. The school's signature curriculum, the Wagner Plan, united deep learning and practical application, incorporating the college's longstanding commitment to the liberal arts, experiential learning and interdisciplinary education with its geographical location and enduring bond with Staten Island and the City of New York.

For more information about Wagner College, visit them on the Web at www.wagner.edu.

Correction

In the July 20 issue of the *Observer*, 2007 SPHS Scholarship Recipients/Award Winners Honored, Christina Schuetz should have been included under Academic Letters.

Is your business headed in the right direction?



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Council Denies Paulo's Barbeque Liquor License

By Libby Barsky

Paulo's Barbeque on Plainfield Avenue is moving. Despite being in the middle of renovation efforts that began over two years ago, owner Paulo Simoes has decided to leave the borough and the clientele he has been building for 10 years. Immediately after receiving the denial of a liquor license by the Borough Council recently, Simoes said he would move his business out of the borough. On Tuesday he posted 'for sale by owner' signs on the building entrance.

Simoes' attorney, Rafael J. Betancourt, told the council members that Paulo's Barbeque was a family restaurant and was seeking a liquor license to enable Paulo's to offer liquor to its customers and not to be a liquor store selling packaged goods or providing a bar.

The problem with getting a liquor license is the proximity of Paulo's Barbeque to Witty's Liquor store directly across the street on Plainfield Avenue. The borough has an ordinance preventing any liquor establishment from being closer than 2,000 feet to another one to prevent clustering of liquor stores and the possibility of having a bar on every corner.

Dominic Cerminaro, attorney for Witty's owner Henry Patel, said Witty's is only 75 feet away. Cerminaro suggested that Paulo's would possibly create "a better bar with liquor in back." Cerminaro suggested that the restaurant could achieve its goal of liquor for customers by having them come with their own bottles of wine or beer, which they already do.

Councilman Dennis Cerami, who had been in the restaurant business, noted that having a liquor license would increase costs for the restaurant in terms of labor, an inventory of liquor and space for storing it.



Paulo's Barbeque placed a for sale sign in front of their property shortly after being denied a liquor license

Even if the use of the license remained as stated only for restaurant customers, Borough Attorney Patrick Diegnan said, "Once the license is granted, we can't put restrictions on the license or on another tenant if the business is sold."

Voting for denial of the liquor license were council members Matthew Anesh, Dennis Cerami and Kathleen Thomas. Voting for approval were Ray Petronko and Robert Bengivenga, Jr. Councilman Joseph Scrudato was not present.

Last month Ruby Tuesday had requested and received a waiver from the 2,000 foot restriction for their liquor license for their location at 4701 Stelton Rd. within the Holiday Inn. Mayor Charles Buttrico explained that those who received recent waivers weren't in a residential zone.

When told the restaurant was leaving as a result of the liquor license denial, Buttrico wasn't surprised.

"That's what I expected," he said.

SCHOOL BOARD Notes

- The Board has been discussing implementing a new policy for senior lunches. Seniors would use their ID cards at one door to exit and return. The board is investigating the use of a swipe card machine and permission slips will be required from a parent or guardian to enable their child to leave the school during lunch period. When a student turns 18, they will be required to sign their own permission slip.

- Steven Novak and Robert Richkus received tenure certificates.

- The 2007/2008 fall coach appointments were approved at the July 18 meeting, along with the appointment of Bob Diehl as high school vice principal, Future Stars preschool, latchkey and Adult School teachers.

- Franklin School is experiencing a great deal of vandalism to the windows in the rear of the school. The BOE has placed a spotlight there, but windows continue to be broken. Residents in the area are asked to notify the police department if they see any suspicious activity.

These are your tax dollars which are being used to constantly replace them. Please become a part of the neighborhood watch especially during the summer months when vandalism is greater.

- Beginning in September the public BOE meetings will be video taped and shown on Comcast Channel 74. Dates and time will be announced shortly.

Facts From The Board:

- The high school gymnasium is one of the few gyms in the surrounding towns that does not have air conditioning. The people who attended the recent high school graduation experienced this. The Buildings and Grounds committee is looking into this issue.

- The middle school lockers will be replaced during the November and December school holidays.

- All of the schools, except for the newer Roosevelt School, still have their original windows.

Abbott Appearing in "Cabaret"

South Plainfield resident Christopher Abbott is playing the MC in the Broadway revival version of "Cabaret" at Linden High School in Linden on Friday and Saturday, July 27 and 28 at 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. The auditorium is air

conditioned. The school is located at 121 W. St. Georges Ave, Linden.

This revival version is directed by Howard Whitmore. For tickets call (908) 474-8493 days or (908) 486-4281 evenings. Large print programs and assistive listening devices are available upon request.

HOME TIP:

Take a tour of your own home and pretend you have never seen it before. What do you notice? Does it seem well maintained? Would you want to buy this home? Call me today and I'll help you make the answers a definite "Yes."



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Tues.-Miraculous Medal Novena followed by Mass

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

Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield, NJ

Rev. John Paul Alvarado, Pastor

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

Mass Schedule:
Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.
Weekdays Tues., Wed., Fri., Sat. 9 am; Mon. and Thurs. 7 p.m.
Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.
Holy Days 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m. and 7 p.m.



Mary Padovano, owner of The Happy Paint Brush, in front of her new business on Front Street.

Happy Paint Brush Opens

Mary Padovano, owner of The Happy Paint Brush, held the grand opening of her new store at 176 Front St. on July 17.

Young or old, if you enjoy painting, The Happy Paint Brush has a large selection of plaster molds, such as animals, dolls, flowers, sports themes, cartoon characters and

much more. Stop in any time Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and paint away. However seating is limited. Children's birthday parties can also be arranged.

For more information, call (908) 971-9191. The Happy Paint Brush is located near Curves.

Planning Board Approves Addition for Drug Company

By Libby Barsky

The Planning Board approved the application of PTC Therapeutics, located at 100 and 200 Corporate Court, to erect a 5,208 sq. ft. addition connecting joining the two buildings together, unifying the existing office and laboratory space as one area.

To provide an entrance visitors will identify as that of PTC Therapeutics, the exterior of the new addition will be built with two different colors of brick and a metal roof to set it apart from the decorative concrete exterior of the Corporate Court building, according to architect Bob Longo. The interior of the addition will be the reception area. Parking and landscaping has been reconfigured and of 367 parking spaces for the buildings, 17

were eliminated to accommodate the addition.

Construction is expected to begin shortly. At their June meeting, the Zoning Board of Adjustment approved PTC Therapeutics request to put a temporary trailer on the site while the addition is under construction.

The biopharmaceutical company was recently awarded a \$15.4M five-year grant by the National Institute of Health to fund further research in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine in Duchenne Muscular Disrophy (DMD), a progressive muscle disorder causing the loss of muscle function and independence. Approximately 20,000 children worldwide are born yearly with DMD.

Grant "Mathletes" Win Big

Grant Elementary School students were among 150,000 students from 5,000 teams worldwide that participated this year in the Math Olympiads program that teaches children how to solve unusual and difficult problems and to think creatively. The students took part in a series of five monthly contests of five problems each from November through March under the supervision and coaching of teachers Joanne Haus and Kathy Wilson.

The Grant School team was named to the National High Achievement List for its outstanding work. A team must be in the 80th to 89th percentile nationally to win this award. Students receiving national awards for excellence within the Elementary School Division were Joshua Siepmann with a score of 21 out of 25 points. He received a gold pin for scoring in the top two percent, or the 98th percentile, and a trophy for the highest individual score on the team. Michael Del Genio, Jasmin Hernandez, Rohan Iyengar, David Landy, Maggie McLean, Tania Rincon and Steven Vincent were awarded a silver pin for scoring in the 90th to 97th percentiles. An embroidered felt patch was awarded to students in the top 50 percent of all of the participants which included Allison Ratti, Thomas Riccardi, Jade McDonnough, Daniel Sanko, Wahid Walli, Patrick Boyle, Nicholas Graves, Michelle Lesniak, Troy Heilmann, Christina Naphor, Joseph Spinella, Rina Bhalodi, Tara Dunn, Liam McDermott, Erin Remsing, Gina Louise, Emily Pittenger, Jacob Seider, Trevin Singh and Emily Skula.

The Math Olympiads serves over 4,000 teams and 100,000 students nationally and approximately 1,800 teams and 35,000 students in other countries. All 50 states and 25 countries were represented. The program was created in 1977 by Dr. George Lenchner, an internationally known math educator, and went public in 1979. It provides challenging, thought-provoking problems that stretch the abilities of students in grades four through eight.



Mayor Charles Butrico (center) presents a proclamation declaring the week of July 30 to Aug. 5 as Summer Drama Workshop (SDW) Week to long-time SDW volunteers Patricia Abbott and Bill Mott. SDW invites the community to join in their 35th anniversary celebration by attending their production of the Broadway hit, "How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying." Show dates are Thursday through Sunday, Aug. 2, 3, 4 at 7 p.m and Aug. 5 at 2 p.m. at the South Plainfield High School auditorium. For more information, call (908) 561-5255 or visit www.spsdw.com. See next week's Observer for cast and production names.

Middlesex County Named Top Recycling County in State

Middlesex County has been named the top recycling county in the state, according to the latest data from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

With a recycling rate of 62.3 percent, Middlesex County ranked No. 1 among the 21 counties for a third time since 1995, the first year data was compiled. The data also marks the ninth time since 1995 that Middlesex County has met or exceeded the State's 60 percent recycling goal. No other county has achieved this record.

"My Freeholder colleagues and I are exceptionally proud of this achievement," said Freeholder Director David B. Crabel. "It is an achievement that could only have been met through the cooperation of our residents."

The data released by the NJDEP represents 2005 totals, the latest year for which data is available. Of the

2,515,806 tons of waste generated in Middlesex County in 2005, 1,567,684 tons (or 62.3 percent) was recycled.

The Middlesex County Improvement Authority operates the curbside recycling collection program in 15 municipalities throughout the county. In 2005, more than 30,140 tons of material, such as glass, plastic aluminum, cardboard and newspaper, were collected from more than 97,000 single-family homes, multifamily units and small businesses.

The MCIA also operates a successful yard waste recycling program, which generated more than 40,000 tons of leaves, brush and grass in 2005, and promotes grass-cycling, which asks homeowners to cut grass and leave it where it lay instead of collecting it and throwing it into the waste stream.

The County's Division of Solid Waste Management conducts collection events for paint, household batteries, used tires, consumer electronics, such as televisions, computers and VCRs and for household hazardous waste, such as motor oil and antifreeze.

The county has also sponsored a number of paper shredding events that have grown in popularity for residents looking to shred financial and other personal papers before discarding them. Since July 2005, 131,047 pounds of paper have been shredded and recycled as part of the County events.

The Solid Waste Division and the MCIA are sponsoring book recycling programs with various school districts throughout the county. Outdated hardcover and soft-cover books that can no longer be used, sold or given away are being recycled in this program that is being embraced by the schools.

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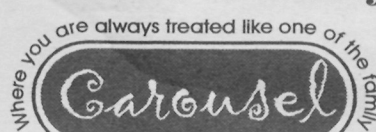
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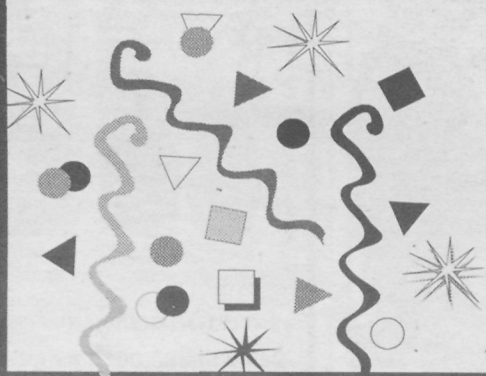
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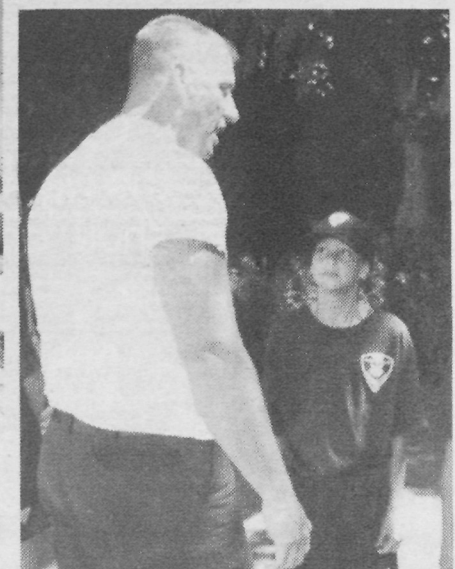
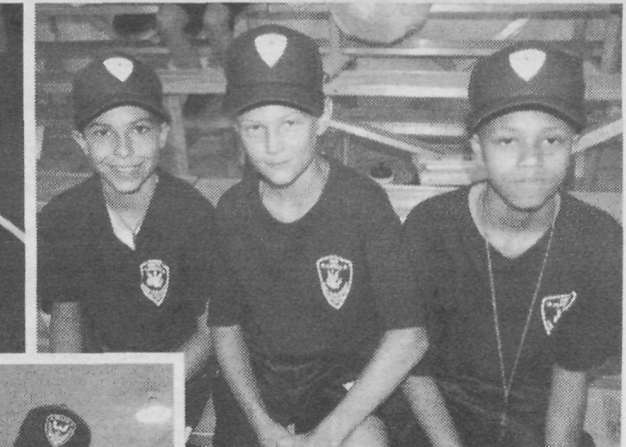
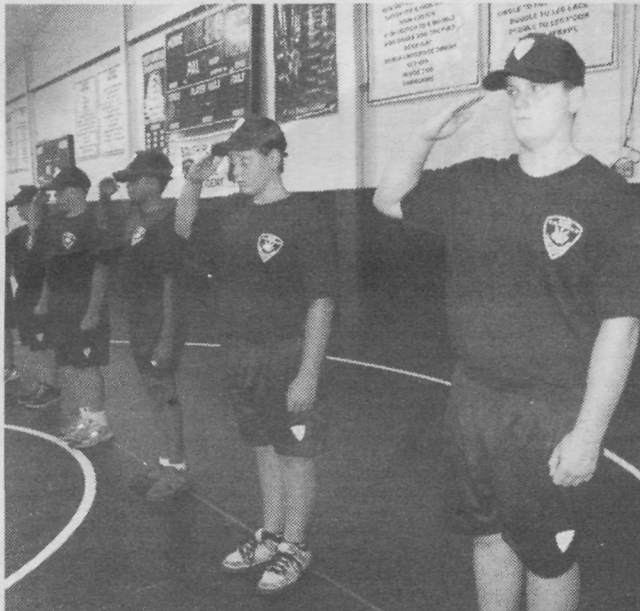
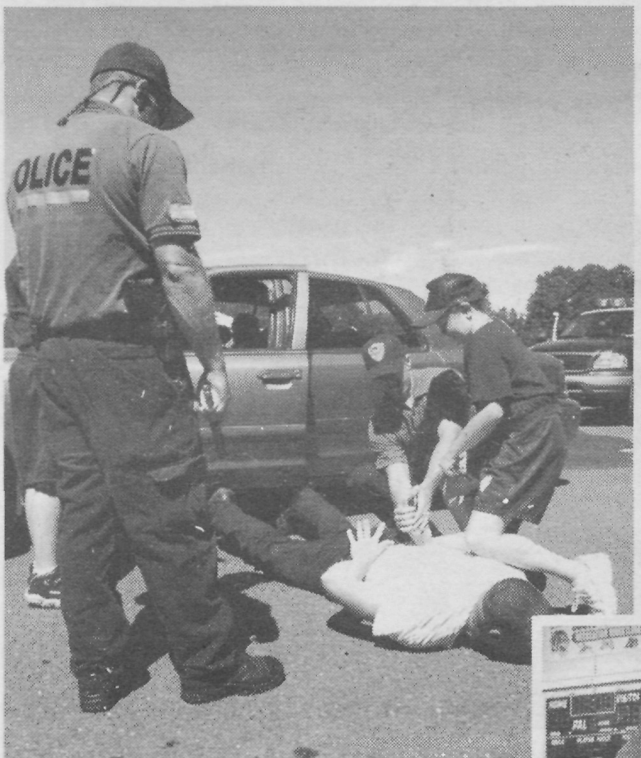
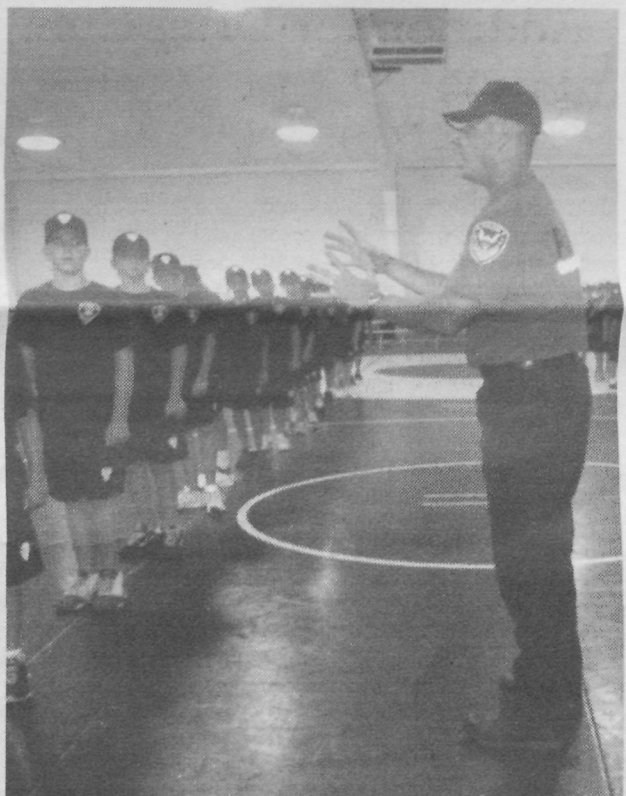
Junior Police Academy Graduates 29



(Continued from page 1)
A graduation ceremony was held where members of the police department congratulated the cadets and presenting them with certificates for completing the class. Plaques were given to three organizations recognizing their support of the academy. Accepting on behalf of the South Plainfield Elks was John Kormendy. Restaurant Depot Branch Manager Jim Furlong received a plaque for their donations of food and South Plainfield Fire Capt. Joe Abbruzzese accepted a plaque on behalf of the department for time spent volunteering.

Graduates for the second session are Alyssa Adamson, Anthony Austin, Randy Cribb, Mitchell Dean, Jesse Deffler, John DiDolce, Robert Eggert, Kevin Flanagan, Sean Flanagan, Thomas Ginda, Raymond Jazikoff, Alex Lundy, Frankie Malecki, Christopher Mathis, Patrick McCoid, Shane McCoid, Tucker Merkle, Michael Miller, Nicole Miller, Idalis Pineda, Matthew Resende, Andrew Rhoads, Mary Simmonds, Gregory Sutton, Daniel Vargas, Robert Waldrop, Christopher Wallace, Matthew Ward and Richard Zekas.

Many thanks to the following individuals and organizations for their participation in this program: Chief John Ferraro, Lt. Charles Siedenburgh, Capt. Paul Brembt, Lt. Kevin Murtagh, Sgt. Raymond Jazikoff, Det. Vincent Campagna, Det. Jim Darby, Officer Joe Glowacki, Officer Kevin LoMonte, Kevin Hughes, SPVFD, N.J. State Police, Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office, South Bound Brook Police Dept., South Plainfield Elks, Restaurant Depot, Bill Hartmann Sr., Bill Hartmann Jr. and Debbie Esposito.



Sports

Tiger Sharks Lose to Hillsborough

The South Plainfield Tiger Sharks lost to Hillsborough by a score of 191 to 119 on July 12. While the Tiger Sharks had defeated Hillsborough at their first meet of the season in June, the Hillsborough team came to South Plainfield seeking revenge for their previous loss.

Matt Moates (13-18) was the only first place win in the individual medley. Liam McDermott (11/12) and Alan Kasmer (13-18) placed second while 10-and-under Marcel Green placed third.

In the girls division Kelly O'Brien (10-and-under) was the only first place win for the longer freestyle event. Emma Picilato (8-and-under), Gracie Piekarski (11/12) and sister Emily Piekarski (13-18) placed second. Older swimmer Erika Lee placed third in the longer freestyle.

Philip Luzny placed first in the butterfly for the 15-18 year olds while teammate Michael Boyle placed third. Nick Gurrieri (8-and-under), Enzo Butrico (9/10), Anthony Gurrieri (11/12) and Zack Post (13/14) placed second in the butterfly. Marcel Green (9/

South Plainfield Tiger Sharks



10) and Brian Babinetz (13/14) placed third. The girls had two first place finishers in breaststroke. They were Madison Faustini (9/10) and Kate O'Brien (13/14). No girls had placed second but Cristina Butrico (11/12) and Chelsea Cullen (15-18) placed third. The boys managed to take three of the five first place ribbons in the freestyle events. Nicholas Gurrieri was the only 8-and-under to place with a blue ribbon. His brother Anthony Gurrieri also placed first in the 11/12 age group and Matt Moates was the only older boy to place and take the first for the 15-18 year olds. Enzo Butrico (9/10) placed second, while Liam McDermott (11/12) and Zak Post (13/14) placed third for the freestyle.

Once again Kelly O'Brien was the

only girl to take first place in the backstroke. Taylor Aljian (11/12), Chelsea Cullen (13/14), and Emily Piekarski (15-18) placed second. Ellen Zinsky (13/14) and Erika Lee (15-18) placed third for the backstroke events.

In the free relays, the 8-and-under girls placed third. Swimming this event were Olivia George, Justice Lipuma, Morgan Merkler and Grace Hageman. The 9-12 year old girls took second place in the same event. Swimming that relay were Madison Faustini, Kelly O'Brien, Grace Piekarski and Taylor Aljian. The oldest relay team of Chelsea Cullen, Emily Piekarski, Erica Lee and Maggie Valentino placed second in their free relay.

The boys were able to capture second place in all age groups for the medley relays. The 8-and-under relay were Cristian Butrico, Nicholas Pezzolla, Nicholas Guerrieri and Ben Sheaffer. The 9-12 boys were Liam McDermott, Marcel Green, Anthony Gurrieri, and Enzo Butrico. The oldest boys relay team was Brian Babinetz, Ryan Lind, Matt Moates and Philip Luzny.

Taking first place in their heats for backstroke were Courtney Allocco, Teresa Gustafson and Angela Spadavecchi. First in the freestyle heats were Anindya Mehta, Edward Sheaffer, Michael Stanczak and Cristian Butrico. Nicole Stanczak place first in the breaststroke and Nicholas Pezzolla placed first in the butterfly.

The Tiger Sharks will sharpen their skills and be on the prowl for this team at the championship meet which will be held at the community pool later this month. A special thank you to substitute coaches Calvin John Smiley and Abby Petritch for working with the team.

-Submitted by Cheryl Nagel-Smiley

Sign up for Fall Ball at SPJB

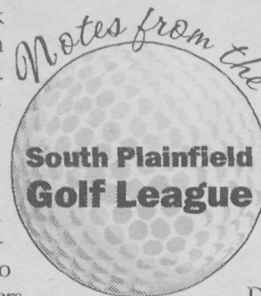
Come and play fall baseball at the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club. Out of town children are welcome. Fall ball starts in September and is open to youths ages 7-8, 9-10, 11 and 12 year-olds. Must be seven before April 30, 2008.

Sign up at the club on Aug. 10, 6 to 9 p.m. or Aug. 11, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fee is \$75.

Sign up and registration for the SPJBC 2007 fall baseball can also be accomplished by contacting the club's main phone number at (908) 754-2090, by fax at (908) 754-2070 or Email, southplainfieldjbc@yahoo.com. The mailing address is South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club, P.O. Box 166, South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

Additional information will be available soon on the Web site at www.leaguelineup.com/spjbc.

Submitted By Bob Nilan



Last week was week number 11 in the South Plainfield Golf League. The following story is true, no matter how hard it may be to believe.

Ray Costa and Rich Muglia of the Roughriders were looking to play against two members of Patti's Construction, and Andy Hayward and Frank Weingart were also trying to identify a couple of golfers from Patti's. Someone said "Patti's?" The response was misunderstood, and the foursome teed off and played the first hole and were coming up the second when Mike Behr of Patti's came up to them with a big grin on his face and asked, "How's the match going?" They looked at one another, puzzled, and then Mike exclaimed, "You're all on the same team!"

The four red-faced rocket scientists from the Roughriders then went back to the first tee to the sound of some derisive hoots from the gallery and teed off again against their scheduled opponents.

Jim Pornovets, Sr., who has been around the league for 50 years, says this unprecedented action marks the first time that four golfers from the same team had simultaneous senior moments.

The Roughriders wound up demolishing Patti's Construction, 19-1, sparked by Frank "The Bomber" Weingart who shot a superb 1-over 34. Playing partner Andy "The Florida Feather" Hayward contributed a solid 37 as the Roughriders moved up to tie for third place in the National Division. Mike Behr shot a 37 and brother Fred had a 39 in a losing effort for Patti's.

Pornovets edged out second-place rival Witty's, 11-9, to maintain their place atop the National Division. Marty Van De Vaerst again led the way for Pornovets with a 38 and Frank Oades chipped in with a 39. Joe

DiQuollo posted a 36, his best round of the season, and Howard Adler shot a 39 for Witty's.

Plainfield Animal Hospital squeaked by Sport and Social, 11-9, as Mark Chichvar and Andy Oravec fired a pair of 38's and Mike Cortese had a 39.

Dennis Bibby's 39 earned the medal for Sport and Social.

In the American Division, Eddie's Grinders, led by Fred "Catfish" Kirchofer's terrific even-par 33, knocked off league leading Oak Tree Buy-Rite, 14-6. Kirchofer got some excellent help from Chris Dillon who shot a 35 and Eddie Banach who registered a 36. Irish Danny Griffin's 34 was the only round below 40 for Oak Tree Buy-Rite who continue to cling to their slim one-game lead.

Todd Sherman put it all together and scored the low-round of the season, a superb 1-under 32, to lead the Hackers to a tough 11-9 victory over 2 Buds, 2 Dubs in the best-played match of the night. John Cacciatore of the Hackers continued his fine play and posted a 37. Dale Dube's 37 and Chris Nuzzo's 39 were the top scores for 2 Buds, 2 Dubs who are now tied for second place.

KC's Korner finally showed some of the firepower that enabled them to win back-to-back championships as they crushed Twin City, 18-2. Dan Conti earned the medal for KC's Korner with his 37. Mark Dugan had a 38, and Tony Cotone, Jr. kept his big drives in the fairways on his way to a 39. Jay Coppola's 38 and Joe Dillar's 39 were the best scored for Twin City who have now dropped their last five matches.

Low Scores for the Night: Todd Sherman, 32; Fred Kirchofer, 33; Frank Weingart, 34; Danny Griffin, 34; Chris Dillon, 35; Eddie Banach, 36; Joe DiQuollo, 36; Dan Conti, 37; John Cacciatore, 37; Mike Behr, 37; Dale Dube, 37.

LEAGUE STANDINGS

American Division				National Division			
	W	L	T		W	L	T
Oak Tree Buy-Rite ...	7	4	0	Pornovets	7	3	1
2 Buds, 2 Dubs	6	5	0	PAH	7	4	0
Hackers	6	5	0	Roughriders	6	4	0
Eddie's Grinders	5	5	1	Witty's	6	5	0
Twin City	4	7	0	Patti's Constr.	5	5	2
KC's Korner	3	7	1	Sport & Social ...	2	9	0

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Annual PBA Softball Game Benefits Jamie Cammarata

Twenty-three softball teams gathered on fields throughout town last Saturday to participate in the PAL's annual softball tournament. Proceeds from the tournament went to the family of Jamie Cammarata, who passed away last month due to complications from acute myelogenous leukemia (AML). Jamie, a 14-year resident of South Plainfield, graduated from South Plainfield High School in 1998. She was diagnosed with AML in October of 2005.

The afternoon featured two divisions, men's and co-ed. The winner in the co-ed division was Ellery's Co-Eds; winner in the men's division was Team Bada Bing. Jamie's family played in the co-ed division for Team Jamie's Party People.

The event was organized by Gary Cassio, PAL vice president; Chris Colucci, PAL president; Kevin Hughes, recreation director. Past recipients of the tournament proceeds are Rylie Hubner, David Kyle, Gary Muccigrossi, Kevin Conroy and Alyssa Riccardi.

Colucci noted that they had younger generations enter the tournament this year, including Team Bada Bang, an off-shoot of Bada Bing headed by Sal Severini's son, Guy Severini, and Mike Alvarez's son, Mike Alvarez; Young Guns, with Tom McCreesh's son, Danny McCreesh and Bill Ashnault's son, Billy Ashnault and Our



Jamie Cammarata's Family—(L-R) Jason Campbell (fiance), Artie Hoff (step-father), Betty Hoff (mother), Lauren Steinbach (sister), Tammy Diem (sister), John Cammarata (father). Not pictured is Jamie's step-mother, Karen Cammarata.

Town Deli, with Joe Petriello's nephew, Anthony Petriello.

The tournament raised \$6,700 dollars, which will go toward outstanding medical bills, and the remainder, in Jamie's name, to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, Northern NJ Chapter, 116 Euclid Ave., Westfield, N.J. 07090. Donations may still be made to the South Plainfield PAL, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, N.J. Attn: Chris Colucci.

THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HELP

To the Editor:

The South Plainfield Police Athletic League held its sixth annual charity softball tournament on Saturday, July 21. The day was a great success and would not have been at all possible without the volunteers, umpires, participants and donations we received for Jamie Cammarata. We would like to take the time to recognize those who were instrumental in making the day a great success...

The mobile concession sales team: Rachel Alexa, Chelsey Colucci, Brigitte Kelly, Samantha Paul and Becky Smith.

Volunteering on the grill were Sal Severini and his crew, Mike Alvarez, Kim Bulla, Chester Czaplinski, Timmy Kelly, Heidi Modugno and Steve Severini.

Thanks to umpires Mike Alvarez, Lou Colicchio, Tom McCreesh, Joe Oranchak and the two Iron Men, Jim Curcio and Tim Dziomba, for spending the entire day umpiring.

Participants were all-star alumni, Bada Bing, Bada Bang, Cryan's, Ellery's, Ellery's Co-Eds, Hillside Trucking, Jamie's Angels, Jamie's Butterflies, Jamie's Party People, Little League Coaches, McCrisky-Gustafson, Our Town Deli, Scuba Steve's, SHI, South Plainfield Elks, South Plainfield GOP, South Plainfield Women's Auxiliary, Team James, TJs, Twin City, Young Guns and Universal Nutrition.

Monetary donations were received from Terry Alexa, Bada-Bing, Sharon Cary, Jennifer Colten, Ellery's, Edward Ford, Beatrice Hanger, Fred Hanger, Steven Hanger, Arthur and Betty Hoff, the Murphy Family, Leonard Olim, South Plainfield Democrats and Kathleen Thomas.

Food donations came from Bett-A-Way and Laura Vaccaro, Kevin Bulla, Freihoffers, Hall's Warehouse, Buckhead Beef and Tim Brady, Restaurant Depot and Jim Furlong and Sal's Spirit Shoppe.

Service donations received from Bolesta Landscaping, Silver Creek Landscaping and South Plainfield Department of Public Works (for doing a remarkable job preparing the fields), Penske Trucking, Wendell Born (for all of his help), Taylor and Christopher Born (for setting up) and our iron woman, Shannon Colucci, who, even though she is giving birth on Wednesday, spent the entire day with us to ensure everything went smoothly.

And a special thank you to AKA, Inc., who donated the beautiful trophies presented to this year's winners.

Thanks again for all of your support.

GARY CASSIO, PAL VICE PRESIDENT, CHRIS COLUCCI, PAL PRESIDENT AND KEVIN HUGHES, RECREATION DIRECTOR



Co-Ed Champions, Ellery's.



Mobile concession helpers (L-R), Rachel Alexa, Samantha Pauls, Chelsey Colucci, Becky Smith and Brigitte Kelly.

Land Sale Delayed

(Continued from page 1)

owned by the borough and were not purchased with Open Space money from Middlesex County. Middlesex County Open Space property is not allowed to be sold and is to remain undeveloped. The lots in question are located along Harvard and Tremont, near St. John's Place. The open space sign is located at the corner of Garfield and Harvard avenues. The lots for sale were only recently subdivided into smaller lots of approximately 100 x 100.

Anesh and Bengivenga asked that the sale be cancelled, but the remainder of the council would not agree to their suggestion.

Bob Jones objected to the land sale, saying that there was never a resolution instructing the clerk to advertise the land sale on the agenda. A legal notice was published in the *Observer* for two weeks, according to the law. Borough Attorney Patrick Diegnan said that a resolution is usually published after the land sale, listing the high bidder.

After a short discussion, Diegnan suggested that the land sale be delayed until the next meeting and a resolution be placed on that evening's agenda and the council agreed. The prospective bidders were told the sale would not take place and were asked to return August 7.

During the regular meeting, Jones questioned the assessment of a property the borough is planning to swap with Joseph DeAndrea for property he owns on the corner of New Market and South Clinton avenues. The borough needs the DeAndrea property to expand that corner so trucks will have a wider turning radius. The borough property is in the same area as the lots that are up for bid, but Jones said the assessment came in approximately \$40,000 less. The land swap also includes the stipulation that DeAndrea also pay the borough \$97,500. Jones added that DeAndrea is a Democratic contributor.

Both the land sale and the property swap will be on the agenda at the next Borough Council meeting to be held on Tuesday, August 7 at 7 p.m.

You can see the entire meeting on Comcast Channel 74 on Monday evenings at 8 p.m.

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Can You Improve Your District Academic Performance and Close the “Gap?”

By **Kaye Crowne and Robert J. Rosado, Ed.D.**

(Reprinted from *The NJASA Perspective*, a quarterly publication of the New Jersey Association of School Administrators.)

While there is evidence that supports this notion, and pockets of success, racially diverse communities sometimes suffer from poor performance at the district level, as well as within sub-groups of minority students. At the end of the 2002-03 year, test scores in Mathematics on the NJASK 4, the GEPA, and the HSPA in the South Plainfield Public Schools mirrored this performance dilemma.

Upon arriving in the district in March of 2003, these critical measures had just been completed or were about to be given to all of our children. The results for that year were as follows:

The scores at each level were below expectations for our students, with the middle school the most problematic. When these scores arrived in the district in June, we were deeply concerned, because the scores for prior years had shown the same pattern and in fact had decreased slightly in a few areas.

Therefore, how do you mobilize your staff to first understand that we can do better, but more importantly, how do you actually accomplish the goal? We had a dedicated and hard-working staff. They obviously were

concerned about the poor performance of our students. What we lacked was a comprehensive long-term strategy for dealing with the problem and data analysis that would keep us on point. Additionally, the data we did have in many cases was not useful to the staff or had not been analyzed and articulated across grade levels and schools. In meeting with the new director of curriculum, who shared a background in mathematics with the superintendent, we began an extensive analysis of what we had in place. This served two purposes:

1. Identifying what short-term initiatives would prove beneficial; and
2. Planning for a five-year program improvement.

Those initiatives and plans were based on the well-accepted strategies of anchoring curriculum to state standards, providing professional development, encouraging collaboration across grade levels, differentiation instruction, making data-driven decisions, and providing extra support for struggling learners.

The kick off began at our first meeting with staff for the opening of school for the 2003-2004 school year when the superintendent presented longitudinal information that clearly delineated that we could improve our scores if we simply did not let our 4th grade scores drop so dramatically through grade eight. There was an increase from grade

eight to 11, but this fell short of the drop from grade four to eight. (In fact, each succeeding year has begun with a review of student achievement.)

We followed this with staff meetings for teachers in grades five-eight and a presentation of data from districts with similar demographics that had experienced greater success than our district. Once we were able to accept that we could do better, the planning for improvement began in earnest. The meetings that followed encompassed staff from grades five through 12, as we revamped our sequence of courses, the selection process for students for pre-algebra in grade six, as well as addressing the issues for students in the upper grades who were experiencing problems in the program.

Other early efforts included aligning the curriculum in grades seven and eight with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards (NJCCCS), developing teachers' instructional strategies and aligning assessment with the GEPA. This effort was supported through a Comprehensive School Reform Grant that funded work with EMI and their Target Teach Program. In addition to curriculum, instructional strategies and assessment, the district has supported changes that increased time on task for students who have difficulty learning. The school provides a before-school GEPA prep class for eighth graders and a double math period for targeted students in seventh and eighth grades.

As we worked with the middle school curriculum and staff, we also worked with the elementary schools. The district provided pacing guides for elementary mathematics teachers that

GEPA—8: Mathematics 2003 vs. 2006								
	2003	P.P	P	A.P	2006	P.P	P	A.P
Total	343	49.9%	41.1%	9.0%	311	25.9%	56.0%	18.0%
White	221	43.4%	45.7%	10.9%	188	23.2%	55.3%	21.6%
Black	45	71.1%	28.9%	0.0%	36	35.1%	48.6%	16.2%
Hispanic	39	82.1%	12.8%	5.1%	51	32.1%	58.5%	9.4%
Eco. Dis.	29	34.5%	58.6%	6.9%				

aligned their curriculum with the NJCCCS. This enabled teachers to expose students to all the content indicators at each grade level. District-wide quarterly assessments were developed, and data from these quarterly tests is used in the district by teachers and administrators to monitor individual student progress and to adjust instructional strategies in their mathematics teaching that include the use of technology, manipulatives, cooperative groups and differentiated instruction.

While this is not a complete description of what was put into place, you can see that we believe there isn't any one particular plan of attack that would be the "silver bullet."

In fact, we believe that we had to address the problem across several diverse areas and levels to be successful.

Over the past three years, the director of curriculum has constantly reviewed this data, developed additional strategies with staff, and has used their input to successfully improve student achievement in the District. Dr. Ron-

ald Ferguson of Harvard University once said at a conference I attended that to get improvement in minority student achievement you have to have an almost irrational attack on improving learning with underachieving students. Just when you think you've pushed as far as you can, you have to go beyond that if you hope to have any success.

If we have done anything well with all of our initiatives, it has been that the staff has adopted this attitude in improving student achievement for all of our students. The director of curriculum and the district staff development person have been relentless, along with the building administrators and staff to achieve academic improvement.

The tables on pages 18 and 19 underscore the remarkable success that we've enjoyed over the past three years.

Aside from the incredible improvement in overall test scores, some interesting side effects also were observed. For example, grade four test scores, which we use as a baseline for holding

(Continued on page 15)

NJASK 4: Mathematics 2003 vs. 2006								
	#Students 2003	Part Proficient	Proficient	Adv. Proficient	#Students 2006	Part Proficient	Proficient	Adv. Proficient
Total	305	18.2%	48.1%	33.7%	266	3.8%	40.6%	55.6%
White	217	16.7%	46.9%	36.4%	158	1.3%	32.3%	66.5%
Black	26	22.7%	59.1%	18.2%	37	13.5%	70.3%	16.2%
Hispanic	30	30.8%	42.3%	26.9%	35	5.7%	42.9%	51.4%
Eco. Dis.	38	34.3%	42.9%	22.9%	36	11.1%	41.7%	47.2%

HSPA—11: Mathematics 2003 vs. 2006								
	2003	P.P	P	A.P	2006	P.P	P	A.P
Total	272	37.5%	46.3%	16.2%	290	13.1%	59.3%	27.6%
White	180	31.7%	48.9%	19.4%	186	9.1%	60.8%	30.1%
Black	33	54.5%	42.4%	3%	44	27.3%	59.1%	13.6%
Hispanic	30	63.3%	33.3%	3.3%	33	27.3%	60.6%	12.1%
Eco. Dis.	17	58.8%	41.2%	0%	16	31.3%	56.3%	12.5%

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

WHEREAS the Borough is required to perform quarterly groundwater monitoring tests; and

WHEREAS the Borough appointed an environmental engineering firm pursuant to a fair and open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.; and

WHEREAS the Borough has received a proposal from its Environmental Engineer, PMK Group, in the amount of \$35,136.00 to perform said groundwater monitoring for the year July 1, 2007 thru June 30, 2008; and

WHEREAS this contract is being awarded without competitive bidding as "Professional Services" in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1) (a); and

WHEREAS funds have been certified by the Chief Financial Officer and will be made available in the Capital Improvement Fund account # 8-01-20-165-000-235.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that authorization is hereby given to enter into a professional services contract with PMK Group in the amount not to exceed \$35,136.00 for the groundwater monitoring testing for the Borough for the period July 1, 2007 thru June 30, 2008.

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$39.90

July 27, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1787

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1787 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING ORDINANCE #1278 ENTITLED: "THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, 1992", REVISIONS TO THE ZONING MAP was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, July 17, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ATTEST:

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$25.65

July 27, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1789

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1789 entitled: AN ORDINANCE CREATING VARIOUS EMPLOYMENT POSITIONS AND ESTABLISHING THE COMPENSATION RANGE FOR SAID POSITIONS was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, July 17, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$23.75

July 27, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1790

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1790 entitled: AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR APPLICATIONS BEFORE THE PLANNING BOARD AND BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, July 17, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$24.70

July 27, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1792

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1792 entitled: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE REGULATION FOR OPERATION OF TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES AT THE INTERSECTION OF HELEN STREET/ BUSHWICK AVENUE WITH DURHAM AVENUE was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, July 17, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$25.65

July 27, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1793

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1793 entitled: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE REGULATION FOR OPERATION OF TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES AT THE INTERSECTION OF DURHAM AVENUE WITH HAMILTON BOULEVARD was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, July 17, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$24.70

July 27, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1794

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1794 entitled: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE REGULATION FOR OPERATION OF TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES AT THE INTERSECTION OF RYAN STREET/ST. NICHOLAS AVENUE WITH HAMILTON BOULEVARD was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, July 17, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$25.65

July 27, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1795

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1795 entitled: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE REGULATION FOR OPERATION OF TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES AT THE INTERSECTION OF BELMONT AVENUE WITH HAMILTON BOULEVARD was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, July 17, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$24.70

July 27, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1796

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1796 entitled: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE REGULATION FOR OPERATION OF TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES AT THE INTERSECTION OF NEW MARKET AVENUE WITH HAMILTON BOULEVARD was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, July 17, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$24.70

July 27, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1797

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1797 entitled: AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE EXCHANGE OF MUNICIPAL LAND BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD AND 2201-2239 SOUTH PLAINFIELD, LLC BY WHERE THE BOROUGH WILL EXCHANGE A PORTION OF BLOCK 404.03, LOT 1 FOR A PORTION OF BLOCK 308, LOT 12.05 AND \$97,500.00 was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, July 20, 2007 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Tuesday, August 7, 2007 which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ORDINANCE NO. 1797

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE EXCHANGE OF MUNICIPAL LAND BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD AND 2201-2239 SOUTH PLAINFIELD, LLC PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF NEW JERSEY STATUTE 40A:12-16 ET SEQ.

WHEREAS the Borough of South Plainfield is the owner of property known as Block 404.03, part of Lot 1, said property being situated on the corner of St. Johns Place and Tremont Avenue, in the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as set forth in Appendix A attached hereto; and

WHEREAS 2201-2239 South Plainfield, LLC are the owners of property known as Block 308, Lot 12.05, said property being situated at the corner of South Clinton Avenue and New Market Avenue which is shown on the tax and assessment map of the Borough of South Plainfield currently in use; and

WHEREAS the Borough of South Plainfield by and through its governing body and the Economic Development Sub-Committee has deemed it in the public interest that the Borough of South Plainfield acquire title to part of Block 308, Lot 12.05 in exchange for Block 404.03, part of Lot 1 and the Borough will receive the payment of \$97,500.00 to equalize the value of the exchange; and

WHEREAS it is further deemed that the land to be exchanged by the Borough of South Plainfield is not needed for public purpose or use and that the land to be acquired by the Borough of South Plainfield is more advantageous to the Borough of South Plainfield for public use; and

WHEREAS it is proposed that 2201-2239 South Plainfield, LLC convey the aforesaid property to the Borough of South Plainfield in exchange for Block 404.03, part of Lot 1 as shown on the tax and assessment maps currently in use by the Borough of South Plainfield; and

WHEREAS it is further deemed that it is in the public best interest that said exchange be consummated;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, that:

1. The Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute and deliver to 2201-2239 South Plainfield, LLC by Bargain and Sale deed, conveying Block 404.03, part of Lot 1, without covenants and without representations as to the marketability of title. In the event that the purchaser shall determine that title of the property in question shall not be good and marketable, and questions as to the marketability of title shall be submitted to the Borough Clerk's Office within forty-five (45) days of the date of sale. In the event said questions have not been raised within said forty-five (45) day period, then and in that event all questions relating to the marketability of title shall be deemed waived and this matter shall proceed to

closing of title within ninety (90) days of the date of the adoption of this Ordinance.

2. Easements, both of record and not of record.

3. Restrictions of record.

4. Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield as presently constituted without representations as to the use to which said property can be put, receipt from 2201-2239 South Plainfield, LLC of a deed conveying good and marketable title to a portion of Block 308, Lot 12.05 free and clear of all encumbrances and taxes paid to the date of closing.

5. Good and marketable title to the property to be conveyed to the Borough of South Plainfield shall be evidenced by a title insurance policy issued by a duly licensed and qualified title insurance company in the State of New Jersey.

6. In the event that the purchaser is unable to close title within ninety (90) days of the date of sale, they shall forward to the Borough of South Plainfield a check representing the balance of the purchase price to be placed in the general fund of the Borough.

7. In the event that the purchaser fails or refuses to close title and/or pay the consideration therefore within the ninety (90) day period, then in the event, the Borough of South Plainfield, may, by resolution of the Mayor and Council, declare the transaction null and void and the purchaser's deposit shall be retained by the Borough of South Plainfield as liquidated damages.

8. At the time of second reading of this Ordinance, ten percent (10%) of the purchase price plus \$1,000.00 shall be paid by the purchaser representing the cost of advertising, legal fees and associated costs incurred by the Borough. The purchaser shall be credited the cost of any appraisal previously paid by the purchaser as required by the Borough of South Plainfield.

9. The purchaser shall make application for any required approvals, including but not limited to subdivision approval, on site and site improvements as required by appropriate Borough Boards, Agencies and Officers, and all costs shall be paid by the purchaser.

10. It is expressly agreed by the purchaser that if the subject parcel does not require

Planning Board or Board of Adjustment review, then in that event, the purchaser will make all required improvements as determined by the Borough Engineer. The necessary performance guarantees shall be posted for same prior to the issuance of any building permits.

11. Purchaser recognizes that the sale is subject to development standards to be set by the Planning Board, Board of Adjustment and/or the Borough Engineer in addition of the Middlesex County Planning Board, if applicable. This sale is made without representation as to same and is subject to same.

12. Purchaser will take any action required by the Borough Engineer and/or the Borough Environmental Officer to protect any designated wetlands or flood plane existing on the subject parcel.

13. Certain properties within the Borough of South Plainfield may be designated as contaminated sites by the Environmental Protection Agency and/or the Department of Environmental Protection. One such property is the "Cornell Dubilier" facility now known as the Market Avenue which has been designated as a Super Fund site. The purchaser acknowledges knowledge of such locations and the existence of same will not be a basis for avoidance of buyer's obligations.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon publication and adoption in accordance with New Jersey Law.

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$182.40

July 27, 2007

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at

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American Legion Install New Officers

By Patricia Abbott

The American Legion Post 243 held their annual installation of officers ceremony held last month. The event was delayed more than an hour so that Legion members could attend the wake of retired police Lt. Ronal Yurinko, who died suddenly. After the brief swearing in ceremony, members and guests enjoyed a buffet dinner.



(Above) Newly installed Commander Richard (Dick) Frank and chairman of the Executive Board and master of ceremonies for the installation, Bill Ruha.



(Above) Post 243 Legion officers left to right: Finance Officer Joe McConville, Sgt. at Arms Robert Aikens, Vice Commanders Dave Piscatelli and James Yednak and Douglas Viafora.



(Right) Sons of the American Legion Squadron 243, left to right: Finance Officer Vincent Lee, Vice Commander Frances Boyle and Commander Mark Zeliff.

BOROUGH NOTES

- Applications for tax relief are available at the senior center.
- The council gave permission for Cheryl Shine to hold a block party on Saturday, Sept. 8 (raindate Sept. 15) on Ritter Avenue between Triangle Place and Merchants Avenue.
- A street sweeping contract was awarded to Garden State Power Sweeping for the period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 at a cost not to exceed \$45,443.00.
- A contract was awarded to DMS Systems, Inc. to provide crossing guard services for the 2007/2008 school year at a cost not to exceed \$374,556.50.
- The council gave approval for the Almost Famous Players to use Putnam Park for their Annual Haunted Woods Tour from Oct. 25-31, from 4 until 10:30 p.m., as well as the waiver of all fees, except electrical, for said event.
- A professional services contract was awarded to PMK Group, to perform quarterly groundwater monitoring tests at a cost not to exceed \$35,136 for the period July 1, 2007

- through June 30, 2008.
- The council accepted the resignation of Police Officer Jessica DeJesus effective August 3, 2007.
- A professional services contract was awarded to the Plainfield Area Regional Sewerage Authority to perform various testing, monitoring, inspection and cleaning of the Borough's sanitary sewer system at a cost not to exceed \$62,400.
- The council renewed their contract for bulky waste collection with Pinto Brothers Disposal Service for the period August, 1, 2007 through July 31, 2008 at a cost not to exceed \$153,400.
- Michael Grennier (and Internet Crimes Group, Inc.) will oversee the borough's computer systems and assist in and coordinate all maintenance, repairs and upgrades required on said systems at a cost not to exceed \$20,400.
- The council approved a change of position for community pool employee Nicole Sacci from concession III to front desk cashier I.

Special Programs at the Library

The South Plainfield Public Library will be conducting several special programs for young adults this summer, in conjunction with the YA Summer Reading Club ("YNK@Your Library").

- Thursday, Aug. 2 at 6:30 p.m., participants are invited to join in a special game of "Clue."
- Monday, Aug. 6 at 4 p.m., the program will be a series of guessing games called "Guess What?!"

The programs are for young people in grades 5-12. The programs are presented free; space is limited, so pre-registration is required. Refreshments will be served at each program.

The library is located in the South Plainfield Municipal Complex. For more information, please call (908) 754-7885 and ask for Jaimie, or visit the library's Web site at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1788

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1788 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ENTERING INTO, EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF THE CAPITAL LEASE WITH THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY UTILITY AUTHORITY was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, July 17, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PENDING LEASE ORDINANCE AND SUMMARY

The lease ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the governing body of the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, on June 26, 2007. It will be further considered for final passage, after a public hearing thereon, at a meeting of the governing body to be held at Borough Hall, South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, on August 7, 2007 immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting. During the week prior to and up to and including the date of such copies of the full ordinance will be available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk's Office for the members of the general public who shall request the same. The summary of the terms of such lease ordinance follows:

Title: AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE ENTERING INTO, EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A LEASE AND AGREEMENT WITH THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF THE COUNTY-GUARANTEED CAPITAL EQUIPMENT LEASE REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2004 OF THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY

Purpose(s): Lease certain capital equipment (described in Exhibit B below) from and approve the entering into of a lease agreement with the Middlesex County Improvement Authority

Appropriation: Amount sufficient to amortize the lease payment obligations

Bonds/Notes Authorized: None

Grants (if any) Appropriated: None

Section 20 Costs: Costs of issuance to be allocated pro rata

Useful Life In accordance with the equipment being purchased

SCHEDULE B

Description	Estimated Cost
5 x 7 Dump Truck w/ Plow and Salter	\$120,000
¾ Ton Pickup Truck w/ Plow	\$ 32,000
Emergency Management SUV	\$ 36,000
Brush Truck w/ Pumper	\$ 42,000
TOTAL	\$230,000

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$91.20 July 27, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1791

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1791 entitled: A BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #1780 ENTITLED: "BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS ROADWAY AND INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS" FOR THE RPAVING OF THE PUBLIC WORKS YARD, AS REQUIRED BY THE NJDEP was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, July 17, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE
PUBLIC NOTICE

BOND ORDINANCE STATEMENT AND SUMMARY

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, has been finally adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, on July 17, 2007 and the twenty (20) day period of limitation within which a suit, action or proceeding questioning the validity of such ordinance can be commenced, as provided in the Local Bond Law, has begun to run from the date of the first publication of this statement. Copies of the full ordinance will be available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk's Office for the members of the general public who shall request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:

Title: A BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER 1780 FINALLY ADOPTED BY THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ON MARCH 20, 2007 ENTITLED "BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS ROADWAY AND INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$645,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$425,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF", TO INCREASE THE AUTHORIZATION OF BONDS OR NOTES THEREIN BY \$30,000 TO FINANCE PART OF THE ADDITIONAL COSTS THEREOF AND TO AMEND THE DESCRIPTION THEREOF

Purpose(s): Amending Bond Ordinance Number 1780 (which provides for various roadway and intersection improvements) to increase the appropriation and authorizing of bonds or notes and to amend the description to include the resurfacing of the Department of Public Works yard.

Appropriation: \$32,500 Additional Appropriation Bonds/Notes

Authorized: \$30,000 Additional Authorization

Section 20 Costs: \$5,000 Increase

Useful Life: 11.24 (unchanged)

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$87.40 July 27, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

WHEREAS the Borough of South Plainfield wishes to hire a firm to manage the computer technology aspect of our operation for the period August 1, 2007 through July 31, 2008; and

WHEREAS the Borough's Technology Committee conducted interviews with representatives from ATC Computing and from Michael Grennier (and Internet Crimes Group, Inc.) to discuss the services that they would be providing to the Borough; and

WHEREAS it is the recommendation of the Technology Committee that a contract be awarded to Michael Grennier (and Internet Crimes Group, Inc.) at a cost not to exceed \$20,400.00 per year; and

WHEREAS funds have been certified by the Chief Financial Officer and are available in the FY2008 Computer Department Budget, account # 8-01-20-140-000-204;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield hereby authorizes a contract with Michael Grennier (and Internet Crimes Group, Inc.) for the period August 1, 2007 through July 31, 2008 at a cost not to exceed \$20,400.00.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the contract with Michael Grennier (and Internet Crimes Group, Inc.).

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$43.70 July 27, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

WHEREAS the Borough wishes to perform flow monitoring, smoke testing, line inspection and the cleaning and removal of debris of the Borough's sanitary sewer system; and

WHEREAS the Borough has met with representatives from the Plainfield Area Regional Sewerage Authority to discuss said services; and

WHEREAS the Borough has received a proposal from the Plainfield Area regional sewerage Authority to perform said work at a cost not to exceed \$62,400.00; and

WHEREAS this contract is being awarded without competitive bidding as "Professional Services" in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1) (a); and

WHEREAS funds have been certified by the Chief Financial Officer and will be made available in the Sewer Utility, account # 8-07-55-515-002-215.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that authorization is hereby given to enter into a professional services contract with the Plainfield Area Regional sewerage Authority to perform said services for the Borough at a cost not to exceed \$62,400.00.

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$39.90 July 27, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF SALE OF LAND

At a meeting of the Mayor and Common Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, held on July 17, 2007, I was directed to advertise the fact that the Mayor and Council will meet in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey on Tuesday, August 7, 2007 at 7:15PM to expose and sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, according to terms of sale on file with the Borough Clerk, the property described below.

Take further notice that the Mayor and Council have, by resolution and pursuant to law, fixed the minimum price at which set property will be sold together with all other details pertinent, said minimum price being as shown below, plus \$1,000.00 for costs of preparing deeds, all necessary appraisals, advertising this sale and title search costs.

Take further notice that at set sale or any date or place to which it may be adjourned, the Mayor and Council reserve the right in its discretion to reject any or all bids and to sell said property to such bidder as it may select, due regard being given to terms and manner of payment in case one or more minimum bids shall be received.

Take further notice that in each instance where necessary, I have been authorized to notify all contiguous property owners as required by N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13.2.

Upon acceptance of the minimum bid or bid above minimum, by the Council and the payment thereof by the purchaser according to the manner of purchase in accordance with terms of sale on file, the Borough will deliver a Bargain and Sale Deed for said premises.

/s/ Vincent Buttiglieri, Municipal Clerk

Details of proposed land sale to be advertised in The Observer on Friday, July 27, 2007 and Friday, August 3, 2007 the sale of property known as:

Sale # 1 - Minimum Bid \$220,000
Block 404.03, Lot 1.03

Sale # 2 - Minimum Bid \$235,000
Block 404.03, Lot 1.04

Sale # 3 - Minimum Bid \$235,000
Block 404.04, Lot 1.03

Sale # 4 - Minimum Bid \$235,000
Block 404.04, Lot 1.04

Any other information pertaining to this parcel can be obtained by reviewing the tax maps located in the Assessing Department of the Borough of South Plainfield, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

The said property being owned by the Borough of South Plainfield and not needed for public purposes or use, sale to be held on Tuesday, July 17, 2007 at 7:15PM in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey and will be subject to the following conditions:

1) That conveyance by the Borough of South Plainfield shall be by Bargain and Sale Deed, without conveyance and without representations as to the marketability of title. In the event that the purchaser shall determine that title of the property in question shall not be good and marketable, any questions as to the marketability of title shall be submitted to the Borough Clerk's office within forty-five (45) days of the date of sale. In the event said questions have not been raised within said forty-five (45) day period, then and in the event all questions relating to the marketability of title shall be deemed waived and this matter shall proceed to closing of title within ninety (90) days of the date of sale.

- 2) Easements, both of record and not of record.
- 3) Restrictions of record.
- 4) Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield as presently constituted without representations as to the use to which said property can be put.
- 5) In the event that the purchaser is unable to close title within ninety (90) days of the date of the sale, they shall forward to the Borough of South Plainfield a check representing the balance of the purchase price to be placed in the general fund of the Borough.
- 6) In the event that the purchaser fails or refuses to close title and/or pay the consideration therefore within the ninety (90) day period, then in that event, the Borough of South Plainfield, may, by resolution of the Mayor and Council, **declare the transaction null and void and the purchasers' deposit shall be retained by the Borough of South Plainfield as liquidated damages.**
- 7) At the time of acceptance of the successful bid, ten percent (10%) of the purchase price plus \$1,000.00 shall be paid by the purchaser representing the cost of appraisal, legal fees, advertising and associated costs incurred by the Borough.
- 8) The purchaser shall make prompt application for any required approvals, including but not limited to subdivision approval, on-site and off-site improvements as required by appropriate Borough Boards, Agencies and Officers, and all costs shall be paid by the purchaser. In the event said approvals are not received within ninety (90) days of the date of sale, the purchaser shall forward the balance of the purchase price in conformance with paragraph five (5) above.
- 9) It is expressly agreed by the purchaser that if the subject parcel does not require Planning Board or Board of Adjustment review, then in that event, the purchaser will make all required improvements as determined by the Borough Engineer. The necessary performance guarantees shall be posted for same prior to the issuance of any building permits.
- 10) Purchaser recognizes that the sale is subject to development standards to be set by the Planning Board, Board of Adjustment and/or the Borough Engineer in addition to the Middlesex County Planning Board, if applicable. This sale is made without representation as to same and is subject to same.
- 11) Purchaser will take any action required by the Borough Engineer and/or the Borough Environmental Officer to protect any designated wetlands or flood plane existing on the subject parcel.
- 12) At set sale, or any date or place to which it may be adjourned, the Mayor and Council reserve the right, in its discretion to reject any or all bids.
- 13) Certain properties within the Borough of South Plainfield may be designated as contaminated sites by the Environmental Protection Agency and/or the Department of Environmental Protection. One such property is the "Cornell Dubilier" facility now known as the "Hamilton Boulevard Industrial Complex" located at the intersection of Hamilton Boulevard and New Market Avenue which has been designated as a Super Fund site. The purchaser acknowledges knowledge of such locations and the existence of same will not be a basis for avoidance of buyer's obligations.
- 14) Within sixty (60) days of the date of sale, Purchaser shall do what is necessary to determine if the subject property is affected by wetlands. In the event that no such determination is made within said sixty (60) day period, the Purchaser shall proceed to closing as set forth herein.

Obituaries

Dr. John F. Scalera, 93



Dr. John F. Scalera, son of the late Vito and Maria Taccone Scalera, passed away on Sunday, July 15 in the Haven Hospice at Muhlenberg Hospital in Plainfield.

Dr. Scalera was born on April 13, 1914 in Newark. He attended Summer Avenue School in Newark, as well as Seton Hall Preparatory School in South Orange, graduating in 1932. His journey in medicine started at Villanova College in Villanova, Pa., where he graduated in 1936. For the next four years, Mr. Scalera attended Jefferson Medical School in Philadelphia, graduating in 1940. From 1940-1942, he interned at Newark City Hospital in Newark, until he entered the U.S. Army. During his four year enlistment, he served as captain in the Army Medical Corps—serving three years as battalion surgeon at Fort Knox, Ken. He was also an instructor in the demolition regiment of the Armored School.

Upon his discharge from the armed services, "Dr. John" opened his South Plainfield general practice in 1946, upstairs from a local liquor store. He moved to his Sampton Avenue office two years later and remained there until retirement. In addition to his private practice, he was the official borough and school board physician for South Plainfield. He was on the staff at Muhlenberg Hospital in Plainfield, Raritan Valley Hospital in Green Brook and John E. Kennedy Hospital in Edison and he was a member of the Union County and Middlesex County Medical Societies.

Dr. John was also active in community affairs. A charter member of the South Plainfield Lions Club, he served two terms as president of the South Plainfield Rotary Club, where he was the recipient of the Paul Harris Fellow Rotary Award.

Dr. Scalera is predeceased by a brother, Frank and four sisters, Edith Riche, Rosalie Callendar, Lynette Castelar and Jetta Sedecino.

Surviving are his wife, Elizabeth Scalera; three daughters, Elizabeth and husband John Taylor of Edison, Dr. Valerie Marler of Atlanta, Ga. and Linda and husband J. Allen Woodward of Porter, Texas; a brother, Dr. Robert Scalera and a sister, Marietta Franson. Also surviving are a granddaughter, Heather Marler of San Francisco, Cal., as well as many nieces and nephews.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Haven Hospice C/O JFK Medical Center, 65 James Street, Edison, N.J. 08818 or The Alzheimer Association, Greater NJ Chapter, 400 Morris Avenue, Suite 251, Denville, N.J. 07934.

George W. Goodrich, 91

George W. Goodrich died Saturday, July 14 at his home in South Plainfield.

Mr. Goodrich was born in Brooklyn and grew up in Hillside before settling in South Plainfield in 1945.

He had attended Rutgers University and had been employed for 18 years as a salesman for Coca Cola Bottling Co. of Newark and later, Bridgewater. He was then employed by Neighborhood Beverages of Edison for 20 years before his retirement in 1978. After his retirement, George worked part time as an accountant with H&R Block from 1978 to 1982.

Mr. Goodrich was an Army veteran of WWII and had held the rank of captain. He had participated in the D-Day

invasion at Normandy Beach with the 4th Division. George was wounded in action three times during his tour of duty, and had been awarded Purple Hearts with two clusters and the Bronze Star.

He and his wife Edith were married for 66 years. Mr. Goodrich was a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Post #6763 of South Plainfield and a life member of the 4th Infantry Division. He was also a member of AARP, South Plainfield Senior Citizens, Disabled American Veterans of Plainfield and Wesley United Methodist Church of South Plainfield. George and Edith participated in square dancing and ballroom dancing in the Middlesex County area. They both had a great love for South Plainfield and contributed to many organizations.

George was predeceased by a brother, Robert.

He is survived by his wife, Edith Miller Goodrich; a son and daughter-in-law, George and Marty Goodrich of Bordentown; a grandson, Christopher and wife Kelly Goodrich of Bordentown; a special little great granddaughter, Abby Goodrich; and a brother, Frederick. Along with many nieces and nephews, he also leaves good friends, Tony and Stanley Makowski and Emma Demarest. A special thank you to Florence Agyei for her care and compassion for the last eight months.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to the Haven Hospice, 65 James Street, Edison, N.J. 08818 or to Wesley United Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield N.J. 07080.

Donald Engo

Donald Engo, a resident of South Plainfield, died on Saturday, July 14

at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Mr. Engo was the founder of the Engo Company.

He was predeceased by a brother, Joseph.

Surviving are his wife, Carol; two brothers, Robert and Richard; a stepson, Robert Hering and wife Jo Ann and their two children, Justin and Paige; a stepson, Gary Hering and wife Linda and their two children, Dale and Carly.

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

Dung Bui, 35

Dung Bui died suddenly on Sunday, July 15 at home.

Born and raised in Vietnam, Dung came to the United States in 1985 living in Plainfield before moving to South Plainfield 15 years ago.

A machinist for Legend Machine and Grinding in Somerville, Dung enjoyed playing the guitar and singing.

He is predeceased by his mother, Doan Thi Toan Bui, and his father, Toan Van Bui.

Surviving are five sisters, Son Bui Thi, Hoa Bui Thi Kim, Phuong Bui Thi, Cuc Bui Thi and Huong Bui Thi and a brother, Gia Bui. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

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

Christian B. Olsen, 83

Christian B. Olsen died on Monday, July 16 in the Haven Hospice at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Brooklyn, Mr. Olsen lived in Staten Island before settling in South Plainfield in 1935.

A 1941 graduate of North Plainfield High School, Christian served

with the U.S. Army Air Corps during WWII.

He was a carpenter by trade and worked for various builders throughout Middlesex and Somerset Counties.

In 1995, his wife Margaret, whom he met while stationed in England during WWII, passed away.

Surviving are two daughters, Sharon Vachon of Piscataway and Susan Scott and husband Richard of South Plainfield and two sisters, Gladys Monnard of Pt. Pleasant and Eleanor Doherty of Edison. Also surviving are four grandchildren, Brian Bojar, David Scott and Paul and Cheryl Vachon and a great-granddaughter, Hayley Bojar.

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

Edna M. Davidoski, 72

Edna M. Davidoski died on Monday, July 9 at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born and raised in Perth Amboy, Edna resided in the city for 30 years. She lived in Hopelawn and Keasbey before moving back to Hopelawn where she spent 19 years and in 1999 she settled in Piscataway.

For 30 years, Ms. Davidoski was employed by New Brunswick Scientific Co. Inc. where she worked as a lite assembler. She retired in 2004.

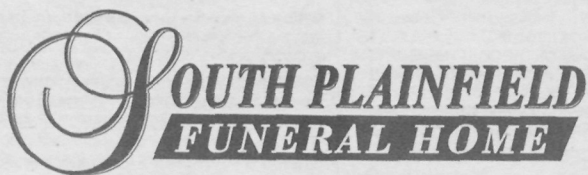
Edna is survived by a daughter, JoAnn Ruzicka and husband Lawrence of Piscataway; two sisters, Arlene O'Gorman also of Piscataway and Rosalie Browne of New Hampshire. Also surviving is a grandson, Steven Ruzicka.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of the McCrisky-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Make-a-Wish Foundation, 1034 Salem Rd., Union, N.J. 07083.

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Obituaries

Rodolfo Gavina, 65

Rodolfo Gavina died on Wednesday, July 18 in Aristacare at Cedar Oaks in South Plainfield.

Born in the Philippines, Mr. Gavina came to the United States in 1971 living in New York City. He resided in Jersey City and Edison for 18 years before moving to Tuckerton two years ago.

He attended National University in Manila, Philippines and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering.

Rodolfo was a member of the Philippine Association of Professional Engineers, the American Association of Electrical Engineers, as well as the Professional Association of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and the Federal Aviation Administration of Electrical Engineers.

Mr. Gavina was employed by the U.S. Department of Transportation, working with the Federal Aviation Administration as a project engineer in Queens, before retiring two years ago.

Surviving are his wife of 34 years, Erlinda; a daughter, Michelle Gavina of Wallington; a son, Michael Gavina of New Hampshire; four sisters and five brothers.

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

Howard Oveat Holliman, 91

Howard Oveat Holliman died on Thursday, July 5 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born and raised in Fayette, Alabama, Oveat lived in Elizabeth and Garwood before settling in South Plainfield in 1952.

A veteran of WWII, Mr. Holliman served with the army. He enlisted in 1942 and was honorably discharged in 1946.

For several years Mr. Oveat worked for National Gypsum Company in Garwood and retired in 1981.

Howard loved gardening and he was very well liked throughout his neighborhood and always offered a

lending hand to his fellow neighbors when needed.

He was pre-deceased by his sister and three brothers.

Mr. Holliman is survived by his wife, Adele (Podstawski) and a son, Howard L., both of South Plainfield. Also surviving is his brother, Lloyd of Alabama.

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

Eleanor (D'Amico) Giunta, 88

Eleanor (D'Amico) Giunta died on Wednesday, July 18 at her daughters home in Piscataway.

Born and raised in Bernardsville, Eleanor had resided in South Plainfield for more than 60 years.

She was a former communicant of Sacred Heart Church and a former member of their Rosary Alter Society. Eleanor was also a member of the South Plainfield Rescue Squad Ladies Auxiliary and the South Plainfield Senior Citizens. In addition, she had worked the voting polls for a number of years at Kennedy School.

She enjoyed playing bingo, gardening, cooking and sharing recipes with her family, but most dear to her heart was the time spent and love she had for her grandchildren.

Her husband, Albert, died June 2, 2007. She was also predeceased by a brother, Dominick D'Amico and a sister, Josephine Caperna.

Surviving are two daughters, Donna Cannis and husband Jay of Piscataway and Alberta Martino of South Plainfield; three sisters, Mary Faulkner of Florida, Rose Russo of Plainfield and Lena Buttita of Raritan and three grandchildren, Raymond and Elizabeth Marsh and Jennifer Walker.

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

In lieu of flowers donations in her memory may be made to Haven Hospice, 65 James St., Edison, N.J. 08820.

Grant School 4th Quarter Honor Roll

High Honor Roll:

Cameron Bashner, Claudia Bashner, Kevin Belanger, Rina Bhalodi, James Boettcher, Abhilasha (Abby) Borad, Ryan Buckelew, Adam Butrico, Charles Butrico and Christopher Butrico.

Renee Callanan, Andrew Catalina, Jenna Chabok, Pamela Chacon Castro, Valentina Chacon Castro, Ryan Chadwick, Jenna Clemente, Quinn Cochrane, John Cotone, Joshua Coupe, Crystal Custodio, Adam Daubert, John Gilbert DeLaCruz, Cody Decker, Michael DelGenio, Joseph Demico, John Didolce, Taylor Donato and Jacqueline Dvorak.

Catherine Emery, Kaitlyn Faustini, Antonio Garcia, Nicholas Graves, Jonathan Grenier, Andrea Guerrero, Taylor Hagy, Joseph Hart, Troy Heilmann, Sabrina Hemming, Lauren Hill, Alec Hing, Jenna Howarth, Shannon Hughes, Rohan Iyengar, Ania Januszko, Veronika Jastrzebski, Raymond Jazikoff, Sarah Johnson, Rowena Kanj and Alyssa Kelly.

David Landy, Marie Lanza, Brian Lopez, Marah Angelica Magpile, Joanna Marston, Brian McCarthy, Jade McDonnough, John McDonough, Kate McLaughlin, Maggie McLean, Meghna Mendu, Rebecca Moskal, Samantha Murtagh, Holly Nhan and Michael Olano.

Donavan Parker, Anjali Patel, Ankoor Patel, Harsh Patel, Raj Patel, Tanvi Patel, Vinay Patel, Andrew Pawelczak, Samuel Persad, Heidi Pilla, Danielle Pisano, Michael Polizzano, Hiren Rana, Alison Ratti, Hayley Robjohns, Joshua Rochotte, Lizbeth Romo and Samson Ruhnke.

KimberLee Serrano, Ashley Shumaker, Joshua Siepmann, Inan Sikol, Avinash Singh, Gabrielle Smith, Monica Spooner, Emma Sprigle, Gregory Sutton, Olivia Tamawska, Jennifer Tran, Dakota Uhl, Jessica Uhl, Daniel Vargas, Caroline Vill, Steven Vincent, Kristen Wong, Amy Zinsky and David Zychlinski.

Honor Roll:

Ramsey Abdeljaber, Bryant Acosta, Alyssa Adamson, Joseph Affinito, Jared Agee, Aspen Akunne, Ashley Annetta, Charles Anyamene, Brianna Aponte, Melissa Arguello, Juan Arrubla, Anthony Ashnault, Andrew Atkinson, Josselin Barahona, Nina Bavosa, Nicole Benwell, Robert Benwell, Colin Berry, Rachel Billich, Jessica Bishop, Jonathan Black, Jamie Bohn, Kaitlyn Bonanno, Alexandra Bosse, Patrick Boyle, Kyle Brady, Nicholas Brinks, Nora Bruno, Kristel Buschan, Samuel Butler and Danielle Butrico.

Lukas Cabanas, Kristen Calderoni, Breanna Calvin, Kayla Carigma, Danielle Caruso, Meghan Collins, Shannah Conway, Maria Coreas, Kimberly Corsino, Taylor Crews, Patricia Cruz, Tyler Cruz, Sean Cullen, Leanna Dass, Mitchell Dean, Jesse Deffler, Xavier Deida, Conal Delaney, Cinthya Diaz, Ashley Dispenziere, Michael Dolan, Uyen-Vi Dong, Alex Dornick, Alexa Douras, Caitlyn Driscoll, James DuHamel, Shenne Dugtong, Richard Duong and Tatiana Duran.

Robert Eggert, Erik Elsman, Sal Esposito, Taylor Estevez, Rebecca Eustice, Echrak Faida, Bhrianna Farmer, Nicholas Fasullo, Talia Ferrigno, Sean Flanagan, Natalie Fontana, Kristin Forbes, Christopher Fowles, Matthew Frank, Maria Funes, Nathaniel Ganthier, Thomas Ginda, Alyssa Gomez, Carlee Gonzalez, Allison Gorman, Matthew Gruver and Subham Guha.

Alecia Hansen, Christopher Harrell, Ryan Harris, Meghan Heim, Jasmin Hernandez, Haley Hlavka, Zoya Hodge, Glenn Hollaway, Erika Holt-ermann, Nicholas Huber, Kaitlyn Hughes, Samantha Hunterton, Matthew Hurst, Kelvin Islas, Christy Itwaru, Shawn Itwaru, Eric Ivaniuc, Kevin Jakaria, Jenalee Jenkin and Gabriella Jimenez.

Christina Kasmer, Michelle Keane,

Malcolm Keith, Carly Kensey, Razeno Khan, Samuel Knight, Robert Kolvites, Nicole Kopchak, Nicholas Lacasale, Jordan Lackey, Thoa (Theresa) Le, Michelle Lesniak, Alyssa Liszewski, Xin Gen Liu, Bianca Lobosco, Gina Louise, Emily Lubach, Rian Lukacs and Collin Lynch.

Deirdre Macchia, Victoria Maino, Meredith Malara, Christopher Markey, Justin Marks, Nicholas Marrone, Jesse Masters, Aidan McDermott, Shannon McMahon, Tyler McVeigh, Mamta Mehra, Ernest Mejias, Yasmeeen Mighty, Malina Mohtadi, Melissa Molano, Kyle Moroney, Vanessa Mosquera and Crystal Myles.

Christina Naphor, Kenny Neto, Chloe Ng, Cody O'Connor, James O'Connor, Timothy O'Leary, Kayla O'Neal, Keanu O'Neal, Steven Oehler, Kathryn Pacheco, Dylan Painton, Shawn Palathinkal, Danielle Palitto, Brittney Papa, Renee Parisi, Aakash Patel, Ishti Patel, Brandon Pauls, Claude Payne, Gabrielle Payne, Donte Peoples, Jason Pelaez, Jeffrey Pellegrino, Joseph Pellegrino, Diamond Pender, Brooke Penik, Kristy Percario, Amit Persaud, Annemarie Pezzolla, Katherine Pickarski, Jessica

Pietschker, Emily Pittenger, Jonathan Prins and Stavan Purohit.

Maggie Quintanilla, Christal Ramagado, Amy Ramjatan, Edward Reid, Emily Reineke, Erin Remsing, Matthew Resende, Thomas Riccardi, Tania Rincon, Aaron Ritchie, Austin Rivera, Karen Rivera, Nisa Rizvi, Ashley Robjohns, Erick Rodriguez, Brian Roesch, Brianna Ross, Courtney Ross and Amanda Rowlands.

Adam Sangiuliano, Daniel Sanko, Niari Santiago, Raymond Santos, Jr., Dominick Scaleria, Gerianne Scarpitto, Heather Scofi, Paul Seyffart, Brandon Shaw, Shannon Sheedy, Olivia Simpson, Trevin Singh, Emily Skula, Emma Slotterback, Angelica Smith, John Sottiriou, Angela Spadavecchia, Joseph Spinella, Nicole Stanczak, Brianna Swenson, Ryan Temple and Steven Timmerman.

Sergio Ulacia, Michael Uribe, Isaiah Valdez, Joseph Valentino, Erik Veliz, Vera Viran, Connor Wallace, Wahid Walli, Kimberly Walsh, William Walsh, Matthew Ward, Scott Whalen, Thomas Whitney, Jennifer Wolak, Julia Zipp, Eduardo Zurita and Isabel Zychlinski.

County Warns Senior Citizens Against Scams

Middlesex County Freeholders Christopher D. Rafano and Blanquita B. Valenti are teaming up to warn senior citizens and other Middlesex County residents against potential scam artists and schemes.

Poster, fliers and fraud prevention brochures are being distributed by the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office and the Department on Aging to senior centers, libraries and senior apartment buildings to heighten awareness in communities throughout the County.

"Seniors need to be wary of traveling repairmen, telephone con artists, papers that look like legal documents and sweepstakes sent in the mail," said Freeholder Christopher D. Rafano, chair of the County's Law and Public Safety Committee. "These are all devices people employ when trying to

swindle others out of their money."

"Swindlers can appear to be friendly people with honest faces and have pleasant, authoritative voices but they are also very good as quickly conning people out of their identity and money," said Freeholder Blanquita B. Valenti, chair of the County's Committee of Human Services and of Aging. "Be sure you know exactly who you are talking to."

Anyone contacted by a stranger with a get-rich-quick or some other scheme or those who think they have fallen victim to a fraud, should report it to local police of the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office at (732) 745-3333.

"Don't become a victim of fraud. Remember, you have the power to help stop these scams by immediately reporting them," Rafano said.

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SPHS Student Leadership Program seniors held their year-end picnic at teacher Marla Vandermark's home in Manalapan on June 20. Sal Severini grilled food for everyone and it was a great way to end the year. Also attending the picnic was program director MaryEllen Martko, Anthony Encinas and Jessica Marconi.

Senior Center Events

• **SENIOR PICNIC AND SHOW:** A picnic is planned for Wednesday, Aug. 8 at noon. The event is being catered by Elmer's Catering, the company that did the senior picnics at the PAL. Menu includes hamburgers, hot dogs, sausage and peppers, fries and onion rings, chicken, corn on the cob, watermelon, coffee and dessert. Musical entertainment will be provided by Rich Curtiss, the living voice of Al Jolson. \$1 per person. Reservations required. Make your reservations early, and

no later than Aug. 1. The event will be held indoors.

• **ATLANTIC CITY:** The senior center has several trips to Atlantic City scheduled for the coming months. The dates for the Taj Mahal are on Wednesdays, Aug. 1, Sept. 5 and Oct. 3. The Claridge dates are Thursdays, Aug. 16, Sept. 21 and Oct. 19. The bus departs from the senior center at 9 a.m. sharp. The cost is \$20, which includes transportation, \$18-\$22 in coins and \$5-food coupon.

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

During the Grant School sixth grade picnic last month, Assistant Principal Rob Richkus jumped into the pool fully clothed with his wallet and cell phone to help a child who was accidentally pushed into the pool.

Thank you to resident Patricia DeSantis and Factotum-Mardee Video's Mariano DeSantis for helping produce last week's Borough Council meeting. Rich D'Urso's machine in the high school graphic arts was experiencing problems and Factotum volunteered to help out.

The Bishop Ahr Baseball Camp,

offered by Coach Ray Ciecwisz, who is also the head baseball coach at SPHS, took place during the week of July 16. The camp offered a variety of techniques to help young athletes learn the fundamentals of baseball. Coach Ciecwisz's camp draws children from surrounding towns and grows larger each year. Because of its popularity, children had to be turned away so next year please fill out your application as soon as possible. Mrs. Ciecwisz and her daughter also helped with the children and insured that everyone had a good lunch.

District Academic Performance

(Continued from page 10)

the line in achievement, have risen dramatically. While there has been a dramatic improvement in non-minority test scores, there has been an even greater gain in minority student achievement. So much so that the gap in grade 11 went from 27% Partially Proficient to 18.2%, in grade eight from 32.8% to 10.1% and in grade four from 10% to 8.4%.

Therefore, we can answer the question posed as the title of this article in the affirmative. You can look to improve overall test scores and still close the achievement gap. Our success has been a tribute to a comprehensive effort put forth by the administrators and teaching staff of the district and the support of these initiatives by our board.

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The South Plainfield Lions Club recently installed new new members, Robert Ward and Richard DePinto. From left to right are Past District Governor Larry Massaro, Immediate Past President Ron DeScalfani, Richard DePinto, Robert Ward and President Michael Zushma.

police report

• On July 17, Jose M. Cosme, 20, of Plainfield was arrested for hindering apprehension, driving without a license in possession, unregistered vehicle and no insurance.

• Arthur Adolphus Claren Goffe Jr., 27, and Gayna R. Goffe, 22, both of Plainfield were arrested at Target for shoplifting \$596.98 worth of merchandise.

• On July 18, Douglas Joseph Domareki, 18, of Port Murray was

arrested at Sears Essentials for shoplifting \$89 worth of video games.

• Shamill Bethea, 22, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license and two outstanding warrants.

• Juan Manuel Quinones, 39, of Plainfield was arrested for speeding, driving on a suspended license and five outstanding warrants.

• On July 19, Mersim Skenderi, 19, of Staten Island, N.Y. was arrested for

disregard of a traffic signal and an outstanding warrant.

• Michelle Ocasio Fields, 29, of Edison was arrested for no drivers license and registration in possession and an outstanding warrant.

• On July 21, Alsheem L. Emmett, 28, of Piscataway was arrested for no insurance, driving on a suspended license, no registration and an outstanding warrant.

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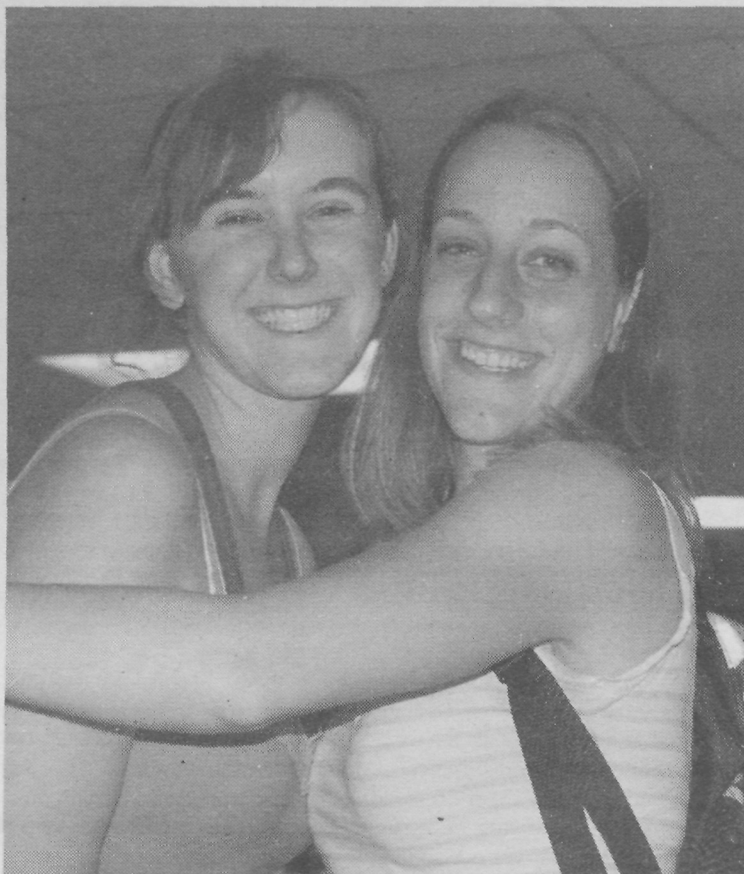
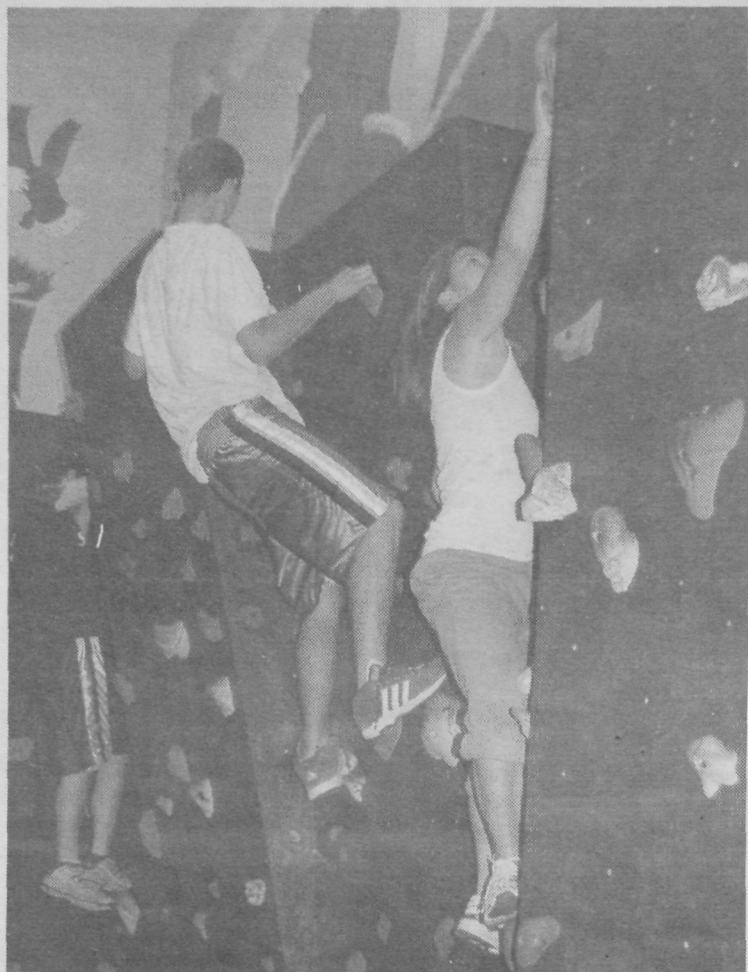
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SPHS 2007 Project Graduation



Project Graduation, a substance-free party for the 2007 SPHS graduates, was held on June 21. The annual event, a final goodbye to high school years, offered the graduates a night of friends, fun and food. They enjoyed non-stop food, games and contests. They had airbrushed boxer shorts created, photo key chains, music and much more.



Brenda Vallecilla, Esq.

Attorney at Law

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Scotch Plains—South Side \$559,500 3 BR, 1½ bth on 1 acre, LR, FDR, EIK, 3 season room, deck, patio, wood-burning fireplace, entry foyer, walk-out bsmt, 2 car attached garage.



Plainfield—\$465,000 Mixed Use Property. First floor, 2 office spaces, 8 rooms. Second floor, 6 rooms, 2 bedroom. Approx. 1500 sq ft. Must See. Prof service, or investment.



South Plainfield—\$300,000, Mixed use OBC1 zone, 1st floor retail office space recently renovated. 2nd floor apt 2 BR, LR, kitchen. Lots of closet space. Close to transportation.



South Plainfield—\$300,000 Single family home in OBC1 Zone, 2 BR, LR, EIK with pantry, entry foyer, bsmt with laundry, 2 car drive. Great invest prop. Can be combined with other So Plfd Prop.



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