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South Plainfield Observer

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SEPTEMBER 21, 2007

Volunteers Lead the Way in South Plainfield



Above: Diane Mandel with volunteers Arlene McGuire, Marie Schoen, Diane Chmielewski, Mary McNeerney, Adele Chutarz and Gloria Harupa. Left: Gloria with donated bread.

By Libby Barsky

South Plainfield resident Steve Machar was in the hospital to have a cataract removed. The very next day he and his wife, Marge, attended a meeting for volunteers for the "Listen to Children" program held in the senior center.

Steve and Marge volunteered to be in

the program when it began as a pilot program at Kennedy School in the spring of 1999 and have continued to volunteer ever since.

The "Listen to Children" program brings adult volunteers and students together on a one-to-one basis for 30 minutes a week to share experiences including crafts, playing games (chess, checkers) and talking about what is going on in their lives. Both the senior and the student benefit from this weekly contact. Students establish a relationship, build self-esteem and develop communication and problem solving skills.

"It's like being a grandmother to them," explains Marge, who shares her love of crafting with the youngsters.

Retired Kennedy School SAC counselor Diane Mandel brought the program to South Plainfield after graduating from Kean University with a counselor certification in 1997. Initially the program was supervised by Sherry Moccia of Essex County Mental Health in tandem with Mandel. After the untimely death of Moccia, William Beeple, high school director of guidance, helped supervise the program. Since Beeple's retirement, Mandel is overseeing the program to provide the training for new volunteers. Those interested in becoming a volunteer can reach Mandel at (732) 549-1959.

Ever since Steve retired from his job with Research Cotrell in 1984, he and Marge have been volunteer-

ing their time. They have stuffed envelopes for RSVP in their charity appeals for other organizations. Steve doesn't remember how long ago he started bringing bread to the senior citizens center. He began by filling his car and bringing the bread to the senior housing in Plainfield and to the PAL, when seniors met there, and later to the senior center. He gave up the job last November when he had a double bypass and heart valve replacement.

Angelo "Casey" Castellano has taken over the job and fills his car with loaves of bread from Pepperidge Farms on Oak Tree Road in Edison and brings the bread to the senior center. Gloria Harupa sets it out on a long table for seniors to choose what they need.

While Steve no longer picks up and delivers bread, he is still planning to volunteer at the senior center as a tax preparer for seniors. It's a service he has been performing for many years during tax season. He spends his time not only preparing the taxes, but explaining how an individual can apply to programs the state provides for tax relief and rebates. He is concerned about the program, because volunteers who have been in the tax program for many years may not be able to continue the program due to transportation problems.

Steve credits Marge for his involvement as a volunteer. "We work [as volunteers] together. I couldn't have done it without her," he said.



More than 10 floats and 12 marching bands took part in the 50th annual Labor Day Parade and one issue wasn't enough to show all the photos, so we're giving a second look at South Plainfield's favorite celebration. Please turn to pages 8 and 9.



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

Comcast will air two hours of a meeting. To purchase a copy of a complete council meeting, contact the *Observer*.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Log on to southplainfieldnj.com for the latest meeting agenda

council meetings

Meets twice a month on the first and third Tuesday

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

Date	Agenda Meeting	Public Meeting
October 2	7 p.m.	Immediately following
October 16	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.

planning board

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month, *except where noted.

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

Sept. 25, Oct. 9 and 23, Nov. 27 and Dec. 11.

zoning board of adjustment

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month, *except where noted.

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

Sept. 27, Oct. 11 and 25, Nov. 1 and 29 and Dec. 13.

board of education meetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted

Committee of the Whole, Wednesdays 7 p.m.-Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12,

Jan. 9, Feb. 13, March 12 and April 2.

Regular Meeting Wednesdays 8 p.m.-Wednesday, Sept. 19,

Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 19, Jan. 16, Feb. 20, March 19 and April 19.

taxpayers advisory group

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.

site plan sub-committee

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

Oct. 16, Nov. 20 and Dec. 18.

recreation commission

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

Oct. 9, Nov. 13, Dec. 11

environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)

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

business advisory group

Meets once a month (first Wednesday)

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

traffic safety advisory commission

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

in the Conference Room, Borough Hall

board of education curriculum/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.

South Plainfield Observer

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(908) 668-0010
FAX (908) 668-8819

NANCY GRENNIER
Publisher/Editor-in-Chief
Web page:
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WAYNE GRENNIER
Associate Publisher
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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 Mohn's Flowers on Plainfield Ave., fax us at (908) 668-8819 or e-mail us at spobserver@comcast.net. Include your name, address, telephone number.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

IN MY OPINION

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

Dear Editor,

As a member of the faculty at Middlesex County College from 1973 through 1983 I can unequivocally state that my experience confirms that our county colleges provide excellent, affordable education on the level of our four year colleges and universities.

The most frustrating event of my time at Middlesex was the disappointment of students when they learned that course credits they obtained at the county college were not accepted at the state's public colleges and universities. You can imagine how that frustration was compounded when, 24 years later, I became chair of the Higher Education Committee in the State Assembly and learned that students were still losing credits when transferring to a four year school.

I am pleased to report that unacceptable situation is about to end. Governor Corzine has signed into law legislation sponsored by Assemblywoman Pam Lampitt and myself which requires our public four year colleges and universities to accept credits earned at New Jersey's county colleges.

This initiative will benefit over 400,000 students who each year attend our community colleges. It is needed more than ever because of the success of NJSTARS which provides a full scholarship to students who enroll at county colleges after graduating in the top 20% of their high school class. STARS students who graduate with a 3.0 or above from county college receive an additional scholarship to a four year college in New Jersey.

I must congratulate all of our state college presidents for their cooperation in working with us to make this landmark legislation the law of New Jersey.
ASSEMBLYMAN PATRICK DIEGNAN, CHAIRMAN-ASSEMBLY HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

To the Editor:

At a recent Labor Day picnic, I had quite an enlightening talk with Mike Allocco, a South Plainfield resident and owner of TBSA, the Basketball Shooting Academy in Edison and AKA Inc. in South Plainfield. As many of you know, Mike has been a contributor to many school and community activities since moving here 25 years ago, as well as serving as a

volunteer varsity basketball coach for nearly 10 years. He also has a daughter who currently attends Grant School and adult children who also came through the South Plainfield school system.

At the picnic Mike informed me that he will be holding and sponsoring two free dances for students in the area, including South Plainfield on September 22 and 29. The first is for intermediate and middle school children and the second for high school students. I asked why he did not pass the word around through the schools by passing out a flyer about these events. I was shocked and surprised when Mike told me that the Board of Education will not allow him to distribute any information about his programs through the schools because he is a for-profit business. Correct me if I am wrong, but isn't just about any fundraiser using pizza stores, discount cards, etc. run through for-profit businesses? While his business may be designated as a for-profit business, aren't the things that he is promoting (including summer camps, day camps, Friday and Saturday night events) for the good of the children? Why has the board allowed flyers for other camps and other organizations, such as the Rutgers Basketball Camp, to be distributed through the schools? I guess their coaching staff runs those camps for free!

South Plainfield is a wonderful community and our children and students deserve to be made aware of events such as these. Shame on Mr. Allocco for trying to provide a safe place for our children and for giving them a place for our children to socialize, meet friends, make new ones and have a good time.

My daughter and her friends will be there on Saturday night!

DIANE CONROY

Dear Editor,

Last week's column by the Democrats raised more questions than it answered. The column talked about

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.

the so-called tax cut that we have either gotten or are going to get. I have lots of questions and hope the candidates touting this "tax cut" will answer them without any spin next week.

1. How much is the tax cut you're talking about? How many tax points? How much money will it return to the average taxpayer?

2. We had a big tax hike in January. Is this "tax cut" larger or smaller than that increase?

3. If the "tax cut" is smaller than January's tax hike, should it really be called a cut? Didn't you just raise them so you could lower them?

4. The tax hike in January came after we were told during last year's election that there would be no tax increase. Why?

I hope that someone will answer these questions, because, quite frankly, I think all this talk about a tax cut is a bunch of nonsense.

SANDY CASTAGNO

To the Editor:

I have lived in South Plainfield for many years and never have I seen so many positive things going on at one time. The Democrats promised to make improvements and they have delivered. There is the continuing reconstruction of Hamilton Blvd. and the removal of the truck traffic from that street. Thank goodness the trucks have been routed through our industrial area rather than next to homes and schools. The unsightly and hazardous industrial sight by the over-

(Continued on page 11)



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WHAT'S GOING ON IN MY TOWN

FROM A BUSY BUSY MOM *jd*

Back to School Night for SPHS is Thursday, Sept. 27 at 6:30 p.m. Meet the teachers and visit booths including the Athletic and Music Booster Club's who will be selling school spirit wear and memberships, the PTA who are in need of members and the student council. Information on the schools' upcoming blood drive will be announced shortly.

The SPHS Music Booster Club will host their music festival on Saturday, Oct. 20 at Jost Field.

South Plainfield Coalition of Cultural Diversity Forming

Five years ago when my family and I moved to South Plainfield to serve the Wesley Methodist Church, we were received well by a predominantly White church, and they made us feel like we belonged here. I felt that a welcoming and hospitable spirit existed in the whole community.

When I took my son to register at Grant School, he was also welcomed by the school. I was impressed by the friendly and generous spirit of those registering him. It seemed that they were actually expecting ethnic minority children.

The idea of a Coalition of Cultural Diversity was born out of this positive perception about South Plainfield and its people. The coalition was organized to strengthen the hospitable nature of this town and to bring people together, as one of the coalitions 'to build bridges' between communities and to bring various linguistic and ethnic groups and new immigrants together to become one family called South Plainfield.

The major goal of the coalition is for all who live in South Plainfield to know one another, help one another, trust one another and appreciate one another. The schools are trying this with the children. The annual Labor Day parade is also an instrument to achieve this.

But the coalition is an instrument to attempt to build bridges intentionally, and to actually bring diverse communities together to know one another, appreciate one another, learn from one another and give all a sense of belonging.

The coalition has the generous support of Mayor Charles Buttrico and the borough council. It has the blessing of the spiritual leaders of South Plainfield.

The coalition is at this moment in the ad hoc level organization. We are waiting to include members from every ethnic and religious community of South Plainfield. If you are interested, please come to the next coalition meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 25 at 7:30 p.m. The location will be announced in the *South Plainfield Observer* in next week's issue. If you miss the announcement in the paper, please call me at (908) 756-1044. The coalition is an open forum. It is not a clergy group nor a particular religious group. It is a secular and inclusive group.

The kick-off event of the coalition will be on Jan. 21, 2008 at the PAL building. Look for the time and other details in this newspaper and other flyers. We are seeking all ethnic groups, civic organizations, school children and religious groups to participate. Borough and community leaders will

Volunteers are needed to work at the snack stand at the high school football games. The money raised is used to purchase equipment and other items needed for the athletic programs.

There will be a parent/student swim team meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 26 at 7 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

The first middle school dance takes place on Friday, Oct. 5 in the gym from 7 to 9 p.m. Parents are needed to help chaperone the dance.

be there to support us. We need your presence in large numbers. Bring your ethnic food to share. Bring your distinct cultural dances and music. It will be your day. It will empower you and you will be special. For any questions or concerns, please call me or any coalition member listed below. Your phone calls of inspiration are essential.

Coalition ad hoc members are Nehemiah Thompson-president (908) 756-1044, Christine Sienkielewski-vice-president (908) 756-1044, Ashli Roberts-secretary, Althea Hollis-treasurer, Clark Olson-Smith (908) 757-2775, Jennifer GaNun, Nicole Woo, Phoebe Andes, Sharon Gianneschi and Chris Johansen.

-Submitted by Reverend Nehemiah Thompson, pastor of Wesley United Methodist Church

Shredding Program Recycles 10,000 lbs

By Libby Barsky

Sensitive documents and financial statements that residents would not normally place in their recycle bin were securely shredded by a mobile shredding unit at the senior center last Saturday morning.

According to Division Head of Middlesex County Division of Solid Waste Management Richard Hills, concerns about identity theft and the need for better protection drew residents to the senior center to have their papers shredded.

Approximately 100 residents from South Plainfield took advantage of the shredding program, sponsored by the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders under the supervision of the Middlesex County Division of Solid Waste Management.

The program was slated to start at 9 a.m. and cars began to arrive in the senior center parking lot about that time. However, there was a glitch when the mobile shredding unit wouldn't operate. As residents lined up, they were given tickets to mark the time they came and their place in line. The shredder was up and running by 11 a.m. and shredding began.

One by one residents placed their materials in a large bin and when the bin was full, it was placed on a movable track on the outside of the vehicle then emptied into shredding area.

The shredding unit uses its own electric energy source within the vehicle.

Although the shredding unit was parked in one place with the motor off, when the mobile shredder is at work driver Glenn Wassall explained, "It feels like you are driving 40 miles



Mobile shredding vehicle with recycling material traveling to top of the truck to be shredded.

an hour when you're sitting in the driver's seat."

"It sounds like an old fashioned washing machine," said retired Roosevelt School teacher Jean Madden.

After being shredded, the results are weighed on a state certified scale and then baled into 1,000 pound lots and transported to a paper company where it's substituted for wood pulp and manufactured into new paper products.

"The old records and papers collected in the shredding program increase the amount of recycling totals

for the borough," said Hills.

The county program will continue through the fall months with the shredding mobile unit returning on the following Saturdays: September 22 at Middlesex Borough Recycling Center; September 29 at South Brunswick Senior Center; October 27 at North Brunswick Municipal Building and November 3 at Plainsboro Conservation Center off Grovers Mill Road. The hours are from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. or until the shredding truck is filled.

For more information, call (732) 745-4170.

AristaCare at Cedar Oaks Casino Night

Who needs to go to Atlantic City when you have Casino Night at AristaCare at Cedar Oaks, located on Durham Avenue? On August 16, the recreation department at AristaCare at Cedar Oaks hosted a Casino Night.

The day room was transformed into a mini casino complete with roulette, craps, poker, blackjack and a money wheel for the patients/resi-

dents' "gambling" pleasure. The recreation staff donned black and white attire and took on the role of croupiers dealing cards, tossing dice and spinning wheels. Everyone enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and cocktails. There are already requests to schedule another casino night. Thanks are extended to everyone who assisted in making the evening a grand success.

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Around Town

VFW Cabbage Dinner

September 21

The South Plainfield VFW, located on Front Street, will hold a stuffed cabbage dinner on Friday, Sept. 21 from 5 to 8 p.m. Cost of dinner is \$8 and includes salad, dinner, dessert and coffee. Public is welcome. For information call (908) 668-9751.

Knights Selling Mums, Mums, Mums

Sept. 22, 23, 29, 30, Oct. 6 and 7

The Knights of Columbus are conducting their fourth annual mum's sale on the weekends of September 22-23, 29-30 and October 6-7. Mums in various colors will be on sale at the South Plainfield Rescue Squad at a cost of \$7 for 8" pots with beautiful blooms. This fundraiser supports our various charitable works. Thank you for your support and we hope to see you at the sale!

Blackrose to Perform

September 22

Blackrose, a band performing classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will perform at KC's Korner on Oak Tree Avenue on Saturday, Sept. 22 at 10 p.m. No cover charge.

AARP #4144 Christmas Trip

December 12

AARP 4144 is planning a trip to see the "Miracle of Christmas" at the Millennium Theater in Lancaster, Pa. on Wednesday, Dec. 12. Cost is \$98 per person and includes show, dinner, bus transportation from South Plainfield and all taxes and gratuities. Deposit of \$30 is due upon registration by Nov. 14. Please call Mary at (732) 752-3764.

What's happening at the South Plainfield

SENIOR CENTER

SEPTEMBER

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
UPCOMING EVENTS <i>Driver Safety Program, Sept. 24, 1 pm</i> <i>Dance Party, Saturday, Sept. 29 7 to 11 p.m. Cost \$5</i>				
Crocheting 9:30am-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Art Class 11:30am	Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social Group 10am	Aerobics 8:30 am Line Dancing 10am Computer Classes 10am, 11:20am, 1pm Crocheting 1pm Tai Chi 2pm	Pathmark Shopping 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 10am 11:30am, 1pm Exercise Class 1:15pm	Bingo 10am-2pm
24	25	26	27	28

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

OLC Blood Drive

September 28

Our Lady of Czestochowa Church will hold their annual blood drive on Friday, Sept. 28 from 3 to 8 p.m. at the OLC Parish Hall on Hamilton Boulevard. For information, call (908) 757-4490.

Stroke/Osteoporosis Screening

September 28

Residents in South Plainfield can be screened to reduce their risk of having a stroke. Life Line Screening Radiology will be at the South Plainfield Elks Lodge #2298, located on New Market Avenue on Friday, Sept. 28. Appointments begin at 9 a.m. Call 877-237-1344 or visit www.lifeline-screening.com. Pre-registration required.

PBA Golf Tournament

October 1

PBA Local 100 is holding its 13th annual golf tournament on Monday, Oct. 1 at the Concordia Golf Club in

Monroe Township. Tournament begins at 8 a.m. with a shotgun start. Cost per golfer is \$110 and includes a complimentary breakfast, lunch, commemorative golf shirt and goodie bag. The day concludes with an awards banquet at The Polish Home on New Market Avenue. Golfers will enjoy a full buffet and open bar. Door prizes.

For more information contact Matt Koep at (908) 392-0541, Lloyd McNelly at (908) 872-5479 or Michael Grasso at (908) 510-6062.

Flea Market

October 6

The JJ Gardner Detachment Marine Corps League will sponsor a flea market on Saturday, Oct. 6 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the American Legion Chaumont Post #243, located on Oak Tree Avenue. Cost per space is \$15.

For information or reservations, call Bob Hatton at (908) 354-1640.

Columbiettes Fall Fashion Show

October 14

The South Plainfield Columbiettes will host their annual luncheon and fall fashion show Sunday, Oct. 14 at the Spain Inn in Piscataway. Proceeds go toward local community charities.

The women will be modeling fall styles from Dress Barn and Dress Barn Women located in South Plainfield.

Doors will open at 12:30 p.m. Cost of \$35 includes an all-you-can-eat buffet of salads, meats, seafood and more. For reservations and information, contact either Emma at (732) 287-2346 or Kathy at (908) 756-3772.

Vendors Wanted

October 20

Vendors are wanted for Vendor Fair on Saturday, Oct. 20 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the South Plainfield Elks, 1254 New Market Ave. Spaces available indoors and out. Leave message for Sharon at (908) 791-1214.

— Out of Town —

Single Professionals Happy Hour

September 21

NJ Single Professionals is holding a happy hour on Friday, Sept. 21 at 6 p.m. at the Hilton Pyramid Hotel-Sports Edition Bar in East Brunswick. Cost is what you order—tip appropriately. Private group. RSVP to Angel Butterfly37@aol.com or (732) 764-9073.

Fall Fashion Show

September 22

A fall fundraising fashion show will be held at St. Francis Episcopal Church, 400 New Market Rd. in Dunellen, on Saturday, Sept. 22. \$18 adult, \$35 family/4, \$45 family/6, seniors and teens 13-17 \$15, preteens \$10. For more information call (732) 979-4389.

AALL Stamps Open House Resumes

September 23

AALL Stamps and Collectibles in Milltown will resume its Sunday Collectors Open Houses on September 23 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will feature a wide range of material

including stamps, postcards, coins, sports and non-sports cards and more. Further information can be obtained by calling (732) 247-1093.

CHATS Meeting

September 24

Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support (CHATS) meeting will be held on Monday, Sept. 24 at Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church in North Plainfield from 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. Open sharing of adoption-related stories and light refreshments.

For information, call Alyce at (732) 227-0607 or visit 222.wapc.net.

Fall Art Classes

September 24

Registration is now open for kids, teens and adult art classes at The Arts Guild of Rahway, 1670 Irving St. in Rahway. Classes begin the week of Sept. 24 and run for eight weeks. Children's classes are geared for children between the ages of 7-14. Many of the adult classes are suitable for children 12 years and older.

For more information or to register call (732) 381-7511 or email us at artsguild1670@verizon.net.

Happy Days, A New Musical

September 26

The 2007-2008 season of the Paper Mill Playhouse starts with "Happy Days: A New Musical" on Wednesday, Sept. 26 at the Millburn Theater. Other productions will include "Meet Me in St. Louis," "The Miracle Worker," "Steel Magnolias," "Kiss Me Kate" and "Little Shop of Horrors."

For further information or to purchase tickets, visit www.papermill.org or call (973) 376-4343.

Senior Health and Fitness Walk

September 26

The Middlesex County Department on Aging will sponsor a senior health and fitness walk from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 26 at Johnson Park in Piscataway to celebrate Active Aging Week.

For more information, call (732) 745-3295.

Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance

September 26

On Wednesday, Sept. 26, the De-



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

SEND US YOUR PHOTOS. If you have an event, take a photo, write a caption identifying the event and people and send it to us. The best photos record action and don't include so many people that it is impossible to identify anyone. Please don't send us photocopies or laser prints. They don't reproduce well. Electronic photos should be 150 dpi or higher.

HOW TO CONTACT US. By mail: 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080; By phone: 908-668-0010; By fax: 908-668-8819; By email: spobserver@comcast.net.

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South Plainfield Observer

Events

pression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA) will feature Ivan Goldberg, M.D., who will discuss recurrent brief depression, depression which happens with a frequency of about once a month.

Meetings take place at 7:45 p.m. at the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship in Morristown. The public is invited.

For information, call (973) 994-1143.

Christian Singles Game Night/Dinner

September 27

Christian Singles game night and dinner will be held on Thursday, Sept. 27 at Panera Bread, 165 E. State Rt. 4 in Paramus. Cost is whatever you order for dinner. Bring a game!

Holiday Boutique Crafters Needed

Crafters are needed for the holiday boutique to be held on Saturday, Nov. 17 at Wesley United Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave. The boutique will operate from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. The cost for an 8 ft. by 4.5 ft. space is \$20 if you bring your own table; \$25 if you need us to supply the table.

Please contact Connie at (908) 755-3850 for a registration form or for more information.

SPHS Reunions

SPHS Class of 1977

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 Reade at (908) 754-3455. E-mail gvenott@comcast.net, contact Francine Martinkovic at (818) 990-6843 or E-mail kit961@earthlink.net.

1987 Class Reunion

November 23

A 20-year reunion for the SPHS Class of 1987 has been planned for Friday, Nov. 23. The reunion committee is still in need of addresses for members of the graduating class. For information, call (908) 226-0909.

1991 Class Reunion

November 24

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

1982-25 Year Reunion

April 5, 2008

Save the date! Our 25-year reunion is set for Saturday, April 5, 2008 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Piscataway from 7 p.m. to midnight. Overnight rooms will be available at a discount rate. Register/update your contact information with classmates.com or contact me directly. Please make every effort to attend. The 20 year reunion was great. Details to follow.

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

RSVP required by 9/27 noontime to JerzeyAngelGirl@aol.com or (732) 764-9073.

Singles Dinner

September 28

NJ Single Professionals is holding a dinner on Friday, Sept. 28 at 6 p.m. at Grasshopper off the Green, 41-43 Morris St. in Morristown. Cost is what you order, plus tax and tip. RSVP is required by 9/28 noontime to Angel Butterfly37@aol.com or (732) 764-9073.

First Annual 5K Race for Rescue

September 29

First annual 5K "Race for Rescue" will be held rain or shine at Colonial Park, 550 Elizabeth Ave. in Somerset on Saturday, Sept. 29. Volunteer appreciation picnic afterwards. Walkers are also welcome.

Landscape Painting Demonstration

September 29

A free outdoor landscape painting demonstration will be held on Saturday, Sept. 29 at The Arts Guild of Rahway, 1670 Irving St., Rahway from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Reservations required.

To reserve your space call (732) 381-7511 or E-mail us at artsguild1670@verizon.net.

Quilting Show

September 29 and 30

The Garden State Quilters Guild will hold a quilt show at the Westfield Armory in Westfield on Sept. 29 and 30.

NAMI-Middlesex

October 1

NAMI-Middlesex, an affiliate of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, is holding a general membership meeting and speaker series on Monday, Oct. 1 at University Behavioral Health-Care, 671 Hoes Lane, Rm. D201/203 in Piscataway, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

For info, call (732) 985-3834 or E-mail philippa0@verizon.net.

Blessing of Animals

October 6

St. Francis Episcopal Church in Dunellen, will hold the Annual Blessing of the Animals on Saturday, Oct. 6 at 11 a.m. Meet on the church lawn, weather permitting, or in Milbank Hall if inclement weather. All caged or leashed pets are welcome!

Call the church at (732) 968-6781 for directions or information.

Ferraro Construction Returns to Planning Board with Amended Plans

By Libby Barsky

Approximately five years ago, A. Ferraro Construction applied to the South Plainfield Planning Board to subdivide 9.7 acres of property on Delancy Street into 20 lots and to build 19 homes and a detention basin. The Township of Edison had vacated portions of the streets adjacent to Delancy Street, making them dead end streets and thus, no thru-street to access Spring, Good Luck and Salem streets. The planning board based their denial of the first application on the lack of access to the area.

The application was appealed to the Superior Court of New Jersey. Superior Court Judge James Hurley declared the complaint dismissed without prejudice and remanded the application of A. Ferraro back to the planning board.

At the September 11 planning board meeting, an amended plan to subdivide the acreage was introduced. This time the number of homes proposed to be built was reduced from 19 to 18 and the amended application included a new engineering plan to regulate the water.

Delancy Street is on the border of Edison and South Plainfield and can

only be accessed through Park Avenue in Edison. The area contains wetlands within the 660-acre Dismal Swamp, an area that is of interest to the Edison Wetlands Association. Robert Speigel, executive director of the Edison Wetlands Association, was present at the meeting along with the association's attorney, Judy Weinstock. She questioned project engineer Craig Stires on his testimony regarding the planned detention basin. She also challenged written testimony submitted by South Plainfield Environmental Specialist Alice Tempel, saying that she did not find endangered spotted turtles in a site where they could be inhabiting.

The homeowners who objected five years ago returned to the hearing to express their concerns about potential water problems if the homes were built. They spoke of flooded basements, constantly wet backyards and heavy equipment sinking, backed up sewage coming into their home and rain water pouring across Park Avenue.

"We're not making this up. It still floods," said Richard Rizzo, summing up his neighbors' statements.

The hearing on this application will be continued on October 23.

Columbiettes to Sponsor Annual Shopping Trip to Reading

The South Plainfield Columbiettes will sponsor their annual shopping trip to the outlets in Reading, Pa. on Saturday, Nov. 3. Bus leaves Sacred Heart Church parking lot, off South Plainfield Avenue, at 8 a.m. sharp.

Cost of the trip is \$25 and includes the bus driver's tip. When you reach Reading, you will be given a shopping bag and coupon book, as well as a voucher towards lunch.

After leaving Reading, the bus will stop at the Cracker Barrel in Fogelsville, Pa. for additional shopping and dinner on your own. The bus will return to South Plainfield at approximately 7 p.m.

To reserve your seat, or for additional information, contact Kathy at (908) 756-3772 or Linda Susan at (908) 754-5239.

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McConville, Rusnak: Much-Needed Ethics Reform Would Save Tax Dollars

While everyone agrees that South Plainfield homeowners deserve tax relief, Council candidates Tim McConville and Ray Rusnak know that real savings won't come about without much-needed ethics reform.

McConville and Rusnak this week announced their reform plan, a plan that would save hundreds of thousands of dollars for taxpayers over the next five years.

"We see it every week," said Rusnak. "Democratic campaign contributors reap a windfall at taxpayer expense. A perfect example was the scandal brought to light in Sunday's *Star Ledger*. We need to change the culture at borough hall and put the taxpayer first."

Rusnak was referring to a *Star Ledger* article that pointed to South Plainfield's sale of open-space property along Harvard Avenue. As part of the sale, Democrats transferred property to a campaign contributor at up to \$100,000 below market value. The paper reported that in addition to giving donations to the South Plainfield Democrats, the purchaser donated more than \$5,000 to its chairman, Patrick Diegnan, who also serves as town attorney.

"We need to enact reforms that will prevent these abuses," explained McConville. "When the Democrats raised taxes in January it was partly because taxpayers took a back seat to special interests."

McConville and Rusnak want to push several reforms when elected. These include:

- **Enacting a "Zero Tolerance" Pay-to-Play Ordinance**—Democrats enacted a pay-to-play ordinance, but it's so full of holes that campaign

contributors still receive the same no-bid contracts they received before the ordinance passed. Taxpayers end up losing, because there's no incentive for contractors to give their best price; the contributor knows their contribution automatically gets them the job.

- **Hiring an Independent Borough Attorney**—The roles of party chairman and borough attorney are a conflict of interest. The scandal highlighted in the *Star Ledger* is a perfect example of what can happen. "We've already told our party chairman, who is an attorney, that we will not hire him as borough attorney if we're elected, even if he steps down as chairman," Rusnak said. "Taxpayers should know that their interests, not political interests, come first."

- **Enacting a Redeveloper Ethics Package**—South Plainfield is about to embark on several redevelopment projects, including one for the Cornell-Dubilier site. This involves giving out lucrative redevelopment contracts to redevelopers who will manage the projects. These contracts should go to the most qualified applicants, not campaign contributors. Under the GOP plan, contributors would be prohibited from receiving these contracts.

- **Creating an Ethics Commission**—Many towns already have their own ethics commission. South Plainfield should too.

Ethics reform is just one element in the GOP plan for a better South Plainfield, according to McConville and Rusnak. "Ethics reform is important on its own," they said. "But just as important is the savings it will bring to homeowners who deserve real tax savings."



Cerami and Thomas Challenge Opponents to Reveal Their Platform

Democratic Councilmembers Dennis Cerami and Kathy Thomas have challenged their Republican opponents to reveal their plan for South Plainfield's future.

Council President Cerami offered the challenge saying, "It's really a shame. Year after year the Republican Party runs a totally negative campaign and doesn't offer one proposal to improve the lives of the residents of our borough. Kathy Thomas and I are committed to following the long established campaign approach of the Democratic Party in South Plainfield. We want people to support us because of our record of accomplishments and our vision for the future. By comparison the Republicans do nothing but disparage people's character and accuse everyone of being less than honest. We are proud of the improvements to Hamilton Boulevard, the widening of Durham Avenue and the extra turning lane off Route 287 to expedite traffic flow. We are proud of our plan to build a beautiful new library on Plainfield Avenue next year. We are proud of increasing our open space inventory by over 200 acres in just over a year. We are proud of the expansion to Putnam Park and improvements to every park and playground in the borough. We are proud of expanding our senior services including Meals on Wheels and a second senior van. We are proud of providing our police, fire, rescue squad and emergency management department with the staff and equipment they need to keep our residents safe and secure. Most of all we are proud of getting trucks off Hamilton Boulevard and providing our residents with the first municipal tax cut in memory."

Kathy Thomas expanded upon her running mates comments saying, "Every week the Republicans accuse us of everything except teaching Britney Spears her latest dance routine. Maybe they get pleasure out of insulting people. But enough is enough. When Republican Chair Bob Jones questioned the honesty of the DeAndrea family that was the last straw for me. The Republicans criticize the New Market Avenue extension which will permanently address the truck traffic. They question our tremendous open space program. They belittle the new library proposal. They even try to dismiss the tax cut. What in the world do they support? In three campaigns the only new suggestions they came up with was opening the compactor on Sunday which would cost a fortune while forcing our public works employees to work on a day everyone wants off. It would be funny if it wasn't so sad. As chair of the Administration and Finance Committee, I am proud of the Democrats record of keeping taxes under control and improving services. Dennis and I guarantee you we will build a new library and finish New Market Avenue and keep taxes under control. We want to discuss our plans for the future."

Dennis Cerami summed up the Democrats position: "There is still a little more than six weeks before election. I challenge our Republican opponents to every week set forth just one positive proposal for the future of South Plainfield in their campaign release in the *Observer*. You can be sure the Democratic team will run on its record and its vision. The opposition party should try to do the same. All our residents will be better for it."

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The Facts:

More people in South Plainfield read the *Observer* than any other local newspaper.



Circulation in South Plainfield

Home News Tribune	495
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Star Ledger	2,600
The Observer	3,000

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From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Sunnie Randolph

The South Plainfield Public Library is open again on Sundays from 1:30 to 5 p.m.

You must have a South Plainfield Public Library card to get on the library's computers. If you are from another town, you must have identification, such as a drivers license. This applies to both adults and children who have parental permission to be on the computers when a parent is not present. There is no instant messaging or game playing on the library's computers. Because of the number of people wishing to use the computers for job or information purposes, the time limit is now one hour per day.

Story times and crafts have been cancelled for the month of September so the staff can plan for the fall programs.

The week of September 23 is Banned Books Week. First observed in 1982, Banned Books Week reminds Americans not to take this precious democratic freedom for granted. The event is sponsored by the American Booksellers Association, the American Library Association (ALA), the Association of American Publishers, the American Society of Journalists and Authors and the National Association of College Stores. It is endorsed by the Library of Congress Center for the Book.

Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell's award-winning "And Tango Makes Three," about two male penguins parenting an egg from a mixed-sex penguin couple, tops the list of most challenged books in 2006 by parents and administrators due to the issues of homosexuality.

The list also features two books by author Toni Morrison. "The Bluest Eye" and "Beloved" are on the list due

to sexual content and offensive language.

The ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF) received a total of 546 challenges last year. A challenge is defined as a formal, written complaint, filed with a library or school, requesting that materials be removed because of content or appropriateness. Public libraries, schools and school libraries report the majority of challenges to OIF.

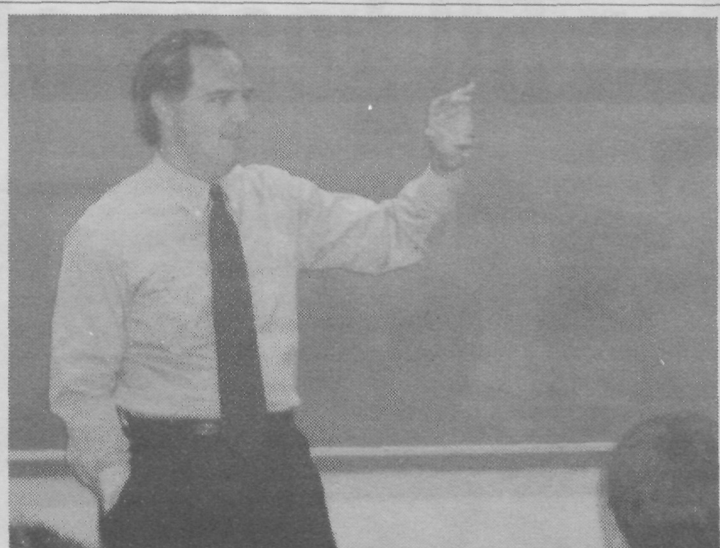
The "10 Most Challenged Books of 2006" reflect a range of themes and consist of the following titles:

- "And Tango Makes Three" by Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell, for homosexuality, anti-family and unsuited to age group.
- "Gossip Girls" series by Cecily Von Ziegesar for homosexuality, sexual content, drugs, unsuited to age group, and offensive language.
- "Alice" series by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor for sexual content and offensive language.
- "The Earth, My Butt, and Other Big Round Things" by Carolyn Mackler for sexual content, anti-family, offensive language and unsuited to age group.
- "The Bluest Eye" by Toni Morrison for sexual content, offensive language, and unsuited to age group;
- "Scary Stories" series by Alvin Schwartz for occult/Satanism, unsuited to age group, violence, and insensitivity.

Off the list this year, but on for several years past, are "The Catcher in the Rye" by J.D. Salinger, "Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck and "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain.

Come to the library and check out a book, banned or not.

Log on to our Web site at:
www.spobserver.com



Congressman Mike Ferguson taught a civics class at SPHS on the need for laws last Wednesday.

Mobile Passport Service Coming to Borough

Middlesex County Clerk Elaine M. Flynn is advising residents to "beat the rush" and apply for their U.S. passport in a timely fashion. Flynn stated that the second phase of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative will take effect as early as January 1, 2008. U.S. citizens traveling between the United States and Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean and Bermuda by air, land and sea will be required to present a valid U.S. passport for re-entry into the United States.

"The Passport Division of my office has a total of 37 combined years experience in accepting applications for U.S. passports," said Flynn. "This, along with extended office hours and our mobile passport satellite program, helps to make the process of applying for a passport an efficient and pleasant one."

The office, located on the fourth floor of the Middlesex County Administration Building at 75 Bayard St. in New Brunswick, operates during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, with the exception of Tuesdays and Wednesdays, when the extended hours of 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. are offered.

Due to the high volume of applications that the Department of State is receiving, processing time for a U.S. passport is currently six to eight weeks.

The mobile passport satellite office will be visiting South Plainfield on Friday, Oct. 5 from 1 to 3 p.m. Applications and instructions are available at the borough clerk's office, or by visiting the Department of State's Web site at www.travel.state.gov.

Literacy Volunteers Looking for Tutors

South Plainfield residents Ken and Audrey Reisch, who devote many hours a week as literacy volunteers, are asking residents to join them in volunteering their time helping others learn to read and speak the English language. They are asking for volunteers to join the Literacy Volunteers of Middlesex (LVM).

Volunteering to tutor doesn't take a lot of time, but the benefits and rewards are worth far more than the effort extended. LVM offers individuals who wish to become tutors a combined training program that enables them to tutor students.

LVM provides free one-to-one basic literacy or ESL instruction for adults in a library close to home. The program is a safety net for a segment of the population for whom traditional adult education programs are either inaccessible or too difficult. Many of our students cannot take part in the adult school classes because of their work schedule and/or transportation problems.

For more information or to join LVM, call (732) 432-8000.

SOUTH PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL Music Boosters

By Pamela Hussey

It was great to see everyone on September 12th! For those who could not attend our first meeting of the school year, you missed a great performance by our Marching Band and Color Guard. The highlight of their performance was a type of "Simon Says" called a march-off. Congratulations to Mike Oprysk for a job well done!

In my desire to keep the meeting as short as possible to allow the band directors ample time to speak, I forgot to mention a few things. First and foremost, I want to thank everyone who helped out at the Labor Day concession stand. What started out as a "manic Monday" turned into a great success. Many thanks to Sue Morrison and Abby Collins for getting the booth set up and organized; Karen Blackord, Mike Poland, Steven and JoAnn Siegel for your tireless help throughout the entire day; Cynthia Pelliccia, Marvin and Milena Wilson, Mac Sambat, Nancy Wagner, Beverly Blanco, Lisa Hahn, Sue Hagemann

and Nadine Yon for all your effort. Second, a huge thank you goes to the SPHS Summer Drama Club for their generous donation of soda and water to assist us during the school season!

The first marching competition with the USSBA will be held on Saturday, Nov. 22 in Edison. The competition starts at 4:30 p.m. and we are currently scheduled to step off at 6:45 p.m. (subject to change). The field is located just off Old Post Road on Blvd of the Eagles. You can see the show list and get directions by going to the competition Web site: www.yea.org. Click on USSBA, then go to show schedules for more information. Our next competition will be Saturday, Sept. 29 at Piscataway High School. Check the competition Web site for more details.

Our ad book campaign for 2007/2008 is under way. Please remember to get your ads in to meet the dead-

line. The Citrus Fruit Fundraiser has begun. All orders must be in by November 5 with payment so the fruit can be delivered approximately on December 15, just in time for the holidays. Like to shop online? Your purchases can help support our music students! Log on to www.schoolpop.com and click "Join." Choose South Plainfield High School Music Boosters to receive credit for your purchases. This is a secure Web site. The more you shop with Schoolpop the more you earn for our music students!

Stop by our table during Back to School night at the high school on Thursday, Sept. 27. We have promotional items for sale including hot/cold mugs, marching band/color guard blankets, drawstring sport bags and marching band t-shirts. Proceeds will be put towards our annual scholarship fund.

We need lots of help from the parents of the entire music department for our 26th annual band competition, to be held November 20 at Jost Field. The competition begins at 6 p.m., but we will need help throughout the day. You'll get to hear and see great performances from bands around the area.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m. in the chorus room. Looking forward to seeing you all there! Keep checking weekly for more updates.

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South Plainfield Celebrates 50 Years of Lat



South Plainfield Officers Receive Commendations and Awards

By Jane Dornick

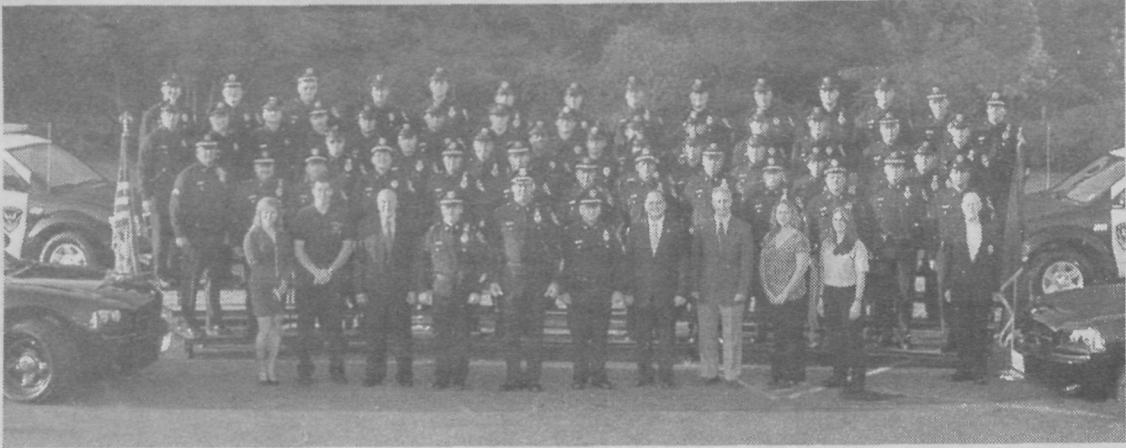
In the early morning just prior to the Borough's annual Labor Day parade, the South Plainfield Police Department held their commendations and awards ceremony. Officers who have gone above and beyond the call of duty were recognized by Police Chief John Ferraro for their extraordinary work over the past year.

The following police officers received commendation letters and medals for their efforts.

Officer James McConville—Letter of Commendation: On May 30, 2007, officers responded to the area of 1901 Park Ave. on a report that a cab driver had just been robbed. One of the responding officers, Officer James McConville, was advised that one of the suspects fled on foot towards Fairmount Avenue. McConville began checking the rear yards and subsequently located the robbery suspect hiding under a deck. The uncooperative individual had to be physically subdued and handcuffed by the him. The proceeds of the robbery were also recovered

Officer Mark Hollain and Officer Michael Redden—Life Saving Medal: On September 22, 2006, Officers Michael Redden and Mark Hollain were responding to a report of a motor vehicle accident on Stelton Road near Hamilton Boulevard. The caller reported that a truck driver appeared to have suffered a heart attack, was not breathing and had no pulse. The caller then entered the truck in an attempt to stabilize the driver until units arrived. Officers Redden and Hollain performed CPR, assisted by the caller. The victim was revived and transported to St. Peter's University Hospital. The officers' actions, along with the assistance of the civilian, resulted in the saving of a life.

Officer Lloyd McNelly—Letter of Commendation: On December 24, 2006, Officer Lloyd McNelly conducted a motor vehicle stop and after a check of the registration revealed that the owner had a suspended license. While the driver was attempting to obtain his identification, Officer McNelly observed drug paraphernalia in the car. The driver and passenger were removed from the vehicle. While searching the vehicle, Officer



South Plainfield Police Department and borough officials gather on Labor Day before the awards ceremony. Photo by Tom Stillman

McNelly located a loaded .22 caliber handgun. Officer McNelly, with the assistance of Officer Sherilyn Courtney, arrested both suspects. Officer McNelly's actions resulted in the removal a loaded firearm from the streets of South Plainfield.

Officer Michael Molinaro—Letter of Commendation: On May 9, 2007, Officer Michael Molinaro, along with Officer Antonio Grasso, responded to the area of Melrose Avenue on a possible attempted abduction. Upon arrival, it was determined that a 27 year-old female had been sexually assaulted and the perpetrator had fled on foot. Officer Grasso was able to communicate with the victim, who only spoke Spanish and obtained a description of the suspect. Officer Molinaro, through his perseverance and utilizing patrol skills, located the suspect near the Plainfield boarder. The suspect was identified and taken into custody. It was later determined that he was a prior sex offender and Megan's Law violator. Officer Molinaro's quick action resulted in the arrest of the suspect.

Detective John Petriello—Letter of Commendation: Detective John Petriello was assigned to follow-up an investigation into a burglary that occurred on May 29, 2007 at Carmen's Trattoria & Pizza. The only evidence obtained was a slightly out-of-focus photo of a male suspect and vehicle near the rear of the establishment. Detective Petriello developed a suspect and subsequently obtained a confession from him. He also admitted to several other burglaries in other jurisdictions. Detective Petriello's persis-

tence and interviewing skills resulted in the arrest of the suspect.

Officer Michael Hoppe—Performance Letter: On August 8, 2007, Officer Michael Hoppe took a report of a stolen vehicle from Liquid Assets parking lot. The following day, he observed the same vehicle traveling on Hamilton Boulevard riding on a flat tire. Officer Hoppe pulled over the vehicle and apprehended the driver, who was also intoxicated. Officer Hoppe's quick action and recognition of the plate resulted in the recovery of a stolen vehicle and the arrest of an intoxicated driver.

Officer Bradford Bullard—Exceptional Duty Medal: On September 8, 2006, Officer Bradford Bullard responded to a residence where a toddler was accidentally run over by his father operating a riding lawn mower. The one year-old child's leg was nearly amputated. Officer Bullard was able to stabilize the child and slow the bleeding until the rescue squad and paramedics arrived. Officer Bullard's quick actions resulted in the child recovering completely from this tragic accident.

Sergeant Wendell Born—Exceptional Duty Medal: On February 18, 2007, Sergeant Wendell Born initiated a motor vehicle stop with two individuals on New Brunswick Avenue. When the driver was unable to locate a registration and insurance card, Sergeant Born contacted the owner at home who stated that the paperwork was in the glove box. Both the driver and passenger refused to open the glove box. After they were removed from the vehicle, Sergeant Born lo-

cated two loaded handguns in the glove box. Both the driver and passenger had extensive criminal histories and were suspects in armed robberies in Piscataway. Sergeant Born's persistence and sound tactics during this motor vehicle stop resulted in the arrest of two suspects in armed robberies and the removal of weapons from the streets of South Plainfield.

Officer Mark Bullock and Officer Francis Fusaro—Life Saving Medal: On June 10, 2007, Officers Mark Bullock and Francis Fusaro were dispatched to an unresponsive elderly male. At the time of their arrival, the victim was not breathing and did not have a pulse. Through the use of the AED and CPR, the victim was revived. The attending doctor for the victim stated that the victim suffered a major heart attack and the only reason he survived was due to the quick actions of both officers.

Sergeant Daniel Noonan and Detective John Petriello—Honorable Service Medal: During the year 2006, businesses in South Plainfield, along with those in neighboring towns, were victims of multiple office burglaries. Sergeant Noonan and Detective Petriello's participation in a multi-jurisdictional task force resulted in the arrest of the ring leader of an international theft ring. These thefts included laptop computers and other expensive electronic devices. These items were subsequently being transported out-of-state and then shipped overseas. Sergeant Noonan and Detective Petriello's investigative skills were crucial in dismantling this organization.

Sergeant Daniel Noonan and

Detective Wendell Born—Performance Letter: Detective Wendell Born and Sergeant Daniel Noonan conducted follow-up investigations for a rash of distraction burglaries in Middlesex County during the summer of 2006. These burglars preyed on elderly victims. Intelligence was gathered and utilized by both detectives in formulating suspects. Their investigative skills and persistence resulted in suspects being identified and charged with these crimes. In addition, a 2004 Dodge Ram pickup, valued at \$20,000, was seized and forfeited to the Borough of South Plainfield.

Officer Peter Papa and Officer Christopher Cochrane—Letter of Commendation: On February 26, 2007, Officer Christopher Cochrane stopped a vehicle when a random inquiry revealed an active warrant for the registered owner. Officer Cochrane detected a strong odor of raw marijuana inside the vehicle. Officer Peter Papa arrived as backup and the driver was arrested for the active warrant. Officer Papa observed the passenger open the glove box and remove a large roll of cash. A later check of the passenger revealed an active warrant. During the arrests, Officer Papa observed a small bag of what appeared to be marijuana on the vehicle floor. Both suspects were placed under arrest. A subsequent search of the vehicle resulted in the seizure of additional marijuana and a loaded handgun.

Lieutenant Matthew Koep, Sergeant Wendell Born, Officers Michael Hoppe, Mark Bullock, James McConville, Lloyd McNelly, Peter Magnani and Michael Grasso—Unit Citation: From the period of January to June 2007, the Delta Platoon has been responsible for 37 arrested involved controlled dangerous substances. These arrests include seizures of marijuana, heroin, cocaine, ecstasy and various illegal prescription drugs. Several of these arrests resulted in distribution and intent to distribute charges.

The six officers of this platoon, Officers Hoppe, Bullock, McConville, McNelly, Magnani and Grasso, were responsible for 67 percent of the drug arrests. The Unit Citation for the Delta Platoon also included Lieutenant Koep and Sergeant Born.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1803

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

Ordinance #1803 entitled: A BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS SEWER IMPROVEMENTS, BY THE SEWER UTILITY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$150,000.00 THEREFOR FROM THE SEWER UTILITY FUND OF THE BOROUGH AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$140,000.00 BONDS OTR NOTES TO FINANCE COST THEREOF was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, September 21, 2007 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Tuesday, October 2, 2007 which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOND ORDINANCE STATEMENT
AND SUMMARY

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, was introduced and passed on first reading at a meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, on September 18, 2007. It will be further considered for final passage, after a public hearing thereon, at a meeting of the Borough Council to be held at the Municipal Building, Council Chambers, Plainfield Avenue, in said County, on October 2, 2007 immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting. During the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting 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 PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS SEWER IMPROVEMENTS, BY THE SEWER UTILITY OF THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

(THE "BOROUGH"); APPROPRIATING \$150,000 THEREFOR FROM THE SEWER UTILITY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$140,000 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

Purpose(s): Various sewer improvements including preliminary expenses relating to improvements to the water infiltration system, line design and various pumping stations throughout the Borough, acquisition and installation of electrical control panels, magnetic switches, poles and pumps at the various pump stations within the Borough as well as the acquisition and installation of sewer pipes on Front Street and West Nassau Avenue.

Appropriation:

\$150,000

Bonds/Notes

Authorized:

\$140,000

Section 20 Costs:

\$10,000

Useful Life:

10 years

ATTEST:

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$93.10

Septemrber 21, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1800

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

Ordinance #1800 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF BLOCK 256, LOT 1 IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD EITHER THROUGH NEGOTIATED TRANSACTION OR THROUGH EMINENT DOMAIN PROCEEDINGS was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, September 18, 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

\$26.60

Septemrber 21, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1802

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

Ordinance #1802 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CH. 19 OF THE SANITARY CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED: "LICENSE FEES" was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, September 21, 2007 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Tuesday, October 2, 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. 1802

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE 19 OF THE SANITARY CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED "LICENSE FEES"

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

the following fees, as established by the South Plainfield Board of Health (prior to being replaced by the Health Advisory Board) be and are hereby amended as follows:

Description of Activity Under Permit

Expiration Date

Fee

Vital Statistics

Certified Copy

10.00

Animal Licensing

Dog and Cat License

\$14.00 (per animal)

January 31

Dog and Cat License (neutered)

\$11.00 (per animal)

January 31

All other fees and provisions of this Article shall remain in full force and effect.

This amendment becomes effective after final adoption and advertisement in accordance with the law.

ATTEST:

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$59.85

Septemrber 21, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1802

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

WHEREAS the Borough is in need of legal representation for a personnel matter in the Borough of South Plainfield; and

WHEREAS the Borough has solicited a proposal from Lori A. Dvorak, Esq., of the firm Dvorak & Associates, LLC, to represent the Borough in this matter; and

WHEREAS it is the recommendation of the Chief of Police to retain Ms. Dvorak for said services at a rate of \$135.00 per hour, not to exceed \$5,000.00; 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 FY 2008 Legal Budget, account # 8-01-20-155-000-221.

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 Lori A. Dvorak, of the firm Dvorak & Associates, LLC, to represent the Borough in a matter of personnel at a rate of \$135.00 per hour, not to exceed \$5,000.00.

ATTEST:

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$39.90

Septemrber 21, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

September 14, 2007—Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its' meeting held on September 13, 2007.

A. Case #51-06/Site/Use/V-EES Realty, LLC. Block 308; Lot 18. 1301 New Market Avenue. The applicant's request for final site plan approval was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

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

\$25.00

September 21, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

September 12, 2007—Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Planning Board at its' meeting held on September 11, 2007.

A. Case #07-02/Major—Lyndsey Development Corp. Block 7; Lot 13.02. Foster Avenue. The applicant's request for an EIS waiver, a bulk variance and preliminary major sub division approval was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

B. Case #707/Site—PTC Therapeutics. Block 528; Lots 46.24 & 46.25. 100-200 Corporate Ct. The applicant's request for (2) waivers, a bulk variance and site plan approval was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Beth Khidre
Recording Secretary—Planning Board

\$27.55

September 21, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE 1No. 799

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

Ord. 1799 entitled: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$193,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF FIRE DEPARTMENT TURNOUT GEAR AND FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE SUBURBAN BUS COMPANY BUILDING was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, September 18, 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

Septemrber 21, 2007

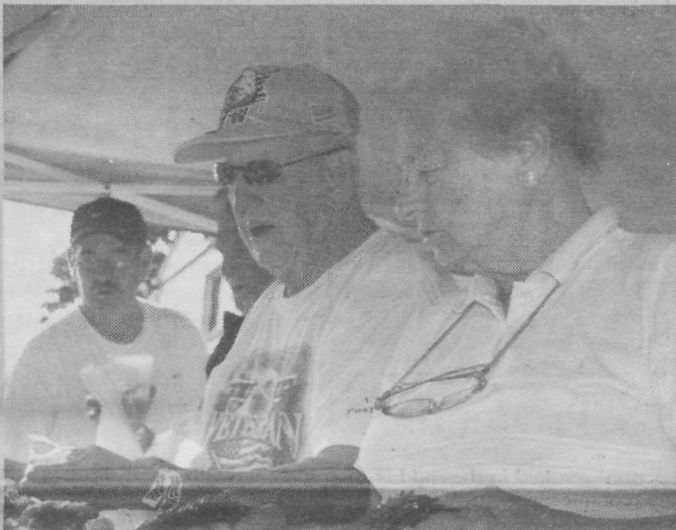
Support
Our Advertisers

Annual V.F.W. Pig Roast Well Attended

By Patricia Abbott

V.F.W. Post #6763 held their annual pig roast on September 8. Mother nature was kind and gave them a beautiful day. While waiting for the much anticipated pig to finish cooking, guests enjoyed a wide variety of picnic fare. In addition to hamburgers and hot dogs, diners enjoyed sausage, meatballs, chicken, beans and a number of salads. Clams were shucked throughout the day. Guests enjoyed the sunny afternoon and spent the time talking with friends and neighbors. A tent housed the music that filled the air throughout the afternoon.

The younger set enjoyed bouncing in the moon walk, as well as other assorted games. The highlight of the day was calling of the numerous door prizes, most of them donated by local businesses. As Rudy Poczak announced "free giveaways," many dashed to the table which held a wide assortment of t-shirts, key chains, bandanas and other items.



Buddy Walk Brings Smiles to Kids with Down Syndrome

The Fourth Annual Buddy Walk of South Plainfield will take place at Putnam Park on Saturday, Oct. 6. Proceeds from this annual walk benefit the Central New Jersey Down Syndrome Parent Advocacy Support Group (Central NJ DS PAG), Network 21 and the National Down Syndrome Society.

Resident Michele Both established the South Plainfield walk four years ago. She was thrilled at the over-

whelming success of the first event and has been working hard each year since then. More than 300 are expected to attend this year.

The Buddy Walk is a one-mile walk founded by the National Down Syndrome Society in 1995.

This year the Buddy Walk will have a carnival theme with games and prizes for the kids. There will be face painting, sand art, candy art and lots of

other activities. This is a great opportunity for parents to see that life with a child with Down Syndrome is a wonderful experience. Times have changed over the years and children with Down Syndrome are accomplishing so much more and living happy, healthy lives.

For more information about the Buddy Walk, call Michael Both at (908) 531-5100.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey on **OCTOBER 11, 2007 at ***10:00 A.M.***** prevailing time in the Council Chambers of the municipal building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at which time and place bids will be opened and read in public for:

2008 FIVE (5) YARD DUMP TRUCK WITH PLOW AND SPREADER

Specifications and other bid information may be obtained at the Municipal Clerk's office in the municipal building at the above address during regular business hours, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Only bidders who have picked up specifications will be allowed to submit bids. All bids must be submitted on the Proposal Forms furnished by the Borough. A bid bond in the form of a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond payable to the **BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD** in the amount equal to 10% of the highest bid amount, including alternates, if any, but not to exceed \$20,000 and a duly executed Consent of Surety. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C., 17:27 et seq.), the New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act, N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.25, Employment on Public Works N.J.S.A. 10:2. EOE, ADA.

A FEE of \$25.00 MADE PAYABLE TO THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR REQUEST FOR A COPY OF THE BID PACKAGE.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$46.55September 21, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey on **OCTOBER 11, 2007 at ***11:00 A.M.***** prevailing time in the Council Chambers of the municipal building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at which time and place bids will be opened and read in public for:

BOROUGH-WIDE SNOW REMOVAL SERVICES

Specifications and other bid information may be obtained at the Municipal Clerk's office in the municipal building at the above address during regular business hours, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Only bidders who have picked up specifications will be allowed to submit bids. All bids must be submitted on the Proposal Forms furnished by the Borough. A bid bond in the form of a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond payable to the **BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD** in the amount equal to 10% of the highest bid amount, including alternates, if any, but not to exceed \$20,000 and a duly executed Consent of Surety. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C., 17:27 et seq.), the New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act, N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.25, Employment on Public Works N.J.S.A. 10:2. EOE, ADA.

A FEE of \$25.00 MADE PAYABLE TO THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR REQUEST FOR A COPY OF THE BID PACKAGE.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$45.60September 21, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Alfred Schroeder requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit existing vinyl shed requiring two variances: side property @ 46"; rear property @ 26". Both require 5'0" setbacks, and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 2035 Greenwich Street, Block 157, Lot 21 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, October 11, 2007 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at 8:00 p.m.

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

\$38.50September 21, 2007

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Dana Rapatski requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit expansion of a non-conforming use, and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 1050 New Market Avenue, Block 284, Lot 12 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, October 11, 2007 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at 8:00 p.m.

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

\$38.50September 21, 2007

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1801

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

Ord. 1801 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #1603 ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING STATE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE ENFORCING AGENCY AND RELATED FEES"** was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, September 21, 2007 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Tuesday, October 2, 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. 1801

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 730, 922, 1115, 1184, 1232, 1363 AND 1603 OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A STATE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE ENFORCING AGENCY, ETC."

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD that the above referenced ordinances are hereby amended as follows:

SECTION 3.

b) SUBCODE FEES:

1. Building

(i) New Construction

Residential R-3 & R-5
\$0.020 per cubic foot volume as per N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.28
Certificate of Occupancy R-3, R-4 & R-5: \$75.00 per dwelling unit
State permit surcharge fees: .00265 per cubic ft volume as per N.J.A.C. 5:23-4.19

All Other Use Groups
\$0.030 per cubic foot volume as per N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.28
Certificate of Occupancy: 10% of permit fee, Minimum fee \$125.00
State permit surcharge fees: .00265 per cubic ft volume as per N.J.A.C. 5:23-4.19

(ii) Additions

Residential R-3 & R-5
\$0.020 per cubic foot volume as per N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.28
Certificate of Occupancy R-3, R-4 & R-5: \$75.00 per dwelling unit
State permit surcharge fees: .00265 per cubic ft volume as per N.J.A.C. 5:23-4.19

All Other Use Groups
\$0.030 per cubic foot volume as per N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.28
Certificate of Occupancy: 10% of permit fee, Minimum fee \$125.00
State permit surcharge fees: .00265 per cubic ft volume as per N.J.A.C. 5:23-4.19

(iii) Alterations, Renovations, Reconstruction & Repairs

Residential R-3 & R-5
\$20.00 per \$1,000.00 construction cost. Minimum fee: \$65.00
state permit surcharge fees: \$1.35 or .00135 per \$1,000 of construction cost as per N.J.A.C. 5:23-4.19
Above ground swimming pools: \$85.00
Inground swimming pools: \$475.00
Reconstruction Certificate of Occupancy: \$75.00

All other Use Groups
\$25.00 per \$1,000.00 construction cost. Minimum fee: \$85.00
State permit surcharge fees: \$1.35 or .00135 per \$1,000 of construction cost as per N.J.A.C. 5:23-4.19
Inground swimming pools: \$550.00
Reconstruction Certificate of Occupancy: \$125.00

(iv) Fees for combination of (i), (ii) & (iii) shall be calculated separately.

2. Plumbing & Mechanical

\$15.00 per fixture, piece of equipment or appliance connected to the plumbing system or gas/oil piping system. Minimum fee \$45.00 except except as below.

\$75.00 per special advice: Sewer connection, water service connection, sewer pumps, grease traps, oil separators, refrigeration units, backflow preventers, steam boilers, commercial hot water boilers, active solar systems, annual sprinkler inspection, quarterly or annual cross connection permits and interceptors.

3. Fire

Smoke Detectors:

1 to 12 \$60.00
12 to 20 \$100.00
Each additional 25 detectors \$50.00

Sprinkler Heads:

1 to 20 \$80.00
21 to 100 \$125.00
101 to 200 \$225.00
201 to 400 \$575.00
400 to 1000 \$800.00
Over 1000 \$1,250.00
Kitchen Exhaust Systems: \$43.00
Pre-Engineered Systems: \$95.00
Gas or Oil Appliances: \$43.00 (not connected to plumbing systems)
Crematoriums: \$365.00
Incinerators: \$365.00
Standpipes: \$230.00

4. Electrical

Electrical Inspection Fee as per Contract with Building Inspection Underwriters
September 18, 2006 to September 17, 2009: 50% of State fees plus a 15% Administrative Fee.

Annual Inspection of swimming pools, spas or hot tubs (excludes R-3 & R-5): 50% of State fees plus 15% Administrative Fee.

5. Demolition of Structures

5,000 square feet or less: \$85.00
Over 5,000 square ft: \$250.00
No State fee

6. Fire Repair

\$20.00 per thousand cost of construction. Minimum fee: \$65.00
R-3 & R-5 Maximum fee \$400.00

7. Elevators

Enforced by the Department of Community Affairs
Elevator Safety Unit (609) 984-7833

8. Signs

Signs to up to 50 square ft: \$75.00 per sign
Signs 50 square ft to 100 square ft: \$100.00 per sign
Does not include cost for sign footing/ foundation, if applicable.

9. Tank Removal & Installation

Residential Tanks: \$65.00 per tank
All Other Tanks: \$200.00 per tank
No State fee for tank removal

10. Change of Ownership / Tenant Certificate of Use

Fee: \$100.00

11. Certificate of Municipal Compliance for Smoke Detector & Carbon Monoxide

One to four families: \$50.00 per dwelling unit
Multi-family: \$40.00 per dwelling unit

12. Other Uniform Construction Code Fees

(a) Certificate of continued occupancy issued pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.23
R-3 & R-5: \$75.00
All Other Use Groups: \$125.00

(b) Change of Use
R-3 & R-5: \$75.00
All Other Use Groups: \$150.00

(c) Variation
R-3 & R-5: \$50.00
All Other Use Groups: \$150.00

(d) Renewal of Temporary Certificate of Occupancy
All User Groups: \$30.00

(e) Asbestos Abatement Project pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:23-8.5
Permit Fee: \$84.00
Certificate of Occupancy Fee: \$17.00

(f) Plan Review Fee
20% of Permit Fee

(g) Lapsed Permit Reinstatement
R-3 & R-5: \$65.00
All Other Use Groups: \$85.00

(h) Lead Hazard Abatement Work
Permit Fee: \$140.00
Clearance Certificate: \$28.00

(i) Application to Construction Board of Appeals
Fee: \$100.00

(j) Zoning Permits
Fee: \$25.00

(k) Zoning Ordinance with Map or Master Plan
Fee: \$25.00

(l) Development Review Ordinance
Fee: \$20.00

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$353.40September 21, 2007

Log on to our Web Site at:
www.spobserver.com

Sports

SOCCER

Submitted By Chris Paez

New Bullets Win First Game of Season

The old Bullet team, with some new players, came together to start off the fall season and recorded a 3-1 win over the Aberdeen/Matawan Raptors.

The U-14 boys traveling soccer team dominated most of the game by implementing their fantastic passing abilities and out-shooting their oppo-

nents. This sets the pace for a fantastic and entertaining game.

The goals of the game were scored by Toni Franczak (2) and Jelani Prah (1). Great offensive and defensive action was played by Shaun Alers, Marc Paez, Jimmy Gerber, David Forero, Alex Valladares, Ryan Riccardi,

Zachary Noll, Kevin Flanagan, Ryan Marcoux and Anthony Quadrel. Fantastic goal keeping was preformed by Joe Krawiec.

Good luck to coaches Rich Paez, Ken Noll and Pat Flanagan for a continued great season.

Arsenal Defeats Hillsborough Cosmos

What a way to start off the 2007 fall traveling soccer season. The boys U-9 team played their first game on Sunday against the Hillsborough Cosmos. The only goal was scored by Jake Hoffman minutes after start time.

The players played an exciting game

by constantly keeping the pressure on their opponents. There were great defensive plays and incredible ball movement in mid-field by Jake Smith, Jose Arrubla, Jason Cieszkiewicz, Samardhi Jeedigunta, Jake Giordano, Alec Paez, Nicholas Plate, Jared Marks, Nicho-

las Pezzolla, Ricky Pellegrino and Tyler Curtis.

Good luck this season and again great job to Rich Paez, Greg Hoffman and Dave Cieszkiewicz on their tremendous coaching.

Girl Scouts to Hold Golf Clinic

Don't have time to play all 18 holes? Want to learn a new skill while supporting a great cause and networking with other women? If so, then the Girl Scouts Women's Golf Clinic is for you.

The Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Council will hold a Women's Golf Clinic in conjunction with the Juliette Low Golf Classic. The event is set for Monday, Oct. 15 at Shackamax Golf and Country Club in

Scotch Plains with proceeds going to benefit girl scouting in the 62 communities jointly served by both councils.

The clinic is geared to women, from those who have yet to pick up a club to those who consider themselves advanced. It will take place in a non-competitive fun environment stressing the basics and fundamentals and will cover a multitude of areas including putting, iron play and driving.

The event runs from 2:30 p.m. until 4 p.m. The cost to be a part of the event is \$175 and includes one and one-half hours of golf instruction as well as cocktails and dinner and the opportunity to come away with a fabulous door prize.

For more information or to register for this great event, contact Ross Blacker at (908) 232-3236, ext. 1209 or E-mail rblacker@gswwc.com.



Members of the South Plainfield Elks marched in the Labor Day Parade.

South Plainfield Elks March With American Pride!

What a gorgeous day for a parade as the Elks marched with pride for Americanism and tradition. This year, the South Plainfield Elks Lodge #2298 was honored to be led in the parade by Central District Vice President and Past Exalted Ruler Peter D. Smith, as well as the lodge's First Female Exalted Ruler, Debra Czech.

Later on, the lodge was treated to an afternoon of traditional bagpipe music performed by the Colonel D.B. Kelly Pipes & Drums from South

Amboy, led by Mark Hurley. Americanism Chairman Dan Uken and Trustee Jim Nestor cooked up the surprise for the lodge following the parade. There was not a dry eye in the house in remembrance of all fallen heroes.

Everyone enjoyed an afternoon of hot dogs, hamburgers and refreshments. In addition, the spontaneous event netted donations to the Special Children's Committee.

Submitted by Exalted Ruler, Debra Czech

St. Joseph High School to Celebrate Founder's Day

On Saturday, Sept. 22, St. Joseph High School in Metuchen will host its first Founders Day event, celebrating 106 years of the spirit and charisma of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart on the Metuchen campus and 46 years of academic, athletic and spiritual excellence at St. Joseph High School.

Designed to reunite the St. Joe's family and atmosphere of community celebration, the Founders Day Committee, chaired by John Langdon '80, has planned a full day of festivities to include amusements and activities for both children and adults (sack races, water balloon toss, "funky feet"), an alumni soccer game, an alumni baseball game, an alumni basketball game, and many interesting programs and exhibits for men and women alike.

In addition to the numerous activities, unlimited food and beverages (grilled marinated chicken, hot dogs and hamburgers, sausage with peppers and onions, salads, beer, soda, ice tea, lemonade) will be available at a nominal fee of \$25 per person (\$35 at the

door), with children 14 years of age and under free.

Sponsorship opportunities are available to assist in underwriting the cost of the celebration, with all proceeds directly benefiting the financial aid and scholarship program at St. Joe's.

For additional information concerning the event, alumni and friends are encouraged to contact Diane Dwyer, director of alumni relations at (732) 549-7600, ext. 262 or E-mail alumni@stjoes.org.

Come celebrate the spirit and community that is St. Joseph High School with your family, the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, alumni, current parents and friends.

St. Joseph High School is an independent Catholic college preparatory school located in Metuchen. It bears the seal of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, who have been active in American education since 1847. The mission of the school is to develop the intellectual, enrich the spiritual, and build the physical well-being of each student.

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Obituaries

Mary E. Jaeger, 88

Mary E. (Gangle) Jaeger died on Wednesday, Sept. 12 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Richmond, Va., Mary resided in New York City, South Plainfield and Plainfield before settling in Piscataway in 1962.

Prior to her marriage, Mary had worked as a secretary for Scott Machinery in Plainfield. She then opted to become a homemaker caring for her two daughters. Mary became the best mother anyone could wish for. Later, she assisted in the family business, Jaeger Bowling Associates, as the bookkeeper.

Mary was an active golfer and bowler. She and her late husband spent many days and nights together enjoying their time golfing and bowling. In her younger years, she was active and had participated in various sports. She has also been a loyal and well-versed fan of the New York Yankees for most of her life following each and every game until Tuesday night's victory.

Her husband, Albert, died in 1982. She was also predeceased by a sister, Goldie Harrison and a brother, William Gangel.

Surviving are two daughters, Alberta Mary Jaeger of Piscataway and Connie Haberman of Lexington, Ky.; a sister, Teresa Fezza of Green Brook; a granddaughter, Joanna Haberman and a great-granddaughter, Calliope, both of Lexington, Ky.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Raritan Valley Community College Foundation's Book Scholarship Fund for College for Working Adult Students, P.O. Box 3300, Somerville, N.J. 08876.

Helen J. (Puzio) Tabaka, 81

Helen J. (Puzio) Tabaka died suddenly on Tuesday, Sept. 11 at home.

Born and raised in Wallington she had been a resident of South Plainfield for over 40 years.

A former member of the Resurrection of Christ Polish National Church in Dunellen, Helen had been an active member of the South Plainfield Senior Center and an avid bingo player.

Her husband, Edmund Sr., predeceased her.

She is survived by a daughter, Michelle Quetel of Dunellen; a son, Edmund, Jr. of Pa.; a sister, Frances Gordon of Fla. and a brother, Theaddeus Puzio of Clifton.

Also surviving are three grandchildren, two great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

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

Edward Mazepa, 87

Edward Mazepa passed away on Wednesday, Sept. 12 at J.E.K. Haven Hospice Unit in Edison with his loving family by his side.

Mr. Mazepa was born in Brooklyn and resided in South Plainfield most of his life.

Edward proudly and faithfully served our country in the United States Navy during WWII.

Mr. Mazepa, a hard working man, was employed at Public Service Electric & Gas in Elizabeth where he held the position of foreman until he retired after 34 years of service. In addition, Edward worked for Pinkerton Security as a security guard.

Edward had a strong commitment to the South Plainfield community where he was a communicant of Sacred Heart R.C. Church, a member of The Knights of Columbus, past

president of The Polish National Home and a member of the South Plainfield VFW. In addition, he even found time to coach little league.

Mr. Mazepa will be sadly missed by his family and friends and all those who were fortunate to have known him.

Edward is survived by his loving wife of 61 years, Mary B. Mazepa; two sons, Frank Mazepa of Hawaii and John Mazepa of South Plainfield; two daughters and sons-in-law, Susan and Brian Woodruff of Missouri and Patty and Charles Spock of Upper Black Eddy, Pa.; a brother, Kasimir Mazepa of Raritan; nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

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

The family has kindly requested that memorial contributions be made in Mr. Mazepas' name to Haven Hospice, 60 James St., Edison, N.J. 08818.

Sarah M. Diana, 79

Sarah M. Diana died on Friday, Sept. 14 in the J.E.K. Hartwyck/Cedar Brook Nursing Home in Plain-

field.

Born in Farmingdale on February 4, 1928, she resided in South Plainfield since the early 1950's.

Sarah had been employed by numerous diners and restaurants in the Central New Jersey area for many years, and had also been an avid bowler.

Her husband, Lewis "Doc" Donald Diana died in 1995. A brother, Walter McGill, has also predeceased her.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Patricia and Thaddeus Malecki of Palm Coast, Fla.; two sons, Glenn R. and Wayne and wife Janice, all of South Plainfield and a cousin, Betty Ketchum of Farmingdale.

Also surviving are seven grandchildren, Danny, C.J., Stacey and Lauren Diana and Kevin, Scott and Paige Malecki and a great grandson, Matty Malecki.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, Northern New Jersey Chapter, 400 Morris Ave., Ste. 251, Denville, N.J. 07834.

Katherine (Fugman) Hartobey, 81

Katherine (Fugman) Hartobey passed away on Tuesday, Sept. 11 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

A long time employee of Barker Bus Company of Bridgewater, Katherine worked as a driver's aide.

She is predeceased by her husband, John; a son, James; a daughter, Sandra and infant sons, Michael and Raymond; two brothers, George and Lawrence Fugman and a sister, Mary Shapley.

Surviving are three sons, John of Pennsylvania, George of Piscataway, Thomas of Ringoes; three daughters, Gloria Bowser of Bound Brook, Debra Crossman of Piscataway and Jeanette Glazebrook of Pennsylvania.

Also surviving are 13 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren; two sisters, Veronica Simmons and Ann Campanelli of South Plainfield and a long time family friend, Chris Krieg.

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

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police report

• On Sept. 11 Jacob D. Mullins, 26, of Sayreville was arrested for driving while intoxicated and speeding.

• Action Motors on McKinley Street reported the theft of a VIN tag from the driver's side door of a truck.

• On Sept. 12 Shawn Patrick McCarthy, 19, of South Plainfield was arrested for maintenance of lamps, driving on a provisional license after 12 a.m., no insurance and an outstanding warrant.

• Hector S. Montesinos, 39, of New Brunswick was arrested at

Jordache on Helen St. for assaulting a security manager.

• Roberto Castillo, 35, of Perth Amboy was arrested for failure to inspect his vehicle and an outstanding warrant.

• A Worth Drive resident reported the theft of a solar landscaping light.

• On Sept. 13 Roosevelt Elementary School reported a broken window on the Hamilton Boulevard side of the building.

• On Sept. 14 Thomas Schnell, 32, of Plainfield was arrested for driving

while intoxicated and reckless driving.

• Wanda Howard, 44, of Plainfield was arrested for speeding and an outstanding warrant.

• William Rivera-Chamale, 18, of South Plainfield was arrested for not wearing a seat belt and three outstanding warrants.

• On Sept. 16 Rigoberto Chavez, 40, of Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, careless driving and driving on a suspended license.

• Maria Guardado, 39, of Plainfield was arrested for no insurance, no registration in her possession and an outstanding warrant.

• A Conklin St. resident reported the theft of three BMX bikes from the side of the residence.

• On Sept. 17 Timothy Allen Williams, 21, of Piscataway was arrested for driving on a suspended license, no insurance, failure to inspect and an outstanding warrant.

Resident Robbed at Gunpoint

At approximately 5:30 a.m. on Sept. 14, the South Plainfield Police were called to investigate an armed robbery on the 1600 block of Clinton Avenue.

The victim reported that while exiting his residence and approaching his vehicle, which was parked in the driveway, two African-American males appeared from the front of his

car brandishing handguns and demanded his money.

Both suspects then fled in a dark colored SUV. No additional information has been released by the police department at this time.

Anyone with information is asked to call Detective Christopher Colucci at (908) 226-7668.

LEGAL NOTICES

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TAKE NOTICE, that the undersigned shall expose for sale, in accordance with R.S. 39:10A, at public auction on September 28, 2007 at 10 a.m. at 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ the below described motor vehicles which come into possession of the South Plainfield Police Dept. through abandonment or failure of owners to claim same. The motor vehicles may be examined by contacting Traffic Safety.

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1992	Honda	IHGC87674NA074089	Resale	Accord	\$2,000.00
1996	Saturn	IGA2K5274TZ326578	Resale	SL2	\$2,300.00
1991	Mazda	JM3LV5226M0354953	Resale	MPV	\$1,200.00
1994	Mazda	IYVGE22C8R5152976	Resale	626	\$2,000.00

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September 21, 2007

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Please take notice that the Applicant, Paulo M. Simoes, has applied to the Mayor and Borough Council of South Plainfield for a reconsideration of a waiver of the 2,000 feet location restriction (Municipal Ordinance No. 67-6). The license will be used at 2341 Plainfield Avenue, Block 188, Lot 56, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

The Application is now on the Borough Council calendar and a Public Hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, October 2, 2007 at 7:15 p.m. in Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey, at which time you may appear in person or through an attorney and present any objections you may have to the granting of the relief sought in this application.

All documents relating to this Application are on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk and may be inspected by the public Monday through Friday at the Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

This notice is being given by the Application by the direction of the Mayor and Borough Council and pursuant to Municipal Ordinance.

RAFAEL J. BETANCOURT, ESQ.
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Office on Aging Executive Director Joanne Graf assembles lists for an open house program to be held at the senior center on November 18. The program is intended to make residents aware of borough facilities and services, as well as volunteer opportunities available to them.

IN MY OPINION

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

(Continued from page 2)

pass is finally being cleaned up. What a difference in that site already! In addition to what the EPA is doing, the Democrats have authorized the purchase of the three buildings next to that site to allow New Market Avenue to be expanded so it comes straight across making it easier for the traffic, especially the trucks, to move through that intersection. The bus lot property on New Market Avenue has been purchased and will be used for recreational open space. There are improvements in every area of town, and on top of that we are getting a municipal tax cut! The Democrats have restored fiscal responsibility to our local government and are making improvements that make me proud to call South Plainfield my home. Please support Dennis Cerami and Kathy Thomas on Election Day so we can keep our town moving in the right direction.

JAMES J. WIERDO

To the Editor,

Spring Lake Park continues to be taken over by geese and their disgusting, unsafe, smelly droppings.

I live outside the park and often find

geese wandering on lawns of homes and leaving behind droppings.

I cannot enjoy a walk in the park with my dogs or enjoy a walk alone without hopping over droppings to avoid stepping into them. It's a disgrace to our borough to have a beautiful park that offers a lot to our residents and to residents outside South Plainfield.

Last year a distress goose signal was installed. It was amplified several times an hour throughout the day. This was used to scare the geese. It's quite obvious it did not work. The money was spent on this device and nothing was accomplished.

Who do we contact or how can we accomplish the task of keeping these geese out of the park?

I suggest one of our local politicians take a stroll in the park to see what I'm talking about.

JOSEPH LOEB

Editor's Note: Spring Lake Park is maintained by Middlesex County, Dept. of Parks and Recreation. Ralph Albanir, department head, can be reached at (732) 745-3995, or visit www.co.middlesex.nj.us/parksrecreation.

SCHOOL BOARD Notes

- New lockers have been installed in both hallways at the middle school.
- The sidewalk around the Roosevelt School parking lot has been completed so children will have a safe place to walk.

The following took place at the September 19 public meeting:

- Staff recommendations for tenure.
- Approval of a Foodservice Biosecurity Management Plan was voted on.
- Approval of the Curriculum Review Cycle for 2006-2012 was voted on.
- Approval of Revised Curricula for

the 2007/2008 school year.

- Second Reading of Policy No. 61426-Basic Skills.
- Second Reading of Policy No. 3220/3230-2007/2008 State Funds/Federal Funds.
- A 2007/2008 Affirmative Action Officer was appointed.
- A 2007/2008 Investigation Consultant was appointed.

A reception to introduce the new superintendent of schools, Jose Negron, will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 3, from 7 to 9 p.m. in high school cafeteria. The public is welcome to attend.

Freeholders Restrict Use of County Cars

The Board of Chosen Freeholders has amended the Middlesex County Personnel Policy to restrict the use of county-owned cars by employees who live outside the county.

Under the new policy guidelines, county employees who have been allowed the use of a county vehicle for work purposes may not commute to

their homes outside the county in those vehicles, unless specifically authorized by resolution or contract.

"I feel very strongly that county cars should not be used to commute to and from homes outside Middlesex County," said Freeholder Director David B. Crabel.

He added, "Employees who reside

Local Realtor to Be Featured on "The Bachelor"

Moretti Realty on Maple Avenue is a great place to locate an agent to help in a home search, but it's also a great place to spot an ABC TV celebrity.

Michelle Levy, realtor associate, and member of the "Lacerda Team" will be featured on ABC's "The Bachelor," scheduled to premiere on Tuesday, Sept. 25 at 9:30 p.m.

Levy, a resident of South Brunswick, is one of 25 bachelorettes who vie for the attention of bachelor Brad Womack as he searches for the woman of his dreams.

Mortgage crisis: Home loans are harder to get
USA TODAY

Mortgage mess creates lending drought
USA TODAY

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NEW YORK POST

Subprime mortgage worries spur market drop
THE STAR-LEDGER

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