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# South Plainfield Observer

FEB 08 2008

VOL. 11, NO. 23

MEMBER NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

50 CENTS

FEBRUARY 8, 2008

## Seniors' Achievements Merit Scholars Awards

South Plainfield High School is pleased to announce this year's recipients of the Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholarship award. The Bloustein Distinguished Scholars are Nicole Brooks, Jonathan Cursi, Christopher Duquette, Robert Harrington, Przemyslaw Lasota, Erica Linick, Rui Luo, Jonathan Marcoux, Kristen Partesi and Anthony Simone.

The South Plainfield administration and faculty are very proud of the academic achievements of these seniors. The criteria for these high achieving students is that they rank in the top 10% of their class and have a minimum combined SAT score of 1260, or are ranked first, second or third in their class, as of the end of their junior year.

Distinguished Scholars are offered

an annual award of \$1,000 without regard to financial need. Students must attend an undergraduate program at a New Jersey college or university and the award is renewable for each of the four years.

The Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA), an independent agency of the State of New Jersey, administers the Garden State Scholarship Program, which includes the Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar and Urban Scholar awards. Each year, more than 7,000 students statewide receive scholarships in recognition of their high level of academic achievement.

For more information about HESAA's programs, call 1-800-792-8670 or visit [www.hesaa.org](http://www.hesaa.org).



Members of the class of 2008 named Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars with SHPS Principal, Dr. Ken May.

## Project Graduation Auction Tickets on Sale

South Plainfield High School PTA will host their annual auction/raffle on Saturday, March 8 from 6 p.m. until 11 p.m. in the school gym. All proceeds will go towards Project Graduation for the class of 2008. Tickets are on sale

now and cost \$12.

To obtain tickets, please contact Pat Fabino at (908) 757-6843. This event has sold out in past years, so call as early as possible to obtain your tickets.

For additional information or to

make a donation, contact Sharon Miller at (908) 754-6461.

This is a great event for a very worthwhile cause. Support the SPHS Class of 2008.

## SPHS Tigers Defeat Zebras, 64-34

By Jeremiah O. Magpile

The last home game of the season played last Tuesday proved to be a memorable one for the South Plainfield High School Tiger Varsity Basketball Team as they defeated the New Brunswick Zebras, increasing their record to 8-11. Top scorers included Troy Russel with 14 points, Tremane Miller with 11 points, Benny Gibson with 10 points, Mike Burton with nine points and Mike Muglia with eight points.

Refusing to let the Zebras grab any momentum early in the game, the Tigers rallied hard in the first quarter holding their opponents scoreless for the first six minutes. An aggressive offense by the Tigers opened up the paint and allowed guard Benny Gibson and center Troy Russel to score easy baskets. The

Tiger defense took advantage of sloppy play from the Zebras and was able to convert turnovers. Back to back steals by the Tigers sustained an 18-point run, while three pointers from guard Mike Burton and forward Tremane Miller provided more cushion. By the end of the first quarter, the Tigers led 20-7.

The Tigers started even stronger in the second quarter. An invigorated Tiger team had clearly carried their energy from the first quarter, but the persistent Zebras had no intention of succumbing. The visitors were able to take advantage of a momentary lapse in the Tiger defense, producing an eight-point run. Help from the Tiger bench, however, prevented their opponent's surge from growing. Forward Teddy Skwiat made two consecutive steals and added fuel to the Tiger offense while field goals from Mike Muglia added four points into the mix. A high free throw percentage from the Tigers also ensured them a safe lead. With 2:17 remaining in the quarter, the Tigers were outscoring the Zebras 32-17 with a majority of their points coming from the foul line. In the waning seconds of the quarter, the Tigers produced needed offensive rebounds allowing them to maintain control in the paint. At halftime, the score belonged to the Tigers, 38-18.

In the last two quarters, the Tigers seemed like they were on cruise control. Smooth ball rotation and an aggressive defense came easily, as they held a 20-point lead over the Zebras. Untimely turnovers from New Brunswick aided the Tiger run and allowed Miller, Russel and Muglia to make easy field goals. Pressure from the Tiger defense resulted

in an increase of Zebra turnovers. In the final minutes of the fourth quarter, the paint had clearly become Tiger territory and although the Zebras were able to produce points from the arc, it was evident that they would not be able to keep up with the Tiger momentum. With 3:01 remaining in the last quarter, consecutive blocks from Aaron Wright and Chris Fulton sealed any hope of a Zebra comeback. In the end, the Tigers were able to enjoy their glide into a 64-34 victory.

The Tigers travel to Bishop Ahr on Monday, Feb. 11 for their final away game.

## SPHS Raises \$400 for Go Red

South Plainfield High School participated in The American Heart Association's National Campaign: Go Red for Women event held last Friday. Four hundred dollars were raised from both faculty and student contributions.

According to Carol Ullom, RN at SPHS, "Heart disease kills more women in the United States each year than breast cancer. Yet many women still believe that their number one risk for illness is breast cancer. We wanted to join in spreading the word about women and heart disease." Teachers, staff and students wore red on Friday to show their support for the campaign.

For information or to assess your risk of heart disease, call 1-888-MY-HEART (1-888-694-3278) or log on to [www.goredforwomen.org](http://www.goredforwomen.org).



King Lion Michael Zushma presents the Lion of the Year award to Brian Capparelli at the South Plainfield Lions 50th charter night. See story on page 7.

From the Office  
of the  
Tax Collector

**FYI**

**Property tax bills were mailed to residents this week. The grace period for the first quarter 2008 payment has been extended to February 29, 2008. Borough Hall will be closed on February 12 and 18 in observance of Presidents' holidays.**

SPHS BOWLING - Central Jersey Group II Sectionals

## Katie Yon Qualifies for Tournament of Champions Lady Tigers Sparkle in Sectionals

The girls bowling team put on an outstanding performance this past weekend competing in the Central Jersey Group II sectionals.

Posting one of the highest totals of the season, the Lady Tigers placed third and just narrowly missed qualifying in next week's Tournament of Champions.

A superb effort was turned in by Kelly Pauls 203-187-178, Gina Curcio 182-200, Lyndsey Murtagh 189,

Jackie Kukuch 151-157 and special congratulations to senior captain Katie Yon whose games of 210-178-200 for a 588 set qualified her for the NJSIAA Individual Tournament of Champions.

Katie is one of 48 girls from throughout the state that made the cut out of a field of over 1,100 girls.

Katie will be going to "The Big Dance" next Tuesday, Feb. 12. Congratulations again.



Bowling Captain Katie Yon





### Council meetings air on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. (Check community bulletin board for last minute time changes.)

The January 16 BOE Public Meeting will air on Comcast Channel 74 Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. until the next public meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 20.

### Special BOE meeting on Shared Services will air on Saturday, Feb. 9 at 8 p.m.

Comcast will air two hours of a meeting. To purchase a copy of a complete Borough Council or BOE meeting, contact the Observer.

#### council meetings

Meets twice a month on Mondays, except as noted.\* All meetings begin at 7 p.m.  
Borough Hall Council Chambers • Questions? 908-226-7605

Agenda Meeting	Public Meeting
Tuesday, February 19*	Monday, February 25
Monday, March 3	Monday, March 10
Monday, March 17	Monday, March 24
Monday, March 31	Monday, April 7
Monday, April 14	Monday, April 21

All meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 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

Feb. 26\*, March 11, March 25, April 8, April 22, May 13, June 10, June 24, July 8, July 22, Sept. 9, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, Oct. 21, Nov. 18\*, Dec. 9\*.

#### zoning board of adjustment

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

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

February 14 and 28, March 13 and 27, April 10 and 24, May 8 and 22, June 12 and 26, July 10 and 24, August 14 and 28, September 11 and 25, October 9 and 23, November 30\*, December 11\*.

#### board of education meetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted

Committee of the Whole, Wednesdays 7 p.m. Feb. 13, March 12, April 2

Regular Meeting Wednesdays 8 p.m. Jan. 16, Feb. 20, March 19 and April 19.

#### 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

#### 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, 7 p.m.

February 19, March 18, April 5, May 20, June 17, July 15, August 19, September 16, October 21, November 18, December 16.

#### 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 on the fourth Wednesday of the month 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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NANCY GRENNIER  
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WAYNE GRENNIER  
Associate Publisher  
SUSAN KANEPS  
Art Director/Associate Editor

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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.

### To the Editor:

I would like to thank the following residents and groups who have volunteered their time and effort, as they have for past residents involved in devastating circumstances, to help the Melendez Family in their time of misfortune: SPSHS Principal Dr. Ken May and South Plainfield Middle School Principal Steve Novak for assisting in the arrangement of the family's ability to purchase clothing for the children so they could continue to attend school; Superintendent Jose Negron; Stacy Pace for reaching out on behalf of the Melendez family; Nancy Grennier and the South Plainfield Observer staff for your readiness to reach out immediately and your generous donation; Marge Ackerman, South Plainfield Social Services for your generous donation and guidance; Mike Zushma for your guidance; Riley, Grant, Kennedy, Franklin, Roosevelt and Middle School PTO's for your generous donations to the Melendez children; Mike Pellegrino and Glenn Cullen of the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club and the Women's Auxiliary; Commerce Bank of South Plainfield and staff members Jason Alves, Carolyn Allen and George Mille for helping to open a Melendez Family Fund and to all those individuals who have donated personal funds and items to this wonderful cause. Anyone wishing to donate to the Melendez Family Fund to help the family get back on their feet can go to the South Plainfield Observer office or Commerce Bank, located across from the police station, and let them know you are there to donate to the Melendez Fund.

I would also like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Norm Gustafson of Scotch

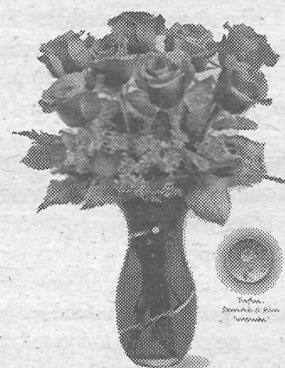
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## IN MY OPINION

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

### Submit Letters to the Editor:

Please be advised that the Observer does not publish anonymous letters.

Letters may be submitted to the Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or fax 908-668-8819 or by email: spobserver@comcast.net. Deadline is Monday, 5 p.m. Letters must be accompanied by a name and telephone number for verification. Please limit letters to no more than 200 words. We reserve the right to refuse a letter, to edit for clarity or length, and to limit the number of letters submitted on the same subject.

Plains for their generous donation to the South Plainfield High School Swim Team in memory of Dick Loizeaux, a Plainfield High School graduate, who was an acclaimed swimmer. Mr. and Mrs. Gustafson have twin granddaughters who swim for the South Plainfield High School Tiger Swim Team.

I would also like to thank the South Plainfield Library staff for their generous collection of funds for the SPSHS swim team.

Congratulations to middle school teacher John Angeline, who was nominated for the teacher who "makes it happen" on radio station Magic 98.3 and won this outstanding award.

SINCERELY  
DEBBIE BOYLE, BOYLE MEMORIAL  
FOUNDATION

### Dear Editor,

The family and close friends of Michael Santy would like to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation during our time of sorrow in the loss of Mikey. We would like to especially thank the South Plainfield Exempt Firemen's Association for your more than generous support and Sacred Heart RC Church and Father Alvarado for your kindness and the celebration of the beautiful funeral mass.

We would also like to thank Rick McCriskin and Jim Gustafson of the McCriskin-Gustafson funeral home for your above and beyond generosity and professionalism. Rick, your understanding, guidance and knowledge of assisting a family in the time of need goes untouched. We can't say enough to both Rick and Jim.

We lost a son and a friend and he will live on through our memories which will never be forgotten.

SINCERELY,  
ISABEL SANTY, JOHN AND CAROL  
WELSH, MARGARET RICHESON,  
JAMES GALLAGHER AND ROBERT  
GRAF

### To the Editor:

I am a teacher at South Plainfield

High School and I just finished reading the letter from Natia Katsantonis in the January 25 issue of this paper. While I fully support her right to express her feelings about public education in this town, I had hoped that she would have done so in a more responsible fashion.

Early in her letter, Miss Katsantonis asked if school administrators were not bothered by weapon searches or police presence in the building and if they thought this was normal. Ever since tragedies have been reported in other towns and schools, the South Plainfield High School staff and administration have been preparing and practicing extreme safety precautions in order to be ready in case of emergency. I wonder why Miss Katsantonis did not mention the 'lockdown' practice and drills she has experienced during her years in school as an example of the care and attention the staff and administration have taken with her safety.

Miss Katsantonis continued by making broad statements about the lack of support from teachers. I cannot comment directly on her experience with her teachers, since I have never had Miss Katsantonis in my class and have never met her in person. That is why I have trouble with her blanket statements that teachers refuse to give extra help and many teachers can't be bothered to give help because of busy schedules. Except for once-a-month faculty meetings on Wednesdays, I am available both before and after school for any student that requests extra help. I cannot speak for other teachers, but I know that the faculty parking lot is far from empty well past the contracted end of the work day. It should also be noted that if Miss Katsantonis is able to arrive at school at 7:15 a.m. as she stated, she is receiving help from a staff member before the contracted work day. In my estimation, this is extraordinary service to the student. She also referred to the last school year in her complaint about receiving extra help. I know that even though I was working without an employment contract, I still made sure I was available to all of my students for help during regular contracted student contact hours. The next issue that Miss Katsantonis raised is a tricky one and again her statement is broad and not representative of my experience in the high school. Disruptive students detract from quality education. Dealing with these students requires due process according to the laws of the

(Continued on page 12)

## It's a Fact:

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## NOTES FROM The Senior Center

### Blood Drive at Senior Center

The South Plainfield Senior Center will be holding a blood drive on Saturday, Feb. 16 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the senior center. We need your participation to make our blood drive a success. Donating blood is a true gift of life. Please pledge your support by signing up for an appointment today.

Every two seconds, someone in America needs blood. A single shock-trauma victim can use 100 units of blood in just a few hours. A person being treated for cancer may use up to 10 units of platelets per day, and a liver transplant can use up to 160 units of components. Every day, 34,000 donations are needed to help save the lives of cancer patients, accident victims and children with blood disorders in the United States. Blood Donors are heroes. Will you be a hero?

Each donation you make will be split into five different components (red cells, white cells, cryoprecipitate, plasma and platelets) so your gift will go on to touch the lives of five area

hospital patients. You can make a big difference in someone's life by giving an hour of your time to donate blood.

Almost 90% of the general population is medically eligible to donate blood while only five percent regularly do! Many people think that they cannot donate blood because of a medical condition but this is seldom the case. The following information will assist you in learning if you are eligible to save a life on February 16 at our blood drive!

- Donors must weigh at least 110 pounds and be at least 17 years old. There is no upper age limit to giving blood!

- Most medications (with the exception of blood thinners) will not prevent someone from being a blood donor. For example, blood pressure medication would not prohibit someone from giving the gift of life.

- Diabetics may donate blood (even while taking insulin)!

- Even former cancer patients may donate (except for leukemia, lymphoma and Hodgkin's).

Appointments are preferred, so please contact the senior center at (908) 754-1047 or stop by the senior center and register today. You can also send an E-mail to joanngraf@hotmail.com to register. For more information about donating you can go to [www.pleasegiveblood.org](http://www.pleasegiveblood.org). For medical questions, please contact 1-800 GIVE LIFE.

Thank you in advance for helping us. We look forward to hearing from as many people as possible.

*Submitted by Joann Graf, Director, South Plainfield Office on Aging*

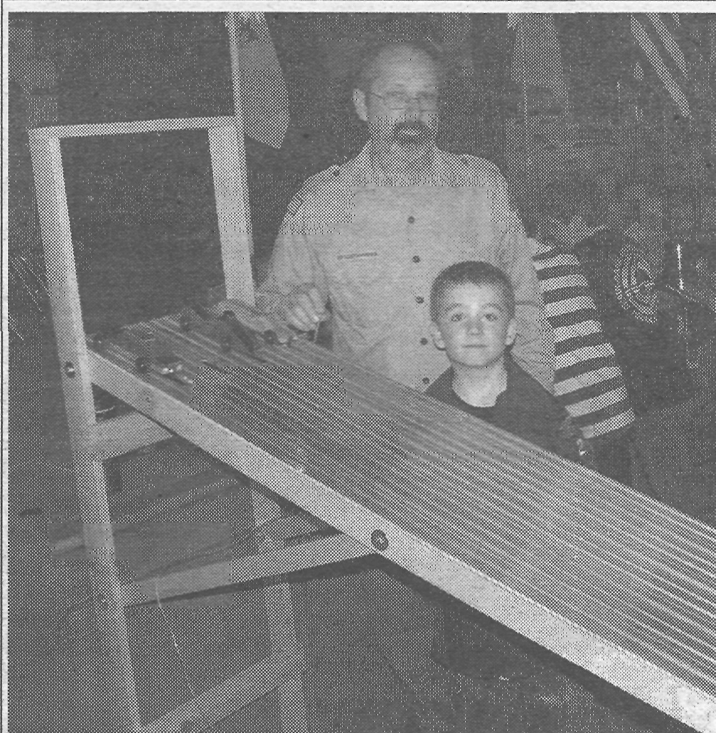
### Younger Roles Open for "The Music Man"

South Plainfield High School will hold auditions for younger roles in this year's musical, Meredith Willson's "The Music Man."

All Borough students in the fifth through eighth grades are invited to audition on Tuesday, Feb. 12 at 5:30 p.m. at the high school. Roles available are Winthrop, Amaryllis, and River City children.

Be prepared to sing and dance at the audition. Rehearsals will be primarily in the evening on an as-needed schedule. Performance dates are Thursday, April 10 through Sunday, April 13.

For more information, contact director Bill Seesselberg at (908) 756-0539 or (908) 217-1831.



Riley School Boy Scout Pack 224 held their annual Pinewood Derby on January 18. Each of the boys made their own car to race as seen above with Mark Sprenger and Collin Griffin.

## Recycling Closed on Lincoln's Birthday

The South Plainfield Recycling Center on Kenneth Avenue will be closed on Tuesday, Feb. 12 for Lincoln's Birthday. Recycling will be open instead from noon to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 13.

The Recycling Center will be open on its regular schedule on Tuesday, Feb. 19 after Presidents' Day. Regular hours at the Recycling Center are noon to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays, and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

The Yard Waste site is on winter hours, open only on Saturdays. It will not be affected by the holidays. Both the Recycling Center and the Yard Waste Site will be open as usual from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 16.

2008 Yard Waste Decals are available in the Municipal Clerk's office in Borough Hall from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday. Bring the registration of the vehicle you will be using.

For updates, call the Recycling Hotline at (908) 226-7620.

## Knights of Columbus Seminar

You are invited to attend a free seminar at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 334 Hamilton Blvd. on Tuesday, Feb. 19 at 7 p.m. to hear experts who will help you identify the keys to remaining independent as you age, as well as the keys to securing the safety of your family's financial future.

Do you know what you're entitled to from Medicaid/Medicare? Do you want to learn how to protect your assets from the rising costs of eldercare? More importantly, do you want peace of mind? Learn what your should family know if they need to act on your behalf.

Bring your family and learn how to protect yourself, your family and your assets.

Refreshments will be served (no charge) and door prizes raffled. Come learn how to remain independent and go home a winner.

Space is limited and registration is on a first come, first served basis. Call the Knights of Columbus at (732) 462-6674 to register.

*Submitted by Joe Scrudato*

### Correction

• In last week's article on Cullen replacing Buttiglieri as business administrator, the council vote was unanimous.

• In the Anthony Cotoia story, Nick Metrokotsas' name was omitted as a letter writer who was unable to attend.

We regret the errors.

### AIDA SANTOS

VICE PRESIDENT  
BRANCH MANAGER

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### Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.  
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Rev. John Paul  
Alvarado, Pastor

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

#### Mass Schedule:

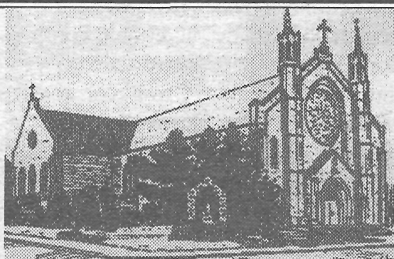
Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 p.m.

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

Weekdays Tues., Wed., Fri., Sat. 9 am; Mon. and Thurs. 7 p.m.

Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.

Holy Days 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m. and 7 p.m.



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## the Club at Ricochet

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# around town

## Lenten Fish Dinners at Sacred Heart

February 8, 15, 22, 29  
March 7 & 14

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus and Sacred Heart Church are sponsoring fish dinners during Lent on Friday, Feb. 8, 15, 22, 29, and on March 7 and 14. Dinners are served in the Sacred Heart cafeteria on South Plainfield Avenue., 5 to 7 p.m. Menu features fillet of fish (fried, broiled, parmesan), cheese ravioli, manicotti, linguini, pizza, garden salad, rice pilaf, French fries, macaroni and cheese, cole slaw, coffee, tea or cold drink and dessert. For information, call (908) 756-0633, ext. 10.

## 4th Anniversary Open House at Curves

February 9

Curves will be celebrating their 4th anniversary with an open house on Saturday, Feb. 9 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Take advantage of their one day only anniversary special—no membership fee for new members and save \$199, as well as a free figure analysis, games, prizes and more. Curves is located at 27 South Plainfield Ave. Call (908) 757-4422 or just walk in.

## Blackrose to Perform

February 9

Blackrose, a band performing classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will perform at Kerwin's Pub, located on Rt. 28 in Middlesex on Saturday, Feb. 9 at 9:30 p.m. No cover charge.

## Middle School Blood Drive

February 12

There will be a blood drive on Tuesday, Feb. 12 in the middle school cafeteria from 3 to 8 p.m. Come out and

What's  
happening at the  
South Plainfield

## SENIOR CENTER

FEBRUARY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

UPCOMING  
EVENTS

Hunterdon Hills trip to see  
"Barefoot in the Park"—March 13

Learn Effective Techniques to Advocate For Issues  
Before Your Local Government—February 27 at 7 p.m.

Crocheting  
9:30am-11:30am  
Yoga 10:30-11:30am  
Art Class 11:30am

Center Closed  
for  
Lincoln's Birthday

Aerobics 8:45 am  
Computer 10 am  
11:30am, 1pm  
Crocheting 1pm  
Tai Chi 2pm  
Listening to Children 10am  
Hunterdon Hills 10am

Pathmark  
Shopping 9am  
Crafts Class 10am  
Computer Class 10am  
11:30am, 1pm  
Exercise Class 1:15p

Bingo  
10am-2pm

8

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

help save a life. The middle school PTO will also hold their monthly meeting at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria.

## Historical Society Monthly Meeting

February 12

The South Plainfield Historical Society will hold their monthly meeting on Thursday, Feb. 12 at 7 p.m. in the "history room" at the former Roosevelt School, now the BOE building. Entrance off Jackson Avenue. Enter parking lot side to the lower level.

## "Love Letters" at Edison Valley Playhouse

February 14

The production of A.R. Gurney's, "Love Letters" begins Thursday, Feb. 14 and continues every weekend until Saturday, March 1.

Six regionally well known actors pair up to become three different couples, bringing to life Andy and Melissa; childhood friends whose life-

long friendship and love for each other is lifted off the pages of their well preserved collection of heartfelt letters.

## Eagles Football and Cheer Registration

February 16 and March 1

The South Plainfield Eagles Football and Cheer registration for the 2008 season will be held Saturday, Feb. 16 and Saturday, March 1 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Eagles fieldhouse on Kenneth Avenue. Registration is for boys and girls ages five to 13 (must be five by July 31, 2008). Any questions, call Kevin or Kelly Dunn at (908) 668-5080.

## SPBA meeting

February 21

The South Plainfield Business Association will hold their monthly meeting on Thursday, Feb. 21 at 9 a.m. at Sherban's Diner on Front Street. Guest speaker will be Tom Stillman of Stillman Photography. Feel free to offer incentives for your business or be a guest speaker at our monthly meetings.

Contact Debra Leporino at SPBA Pres@aol.com by February 29, to be a guest speaker at the March meeting.

## Pancake Breakfast

February 24

The South Plainfield Elks #2298, in conjunction with the South Plainfield Girl Scout community, will host a pancake breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 24 from 8 a.m. to noon. Menu features pancakes, eggs, French toast, bacon, sausage, home fries, toast, juice and coffee. Prices is \$6-adults, \$5-seniors, \$4-children 3-12; under two are

free. The South Plainfield Elks lodge is located at 1254 New Market Ave. For information, call (908) 668-9750.

## SDW Fundraiser Magic/Illusion Show

February 24

On Sunday, Feb. 24 at 2 p.m. the "Art of Imagination" will be presented in the SPHS auditorium. All ticket sales support the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop (SDW). Doors open at 1:30 p.m.

Purchase tickets at the Observer office, 1110 Hamilton Blvd. or Jay Bee Screen Printing on New Market Avenue.

For additional information or to purchase tickets, contact (908) 561-5255 or info@spsdw.com.

## — Out of Town —

## Caregivers Seminar

February 7

Caregivers for loved ones with incurable illnesses are welcomed to a program offered by the Center For Hope Hospice & Palliative Care on Thursday, Feb. 7 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Center For Hope Hospice, located at 1900 Raritan Rd. in Scotch Plains. RSVP to Laura Bradley at (908) 288-9136.

## Middlesex WOWs

February 8

Middlesex East Widows Or Widowers will hold an open dance on Friday, Feb. 8 from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall in Carteret. Live music and refreshments. All are welcome. Admission is \$10. For more information, call Dorothy at (732) 541-2174 or Lois at (908) 757-0515.

## Prodigal Foundation Pancake Breakfast

February 10

Prodigal Foundation, Inc., a non-

profit organization dedicated to helping children affected by cancer throughout Middlesex County, is hosting their first pancake breakfast at the Woodbridge Elks, 665 Rahway Ave. in Woodbridge on Sunday, Feb. 10 from 8 to 11 a.m. Cost is \$6 for adults, \$3 for ages 5 to 10; kids under 5 are free.

For information call (732) 636-9200 or visit [www.prodigalfoundation.com](http://www.prodigalfoundation.com).

## Antique Valentines Lecture and Exhibit

February 10

The Center for Raritan Valley History will present the free slide/lecture "Antique Valentines 1860-1930" on Sunday, Feb. 10 at 2 p.m. with collector Ilse Vliet at Old Towne Village. The talk supplements the exhibit, "Valentines from the Past" opening the same day and on display through Sunday, March 16. The exhibit is open to the public during regular Village hours.

## Woodbridge WOWs

February 13

Woodbridge Widows Or Widowers will conduct a business meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. in the children's room of the main library, located at George Fredrick Plaza, Rt. 35 in Woodbridge. Light refreshments to follow. For more information, contact Phyllis at (732) 381-3255 or Lois at (908) 757-0515.

## Metuchen-Edison Women's Club Meeting

February 13

The Metuchen-Edison Women's Club will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 13 at 7:30 p.m. at The Heritage at Clara Barton, 1015 Amboy Ave. in Edison. The program, "Healthy Cooking," will be presented by Lydia. Guests are welcome.

For additional information, contact Mary at (732) 494-5649.

## Gospel Music at Crossroads Theatre

February 16

The Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission will present "The Journey of Gospel Music" with Karen Joyce Boateng, at the Crossroads Theatre in New Brunswick on Saturday, Feb. 16 at 3 p.m.

The Journey of Gospel Music is offered free of charge, however registration is required. To attend, call (732) 745-4489.

## "Freeze Frame" Photography Exhibit

February 24

The Edison Arts Society will hold "Freeze Frame," a photography exhibit for members only, on Sunday, Feb. 24 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Middlesex County College. Call (908) 753-2787.

## Scotch Plains Music Center

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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## southplainfieldpeople Milestones

### Helgert and Pochron are Wed

Ingrid Helgert and Joseph Pochron were married on September 22 at Assumption Catholic Church in Bethlehem, Pa. The reception was celebrated at Silver Creek Country Club in Hellertown, Pa.

Parents of the bride are Anton and Virginia Helgert of South Plainfield. Parents of the groom are Michael and Carol Pochron of Salisbury, Pa. The bride is a graduate of Mount Saint Mary Academy and is an office manager for Dr. Thomas Evers in Milford.

The groom is a graduate of Salisbury High School, Moravian College and just received a masters in criminal justice at DeSales University. The groom is a detective for the Upper Saucon Police Department. After their honeymoon in Aruba, the couple resides in Bethlehem, Pa.



Ingrid Helgert and Joseph Pochron

### Zielinski Named to Dean's List

Jenna Zielinski of South Plainfield, a student at Wagner College in Staten Island, has been named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2007 semester. This distinction is awarded to students who have earned a semester grade point average of 3.5 or better.

"We are always proud of the efforts

and achievements of our students, particularly those who earn Dean's List honors," said Richard Guarasci, president of Wagner College.

Wagner College, founded in 1883, is located on Staten Island's Grymes Hill, overlooking the historic New York Harbor.

### Seesselberg Named to Dean's List

Jeffrey Seesselberg, a 2006 graduate of South Plainfield High School, has been named to the Dean's List for the School of Communication at Hofstra University for the Fall 2007 semester.

Jeffrey is majoring in film studies and production, with a minor in psychology. He has worked at the campus radio station, WRHU-FM, and

is also a member of other organizations, including Drastic Measures, a male a capella singing group on campus, and the Hofstra Filmmakers' Club. In addition to his own film projects, he has worked as a crew member and actor on the projects of other students.

Hofstra University is located in Hempstead, N.Y.

### Pfaff, Hartman Announce Engagement

Mr. and Mrs. William Pfaff of Piscataway announce the engagement of their daughter, Tracy Pfaff, to Brian Hartman, son of Mr. Robert Hartman

of South Plainfield.

The wedding is planned for Saturday, Oct. 25, 2008.

## Sacred Heart Announces Honor Roll

Sacred Heart School is proud to announce the students achieving the honor roll.

### Principal's List

4A-Nicole Walker.  
5A-Shabey Joseph, Morgan Miller, Savannah Miller, Giovanna Nolan and Virginia Novak.  
6A-Rose Bach; 6B-Jessica Thomas and Arthur Wright.  
7A-Jordana Approvato and Himanshu Patel.  
8A-Andrea Muglia and Carla Palma.

### Honor Roll

4A-Mary Bach, Joshua DeCastro, Angela German, Justin Inigo, Raymond Mercer, Bryan Scipio, Kara Slattery and Madison Zieger.  
5A-Italo Cardoso, Justin Durham, Angela LoBosco, Eric Nguyen, Elizah Rodriguez and Robert Ruiz.  
6A-Patrick Bogart, Juliana Degutis, Brittany Ferreira, Catherine Gbogi, Roxanne Lee, Mia Mathis, Kerri Salvatore and Aryanna Torres.

6B-Anna Caruso, Sabrina Inigo, Alexander LeGrand and Brandon Ozbalik.  
7A-Taylor Aljian, Jenna Bengivenga, Imani Delk, Janee Edwards, Leah Hansford, Stephanie Kearney, Bianca LoBosco, Devyn Nolan and Jacqueline Stenersen.

8A-Anthony Cardoso, Amanda Caruso, Janee Clark, Dominic Gonzalez, Rhel Lapitan and Christina Pokorny.

### Most Improved

4A-Brian Sporman  
5A-Peyton David  
6A-Iyanla Joyner  
8A-Antoinette Buckley

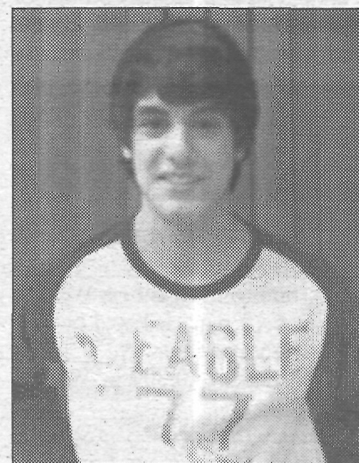
## Danny Sims to Appear in To Kill a Mockingbird

South Plainfield resident Danny Sims, an eighth grade student at South Plainfield Middle School, will appear as Jem Finch, in the Cranford Dramatic Club production of "To Kill A Mockingbird."

Danny, a student of musical theater at Stars Theater Academy in Warren, studies voice at The New Jersey Workshop for the Arts in Westfield. He has been involved in various community theater projects over the past few years, including The Alliance Repertory Company production of "Cheaper By the Dozen," in which he played the part of Frank Gilbreth. Danny is also active in South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop, and is president of the Middle School Drama Club.

Danny also appeared as a lead actor in South Plainfield's Almost Famous Players. He was responsible for the fight and dramatic action.

"To Kill A Mockingbird" will be



Danny Sims

presented February 8, 9, 15, 16, 17, 22 and 23 at the CDC Theater, 78 Winans Ave. in Cranford. Tickets can be purchased at the door or reserved by calling the CDC Theater at (908) 276-7611.

## Library to Present Financial Program

South Plainfield Public Library will present the financial program "9 Tips to Avoid Financial Fraud" on Sunday, March 16 at 2 p.m.

The program will be led by Tony Bunn, Certified Senior Advisor with USA Financial Services in Spring Lake Heights. The program will focus on ways senior citizens avoid financial fraud, including research and discussing options with friends

and family. The program is being presented free of charge; no pre-registration is required.

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

For more information about Mr. Bunn, you may contact him at (201) 233-8409 or E-mail him at [tonybunn@hotmail.com](mailto:tonybunn@hotmail.com).

## SOUTH PLAINFIELD OPEN HOUSES SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10 FROM 1 PM TO 4 PM



**1 Babes Drive**—Bi-level—Move in Condition. 4 bedrooms, 1.5 newer baths, newer windows, siding and roof, built in pool. Asking \$382,500. Directions: Park Ave. to Oak Tree Ave., left onto 1 Babes Drive.



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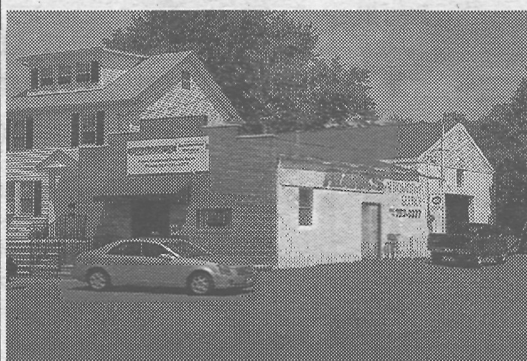
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## Area Churches Lenten Schedule

**Pilgrim Covenant Church-3121 Park Ave.**  
Throughout Lent-Sunday School for all ages, children to adult, at 9:45 a.m., with a worship service at 11 a.m.

- *Good Friday*-Ecumenical Prayer Service, 7:30 p.m., Sacred Heart Church.

- *Easter Sunday* service on March 23 at 11 a.m.

**St. Stephen Evangelical Lutheran Church  
3145 Park Ave.**

Soup, throughout Lent on Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m., followed by 7:30 p.m. worship service.

Every Sunday, 10:30 a.m. Worship Service.

*Maundy Thursday* Worship Service at 7:30 p.m. *Good Friday-Ecumenical Prayer Service* 7:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church.

*Easter Vigil* worship service 7:30 p.m.

**Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
200 Randolph Ave.**

Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent, (except Good Friday) beginning at 7 p.m.

- *Daily Mass*: Monday evening 7 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday-9 a.m.

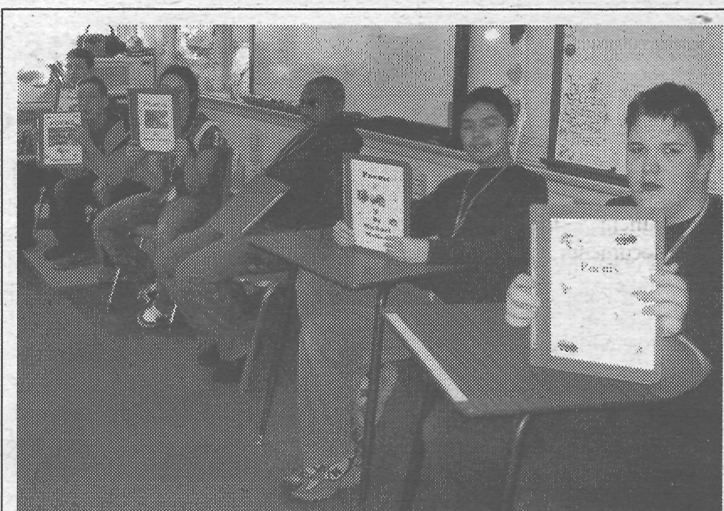
- *Weekend Mass*: Saturday 5 p.m. and Sunday 8, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

- *Penance Service*: March 12, 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

- *Holy Thursday*, March 20-Morning Prayer: 9 a.m. Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7 p.m. Night Prayer: 11:30 p.m.

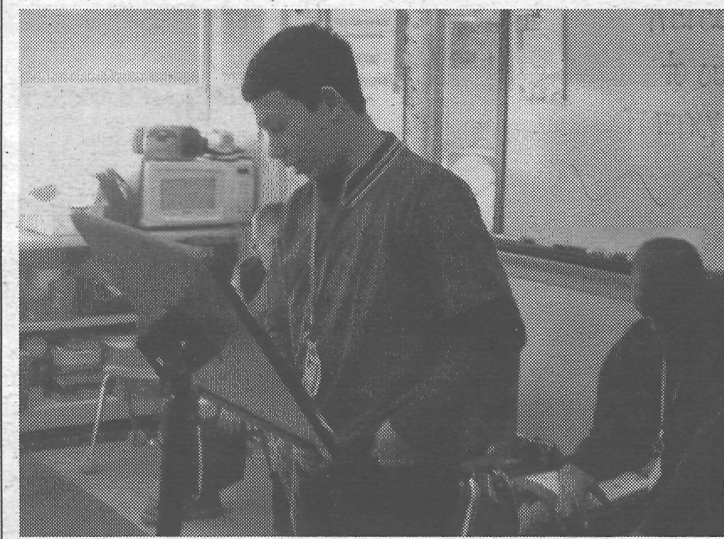
- *Good Friday*: Morning Prayer: 9 a.m., Stations of the Cross-noon, Passion of the Lord: 3 p.m. Ecumenical Prayer Service: 7:30 p.m. Easter Vigil-8 p.m.

- *Easter Sunday* Masses as above.



## Middle School Students Show Creativity at Every Level

The self-contained class at South Plainfield Middle School recently completed a poetry unit with teacher Susan Schocklin. The unit was extremely fun and successful and culminated with a "Poetry Tea" on January 18. Students, administrators, teachers and faculty members were in attendance. The students read their hearts out and performed wonderfully for the captive audience. They did a great job!



From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Well, you still have a few days before the 14th to make the restaurant reservations, call the florist, order the heart-shaped box of chocolates and (for the wealthier among you) order the jewelry. That should leave you a few moments to check on the latest news from the library.

The library will be closed on Tuesday, Feb. 12 in observance of Lincoln's Birthday. However, the library will be open at 7 p.m. for this month's Board of Trustees meeting. Members of the public are invited to attend and learn more about the library's current and future plans, including the proposed new library building and important matters of library policy. There will be a public comment time early in the meeting.

Don't forget that on Sunday at 2 p.m. we'll hold the third of three programs by professional organizer Eva Arbrey on de-cluttering your home. Titled "Attics, Garages and Closets, Oh My!" The program will focus on storage spaces and arrangements. The program is being presented free of charge; no pre-registration is required.

Due to the closing on Tuesday, we'll have a slightly abbreviated schedule of children's programming next week. "Storytime" for children ages three and over, will be held on Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. "Time for 2's & 3's" for children ages two and three will be held on Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 10:30. "Books & Babies" for children ages three and under will be held on Friday mornings at 10:30. Pre-registration for these programs is not necessary. For further details, please call us and ask for Miss Linda or Miss Mija.

Turning to the A/V collection, we've added a number of titles to our DVD collection, including full season sets of the TV shows "Damages,"

"The Wire," "Jeeves & Wooster," "Lovejoy," "Mission: Impossible" and the original "Star Trek." We've also added individual titles from "Family Guy" and MST3K and juvenile titles featuring Dora and Diego, Thomas the Tank Engine, Bob the Builder and Charlie Brown. Forthcoming theatrical movies include "3:10 to Yuma," "The Brave One," "Stardust," "The Nanny Diaries" and "The Assassination of Jesse James..." DVDs may be borrowed, four at a time, for two days.

Remember a few weeks ago when we said we'd withdrawn from the Audiobook Circuit? Well, actually, to be strictly accurate and to clarify the situation as it stands...okay, we goofed. In fact, a new group from the circuit has been added and will be here until the beginning of April. This group includes works by Rex Stout, Sara Paretsky, Rita Mae Brown, Danielle Steel, John Grisham and Janet Evanovich. Be advised, though, that this is definitely the last group we'll have. As noted previously, we've left the circuit because we just aren't able to accommodate it with our limited amount of space. We will, though, continue to add new titles to our own collection and, if possible, we can obtain other audiobooks for you via Inter-Library Loan. Please see the reference librarian for more information.

Finally, we've been having some problems of late with our public computers, primarily involving print-outs. We appreciate your patience as we deal with the problem. We hope to have normal service restored very soon. Thanks very much for your help with this.

That's about all for now. To learn more, please call us at (908) 754-7885 or visit our Web site at [www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us](http://www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us). We'll see you next Friday. And you are planning to celebrate Lincoln's Birthday on the 12th, too, right?

## LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
LEGAL NOTICE

### ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL NOTICE

Take notice that application has been made to the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield for a hearing to be held on February 25, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080 to permit the place to place transfer of the Plenary Retail Consumption License #1222-33-018-002 heretofore issued to Normans Bar & Grill Inc. at South Plainfield, Inc. dba Kc's Korner, 100 Oak Tree Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080 to include the premises located at 100 Oak Tree Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

The person who will hold an interest in this license is

Walter Kurilew, Normans Bar & Grill Inc. dba Kc's Korner, 100 Oak Tree Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

The applicant intends to engage in the retail sale of alcoholic beverages at Normans Bar & Grill Inc., dba Kc's Korner, 100 Oak Tree Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080 under the terms and conditions allowed by law.

Objections if any should be made immediately in writing to: Vincent Buttiglieri, Borough Clerk at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080 or Director Division of Alcoholic Beverages Control.

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February 8 & 15, 2008

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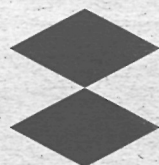
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## Do You Want a Say in the Decisions That Affect Your Life?

Ordinary citizens have the power to effect change. Learn how at a series of free seminars designed to empower South Plainfield citizens to become part of the decision-making process in local government, from making a constructive proposal before our governing body, to taking a seat on an appointed board or commission. The first course on Feb. 6 will be an introduction on local government.

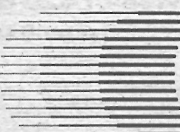


Seminar #2 – February 29, 7 p.m.  
**Learn Effective Techniques to  
Advocate for Issues Before  
Your Local Government**

Citizens can be a catalyst for change, if they have the "know how." This course will teach about the four main "Power Centers" within your community, and how to effectively navigate within to become a part of the decision-making process in your town and beyond.

### Coming Up...

- March 5 – Leadership-Path to Appointed Power Forum
- March 26-Path to Political Power



The Academy for Citizen Empowerment (ACE) is the teaching arm of the Citizens' Campaign. ACE was founded on the principle that civic education can be the touchstone which will assist a civic renewal and which will help transform our cities and communities into examples of enlightened civic involvement.

Our nation's population is increasingly more apathetic and less engaged in the public sphere today than at any point in recent history. Civic and political participation is plummeting at unprecedented rates with severe repercussions for our quality of life and that of our children. We're in a "Crisis of Civic & Political Engagement." The American public is more educated and has greater access to information than at any point in history; yet, since the mid-60s, Americans have become roughly 25 percent less likely to vote, roughly 35 percent less likely to attend public meetings (both partisan and non-partisan) and roughly 40 percent less engaged in party politics and indeed in political and civic organizations of all sorts. In short, we remain reasonably well-informed spectators of public affairs, but few actually partake in the game.

*Join us for the second in  
a series of four free  
seminars on Wednesday,  
Feb. 29 at 7 p.m.*

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## Open House

Sunday, Feb. 10  
1-4 pm



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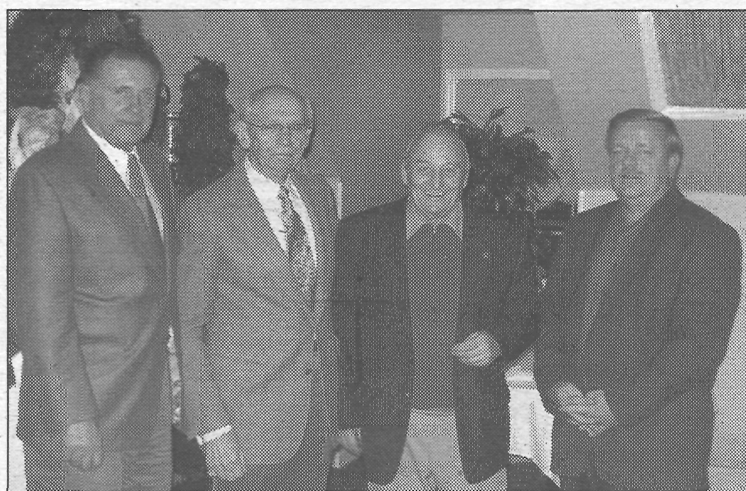
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King Lion Michael Zushma (right) present Lions Club members (L to R) Deter Hollain with a 40-year pin, Harry Popik with a 45-year Pin and Larry Massaro with a 45-year pin.

## Lions Celebrate 50th Charter

King Lion Michael Zushma and the Lions Club of South Plainfield celebrated their 50th charter night in December. The Lion's Club motto, "We Serve," best describes the South Plainfield Lions Club.

Local Lions Club members raise money and serve the community by assisting residents in need, local eye banks, St. Joseph's School for the Blind, Camp Marcella (camp for visually challenged), Seeing Eye and

other projects of local interest.

During this year's event, pins were presented to Harry Popik-45 years, Larry Massaro 45-years, Deter Hollain 40-years, Richard McCrisky 30-years, Sal Severini 15-years and Bill Ashnault-15 years.

The "Lion of the Year" award was presented to Brian Capparelli for his service to the club that could only be described as above and beyond.

## Annual Meeting of Fish-Dunellen Area

The annual meeting of Fish, Inc., Dunellen area will be held on Monday, Feb. 11 at 7:30 p.m. at The First Presbyterian Church, 218 Dunellen Ave. in Dunellen. Program chairpersons will report on the past year's activities and will outline their plans for 2008. Refreshments will be served. The public is encouraged to attend this meeting.

Fish, Inc., Dunellen Area is an all volunteer, non-profit organization which helps needy people in Dunellen and surrounding areas. Major programs include food, clothing, blankets and bedding, holiday meals and Christmas gifts. Volunteers are always welcome. Come to the meeting to learn more about the Fish programs, and see how you could make a difference in the lives of your less fortunate neighbors.

For more information about the meeting, or to find out more about

volunteering, call Fish at (732) 356-0081 and a telephone volunteer will return your call.

## ALERT

### BOE Committee of the Whole

Please be advised that action may be taken at the Committee of the Whole meetings of the South Plainfield Board of Education on Wednesday, Feb. 13, Wednesday, March 12, and Wednesday, April 2. These meetings will be held at 7 p.m. in the Roosevelt Administration Building gymnasium, 125 Jackson Avenue.

## policereport

• On January 22 Yury Larios, 27, of Perth Amboy was arrested for hindering apprehension, exhibiting false government documents, possessing false documents and an outstanding warrant.

• A Maple Avenue resident reported that their 1999 Ford Expedition left running was stolen from their driveway.

• On January 23 Shara A. Hassan, 19, and Grace Marin-Quishpe, 24, both of Plainfield were arrested at Sears Essentials for shoplifting \$318 worth of cosmetics.

• On January 24 Haniff Boyd, 22, of Plainfield was arrested for careless driving and an outstanding warrant.

• Frederick Bryant, 51, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license and two outstanding warrants.

• A Randolph Avenue resident reported the theft of a Sirius Satellite radio worth \$200 from the glove box of their vehicle.

• On January 25 Ronney J. Williams, 47, of Piscataway was arrested for being unlicensed, driving an unregistered vehicle and for being a fugitive from justice.

• On January 26 Michael C. Lambert, 41, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated and reckless driving.

• On January 27 Chioma Eziaghighala, 23, of Plainfield was arrested at Target for shoplifting \$211 worth of DVDs and CDs.

• On January 28 Al-Mourice I. Jenkins, 20, of Plainfield was arrested for driving a vehicle with tinted windows and an outstanding warrant.

• Stephon L. Brayboy, 20, of Edi-

son was arrested for driving a vehicle with a headlight out and an outstanding warrant.

• A Plainfield resident reported the theft of their 2000 Chrysler Town & Country from the parking lot at Target.

• A South Plainfield resident reported that a "B" had been scratched in the rear windshield of their vehicle with an unknown object while parked in the high school parking lot.

• Jesse Ramon Gordon, 38, of New Brunswick was arrested at Target for robbery, shoplifting, simple assault and possession of drug paraphernalia.

• Gail Marie Williams, 49, of New Brunswick was arrested at Target for robbery, shoplifting, driving on a suspended license, no insurance and no registration.

• On January 29 a Palmer Avenue resident reported that the rear window of their vehicle had been smashed.

• On January 30 Patrick W. Dejohn, 27, of Perth Amboy was arrested for driving while intoxicated, possession of a controlled substance in a motor vehicle, failure to keep right and reckless driving.

• Thomas M. Charmel, 35, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, driving on a suspended license and no insurance.

• Wardell Smullen, 38, of Piscataway was arrested for careless driving and an outstanding warrant.

• A Van Fleet Avenue resident reported the theft of their vehicle registration, an insurance card, a pouch, loose change, Lexus vehicle manuals, a navigation DVD and a garage door opener from their unlocked vehicle.

• On February 1 a Pomponio Avenue resident reported the theft of all

four rims and tires from their vehicle. The vehicle had been left on cement blocks.

• A Rahway Avenue resident reported that the rear tire of their vehicle had been flattened six times over the last four months.

• A Ten Eyck Street resident reported that the soft top of their Honda convertible had been cut.

• On February 2 AKA Inc. on New Market Avenue reported that their mailbox had been knocked over.

• An E. Golf Avenue resident reported that the driver's side tail light of their vehicle had been broken.

• A Pomponio Avenue resident reported that the front windshield of their vehicle had been smashed. The rims of the vehicle had been taken two days earlier.

• On February 3 Mario R. Saravia, 36, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, driving on a suspended license, reckless driving and refusal to take a breath test.

• On February 4 Darren D. Daniels, 39, of Plainfield was arrested for shoplifting at CVS and two outstanding warrants.

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# Sports

## RECREATION WRESTLING

Submitted by Joe Sacco

### Rec Wrestlers Enjoy Busy Weekend

The South Plainfield Recreation wrestlers had a busy weekend wrestling three dual meets and participating in one tournament. In Central Jersey action, the young Tigers improved to 10-3, losing to top ranked Cranford 39-35 while beating Scotch Plains 48-34.

Against Cranford the Tigers won a total of nine bouts, but still fell four points shy of the win. At 60 lbs. Jake Hoffman had the only pin while Joey Heilmann, Jake Giordano, Kyle Bythell, Ryan Walsh, Raymond Jazikoff, Christian Gonzalez and Antunee Adams all won by decision. Matt Hurst received a forfeit. Against

Scotch Plains the hometown Tigers exploded with a total of seven pins. Winning by fall were Joey Heilmann, Jacob Panton, Jake Giordano, Jake Hoffman, Ryan Walsh, Antunee Adams and Matt Hurst. Winning by decision were Joey Penyak and Danny Hedden.

South Plainfield's Raritan Valley team dropped a close match to Somerville 38-29. The young Tigers were forced to forfeit three weights, giving the Pioneers of Somerville an easy 18 points. Winning by pin were

Tommy Fierro, David Loniewski and Joseph Sacco. Winning by decision were Jake Smith, Desmond Santos and Kyle Dickerson.

On Super Bowl Sunday, the Tigers also participated in the Chatham King of the Mat Tournament. Tommy Fierro was the lone champ finishing first at 48 lbs. David Loniewski, Alex Amato, Michael Marrero, Desmond Santos and George Pittenger all finished in second. Joseph Sacco and Sebastian Santos placed third and fourth respectively.

By Gary Lampasona

### JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

Proving the theme that the club cannot succeed without your participation, look for those selected to be managers and assistant coaches in next week's issue. Excitement is growing for the upcoming season, and there are still a few player openings. It's not too late to sign up. Call the clubhouse at (908) 754-2090 if your child is still interested in playing baseball this spring.

Family and business advertisements

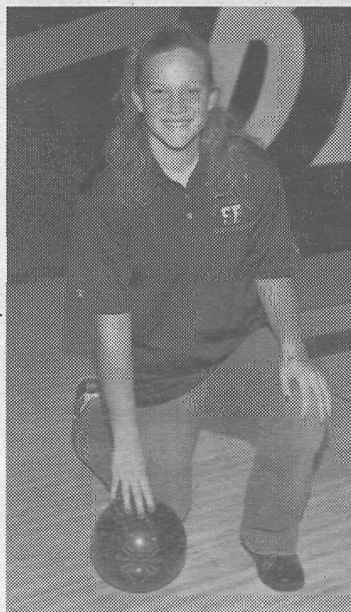


are still available for the Opening Day Program. Visit our Web site at [www.leaguelineup.com/spjbc](http://www.leaguelineup.com/spjbc) for the sign-up form.

If you missed the Rutgers Certification class last week, there will be another class given on March 13. Sign-up forms are available at our Web site, or call the clubhouse.

## SPHS BOWLING

Submitted by Ralph Fech



Kelly Pauls



Gina Curcio

### Lady Tigers Continue Hot Streak Romp Over South Amboy...Jolt Piscataway...Tie Cardinal McCarrick

4 SPHS	795	822	785	2402
0 So. Amboy	624	612	676	1912

Kelly Pauls and Gina Curcio led the girls bowling team to its seventh shutout victory, a 4-0 sweep over the Governors of South Amboy. Kelly fired games of 165-171-198 for a 534 set, while Gina added 160-167-192 for a 519 total.

Also chipping in were Katie Salvatore with a 199 and Lyndsey Murtagh with a 187 game.

4 SPHS	858	920	891	2664
0 Piscataway	820	835	834	2469

The girls bowling team sizzled as they upset and shut out Red Division Piscataway.

Kelly Pauls took scoring honors, firing games of 230 and 176 for a solid 555 set. Close behind was Gina Curcio with games of 166 and a big 247 for a 535 total.

Jackie Kukuch added 201-177 for a 520 set, Lyndsey Murtagh 190-164, Katie Yon 183-182 and Katie Salvatore rolled a 173 game as the girls rolled their highest total of the season and improved their record to 8-8 and 1.

2 SPHS	840	780	778	2398
2 Cardinal McCarrick	814	765	829	2408

The Lady Tigers took on strong Cardinal McCarrick, the Blue Division runner-up. They won the first two games, but the Eagles rallied to win the third game.

Since the total pin count gave them a 10 pin advantage, the Tigers had to settle for a tie.

Katie Yon took scoring honors for the green and white with games of 183-171 and a 511 set. Chipping in were Kelly Pauls with a 183 and Gina Curcio with a 177 game. Nicole Baginsky fired games of 257-214 and 235 for a booming 706.

### GMC Playoffs-Preliminary Round

(14) SPHS	832	830	Won 2-0
(19) Perth Amboy	619	656	

In the pre-lim round of the GMC team playoffs, the girls bowling team jumped out of the starting gates and never looked back, easily winning two games to ice the victory.

Gina Curcio led the Tigers with games of 186-196 while teammate Kelly Pauls added 161-176.

(Continued on page 9)

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Charlie and Debbie Kurland deliver dinner to Junior Journalist winner Haley Dow, her mom Linda, dad Bob and brother, Ian.



# Sports

## SPHS BOWLING

Submitted by Ralph Fech

(Continued from page 8)

Also chipping in was Katie Yon with a 171 game.

Next playoff game for the Tigers is a match-up with third seeded Red Division runner-up, East Brunswick.

## Tiger Bowlers Still Sizzling

Wallop South Amboy...Upset Cardinal McCarrick...edged by Piscataway

4 SPHS	941	921	877	2734
0 So. Amboy	744	759	714	2247

The boys bowling team continued its hot streak as they coasted to an easy shutout win over South Amboy.

Mike Dandola earned scoring honors with a 672 set on games of 244-234 and 191.

Teammates Ryan Pauls 209 and 215, Chris Esposito 231 added to the Tiger fire power.

Jeff Pryor chipped in with games of 191 and 183.

0 SPHS	1049	900	981	2970
4 Piscataway	1190	1030	990	3210

Despite Mike Dandola's 247-225-205 and a 677 set, coupled with Chris Esposito's 226-217-212 and 655 set, the boys bowling team was beaten by a strong Piscataway squad. Also chipping in were teammates Ryan Pauls 215, Dylan Papa 180 and 194 and Kevin Reviglio with games of 181 and 192. The team's record stands at 8 wins, 7 losses and 2 ties.

3 SPHS	1040	1132	870	3042
1 Cardinal McCarrick	965	965	990	2920

The Tigers came out smoking as the big green started out with a 1040 game and backed it up with an explosive 1132 stunner, cracking the 3000 pin barrier again.

The victory was a big upset since Cardinal McCarrick was the Blue Division champion.

Ryan Pauls crushed the pocket with games of 234 and 274 for a solid 675 set. Jeff Pryor added 234-199 for a 614 set, Mike Dandola bowled a 232 game, Chris Esposito 208 and Dylan Papa rolled games of 202 and 219.

## GMC Playoffs-Preliminary Round

(14) SPHS	1092	938	Won 2-0
(19) Perth Amboy	730	876	

The Tigers started out with a big first game and crushed Perth Amboy in two straight games. Mike Dandola cranked out games of 257 and 225 for a 482 two game total. Also chipping in were Ryan Pauls with games of 221 and 199, Chris Esposito with a big 248, Dylan Papa's 200 and Kevin Reviglio's 180 game.

The Tigers will now face third seeded tough East Brunswick.

## Glitterbugs Collecting Old Trophies

Do you have trophies laying around collecting dust that you really do not want anymore? Don't throw them out!

The South Plainfield Glitterbugs, as part of the "Out of the Recycle Bin Program," are collecting trophies which will be refurbished and made into new trophies. These trophies are donated to Cub Scout Pack

207 for their Pinewood Derby. The Plainfield Curling Club children's programs and also used for our own programs.

Trophies can be dropped off on the porch at 118 Randolph Ave., or call (908) 755-3213 and ask for Marie if you have any questions or for a pick-up.



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## Obituaries

### Agnes M. Murello, 98

Agnes M. Murello died on Saturday, Feb. 2 at The Woodlands Genesis Eldercare Network in Plainfield.

Born in Newark, she resided in Kenilworth before moving to South Plainfield in 2002.

Agnes was employed as an assembly line worker for Schering-Plough of Kenilworth for 30 years before retiring in 1974.

Her husband, Dominick Murello, died in 1969.

Surviving is a daughter and son-in-law, Rose Marie and Gus Schmitt of South Plainfield; a granddaughter, Theresa Marcin and a great grandson, Jake Marcin.

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

### Ronald J. Dabrio, 68

Ronald J. Dabrio died suddenly on Wednesday, Jan. 30 at home.

Born in Newark, he was raised in Irvington and resided in Roselle prior to settling in South Plainfield in 1980.

Employed as an electrician, Ronald was a union electrician with the I.B.E.W. of Elizabeth for more than 30 years.

He had been a member of the former Amvert Volunteer First Aid Squad in Irvington. His hobbies included being a member of the Moon-glows Cruisers Club and a boating enthusiast. In addition, he enjoyed restoring motorcycles, cars and boats.

He was predeceased by both of his parents.

Surviving are his wife, Susan (Toth); a daughter, Jessica of South Plainfield; two sons, Vincent and wife Colleen of Jackson and Michael of Matawan; a brother, Larry and wife Marlene of South Plainfield; three grandchildren, Erica, Ashley and Nicholas; two nieces, Kristen and Shannon and numerous other nieces and nephews.

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

Donations in his name can be made to the St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Pl., Memphis, Tenn. 38104.

### Elizabeth Ramberg, 59

Elizabeth "Betsy" Ramberg died on Wednesday, Jan. 30 at Van Dyke Hospice in Community Medical Center in Toms River.

Born in Newark, Betsy had resided in South Plainfield for many years. She later resided in Piscataway, Middlesex and Toms River.

Betsy had also been a communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church of South Plainfield. As an extremely compassionate and giving individual, Betsy always tried to help those in need. One particular instance was recalled by her long time companion, Fred Horne. While vacationing in Maine, Betsy gave a perfect stranger a large sum of money to assist with the purchase of a much needed car. She also had a tremendous love for animals and often donated to the ASPCA in New York.

She was predeceased by her loving parents, Nicholas and Elizabeth (Fix) Bibel.

Surviving is her best friend and companion, Frederick Horne and her husband, Edward Ramberg.

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

### Irene B. Cannizzaro, 92

Irene B. Cannizzaro died on Wednesday, Jan. 30 at Somerset Valley Rehab and Nursing Center in Bridgewater.

Born and raised in Perth Amboy,

Irene lived in Woodbridge and Plainfield before moving to South Plainfield in 1953.

A former member of Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield, Mrs. Cannizzaro was a member of the South Plainfield Senior Citizens, as well as the Tri-County Seniors.

She was predeceased by her husband, Edward, who died in 1997 and a son-in-law, Dr. Thomas Boyle, who died this past August.

Surviving is a daughter, Diane Boyle of Bridgewater; three grandchildren, Kellie Desan and husband Carmine and Kristen Lakatose and husband Chris, all of Bridgewater and Tiffany Toth and husband Brian of Pennsylvania. Also surviving is a great-granddaughter, Shannon Lakatose.

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

Donations in her name can be made to the S.C.E.S.C Dr. Thomas Boyle Educational College Fund, P.O. Box 68, Raritan, N.J. 08869.

### Francisco LeGuen, 55

Francisco LeGuen died on Sunday, Feb. 3 after a brief illness at Columbus Hospital in Newark.

He was employed by N.J. Galvanizing in Newark for 26 years.

Mr. LeGuen is survived by a daughter and a brother, Mario, both of Cuba as well as many friends from his years of employment at N.J. Galvanizing.

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

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## JUNIOR JOURNALIST

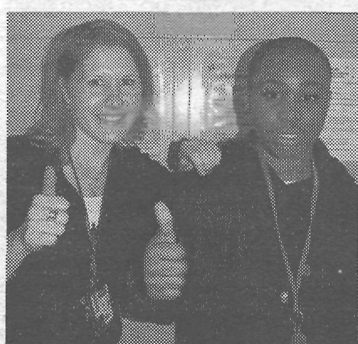
### Jyneer Green Named Junior Journalist!

Jyneer Green, middle school student, is this week's winner in the Hometown Heros-South Plainfield Observer sponsored 2007-08 Junior Journalist Contest for his poem, "J."

Jyneer will be the recipient of a dinner for his family courtesy of Hometown Heros. He will also receive a t-shirt. At the end of the school year, he will be honored at a banquet, along with all the contest winners.

Open to all school-aged children in South Plainfield, The Junior Journalist Contest is a weekly program promoting the art of writing.

Students can submit their original poetry, articles, opinion pieces or essays to their English teachers, who will submit them to the Observer.



Junior Journalist winner Jyneer Green with teacher Susan Schocklin.

If you have any questions, call the Observer at (908) 668-0010, stop by Hometown Heros, located at 340 Hamilton Blvd. or call them at (908) 755-4376.

"J"

By Jyneer Green

Jyneer jumped and jiggled into his jeans in January, June and July with his jealous friends Jamie, James, Jason and Janet in jail. For junk food Jyneer ate jelly, jam and juice and got jiggy in his jiving Jaguar jeep and then Jyneer jotted in his journal.

## Emil Leporino Memorial Golf Outing

The Emil Leporino Memorial Golf Outing, sponsored by the South Plainfield Education Foundation and the South Plainfield Business Association, will take place on Tuesday, May 6 at the Cranbury Golf Club in West Windsor.

The golf outing is named after Emil Leporino, who was instrumental in the formation of the South Plainfield Education Foundation. While a member of the South Plainfield BOE, a committee was formed to look into ways to connect the business community with the education community. In 1994, as a result of the committee's work, the South Plainfield Vision 2001 Education Foundation was formed. Since 2001, the group has been renamed the South Plainfield Education Foundation, but the goal of the organization has remained unchanged; to provide scholarships for graduating seniors and to provide educational incentive programs throughout the district.

Leporino was also an active member of the South Plainfield Business Association, where he served as vice president. He owned his own insurance business and worked with the business community to improve communication with the town government, and further the objectives of the

South Plainfield Business Association.

Entry fee of \$150 includes 18 holes of golf, use of locker rooms, greens fees and cart, continental breakfast, complimentary beverage cart, hot dog and chips at the turn, open bar (beer, wine and soda) and BBQ luncheon. The format is a four man scramble with a shotgun start.

Prizes will be awarded for team low gross, team low net, hole-in-one, longest drive and closest to the pin.

Registration and continental breakfast begins at 8 a.m. with shotgun start at 9 a.m. The open bar starts at 2 p.m. followed by luncheon and awards.

The following corporate sponsorship are available: Platinum sponsor \$1,000—includes foursome, corporate

banner, flag and tee sign and recognition at the event; Gold \$750—includes foursome and flag, recognition at the event and Silver \$500—includes twosome and tee sign, recognition at the event.

Corporate underwriters are: Breakfast sponsor \$250; Beverage Cart sponsor \$250; flag first and 18th green \$175; flag second through 17th green \$125 and tee sign \$125.

To sign up your team or individually, call Carolyn Allen at (908) 561-3275, Tom Lanza (908) 753-6010, Debbie Leporino (908) 510-3663, Bob Longo (908) 753-7004, ext. 106, Rick McCriscin (908) 561-8000, Marge Reedy (908) 561-5800, ext. 302 or Kelly Stashko (908) 412-8881, ext. 4201 or log on to golf@SPBA.biz.

## School Board Candidacy Info

The deadline for filing nominating petitions to run for positions on the South Plainfield BOE is Monday, Feb. 25 at 4 p.m. The election is scheduled for Tuesday, April 15.

Prospective candidates can obtain a "School Board Candidate Kit" at the administration building, 125 Jackson Ave., between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily.

Published by the New Jersey

School Boards Association, the kit includes the nominating petition and information about legal qualifications for school board candidacy and the role of the school board member.

Information about the New Jersey School Ethics Act, important dates in the school election process, and briefing sessions for school board candidates are also included in the kit.

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## Scouts Make 100+ Blankets For Newborns in Need

The Junior League of Elizabeth-Plainfield (JLEP) and eight Girl Scout and Brownie troops in the Westfield, Cranford and Scotch Plains area made over 100 fleece blankets to donate to the New Jersey chapter of Newborns in Need.

After reaching out to local Girl Scout and Brownie troops interested in fulfilling community service requirements, each interested troop received fleece donated by the JLEP as well as instructions on how to make the blankets. Over the course of four months, the troops made the blankets which were all given to Newborns in Need for distribution to local hospitals. "The response that we received from the troops was incredible. The girls made beautiful blankets for the babies that will help to keep them warm especially during these very cold months," says Kate Franciscus, the JLEP's Newborns in Need committee chair. The troops that participated in the blanket drive were troops #352, #90, #260 #769, #304, #900, #777, and #726.

Newborns in Need is a national organization focused on providing blankets and burial layettes to premature and needy infants. The NJ chapter of Newborns in Need expands on the national organization's mission to

include the solicitation and distribution of baby care items including lotion, diapers, wipes, etc. "Our goal is to provide the mother of a needy child a gift bag containing 20 care items including hats, booties, clothing and blankets made by the scores of volunteers that support the NJ Newborns in Need chapter," says Newborns in Need New Jersey founder Daphne Boyd. The JLEP and Newborns in Need entered into a three-year partnership with the goal of assisting the organization in their community service efforts. Franciscus said, "We are extremely pleased to be working with Newborns in Need. The organization provides a valuable service to women and their babies and we are proud to assist in their efforts."

The JLEP is currently accepting offers from local Girl Scout troops or other service groups that need to fulfill community service hours. These groups can assist by creating blankets and hats for care bags or organizing drives to collect items such as lotion, diapers, wipes and other essential items for babies. If you or your group is interested in working with the JLEP and Newborns in Need, please contact Kate Franciscus at franciscus4@comcast.net.

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# IN MY OPINION

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

(Continued from page 2)

state. What may appear to be only a five day suspension may in fact be part of a legal process kept private to protect all parties. The process must comply with the concept of "innocence until proven guilty." Additionally, I am sure that if Miss Katsantonis reflects back over her time at SPHS, and looks through past yearbooks, she will discover a number of problem students no longer enrolled.

In closing, I do agree with Miss Katsantonis that it should be about the students. That is why events like multicultural heritage day, model UN, award winning sports, music, and extra-curricular programs, and the increasing percentage of graduates accepted to college, continue to flourish.

Thank you for considering my position on these issues. I do not want to be silent during Miss Katsantonis' carelessness.

**SINCERELY,  
DAVID LANDY, TEACHER, SPHS**

## To the Editor:

It is said that part of being a leader is being able to deliver a message that people don't want to hear. I delivered that message to the residents of the Borough at the January 22 council meeting. It is getting to the point that our Democratic counterparts just do not want to face reality.

The 2007/2008 budget year started July 1. That was six months and 22 days from January 22, when we finally adopted a budget. Prior to being elected in November, I had the opportunity to review the proposed

budget. And after being appointed as chairman of the Administration and Finance Committee, I met with our Borough CFO Glenn Cullen on 10 different occasions in a 22-day span.

If the Democrats consider that rushing into a decision, I don't know what to tell them. In that same period of time I never once heard the plan the Democrats had for a tax decrease.

What concerns me more is the fact that they claim this increase is larger than all increases combined since the year 2000. Just go back two short years and you will find an eight-point increase and last year a six-point increase. If my math is correct that totals 14 points in just two years. That 14 points is nearly twice the increase for the fiscal year 2007/2008 budget.

Although I have spoken to a lot of people regarding this decision, and have gotten feedback both pro and con, the one underlying theme of all the conversations was the same: Thank you for being honest and keeping the residents informed. I will continue to hold myself to that high standard and will also continue to research all options before making a decision.

**COUNCILMAN RAY RUSNAK**

## Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter in response to Miss Natia Katsantonis' letter in the January 25 issue. I would just like to say that as a senior at South Plainfield High School myself, I completely agree with her point of view. SPHS has done a complete 180 since I entered the building at the start of the 2004/2005 school year. My freshman

year was fun, despite the fact that it was school. But now, even in my senior year, I dread going to school because it feels like prison. It is ludicrous to me that no matter what your purpose is in the hallways, you need a little yellow pass signed by a teacher. I'm starting to think your spleen could be falling out and you still wouldn't be allowed to leave the room before getting a pass.

I also feel that the high school is extremely shady and secretive. This fall there was a four-and-a-half hour lockdown and to this day I am still not completely sure as to why this happened. Also, one of my teachers unexpectedly quit his job at SPHS in December, and it is now February and no one has come to our class to tell us what is going to happen in the future, or that he will not be returning. All I'm asking for is a little honesty. If they want me to act like an adult while I'm in school, I would appreciate the truth and to be treated like an adult.

I'm not accusing the entire staff, however I feel that for every one teacher that I respect and has shaped my life in a positive way, there are three more that have made my high school experience miserable. Some teachers and counselors are there because they truly care about education, but it has become blatantly clear to me that many teachers and counselors are just there for the paycheck. I've gone to guidance a few times to discuss my concerns, and if I got lucky and made it through the lobby without getting sent back to class before I even walk in the door, I have been shot down; which is why I've had to resort to writing a letter to express my feelings.

I also find it ridiculous that you can be a second late to school or class and you are supposed to receive office detention. Accidents happen; people show up late. Teachers do not get office detention for showing up late, which frequently happens. Supposedly this policy has cut down on the number of tardy kids at our school, but why does that statistic matter. Are we no longer "the best kept secret in Middlesex County" if we have a few late kids? I feel that all our school is concerned about is appearances, but if you ask the students what they really think, I'm confident that the majority would say something negative about SPHS before they would say something positive.

I feel that our school has become much too strict and that is why so many students are acting out.

Ultimately what I am saying is that a little more freedom and respect would go a long way. After all, it is our senior year, and Miss Katsantonis and I would like to remember it in a positive way.

**RESPECTFULLY,  
JESSICA GRAY**

## Dear Editor,

Much has been written about the budget crisis left by the Democratic council and inherited by the Republicans in January. It's surprising how irresponsible the Democrats have been in their letters. You would think they would be embarrassed to publicize the extent of the mess they left, yet they repeatedly draw attention to it by criticizing the Republicans for cleaning it up.

Noticeably absent from their letters are facts. Apparently they think angry statements are a substitute. Here are the facts the Democrats never address:

1. Nearly \$500,000 must be repaid to businesses that won tax appeals. The Democrats did not budget a penny for this.

2. The budget included \$1.3 million from land sales, \$600,000 of that money is not in hand and must be by June 30. It is looking increasingly unlikely that the sales will close in time. This will leave a huge deficit that by law must be addressed.

3. The public was told by the mayor last fall that one-time revenue, like land-sale money, was not being used for operating expenses. Yet it was. The budget contains \$1.8 million in one-time revenue. Experts in municipal finance will tell you this is a foolish practice and is fiscally irresponsible.

Just before taking over, the new Republican Majority asked an expert in municipal finance to review the budget. His comment: "They are leaving you practically bankrupt." He also said that if the council did not act, residents would be facing up to a 20-point or greater tax increase next year.

The state is learning hard lessons about using one-time revenue and other gimmicks to prop up its budget. Yet when asked for solutions to the budget crisis, the Democrats offered no responsible alternatives. They wanted to thoughtlessly borrow our way out of the problem. This is like using your Visa card to payoff your MasterCard or mortgage. It doesn't solve the problem, but instead, digs

the hole deeper.

If the Democrats want to blame someone for a tax increase, they should point the finger at themselves. Their election-time stunt, namely their phony tax cut, has cost the town dearly. It's time for them to stop acting irresponsibly, to stop grandstanding, and to start doing what's right for South Plainfield.

**ALEX BARLETTA**

## To the Editor:

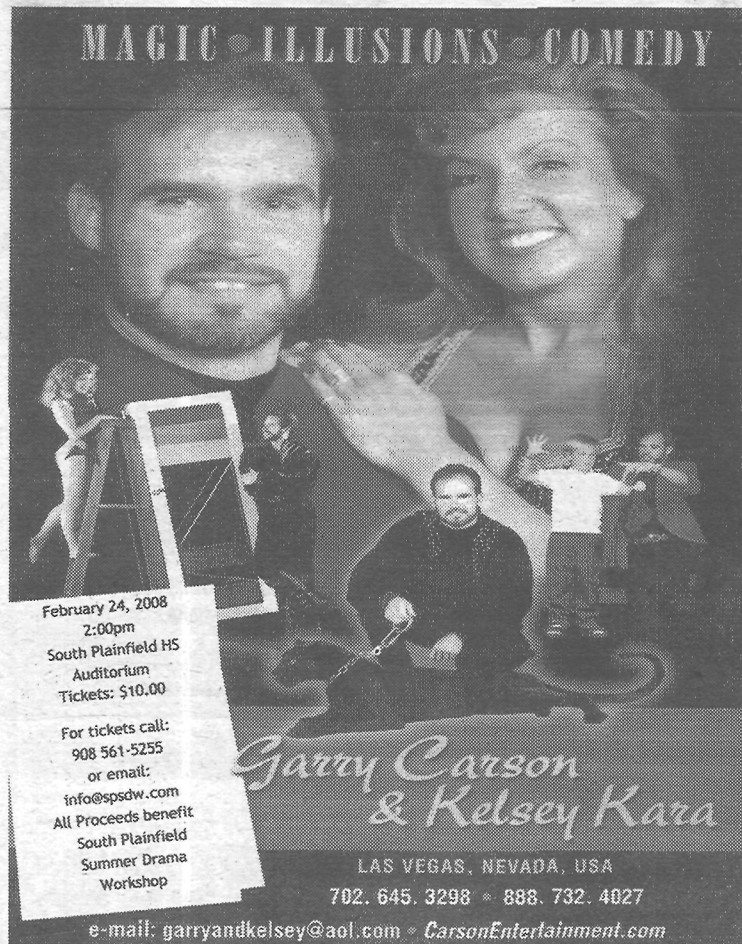
I was sorry to read, Mayor Butrico, that the Republican council members "basically ignored" you when you attempted to persuade them to hold off on raising our property taxes until they spent some time looking at cutting expenses. The fact that they dismissed you, without giving your concerns their just due, is appalling and disrespectful. I know this because that is exactly what you did to me in May of 2007.

I approached you and the Planning Board at a meeting concerning the new housing development proposed for the swamp land at the end of Martin Drive. I asked you what recourse the residents of Schillaci Lane and Fred Allen Drive might have if we experience an increase in flooding due to the construction of the new homes currently being built on the swamp land between Schillaci Lane and Martin Drive. You asked me "how would you prove anything?" and although I was taken aback by your 'seventh grade boy attitude,' I answered that "we would hire our own engineer." To that you smirked and turned to one of the men sitting at your table. And that was the end of it; you were finished with my concern.

The letter that you wrote to the *Observer* last week proves the old maxim "what goes around, comes around." When I see your smiling face in the *Observer*, the only thing that comes to my mind is the word hypocrite.

**MAUREEN TERHUNE**

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