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VOTE

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 11, NO. 32

MEMBER NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

50 CENTS

APR 11 2008

APRIL 11, 2008

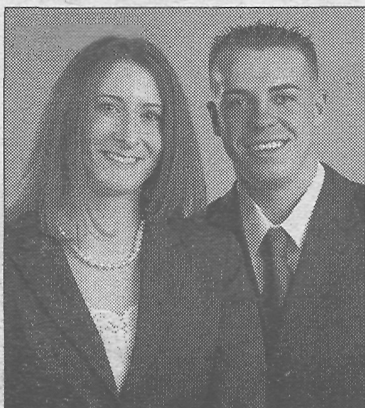
Newcomers to Challenge Incumbents This Fall



Rob Bengivenga Jr. and Matt Anesh

Democratic challengers Chrissy Buteas and Franky Salerno will face off against Republican incumbents Rob Bengivenga and Matt Anesh who are up for re-election for Borough Council this November.

The election results have the potential to sway the majority of the council.



Chrissy Buteas and Franky Salerno

Democratic Municipal Chair Patrick Diégan summed up the feeling of the members of the Democratic Committee: "We had many excellent candidates screen for the positions who are more than qualified to serve as council members. It is a complement to Chrissy Buteas and Franky Salerno that their

selection was unanimous. They are exactly what we need on the Borough Council. They are two outstanding, vibrant young people who only have one agenda—to serve our residents." Both candidates were born and raised in South Plainfield and are graduates of South Plainfield High School.

GOP Vice Chair Alex Barletta pointed to the Republican pair's accomplishments when explaining why they deserve re-election: "For two years, Matt Anesh and Rob Bengivenga have been fighting for a better South Plainfield."

"While in the minority, Rob and Matt constantly worked to do the right thing," Barletta continued. "They fought to cut wasteful spending, they fought against corruption, and they pushed for solutions to problems like traffic and overdevelopment."

For more on the candidates, please turn to page 11.



Play Ball!

South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club held their opening day ceremonies last Saturday. The festivities included a parade and awards. See page 12.



School Board candidates Sharon Miller (seated left) and Carol Byrne and Tim Morgan (standing left) and Steve Bohn.

Voters Get Close Look at BOE Candidates

The Meet the Candidates Night on April 1 at Kennedy School featured the four candidates who are vying for three open Board of Education seats this year.

Incumbents Tim Morgan and Carol Byrne are seeking their third and fourth terms, respectively. Both spoke about their work on various board committees. Morgan stressed his time on the Policy and Transportation committees. Byrne described her endeavors during her recent term on the Buildings and Grounds committee, helping to establish a district-wide newsletter and in promoting a facilities assessment committee resulting in the building of the new Roosevelt School. Both candidates want to continue the work they have done on the board.

Steve Bohn lost his bid for re-election last year and is a former president and vice president of the board. He

is employed by the Middlesex County Sheriff's Department as an officer and is very concerned about safety at the schools. Although most of the provisions he has helped to institute, such as making access to every school more difficult by keeping the doors locked until the school secretary opens it by remote control, Bohn is seeking the placement of security cameras at the high school and middle school. He said funds placed in the capital outlay portion of the budget for this were not implemented.

Sharon Miller is the only contender who has not held a seat on the board. She brings her experience as an involved parent who is president of the high school PTO whose effort is fundraising for Project Graduation. She claims to have helped modify the grading system at the high school so students would be more competitive when applying for college. She is

also a parent member of the current South Plainfield Middle States Planning Team where she is working to

(Continued on page 16)

South Plainfield Observer

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ANNUAL BULK PICKUP

The Borough's annual bulk pickup continues in District 2 the week of April 14. For a complete schedule of pickups, see the Borough's Web page.

Two Bonds Pass; One Rejected

On Monday the council approved two bond ordinances, one for roadway improvements on Tompkins Avenue (\$418,000) and another for Phase II of the South Plainfield Avenue project (\$130,000). However the Spicer Avenue sidewalk ordinance (\$180,000) was rejected.

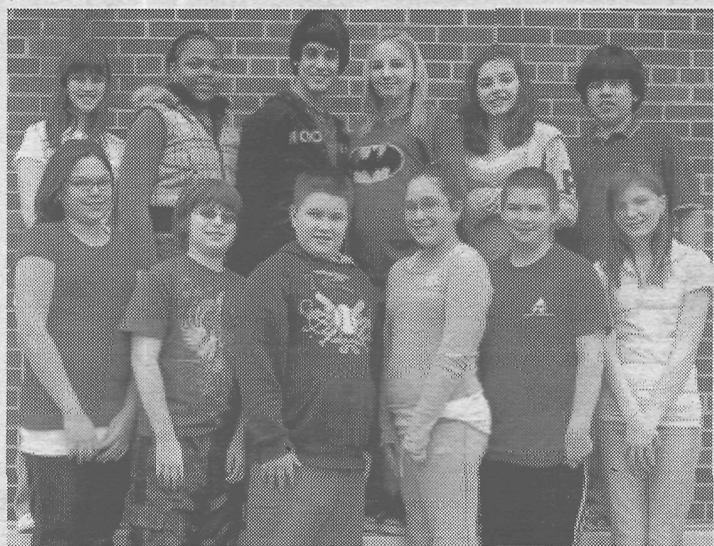
Mayor Charles Butrico had asked that the bond ordinances be tabled for a few weeks since the sale of borough owned property was near completion. According to Butrico the borough will be receiving up to \$660,000 in revenue and the projects could be funded without borrowing any money. The Republican Majority felt that bonding was needed now to allow for the engineers to begin working on the projects. Councilman Ray Rusnak

added that if and when the money does come in, it could be used to pay for the projects. Both Democratic councilmen agreed with the mayor to hold off on bonding.

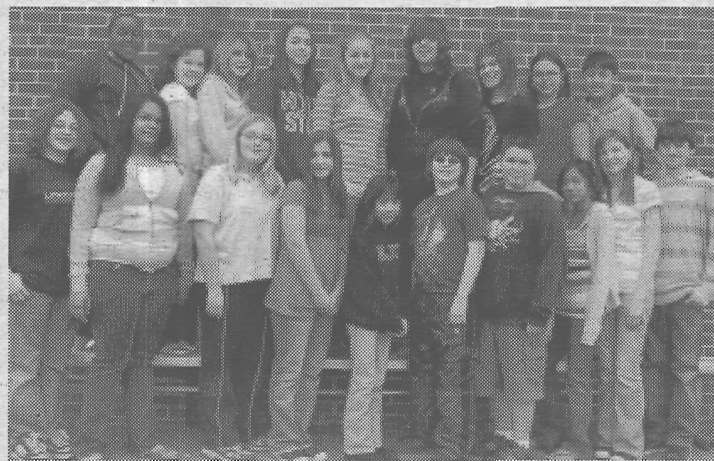
Voting for the first two bonds went along party lines and passed by a 4-2 vote. When the Spicer Avenue project came up for a vote, Councilman Tim McConville voted "no" and with the two democrats also voting no, the vote ended in a tie and failed to pass. McConville said he voted no because he did not like the fact that the mayor had signed the contract before the ordinance was approved. Butrico has admitted that he erred in signing the contract before the vote, saying he felt sidewalks were a safety issue on Spicer Avenue. He added that he now expects the Borough will be sued.



The cast of The Music Man which opened Thursday. For details and show times, turn to page 8 and 9.



Pictured above is the cast of "The Smartest Woman in the Kingdom" and below is the cast of "Thumbelina," which will be performed by the Middle School Drama Club on Thursday and Friday, April 17 and 18 at 7 p.m.



COUNCIL MEETINGS air on Mondays at 7:30 p.m.

AGENDA and/or Other SPECIAL Meetings air every Saturday at 8 p.m.

(Check community bulletin board for last minute time changes.)



The March 19 BOE Public Meeting will air on Comcast Channel 74 Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. until the next public meeting on Wednesday, April 9. Comcast will air two hours of a meeting. To purchase a copy of a complete Borough Council or BOE meeting, contact the *Observer*.

Superintendents BOE Budget Presentation will air Saturday, April 12 at 8 p.m., followed by the Meet the Candidates Night.

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
Monday, April 14	Monday, April 21
Monday, May 12 (7 p.m.)	Immediately Following
Monday, May 19	May 27 (Tuesday)

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.

South Plainfield Observer

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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:

On April 6, I was one of the many who attended the funeral of Dith Pran at the South Plainfield Funeral Home. Dith was known as many things to many people—survivor of a genocide that nearly destroyed his native Cambodia in the 1970s, jovial photographer for *The New York Times* and a tireless humanitarian dedicated to raising awareness of the injustice he and his countrymen suffered through—and it was a blessing to count myself as one of the people who got a chance to meet him and listen to his story.

In 2005, I was lucky enough to meet Dith when he came to speak at South Plainfield High School. Even better, I got to interview him about his experiences for the *Observer*. It was a formative moment for me as a young journalist—certainly the moment where I realized I could make a living writing for papers—but it was also fascinating seeing a man of infinite passion calmly recounting experiences I could wish upon nobody.

Dith's answers to my questions were not the kind of answers you would expect from a survivor of a tragedy such as a train wreck or the September 11 attacks. He did not grieve for the brothers he lost to the Khmer Rouge. His voice did not break, no tears left his eyes. And, perhaps most importantly, he did not express a hatred for his captors, just a desire to see justice served on behalf of his countrymen.

The mere fact that he continued to live a life as a peacemaker and humanitarian after those grueling years of suffering is overwhelming. In 1996, his fellow survivor, Haing S. Ngor, who won an Oscar playing Pran in "The Killing Fields," was randomly gunned down by Asian gang members. Two years later, Pol Pot, the former leader of the Khmer Rouge regime that invaded Cambodia in 1975, died without ever facing a court for his war crimes—and in only a few months time will surviving members of the Khmer Rouge finally stand for their wrongdoing.

But he showed no anger or remorse about these things, only a sense of bright, upbeat determination that, someday, the world or nature would right these wrongs.

"I never give up," he told me, "and I believe that evil will never live forever." It is as crazy a sentiment now as it was then—just as crazy as the notion that a man who suffered so much died not of old age but pancreatic cancer, which remains as unstoppable a disease as injustice or cultural misunderstanding.

But, in his time on Earth, Dith Pran carried out the dual messages of peace and understanding with a grace that seems too good to be true—but somehow is. And if we can muster a tenth of his grace and courage in this mixed-up world, then evil may someday be as short-lived as Dith had hoped.

I join the rest of the community, both in South Plainfield and beyond, in expressing how lucky I am to have met Dith Pran, and my sincerest condolences go out to his family in their time of loss.

SINCERELY,
MICHAEL DUQUETTE

To the Editor:

I would like to thank this year's Board

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IN MY OPINION

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

of Education candidates for attending Meet the Candidates Night held on April 1.

Also, thank you to Joann Graf for moderating, the middle school PTO for sponsoring the event, the Kennedy School PTO hospitality bakers and Principal Kelly Richkus for the use of the building, and the entire Board of Education for their cooperation.

Please remember to vote on Tuesday, April 15.

JANE DORNICK, MS PTO

To the Editor:

It is not the duty of Middlesex County citizens to ingest fluoride. They have the right to water without fluoride.

Concerned citizens should complain to the Governor and demand that fluoridation be stopped!

PHYLLIS J.M. HAASE,
RESIDENT OF ARISTA-CARE AT CEDAR OAKS

To All of Our Valued Friends:

We are pleased to announce that we are expanding our store and making many much needed upgrades.

Recently we were able to rent the store right next to us as soon as it became available. We are going to knock down the wall making our store twice the size it is now. We will be adding a new dining area, hot food display steam table and redoing our kitchen to include a grill, broiler and deep fryer. Needless to say, we will be expanding our menu to feature many new hot items along with the introduction of several new homemade salads and sandwiches.

We will also be featuring a full family style brunch buffet each and every Sunday that will include eggs any style, home fries, French toast, pancakes, sausage links, bacon, fresh fruit and a

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.

pastry table along with our new coffee station.

Deb, Bobby and I, along with our staff, are very excited about the upcoming changes and new items that we will be featuring. We will remain open during the construction (since most of it will be done next to our current store), and will be announcing new extended store hours that will allow you to pick up "hot to go" dinners, or subs and sandwiches on your way home from work. As always, we will be open seven days a week and offer free delivery.

THANKS AND SEE YOU SOON!

CHARLIE KURLAND,
HOMETOWN HEROS

To the Editor:

Tiger 24, a 24-hour long fundraiser that helps families in need, is slated for Friday, May 2 and takes place at Jost Field. They are in need of volunteers to assist by donating their time. This program is run solely by SPHS Peer Leadership teachers/advisors Mrs. Vandermark, Mr. Encineas, Ms. Marconi, Mr. Hajduk, Ms. Raimondo, Ms. Zurka, Mr. Cirigliano and Mr. Genz, the Peer Leadership Steering Committee comprised of students and help from Sodexo. Last year Peer

(Continued on page 10)

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The 100 year-old Japanese Red Maple is carefully lifted for its move across the street (left) and successfully transplanted in McCriskin's front yard.

SPHS "Hall of Fame" Calling For Applicants

The "Hall of Fame" was established at South Plainfield High School to recognize outstanding graduates. Honoring these successful graduates as leaders in their fields provides our current high school students with positive role models who have graduated from SPHS or a designated high school for South Plainfield students prior to 1957.

The selection criteria is as follows: Candidates nominated must have graduated from SPHS or the designated school at least 15 years prior to nomination and have achieved a prominent position with significant contribution in the listed criteria of academia, business, community participation, service to humanity and unique accomplishments.

Candidates selected will have their photographs and biographies displayed on the "Hall of Fame" at the high school. These honored candidates will be inducted at the High School Academic Recognition Program held on June 3.

Nomination forms can be obtained from Dr. Kenneth May, principal, South Plainfield High School, 200 Lake St., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080 or by calling (908) 754-4620, ext. 248.

Return deadline is Friday, April 18.

Japanese Red Maple Finds a New Home at McCriskin's

On March 31 McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals broke ground on the project of relocating a unique Japanese Red Maple tree, located on Borough property on Plainfield Avenue, to their property which lies across the street. The tree, estimated to be more than 100 years-old, has been located on the site where the borough is planning to build a new public library for the residents of South Plainfield.

The Japanese Red Maple was thought to have been planted by the late Thomas and Kay Lombardo, who had the tree on the front lawn of their residence. Tom Lombardo was an optometrist and served South Plainfield residents with eye exams and eyeglasses. He passed away in the late 1960's, and his wife, Kay, passed away in the late 1990's. Another family owned the property for only a few years before the borough acquired it in the summer of 2004.

Jim Gustafson and Rick McCriskin, owners of the funeral home, thought it would be a great gesture for the borough to relocate the beautiful Japanese

Red Maple to their property. They took it upon themselves to investigate a way of saving the tree, while at the same time maintaining Plainfield Avenue's well-kept landscape.

After initially discussing the project with Kathy Thomas, a former councilwoman, the two approached Mayor Charles Buttrico and members of the borough council with their idea. They then spoke with Billy Disch of Disch Tree Experts and asked his professional opinion. He explained the difficulty of

maneuvering a tree, especially one as unique as this Japanese Red Maple, because of its age and distinctive growth. In his professional opinion, Bill told Jim and Rick to contact a tree moving specialist.

While seeking out a tree moving specialist, Jim discovered Holly Hill Tree Moving of Springtown, Pa. who expressed an interest in participating with the removal and re-location of the tree to the funeral home property. The tree was carefully dug out by hand on

March 31 and transferred to the funeral home on April 1.

At the funeral home property, John Dean of A-Tech Landscape Design headed the operation of preparing the funeral home grounds to receive and plant the tree. A-Tech recently performed a paver project around the funeral home property, adding a more up to date look to an already eye appealing landscape which is maintained by Shaun Callanan who is also a resident of our community.

SCHOOL BOARD Notes

The Board of Education approved Acting Business Administrator Jose Negrón to sign checks for the following accounts until May 1, 2008: General account, payroll account, unemployment account, trust and agency account, cafeteria account, adult education account, adult school trip account, preschool account and latchkey account.

The South Plainfield Middle School will be taking the New Jersey ASK tests beginning April 28. It is imperative that all students be present during that week. The drama club presentation of Thumbelina will take place on Thursday, April 17 and Friday, April 18 at the middle school. Battle of the Books finals are on Friday, April 18.

Grant Elementary School conferences will be held on Thursday, April 17, with an early dismissal for students. All other elementary schools have conferences and early dismissal on Thursday, April 17 and Friday, April 18.

Riley School father-daughter dance will be held on Friday, April 11.

South Plainfield Schools will be closed for spring recess from Monday, April 21 through Friday, April 25.

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aroundtown

Blackrose to Perform

April 12

Blackrose, a band performing classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will perform at Tim Kervins Pub, located on Rt. 28 in Middlesex on Saturday, April 12 at 9:30 p.m.

Boy Scout Troop 207 Spaghetti Dinner

April 12

Boy Scout Troop 207 will hold a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, April 12 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the American Legion located on Oak Tree Avenue. Cost is \$5 for eat-in or take-out.

Life After Loss Speaker at Sacred Heart

April 13

Come hear Certified Grief Specialist Jessie Flynn at Sacred Heart Church on Sunday, April 13 from 3 to 4 p.m.

Flynn has been supporting people who are dealing with loss for over 30 years. She has developed grief support programs and trains caregivers for the Metuchen Diocese. Her lectures focus on normal grief reactions, how to deal with the stressful emotions that accompany loss, and ways to develop one's spiritual, mental, emotional and physical potential while honoring the gift of life.

Future Stars to Hold Open House

April 17

Future Stars will hold an open house on Thursday, April 17, located at the Roosevelt Administration Building, 125 Jackson Ave. Come and meet our staff and visit our classrooms. Two and-a half to four year-old classes,

AARP Trip to Hudson Valley Resort

August 18 to 22

AARP Chapter #4144 will run a charter bus to Hudson Valley Resort from August 18 to 22. Transportation, tips, taxes, rooms, meals and use of all facilities including pool, gym, spa, games and live entertainment will cost \$530 double occupancy. Call (732) 752-3764 or (732) 752-8506 for registration or further details.

What's happening at the South Plainfield

SENIOR CENTER

APRIL

UPCOMING EVENTS

Income Tax Preparation Available Monday and Thursday 9 am to noon

Golden Isles of Georgia Trip May 3 through 9

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Crocheting 9:30am-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Art Class 11:30am	Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social Group 10am	Aerobics 8:45 am Line Dancing 10 am Computer 10 am, 11:30am, 1pm Crocheting 1pm Tai Chi 2pm	Claridge trip 9am Pathmark Shopping 9am Crafts Class 10am Computer Class 10am 11:30am, 1pm Exercise Class 1:15pm	Bingo 10am-2pm
14	15	16	17	18

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

morning and afternoon sessions. Four year-old tuition fee program available to South Plainfield families who meet the income eligibility requirements.

AARP #4144 Meeting, Tax Prep Assistance

April 21

Ajanta Vinekar, M.D. will speak on "Diagnosis and Management of Dementia" at the AARP Chapter #4144 meeting on Monday, April 21 at 12:30 p.m. at the senior center.

The IRS and AARP will have trained tax aides available on Monday, April 14 from 9 a.m. to noon at the senior center. Priority will be given to those ages 60 and over.

Glitterbug Club Children's Program

April 23

On Wednesday, April 23 the South Plainfield Clean Communities/Glitterbug Club will present a free children's program entitled, "Whales, the Ocean Environment & Litter" at the library on Plainfield Avenue at 6:30 p.m. Registration is required.

For information or to register, call the library at (908) 754-7885.

SPBA April Meeting

April 24

The South Plainfield Business Association will hold their monthly meet-

ing on Thursday, April 24 at 9 a.m. at Sherban's Diner, located on Front Street. Tom Stillman of Stillman Photography will give the "Spotlight on Business Presentation" for this month.

Contact Debra Anne Leporino at SPBAPres@aol.com no later than Friday, April 25 if you would like to be a guest speaker at the May meeting.

Sacred Heart School Tricky Tray

April 26

The Sacred Heart School fourth annual tricky tray, "Wild West Round-up," will be held on Saturday, April 26 in the school cafeteria. Doors open at 6 p.m. and drawing begins at 7:30 p.m. Prizes include gift certificates, electronics, sports memorabilia, baskets, a 50/50 raffle and more. Admission of \$15 includes five raffle tickets for basic level section. Free coffee, tea and light sweets. Adults only.

For additional information or to purchase advance tickets, contact Susan at (732) 321-0554 or Michele at (908) 757-2523.

— Out of Town —

Middlesex East WOWs Open Dance

April 11

Middlesex East Widows Or Widowers will hold an open dance on Friday, April 11 at St. Demetrius Community Center in Carteret from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. Live music and refreshments. Everyone is invited. Admission is \$10 for members and \$12 for guests.

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

Howie Mandel to Headline Benefit

April 12

The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey announced comedian Howie Mandel, star of the hit show "Deal or No Deal," will be the featured entertainer for the 28th Scholarship Benefit Gala on Saturday, April 12 at Caesars Atlantic City Hotel-Casino.

Call (609) 652-4658 or log on to www.stockton.edu/scholarshipbenefit.

Healthy Kids Day

April 12

The Plainfield Area YMCA is hosting its annual Healthy Kids Day with community vendors and free family fun activities on Saturday, April 12 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Tours, fitness demonstrations, and program information will be available.

For more information contact Jon Tilli at (908) 756-6060, ext. 109.

Benefit Bowling/Raffle

April 12

Join us for an afternoon of bowling in a fun, non-competitive format, food, tricky tray and a chance to win a 50" flat panel HDTV on Saturday, April 12 at 2 p.m. at the Woodbridge Bowling Center to benefit the Prodigal Foundation, Inc. Tax-deductible donation of \$30 and entry form enters you into the drawing.

For information, call (732) 636-9200 or visit www.prodigalfoundation.com.

Casino Night

April 12

A "Tropical Island Get Away" themed casino night will be held on Saturday, April 12 from 6 p.m. to midnight at Our Lady of Mount Virgin School, located at 450 Drake Ave. in Middlesex. Tickets at the door are \$45, senior citizens are \$35 and include dinner and dessert, complimentary drink and initial supply of play money. Seating is limited. 21 or older.

For tickets and information, call (732) 356-6560.

Dinner Dance

April 12

Plainfield Gesang-und Turn-Verein, Inc. will hold a dinner dance on Saturday, April 12 at 6:30 p.m. at Singer Hall, 220 Somerset St., North Plainfield. Music will be provided by Pater Vogel band. Tickets are \$17 for members and \$19 for non-members.

Call Victor at (908) 276-8572 or Joan at (908) 647-0819.

Edison Arts Society Drawing Class

April 14

The Edison Arts Society is offering a six-week basic realistic drawing class on Monday evenings from 6:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. at the North Edison Branch library main meeting room, 777 Grove Ave. in Edison beginning Monday, April 14 through Monday, May 19. Cost is \$140; 15% discount to members and/or senior citizens.

To register or for more information call (908) 753-2787.


Taste of Kindness Fundraiser

April 14

Women Aware, Inc. is holding it's 16th annual fundraiser, A Taste of Kindness, on Monday, April 14 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at The Pines Manor, Rt. 27 in Edison. The event features soup provided by several Central Jersey's restaurants, as well as breads and desserts. Door prizes and raffles available. Tickets are \$40 in advance; \$45 at the door.

Proceeds benefit the ELVES (Empower the Littlest Victims to Emerge Strong) Program, Women Aware's tailored program for children in shelter to help overcome the effects of living in a violent home.

For information, call Yvonne Hook at (732) 249-4900 or Phyllis Adams at (732) 249-4900.



Seussical

Music by **Stephen Flaherty** Lyrics by **Lynn Ahrens** Book by **Stephen Flaherty**
Lynn Ahrens

Crossroads Theater, 7 Livingston Ave., New Brunswick, NJ

Thursday, April 17th, 2008 @ 8PM \$12 General Admission Tickets can be
Friday, April 18th, 2008 @ 8PM \$6 Kids, Students & Reserved at
Saturday, April 19th, 2008 @ 2PM Seniors WWW.RULTC.ORG
Sunday, April 19th, 2008 @ 8PM
Sunday, April 20th, 2008 @ 2PM

Questions? Email info@rultc.org

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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

Soccer Club Presents Evening of Stand-up Comedy

The South Plainfield Soccer Club is going to add something very exciting and different to their fundraising schedule this year. The club will present its very first, truly outstanding "Evening of Stand-up Comedy" on Saturday, May 3 at the PAL building on Maple Avenue. The event promises to be a fantastic evening, so come out and see the many talents on display.

The headliner for the evening is Delaware's fastest-rising young comedy star, Keith Purnell. Purnell, looking very much like Michael Jordan, appeared on the nationally-syndicated *Showtime at the Apollo*. He was the winner of the 1997 Iceland Airlines Comedy Competition, which earned him a tour of Germany, and a finalist in the 1993 Coors Light Super Talent Showcase. He recently placed second in the 2003 Philadelphia Comedy Competition and has appeared as an extra in the movies "Dead Poet's Society" with Robin Williams, "Hollywood Brawler" with Bruce Willis and "Behind Bars." One leading comedy critic describes Purnell as "a high energy performer whose personality, style, and quick wit keeps audiences in stitches." There will also be a talented host and emcee.

Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. The comedy begins at 8:30 p.m. A donation of only \$20 per person (\$25 at the door) includes B.Y.O.B., B.Y.O.F (food), and of course, a great comedy show. You must be over 21 years of age to attend this event. There will be 50/50 raffles, too!

For tickets and information, call Donna at (908) 753-6175. Come out and help support the South Plainfield Soccer Club!

Volunteer Litter Cleanup Week, April 12-19

Mayor Charles Buttrico has proclaimed the week of April 12-19 as "South Plainfield Volunteer Litter Cleanup Week," and is asking all sectors of the borough to participate. The South Plainfield Clean Communities Advisory Board sponsors this annual spring cleanup, which usually draws over 200 participants.

The board is still seeking volunteers to help pick up litter in the parks, along roadsides and from vacant lots and streams. Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops, Cub Scout packs, church groups and members of the South Plainfield Clean Business Association have already signed up to work at various locations. Individual residents have also volunteered to organize their neighborhoods and to join in the big cleanup day on Saturday, April 12.

Participants are invited to come back to the PAL building after the cleanup for free pizza, a six-foot sub from Hometown Heros, soda from Krausz's and door prizes from the Environmental Commission. Middlesex County's MC Blue, the Recycling Robot, will join the festivities.

Volunteers should meet at the PAL from 9 to 10 a.m. to collect gloves, bags and rakes before dispersing to their assigned cleanup locations. Other locations are being cleaned on other dates.

Rain date is Sunday, April 13.

Send Your Milestones

to: South Plainfield Observer,
1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
or email: spobserver@comcast.net

southplainfieldpeople Milestones

Alison Tietjen to Wed George Karounis

Jean and John Tietjen of South Plainfield are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Alison Elisabeth, to George Dimitrios Karounis, son of Dimitrios and Hrisa Karounis of Suffern, N.Y.

The bride-to-be graduated from South Plainfield High School in 2001 as the class valedictorian. Alison earned a B.E. in biomedical engineering, with high honors, from Steven's Institute of Technology in Hoboken and received a masters degree in engineering management from Duke University's Pratt School of Engineering. Alison is employed by Medtronic Inc. as a clinical specialist in the Cardiac Rhythm Disease Management Division.

The groom-to-be graduated Suf-



Alison Elisabeth Tietjen and
George Dimitrios Karounis

fern High School in 2001. He earned a B.E. in engineering management and a master's degree in construction management, with honors, from Steven's Institute of Technology in Hoboken. George is employed by Whiting and Turner as a construction engineer.



Teddy Malecki, longtime South Plainfield resident, celebrates his 98th birthday at the Senior Center with family, friends and fellow senior center members on April 8. Granddaughter-in-law Cara Malecki, wife of Teddy's grandson, Scott Malecki, stands with Teddy as he holds his great-grandson, two month old Mason Robert Malecki. Also pictured is Teddy's sister, Helen Malecki Oschanski, wife of the former Chief of Police Mike Oschanski.

Kyle Darr Awarded Athletic Scholarship to Fairleigh Dickinson University

Kyle Darr, a senior at South Plainfield High School, attended the Bill Denny Central Jersey Chapter of the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame Scholar-Athlete Dinner on April 6. The dinner was

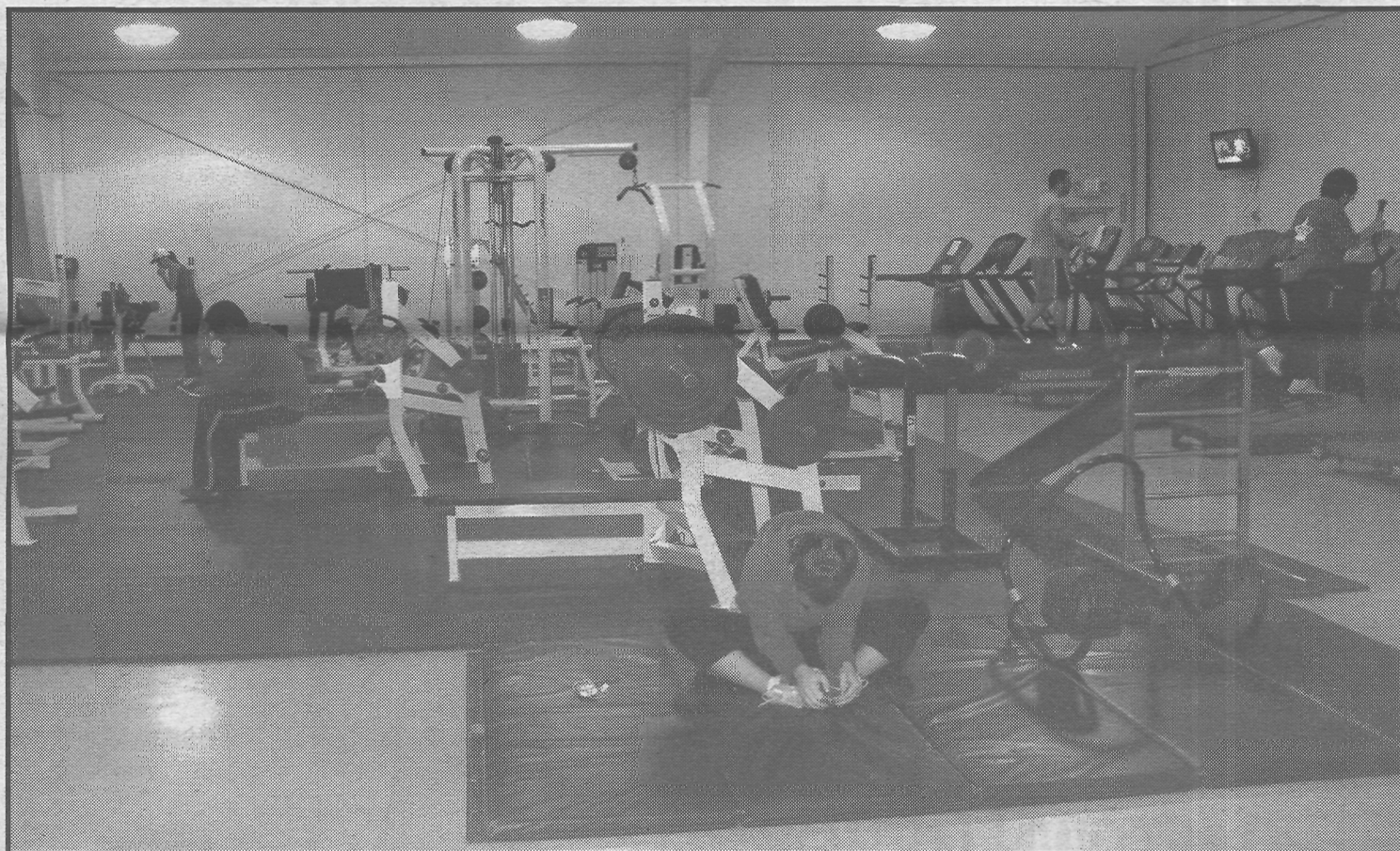
held at The Chateau in East Brunswick.

Attending the dinner were Kyle's parents, Robert and Doreen Darr of South Plainfield, and SPHS Head Football Coach Phillip McGuane.

The dinner honored athletes for outstanding academic achievement, leadership in school and the community and for football performance. Kyle received a plaque and scholarship. Also, his name will be placed

in the Football Hall of Fame in Indiana.

Kyle will attend Fairleigh Dickinson University in the fall where he will be playing football for the Fairleigh Dickinson Devils.



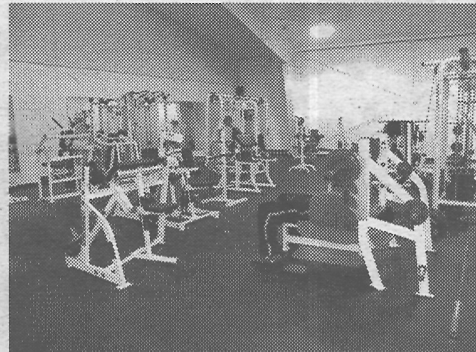
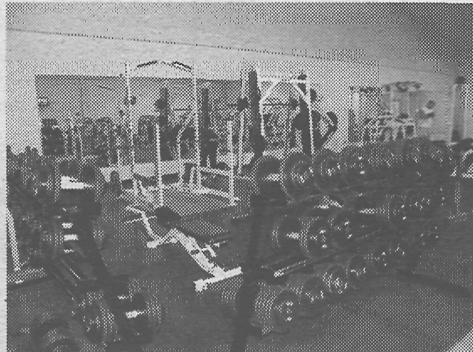
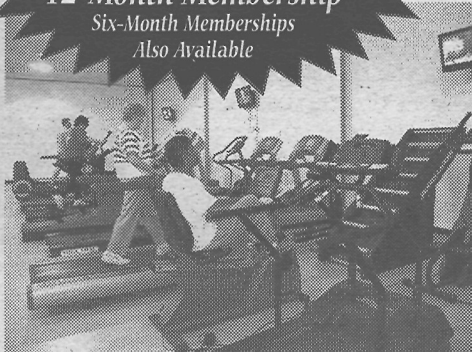
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For more info, call or visit the PAL-1250 Maple Avenue-(908) 226-7713.

IN MY OPINION

(Continued from page 2)

Leadership also helped Habitat for Humanity by painting walls, ceilings and laying tile floors. Peer Leadership is also involved in the Adopt-A-Family program. I commend the faculty and students for these excellent community services.

The South Plainfield High School Middle States Planning Team consists of high school Principal Dr. Kenneth May, teachers and advisors, Board of Education members, students and community volunteers. Together, the entire team is doing a commendable job working together to reach their goal. The athletic booster club is in need of snack stand volunteers for spring track meets at Jost Field. Please contact Teri Pileggi at (908) 754-4620, ext. 248 if you can donate your time. Middle school athletic parents are also welcome to volunteer.

Democracy Week for the new library will take place beginning Monday, May 5. Taxpayers will have the opportunity to exercise their right to vote on the financing to build a new public library. Voting will not take place on Wednesday, May 7 due to municipal court, which occupies the courtroom where the voting will take place. Residents will have extended voting hours two evenings during that week. Please check the *Observer* and the Borough Web site for times. It is your privilege as a taxpayer to come out and vote.

The SPJBC parade took place on April 5. Thank you to Commissioner Mike Pellegrino, past commissioners, past and present baseball board members, borough council, fire and rescue squad members and the woman's auxiliary for supporting the youth of South Plainfield.

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School Board Candidates Speak

FROM CAROL BYRNE



Carol Byrne

I am Carol Byrne I and have lived in South Plainfield since 1969. Both of my daughters graduated from SPHS and went on to college. My husband Jerry is retired from Schindler Elevator in Morristown and functions as treasurer for OLC.

I have always been active in community affairs, working with the Junior Women's Club, the Grant PTA, and as president of the PTA at Franklin, the middle school and high school. Also the Elks Auxiliary, the music and athletic booster clubs, and by membership in the public celebrations and land management committees of the borough. I was one of the people who brought project graduation to South Plainfield in 1988. I served on the BOE from 1978 through 1987, was elected for a three year term in 1995 and again in 2005. I have recently been appointed to the Middle States Committee at the high school, along with fellow board member Deborah Boyle.

Our schools have been my special interest. They hold the key to so many futures and are an integral part of our community. As president of the board in 1998, I successfully instituted a facilities committee composed of residents and staff to look into the future of our schools. From that grew the new Roosevelt building, the addition to Grant and the current configuration of our district. Another of my goals was realized in the community newsletter. These past three years have been devoted to getting us on a firm financial footing, keeping our test scores up and removing illegal or disruptive students from our schools.

I am asking for your support. I believe I have the knowledge, strength, and willingness to work hard to keep South Plainfield schools at the level of respect and stability they deserve.

.....

FROM STEVE BOHN



Steven Bohn

Line 1.

I have lived in South Plainfield for 16 years with my wife and three children. I am the only candidate with children in the school system. I have been involved with the Franklin School auction as well as the Tiger 24. I supported the Future Stars program and fought for its continued existence by testifying in front of the Senate to pass a law allowing public schools to have such a program. With the help of Dr. Rosado, Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan, Senator Barbara Buono and other educators, it became a law.

My past experience on the board and my law enforcement background with the Middlesex County Sheriff's Department made me realize that the security of our children is not being addressed as it should be. On election day, both incumbents did not want to spend \$700 to provide police protection for the schools. I ask you to send a message—that the safety of the students and staff are worth the money. Also, money was in the budget for cameras at the high school and middle school, but they did not get the job done or even started.

Two issues I will address if elected are the safety of the students and staff, along with the lack of capital improvements by the current incumbents.

Thank you for your support. On April 15 vote Line 1, Steven Bohn.

.....

FROM TIM MORGAN



Tim Morgan

My name is Tim Morgan, and I am seeking re-election to the South Plainfield Board of Education. Over the past three years we have seen many accomplishments in our school district. We have made nice progress with our test scores, our fiscal house is in order, and have restored some of the positions lost during the budget crunch. Our SAT scores are the highest they have ever been. We are on track with our five year curriculum review cycle and are current with the text books for each curricular area. These are the things that the Board of Education is all about for the almost 3,800 students under our care.

During this past year we saw the retirement of both our superintendent, Dr. Robert Rosado, Assistant Superintendent Kaye Crown, and the resignation of our business administrator. After an extensive search and interview process we hired Jose Negron as superintendent, an assistant superintendent was promoted from within, and recently we approved the hiring of a new business administrator. Now that our central administration is in place, I look forward to South Plainfield's continued rise in the Middlesex County school ranks.

As I look back over the past years and think of all the good things that have happened in our schools, I feel privileged to be part of the process. I respectfully ask for your vote on Line 4 on Tuesday, April 15.

.....

FROM SHARON MILLER



Sharon Miller

My name is Sharon Miller. I am running for a seat on the Board of Education because I believe I can make a difference. I have lived in South Plainfield for 28 years. My husband grew up in this town and graduated from SPHS. We have two daughters who began their education in the Future Stars preschool program and have continued through the South Plainfield school system, graduating from SPHS. Both are currently in college.

I am a very involved and an active volunteer in our schools and community. Because of my strong involvement in our schools, I have learned how the school system functions at each level. I am currently PTA president at our high school. I am the 2008 Project Graduation auction chairperson. This year's auction was very successful and raised over \$24,000 for the 2008 Project Graduation event. I am currently a member of the SPHS Middle States Planning Team. The Middle States Commission on Secondary Schools accreditation recognizes excellence in educational quality, planning, and growth in student performance. We will be implementing a five year improvement plan and have been working for the past six weeks on establishing goals, objectives and the means for measurement.

I have been actively involved with the Parents Ponytail Association, the Field Hockey Association and the PTA. I have also volunteered at numerous other community activities such as Adopt-a-Family, Tiger 24 and helping to rebuild a house for Habitat for Humanity.

The budget this year is in good financial shape, however, we can not afford to lose sight of the position we were in just a year ago—tax increases, staff reductions and a loss of sports programs.

I believe the next level of evolution in our schools is to go from being the "best kept secret" in Middlesex County to simply being the best in our county.

To the citizens of South Plainfield and especially the children, if I am elected I will make the same promise to you that I have made to the numerous other organizations I have been involved with...I will be highly motivated, hard working, deeply committed and dedicated to the position of BOE member. I am someone you can put your trust in for doing what is right and fair for our children and our community.

I would greatly appreciate your support and vote on Line 2.

.....

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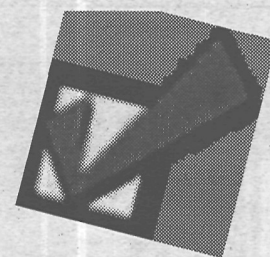
Discount registration for the pools ends Tuesday, April 15. Sign up now!

Aerobic classes are being offered at the PAL, 1250 Maple Avenue, Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 to 10 a.m. Intermediate aerobics class on Tuesday and Thursday, 9 to 10 a.m. Fee is \$35.

For more information, contact the PAL at (908) 226-7713.



8 Good Reasons to Vote YES in '08:



1. 3727 students enrolled in the district
..... 3727 reasons to vote yes!
2. Keep the 4 "A's" alive...Academics,
Athletics, Arts and Activities.
3. Our younger generation deserves the
same opportunities that we have
benefited from.
4. To maintain our high test scores.
5. Keep elementary class sizes low.
6. Keep the value of our homes and
neighborhood intact.
7. A YES vote = No Cuts!
8. NOT voting= A NO Vote!

Join the team supporting the school budget....
VOTE TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2008

Mike Alvarez
Bill Ashnault
Barbara Avery
Mary Bannon
Scott Barton
Mr. Benward
Mrs. Benward
David Bickunas
Karen Bickunas
Emilie Bishara
Tim Bishara
Jane Bishop
Eileen Boettger
Dorothea Bohn
Steve Bohn
Bob Boyle
Debbie Boyle
May Ann Boyle
Megan Boyle
Eileen Brady
Jack Brady
Gloria Buggy
Jonathan Buggy
Michael Buggy
Billy Butrico
Gail Butrico
Ginny Butrico
Sherry Butrico
Sue Butrico
Jay Chabrak
Lori Chabrak
Carol Christatos
Anthony Cotoia
Joanne Cox
Scott Culver
Chet Czapinski
Joy Czapinski
Antoinette DeCarlo
Maria DeCarlo

Tony DeCarlo
Charles Decker Jr
Charles Decker III
Lois Decker
Marianne Decker
Pat DeSantis
Bill DeNitzio
Camille Deutsch
Debbie DiDolce
John DiDolce, Jr.
Kathy DiMeglio
Mike DiMeglio
Janet Donnelly
Kathy Downes
Michael Downes
Sandy Doyon
Tom Doyon
Linda Duquette
Gene Errico
Janet Errico
Pat Fabino
Francine Falzarano
John Falzarano, Jr.
Stephanie Falzarano
Tim Fech
Ralph Fech
Susan Fech
Laura Ferguson
John Ferguson
Ann Marie Ferrante
Michele Fidler
Lee Flanagan
Fran Flannery
Nancy Flannery
Jim Flasser
Julie Flasser
Amy Fonti
Rich Fonti
Tara Fusaro

Gene Gaub
Helen Gaub
Janet George
John George
Jim Giannakis
Linda Giannakis
Eric Gil
Jen Gil
Sally Gillis
Beth Graves
Glenn Graves
Joanne Haus
Ken Haus
Sherry Hardy
Tom Hardy
Denise Hartje
Tracey Hartmann
William Hartmann
Joyce Heckel
Keith Heckel
Pam Heilmann
Nick Heilmann
Barbara Hepburn
Susan Hill
Cheryl Hughes
Kevin Hughes
Rob Hunt
Kiley Jackson
Michael Jakubik
Mike Jakubik
Nancy Jakubik
Bob Jones
Joan Kane
Donna Kasmer
Jay Kasmer
Mike Kavka
Sandy Kavka
Lara Kensey

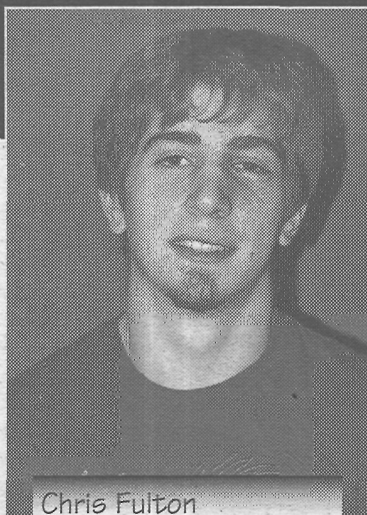
Keith Kensey
Karen Kunch
Debra Krawiec
Joe Krawiec
Thomas Lanza
Colleen Lazar
Joseph Lazar
Stan Lorys
Norm Loenser
Pat Mahoney
John Markham
Patty Martin
Ken Martin
Jeff Marcoux
Sherry Marcoux
Laura McCreesh
Tom McCreesh
Linda McGrath
Geri McKnight
Brian McMahon
Kim McMahon
Nancy McMahon
Rick McMahon
Gail Merlo
Deborah Miller
Joseph Miller
Jackie Miller
Jess Miller
Sharon Miller
Kathy Molinaro
Mike Molinaro
Tim Morgan
Claire Mosier
Mary Muglia
Pat Muglia
Kathy O'Brien
Nancy O'Shea
Nancy Padavano

Billy Padula
Lenny Padula
Sharon Padula
Cheryl Papa
Dominick Papa
John Papa
Pat Papa
Lynn Pennisi
Pio Pennisi
Chris Pennisi
Kelly Pennisi
Rose Pelton
Enzo Pileggi
Teri Pileggi
Joanne Plate
Rich Plate
Cathy Pompilio
Tony Pompilio
Patty Porzio
Donna Rann
Diane Ranger
Ron Ranger
Patti Ratti
Kiersten Ravi
Vic Ravi
Pat Remsing
Paul Remsing
Stephanie Rizk
Tom Rizk
June Russo
Ashley Sacks
Bob Sacks
Marygina Sacks
Mike Salici
Nancy Salici
Barbara Schlachtun
Joe Schlachtun
Al Schroeder

Debbie Schroeder
Jeffrey Seider
AnnSimone
Anthony Simone
Sal Simone
Anthony Sincavage
Pat Sincavage
Nancy Smith
Joan Sosnak
Joe Sosnak
Pamela Sosnak
Billy Stolz
Lori Stolz
Diane Sutton
Donna Tierney
Janine Turrise
Nina Turrise
Adele Veirs
Jim Veirs
Brandon Ullom
Carol Ullom
Kurt Ullom
Laurie Venetucci
Don Whalen
Janet Whalen
Holly Weakley
John Weakley
Carolyn White
Dan White
Kim Wilcox
Frank Wrublewski
Frank Wrublewski, III
Mickey Wrublewski
Nicole Wrublewski
Francis Yocum
Jayne Yocum
Diane Zekas

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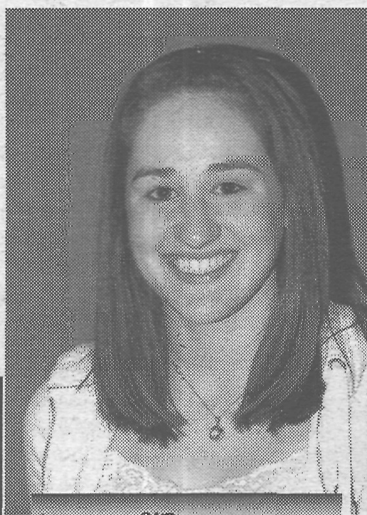
SPHS Players Drama Club presents



Chris Fulton



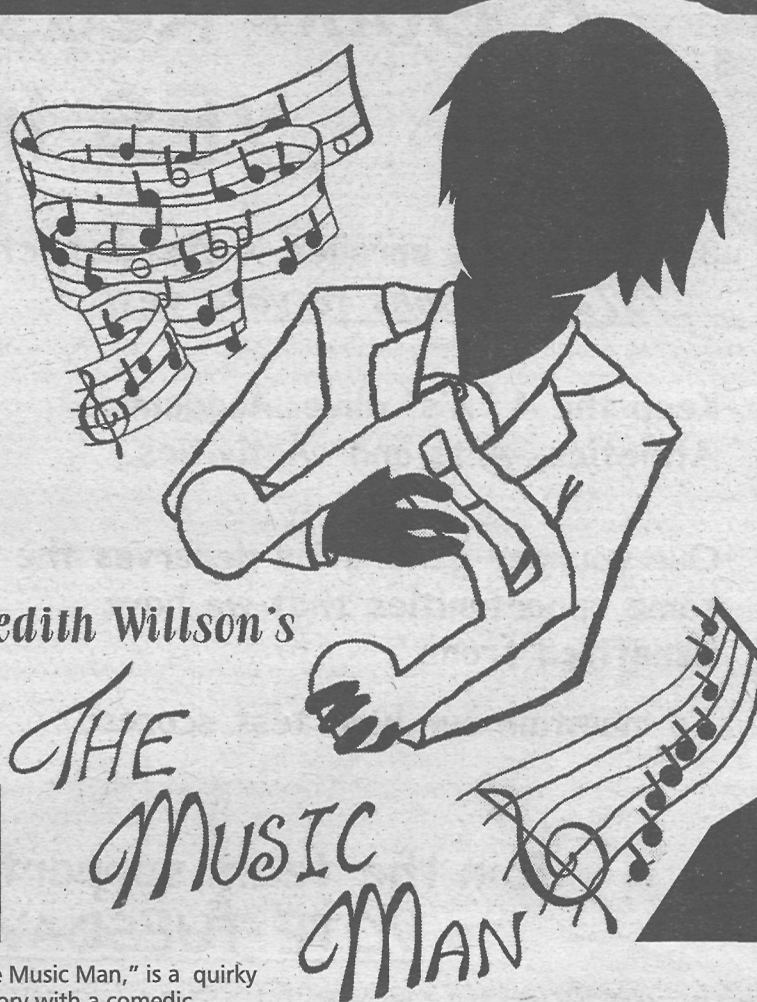
Taylor Kurilew



Lauren O'Day



Kristina Palazzo



Meredith Willson's

THE MUSIC MAN

Meredith Willson's musical, "The Music Man," is a quirky funny love story with a comedic twist. Traveling salesman and con man extraordinaire Harold Hill travels to small town River City, Iowa and convinces the town that the children need an activity that will keep them out of such trouble as the local pool hall and smoking. He suggests a band, and has families buying instruments and uniforms for a boys' band. Unbeknownst to the town he has no music training at all and plans to leave as soon as he has the money. Cupid steps in and he falls for the town's most respectable citizen, the slightly stuffy but beautiful Marian the librarian, and a piano teacher. Add a slew of other characters including Marian's mother, lisping little brother Winthrop, little Amyrillis who has a crush on Winthrop, Mayor Shinn, his strong-minded wife Eulalie Shinn, daughters Zaneeta and Gracie, town bad boy Tommy, River City's youngsters, Board of Ed members who are convinced by Hill that they are a barbershop quartet, a horde of traveling salesmen and gossiping ladies. The end result, a side-splitting musical comedy that ends as it should—happily ever after.

See the Music Man

at the SPHS Auditorium

on Friday & Saturday,

April 11 and 12 at 7 p.m. and

Sunday, April 13 at 2 p.m.

Tickets—Adults \$10, Students & Seniors \$8

Who's Who In Meredith Wilson's THE MUSIC MAN

◆ **CHRIS FULTON** (Harold Hill, Dance Captain) This is Chris's third production with the town and his debut for the high school. He played the supporting role of Bud Frump in the 2007 Summer Drama Workshop musical *How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. Between basketball and other extra-curricular activities, Chris has rehearsed daily to develop his lead role in *The Music Man*.

◆ **TAYLOR KURILEW** (Marian Paroo) *The Music Man* marks Taylor's fourth and final performance in the South Plainfield High School spring musical. Past shows include *My Fair Lady*, *Cinderella* (Ensemble, Dancing Chef, and Horse), *Carousel* (Julie Jordan), *Jekyll and Hyde* (Emma Carew), and *How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. Taylor has also done a number of shows with the Middlesex County College Summer Theatre Camp. Outside of drama, Taylor has been dancing and competing for 13 years with the Marie Moore School of Irish Dancing. For the past five years Taylor has gotten a chance to

sing with the Central Jersey Regional Choir, three years with the Women's Choir and two years with the SATB Choir.

◆ **BRITTANY PENEVOLPE** (Mrs. Paroo) This marks Brittany's fifth and final performance at SPHS, and her eleventh show in all. Some of her past performances include Mrs. Hopkins in *My Fair Lady*, Sandra in *The Pajama Game*, Louise Burke in *13 Past Midnight*, and her favorite, Nellie, in *Jekyll and Hyde*. Aside from being on stage, Brittany also wakes up the school every morning with the rest of the Announcers Club and is also a member of the Emeralds and concert choir. Brittany will be majoring in elementary education next year and hopes to continue acting throughout college.

◆ **BRETT TEMPLE** (Winthrop Paroo) is a student at Grant Elementary School, where he can be seen next month as a cowboy in Oklahoma! He has attended the Middlesex County College Summer Theater Camp, where he appeared as the

Royal Prince in *Rumpelstiltskin*, as an Englishman in *Pocahontas* and as a clown in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. At John E. Riley School Brett was seen in *Once Upon A House Top*, *Riley Kids Celebration of Life* and *Riley Kids Stars and Stripes Forever*

◆ **CHRIS SEESSELBERG** (Mayor Shinn) This will be Chris's third show in the high school. He was in the ensemble for both *Cinderella* and *Jekyll & Hyde*. He has been doing drama since fourth grade performing in such plays as *Annie Jr.* and *Holder Posey*. He has been in the Summer Drama Workshop for seven years and may continue this year with *Damn Yankees*. He would like to try to do Plays In The Park this year to be in *The Producers* and *Beauty and the Beast*. He is in the Jades and Concert Choir in the high school as well as the Asian Culture Club. He is on the SPHS Bowling team.

◆ **NORA STASIO** (Eulalie Shinn) is a junior at SPHS. Her stage credits include *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Holder Posey* the *Felonious Photographer*, *Who-*

dunit and to Whom? and *Annie Jr.* She has participated in the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop for five years, starring in the shows *Crazy for You*, *Pirates of Penzance*, *The Pajama Game*, *Carousel* and *How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*.

◆ **LAUREN O'DAY** (Zaneeta Shinn, Dance Captain) is a senior at SPHS. Previously, she has performed in the last six Summer Drama Workshop musicals and also the musical *Cinderella*. Lauren has been dancing for 15 years at Spotlight on Dance and is part of their competition company. In the fall, Lauren will be attending The College of New Jersey where she will be studying special education.

◆ **KRISTINA PALAZZO** (Gracie Shinn) is a sophomore at SPHS. *The Music Man* is Kristina's second appearance on the SPHS stage. She also appeared in the 2007 SPHS production of *Jekyll and Hyde*. Kristina is also involved with the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop and appeared in *How to Succeed in Busi-*

ness Without Really Trying. Kristina currently studies acting and musical theatre at Stars Theatre Academy in Warren, where she has performed in their production of *Almost Oz*.

◆ **TIMOTHY RATTI** (Tommy Dillas), a junior at SPHS, is appearing in his fourth high school production. He was last seen performing on the high school stage in *How to Succeed*. Prior to that he was seen as Spider/General Lord Glossop in *Jekyll & Hyde*, the herald in *Cinderella*, and Talbert in *13 Past Midnight*. His previous acting experience is credited to five years in the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop, including *How to Succeed* and *Carousel*. He is also a member of Almost Famous Players, the group responsible for the Haunted Woods Tour in October. In school Tim enjoys chorus and orchestra classes.

◆ **CHRISTINA KASMER** (Amaryllis) is 12 years old and currently in the seventh grade. She has been involved in drama since Grant School where she was in *Once Upon A Mattress* as Lady Larken and *The Music Man* as Gracie Shinn. Last year was her first year in the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop. Christina is also currently in the Middle School play, *Thumbelina*, along with being in chorus and band.

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Comedy begins at 8:30 p.m.

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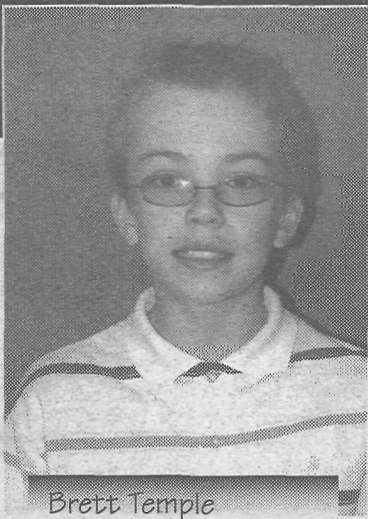
Proceeds benefit the South Plainfield Soccer Club.



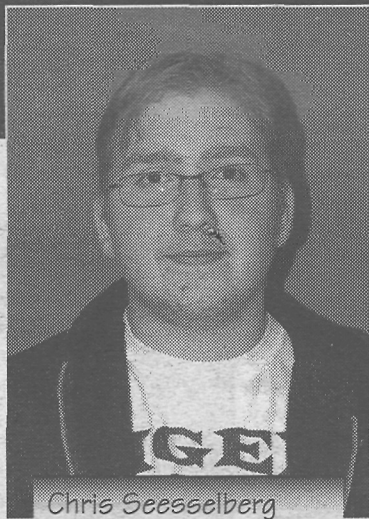
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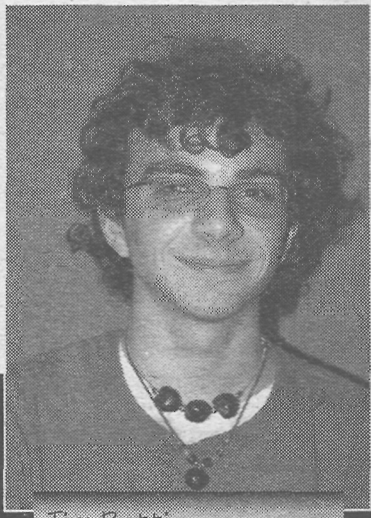
Brittany Penevolpe



Brett Temple



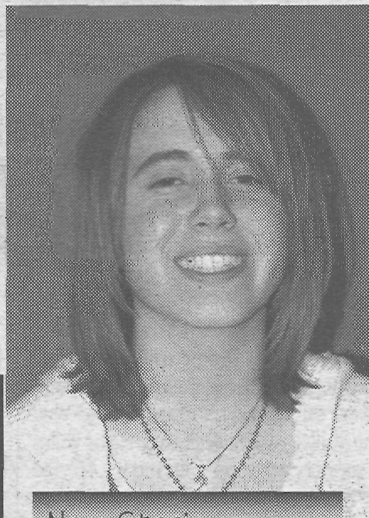
Chris Seesselberg



Tim Ratti



Cristina Kasmer



Nora Stasio

Behind the Scenes - The Staff

Director-Bill Seesselberg
Choreographer-Emma Fulton
Vocal Director-Tracy Glenn Murray
Orchestra Director-Roger Vroom III
Set Design and Construction-Dan Nigro
Set Decoration-Beth Penevolpe
Costumes-Loretta Tansey
Assistant Directors-Carla Scala & Katie Nuber
Stage Manager-Katie Egan
Student Producer-Rocco Severini

About the Staff

BILL SEESSELBERG (Director) returns to SPSHS as director, having co-directed *Anything Goes* in 2003. He is president of Edison Valley Playhouse, and was instrumental in the renovation and reopening of EVP in 2005. At EVP he has directed *A Christmas Carol*, *Hide and Seek*, *Same Time Next Year*, and *Snoopy!* Bill has also directed at other area theaters such shows as *They're Playing Our Song*, *Rehearsal for Murder*, *Tom Foolery*, *Arsenic & Old Lace*, and *Something's Afoot!* In 2007 he directed the FLOW Follies presentation, *Ya Gotta Believe* for the Ramapo-Indian Hills school district. He has extensive backstage experience that began at the (old) SPSHS. Bill was there at the beginning of the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop in 1972, and as producer in 1973 organized the program to a district wide activity, and returned in 1998 to strengthen the program through a reorganization and served as president for three years.

where she was a lead dancer and dance captain. Emma has a BA in mathematical science and is teacher certified in K-12 mathematics.

TRACY GLENN MURRAY (Vocal Director) is in his 18th year as choral Director at SPSHS where he directs the traveling choir, the concert choirs, the Emeralds (female vocal ensemble) and the Jades (male vocal ensemble), as well as the school's combined chorus. He has taken the SPSHS choir to Ireland (1992) to compete where they received the Best Chorus Award. In 1993, he took the chorus to Orlando, Florida where they received first place in mixed choir, men's chorus and chamber choir, and second place in women's chorus. Murray has taken the chorus back to Florida several times, where they performed at the Walt Disney World Resort and at Universal Studios. He was also given the honor in 1996 of being selected as the guest conductor of the New Jersey All-State Opera Festival's presentation of Bizet's *Carmen*. Last year he was the director, vocal director and pit conductor for *Jekyll & Hyde*. His other experiences include being vocal director for the SPSHS Players Drama Club productions of *Starmites*, *Once Upon A Mattress*, *Cinderella*, *Godspell*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Who's Tommy*, *Damn Yankees*, *Hello Dolly*, *South Pacific* and *My Fair Lady*. Previously, Murray served as vocal music director for the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop productions of *Grease*, *Oklahoma!*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Oliver!* and *The Wizard of Oz*. He has also provided vocal music direction for the Cranford Dramatic Club Theater productions of *South Pacific*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Smokey Joe's Cafe* and *Aida*.

LORETTA TANSEY (Costumes) is the Family and Consumer Science teacher at SPSHS. She enjoyed working with the staff and students in the last two productions and is delighted to continue with the building of costumes for *The Music Man*.

EMMA FULTON (Choreographer) As an SPSHS alumna, Emma is no stranger to the stage. She was in the SPSHS Players Drama Club productions of *Godspell*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *Tommy*. Emma returned to SPSHS to choreograph the 2006 production of *Cinderella*. She is also a veteran of the Summer Drama Workshop program. For seven years, she was a cast member in productions that included *Oklahoma!*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Guys and Dolls*, *The Music Man*, *42nd Street*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, and *Footloose*. Emma returned as the choreography intern for *The Pirates of Penzance* and then served as the choreographer for *The Pajama Game*, *Carousel*, and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. She also played the role of Minnie in Kean University's 2000 production of *West Side Story*. After working behind the scenes on the production side for five years, Emma finally returned to the stage herself in the Livingston Community Players 2007 production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.

Behind the Scenes - The Cast

TRAVELLING SALESMEN

Rocco Severini
 Stephen Wagner
 Chris DeOliveira
 Justin DeOliveira
 Przemyslaw Lasota
CHARLIE COWELL Mark Piltz
CONDUCTOR William Mott
HAROLD HILL Chris Fulton
NEWSPAPER READERS

Richard Rotella
 Lacey Hogan
MAYOR SHINN Chris Seesselberg
EWART DUNLOP Justin DeOliveira
OLIVER HIX Przemyslaw Lasota

JACEY SQUIRES

Chris DeOliveira
OLIN BRITT Nathanael Udell
MARCELLUS WASHBURN Cornelius Mootoo
TOMMY DJILAS Timothy Ratti
MARIAN PAROO Taylor Kurilew
MRS. PAROO Brittany Penevolpe
AMARYLLIS Christina Kasmer
WINTHROP PAROO Brett Temple
EULALIE SHINN Nora Stasio
ZANEETA SHINN Lauren O'Day
GRACIE SHINN Kristina Palazzo
ALMA HIX Davonna Approvato
MAUD DUNLOP Allyson Paterak
ETHEL TOFFELMIER

Kathryn Paterak
MRS. SQUIRES Julia Zappi

PICK-A-LITTLE SINGER/FEATURED DANCERS

Jenna Kanaley
 Kelly Kline
 Kelsey Hoffman
 Sarah Shulte
 Erica Linick
CONSTABLE LOCKE William Mott

RIVER CITY TOWNSPEOPLE

Stephen Wagner
 Richard Rotella
 Rocco Severini
 William Mott
 Ellen Zinsky
 Erin O'Connor
 Nicole Heilman
 Kwayama Jones
 Sarah Hageman
 Lacey Hogan
 Alyssa Aiello
 Kyrsten Grabinsky
 Courtney Maino
 Victoria Maino
 Edward Sheaffer
 Kaitlyn Sheedy
 Kimberly Stanczak
 Nicole Stanczak

The Stage Crew

Chris Duquette, Sean Walsh, Samantha Smith

The Orchestra

Conductor Roger A. Vroom III	Violin Sarah Munch	Piano Joan Stasio
Woodwinds Ashlen Udell Chelsea Ng Michael Oprysk Nicole Firmin Sean Coffey Scott Rann	Brass Glenn Parisi Tobie Baldwin Justin Lesky	Percussion Katie Sullivan Paul Cantarella
	Bass Clare Kelly	

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Obituaries

Frederick V. Haas, 70

Frederick Haas passed away on Monday, April 7 at JFK Haven Hospice in Edison after a long courageous battle with cancer.

Mr. Haas was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. and resided in Washington Twp. before moving to South Plainfield in 1991.

He was a member of the South Plainfield Senior Citizens Center where he enjoyed many activities.

Mr. Haas was predeceased by a brother, Edward E. Haas.

He is survived by his wife, Catherine E. Haas of South Plainfield; two sons and daughters-in-law, John F. and Mary Haas of Hewitt, Kevin M. and Rosemary Haas of Ramsey; a daughter, Susan L. Haas of Greenwood Lake, N.Y.; a sister, Linda Macdonald of Ramsey and nine grandchildren, Nicholas J. Haas, Michael J. Fallon, Colleen Marie Fallon, Daniel J. Agonat, Christopher J. Sommer, Brianna L. Sommer, Darren J. Sommer, Megan L. Sommer and Noreen M. Sommer.

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

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made in Mr. Haas's name to the American Cancer Society, 801 Broad St., Shrewsbury, N.J.

07702 or to a charity of choice that supports cancer research.

Albert P. Miserendino, 81

Albert P. Miserendino died on Wednesday, April 2 in the Haven Hospice at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Norwalk, Conn., Al was raised in Plainfield and resided in South Plainfield for more than 30 years before moving back to Plainfield.

A carpenter by trade, Al was the owner of the former Alfran Builders of South Plainfield. He built numerous homes in South Plainfield and in other local towns.

Mr. Miserendino served with the Navy during WWII. He was a member of the Scotch Plains American Legion Post 209, a member of Plainfield's UNICO where he served as past vice president and was also a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles located in the Plainfield area.

Surviving are his daughter, Maryann Burns and husband John of Vernon, Conn. and three grandchildren, Kristin Niederman, Allison Ronzo, and Brian Acrin. He is also survived by newly born great-grandchild, Nathaniel Niederman.

Funeral services were held at Mc-

Criskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

Donations can be made to the JFK Haven Hospice, c/o JFK Medical Center, 65 James St., Edison, N.J. 08818.

Carl A. Williams Jr., 73

Carl A. Williams Jr., formerly of Scotch Plains, loving family man, entrepreneur and volunteer, departed this life on Sunday, April 6 at Brighton Gardens in Mountainside.

He was a longtime member of the Faith Fellowship Ministries World Outreach Center in Sayerville where he served as a faithful member of the choir. He was also a Promise Keepers Ambassador and a volunteer for Contact We Care in Fanwood.

Carl was born in Jersey City on February 25, 1935 to Carl Sr. and Carmen Williams. After graduating from high school, he enlisted in the Air Force where he served his country and was honorably discharged after eight years of service. After completing his service he returned to Jersey City where he met and married his soul mate of 36 years, Sara Washington, who predeceased him in 1992. From this union they were blessed with three daughters, Tonya Yvette, Carla Lynette and Lisa Marie.

Carl owned and operated Father

and Son Machinery Movers in Newark for over 30 years. After selling that business, Carl ventured into his own limousine service, Personal Touch Limousine Services, Carl and Daughters Plowing and Towing and his own detailing service, which he proudly called Carl's Car Care.

He was predeceased by his father, Carl Sr., who died in 1993.

Carl, best described as a man of integrity, leaves to cherish his memory his mother, Carmen of Jersey City; a sister, Carmen Hayes of Ewing; his loving daughters, Tonya Williams of Scotch Plains, Carla Roberson (Edmon) of Union and Lisa Williams of Willingboro and his mother-in-law, Agnes Bentley; seven grandchildren who called him "Poppi," Edmon Jr., Tyler, Toni, Jordan, Colbe, Jayson and Kayla; his devoted friend, Suzanne Poillon and a host of loving family members.

Funeral services were held at Mc-Criskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

Jacqueline E. Fetherston, 76

Jacqueline E. (Barry) Fetherston passed away after a long illness on Wednesday, April 2 at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born and raised in New Brunswick to her late parents, John Barry and Alice (Stanton) Barry, she had been a resident of South Plainfield since 1976.

Jacqueline spent her time caring for her family as a homemaker and was a former member of Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her dear sister, Bernice Van Vechten.

She is survived by her devoted husband of 30 years, Harold; two loving daughters, Jacqueline Wilson and husband Brian of Edison and Kathleen Wilson of Metuchen and her two sons, Thomas Weingart of Trenton and Michael Weingart. She also leaves behind three cherished grandchildren, Dylan and Ryan Wilson and Schaleen Weingart.

Funeral services were held at Mc-Criskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

Peter Emery, 59

Peter Emery died on Tuesday, April 2 at JFK Medical Center in Edison with his supportive family by his side.

Born in Newark, he resided in Colonia before settling in South Plainfield 20 years ago.

He worked at Lee Linear Manufacturing located in Piscataway as a bearing manager for several years. He enjoyed fishing and was an avid reader.

He was predeceased by his father, Walter Emery.

Surviving are his wife of 19 years, Kathleen (McGrath) Emery; three children, Jeffrey of Ocean County and Matthew and Catherine, both of South Plainfield; his mother, Margaret of Jackson and siblings, Walter and wife Donna of Bayville, Steven of Somerset and Aileen and James Smith of Kinnelon. He also leaves behind his grandson, Jeffrey; aunt Dotty Nicoll of Manahawkin and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at Mc-Criskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to the Juvenile Diabetes Association, 28 Kennedy Blvd., East Brunswick, N.J. 08816 would be appreciated.



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LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE 1815

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

Ord. 1815 entitled: BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS ALONG THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF TOMPKINS AVENUE, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$440,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$418,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Monday, April 7, 2008 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

Ordinance No. 1815

BOND ORDINANCE STATEMENT AND SUMMARY

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, has been finally adopted by the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey on April 7, 2008 and the 20 day period of limitation within which a suit, action or proceeding questioning the validity of such ordinance can be commenced, as provided in the Local Bond Law, has begun to run from the date of the first publication of this statement. Copies of the full ordinance are available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk's office for members of the general public who request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:

Title: "Bond Ordinance Providing for Improvements to Tompkins Avenue in and by the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey, Appropriating \$440,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$418,000 Bonds or Notes of the Borough to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof."

Purpose: The resurfacing of Tompkins Avenue from Clinton Avenue (County Route 605) to Plainfield Avenue (County Route 603), including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.

Appropriation:	\$440,000
Bonds/Notes Authorized:	\$418,000
Grants Appropriated:	N/A
Section 20 Costs:	\$65,000
Useful Life:	10 years
ATTEST:	
Joann Graf/Acting Municipal Clerk	

\$70.30 April 11, 2008

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE 1816

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

Ord. 1816 entitled: BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR PHASE II OF THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD AVENUE PROJECT AND RELATED DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENT PREPARATION, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE "BOROUGH"); APPROPRIATING \$360,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$130,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Monday, April 7, 2008 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.

Ordinance 1816

BOND ORDINANCE STATEMENT AND SUMMARY

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, has been finally adopted by the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey on April 7, 2008 and the 20 day period of limitation within which a suit, action or proceeding questioning the validity of such ordinance can be commenced, as provided in the Local Bond Law, has begun to run from the date of the first publication of this statement. Copies of the full ordinance are available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk's office for members of the general public who request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:

Title: "Bond Ordinance Providing for South Plainfield Avenue, Phase II Resurfacing in and by the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey, Appropriating \$360,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$130,000 Bonds or Notes of the Borough to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof."

Purpose: The resurfacing of South Plainfield Avenue, Phase II from Joan Street to Park Avenue, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.

Appropriation:	\$360,000
Bonds/Notes Authorized:	\$130,000
Grants Appropriated:	\$230,000
State of New Jersey Department of Transportation 2008 Municipal Aid Grant	
Section 20 Costs:	\$50,000
Useful Life:	10 years
ATTEST:	
Joann Graf/Acting Municipal Clerk	

\$73.15 April 11, 2008

Newcomers to Challenge Incumbents This Fall

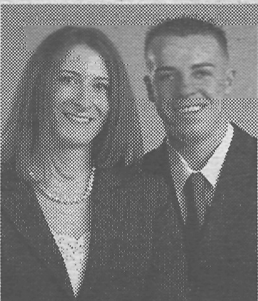
Buteas and Salerno Unanimously Endorsed for Borough Council

The South Plainfield Democratic Committee has unanimously endorsed Chrissy Buteas and Franky Salerno for Borough Council.

Chrissy Buteas, who was an all-area goalie on the SPSHS field hockey team, went on to be a member of the National Championship team at Rowan University, graduating summa cum laude with a bachelor's degree in law and justice. Chrissy continued her education at Rutgers University where she received a master's degree in public administration and was a member of the exclusive Phi Alpha Alpha academic society. In addition to her impressive academic and sports accomplishments, Chrissy Buteas has been named a 2008 Fellow in "Leadership New Jersey."

Council candidate Buteas, who is 26 years old, has served on numerous local, state and county boards including serving as a member of the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment, Public Celebrations Committee and the South Plainfield Recreation Commission. In commenting on her nomination Buteas said, "My mother and father taught me that it's important to always strive to do your best. I promise that I will always dedicate 100% to make South Plainfield an even better place to live. I can't think of a better running mate than Franky Salerno. He embodies what the word 'service' is all about. I look forward to the upcoming campaign and comparing the Democratic vision for the future of our borough with the Republican's record of borrow, tax and spend."

Council candidate Franky Salerno's life was changed on September 11, 2001. Franky was a senior at South Plainfield High School when the twin towers were attacked. He knew that he had to defend his country. Upon



Buteas and Salerno

graduation he enlisted in the United States Navy. He was stationed in Iraq for over a year and received the Iraq Service Medal. Council candidate Salerno's commitment to service didn't end with his tour of duty in the Middle East. Upon returning home, he became a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Italian American Club. He has coached Pop Warner football and recreation league basketball. Salerno is also a member of the South Plainfield Planning Board. He is a registered electrical apprentice and is completing the requirements to become a licensed electrician. Candidate Salerno said, "As the expression goes, 'Freedom isn't free.' Although I am only 24 years old I have an appreciation of this great country of ours which can't be counted in years. My parents always told me that in America if you work hard there is no limit to what you can achieve. I will never take public office lightly and I promise to never abuse the trust of the people of South Plainfield. I am honored to run with Chrissy Buteas. She represents the best South Plainfield can produce. She is already recognized throughout New Jersey for her intelligence and dedication. The team of Buteas and Salerno will work to put South Plainfield back on the right track."

Mayor Charles Butrico summed up the reaction to the Democratic slate: "Chrissy Buteas and Franky Salerno are at the forefront of the next generation of leaders in South Plainfield. I couldn't be more thrilled. They are intelligent, enthusiastic and honest. They love this borough and they will make all of us proud."

—Submitted by South Plainfield Democratic Organization

Anesh & Bengivenga Fighting for a Better South Plainfield

Councilman Matt Anesh and Council President Rob Bengivenga, Jr. are the choice of South Plainfield Republicans as candidates for re-election to Borough Council this fall. "In addition, even though the new majority is only three months in office, Matt and Rob have been reforming the way the town does business and bringing much-needed change to Borough Hall," Barletta said.

"While on the council, Bengivenga has become known as someone who does his homework and then fights to do the right thing," said Councilman Tim McConville. "For example, when the old Democratic majority wanted to sell open space to a campaign contributor at well below fair-market value, Rob was the first one to question the deal. He also opposed wasting \$1.6 million to buy property along Hamilton Boulevard and uncovered how the sale benefited relatives of a Democratic contributor."

"Rob is also a tireless advocate for our seniors," McConville added. "Over the past two years he's worked to kick off a program that matches volunteers with seniors who can no longer perform chores around their homes, things like raking leaves, painting a room, or fixing a fence."

Yet Bengivenga refuses to take credit. "I campaigned on this idea, but it was our Office on Aging Director, Joann Graf, who did the hard part. She got the idea up and running and it's our seniors who benefit. It gives them options and helps keep them from having to move away from the homes in which they raised their families."

Anesh has also focused on families. "One of his proudest accomplishments is an ordinance that keeps second-hand smoke away from South Plainfield's kids by creating smoke-free zones



Bengivenga and Anesh

around play areas in parks," Barletta explained. "In addition, Matt recently proposed the 'Safe Streets, Safe Kids' program, which is aimed at cutting down speeding in residential neighborhoods."

"Matt has also pushed ethics reform," said Councilman Ray Rusnak. "He fought to end no-bid contracts for campaign contributors, something that finally happened this year when the Republican majority took over. In addition, he derailed an ordinance that would have doubled the mayor's salary. It wasn't until Matt Anesh started asking questions that the old Democratic majority pulled the ordinance from the agenda."

When it comes to the town's finances, both candidates are fighting to control spending. For example, they met recently with the school board and started a shared-services study to see

where the two bodies could combine services and bring down costs. They also are cutting unnecessary jobs at Borough Hall, so far saving taxpayers over \$100,000.

Both candidates were also instrumental in reviving Democracy Day, which is now Democracy Week. When the old Democratic majority abandoned Democracy Day, Matt Anesh and Rob Bengivenga fought to bring it back. "Taxpayers deserve a voice when the town spends millions of dollars," explained Barletta. "Because of Rob and Matt, the council is finally listening to residents."

"We could not be more proud of Matt and Rob's accomplishments," said Barletta. "They are fighters who do the right thing and listen to the people they serve. We need Matt Anesh and Rob Bengivenga on the council for another three years. They're bringing the much-needed change to South Plainfield."

—Submitted by South Plainfield Republican Organization

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE No. 1708A
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:
ORDINANCE #1708A entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #1708 ENTITLED "ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS" TO REDUCE SAID IMPROVEMENTS BY \$310,000, DUE TO THE CANCELLATION OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE POLICE DETECTIVE FACILITY, AND THE COSTS ASSOCIATED THEREWITH, ALONG WITH THE REALLOCATION OF AN ADDITIONAL \$100,000 IN FUNDS TO BE USED FOR THE PURCHASE OF POLICE DETECTIVE EQUIPMENT AS AUTHORIZED BY ORDINANCE #1708 IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Monday, April 7, 2008 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:
Joann Graf/Acting Municipal Clerk
\$34.20 April 11, 2008

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
Public Notice
RETURN OF PERFORMANCE BOND
To V.F.V. Properties, Inc. for public improvements at 1214 South 11th Street and 1216 South 11th Street, South Plainfield Lot 26.01 and 26.02, Block 136.
A public meeting has been scheduled by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield to hear objections, if any, to the release of a Performance Bond posted by V.F.V. Properties, Inc. for public improvements at 1214 South 11th Street and 1216 South 11th Street, South Plainfield, New Jersey known as Lot 26.01 and 26.02, Block 136 listed on the official tax maps of the Borough of South Plainfield. Said public hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 12, 2008 in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.
V.F.V. Properties, Inc.
P.O. Box 1013
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
\$38.50 April 11, 2008

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE No. 1814
ORDINANCE #1814 entitled: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE REGULATIONS OF THE OPERATION OF TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Monday, April 7, 2008 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:
Joann Graf/Acting Municipal Clerk
\$22.80 April 11, 2008

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SUITE #209
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APPTS: 732/553-8080

Parade Headlines Junior Baseball Opening Day!



The teams are getting ready to play ball!

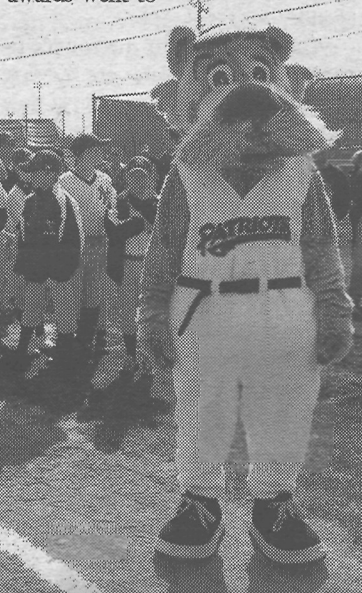
By Jane Dornick

The South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club's opening day ceremony held on April 5 was filled with all of the fanfare of a major league extravaganza.

Leading the parade was Grand Marshal Bob Golon, the Fire Department, Rescue Squad and SPHS marching band. Following behind was an entourage of dignitaries and ball players marching down Belmont Avenue toward the complex on Kenneth Avenue to begin another much anticipated season of baseball. Marching in the parade along with the coaches and players were Police Chief John Ferraro, Mayor Charlie Buttrico, Council President Rob Bengivenga and Councilmen Ray Rusnak, Tim McConville and Ray Petronko. Councilman Joe Scrudato was also in the parade as a team coach.

Phil Aiello was master of ceremonies for the celebration once the parade arrived at the field. Laine Harris sang "America" and Taylor Kurilew sang "The National Anthem." Newly elected Commissioner Mike Pellegrino welcomed everyone and handed out

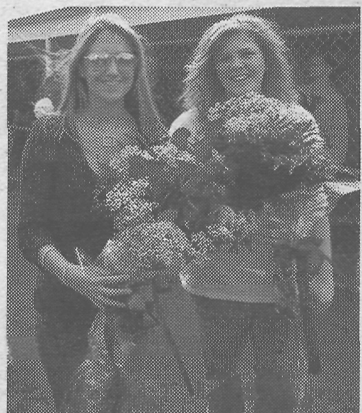
awards to the many volunteers who help keep the 50+ year-old organization going. The Commissioner's Award is presented to individuals or groups who contribute services to the club above and beyond what would normally be expected for a continued number of years. This year's awards went to



Sparkee the Patriots Mascot

the Recreation Department, with Director Kevin Hughes accepting, for providing financial and physical assistance to the club over the years. The public works department was also recognized for their help with special projects and maintaining the fields. Borough Council Public Works Liaison Tim McConville accepted the award on their behalf.

Lifetime Member Awards went to former board members and coaches Charlie Decker Jr., Chris Hubner and John Papa. During his time on the board, Decker served as a trustee. He was active in sign sponsorships, was part of the umpiring crew and a coach for 10 years. Hubner served four consecutive years on the board as assistant commissioner of communication



Taylor Kurilew and Laine Harris

and as trustee. He was league director for four years, coached for nine years and continues to participate in the club as an umpire. Papa, also a trustee, has been active at the club during tournaments. He was chairperson of the Memorial Day Weekend Tournament for many years. He coached for seven years and is always around to lend a helping hand.

Parade Grand Marshal Bob Golon's involvement with the club dates back



Sparkee gives some tips to Bob Golon.

to 1987. He is a lifetime member and is still very active in the club. Serving as league director of Small Fry B, director of the snack stand and also a captain, Golon also spent many years as part of the executive board as trustee and assistant commissioner of administration. During that time he was able to completely automate the club's registration on the computer. In 2003 he received the Commissioners Award. Golon's most recent accomplishment is the publishing of a book, "No Minor Accomplishment: The Revival of New Jersey Professional Baseball," and he can still be seen occasionally on a Saturday morning during baseball season at the snack stand. Longtime an-

nouncer Bill Cochrane also received a plaque for his service as last year's grand marshal.

Tickets to see the Somerset Patriots play ball, donated by the fire prevention bureau, were raffled off. The entire Small Fry A Mets team won tickets to a game, and Pony B player Michael Tangorra won six tickets to a game.

Something unique this year was the release of 10 white doves provided by Kaila's Love Doves symbolizing love, peace and lifelong devotion. Assisted by Somerset Patriots Mascot Sparkee, Golon threw out the first pitch to player Vinnie Pellegrino to mark the new season of baseball.



Rockies proudly display their banner in the parade.



Bob Golon and Mike Pellegrino



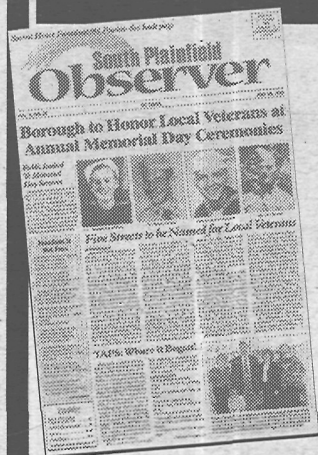
Sparkee shakes hands with Borough officials.



Mike Pellegrino with Bill Cochrane (right) and Kevin Hughes (left).



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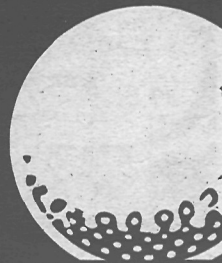
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Sports

Traveling Soccer

Arsenal Ties Home Opener 1-1

By Chris Paez

The boys U-9 traveling soccer team played their first home game of the 2008 spring season on April 6 against the Stingrays from Franklin Township. Even though it didn't feel like a spring day, that didn't stop Arsenal from playing hard.

The Stingrays scored the first goal of the game during the first quarter. Arsenal fought harder to come back and tie the game in the second quarter with a goal from Ricky Pellegrino. With the hard working efforts of the

offensive and defensive players on the team including Jason Cieszkiewicz, Alec Paez, Nicholas Plate, Caleb Kuberiet, Jake Smith, Jose Arrubla, Jake Hoffman, Tyler Curtis, Jake Giordano, Samardhi Jeedigunta, Jared Marks and Nicholas Pezzolla, Arsenal is determined to keep pushing forward during this very competitive season.

Come out and support Arsenal during their next home game on April 13 at 10:30 a.m. at the Kenneth Avenue fields.

U-16 Fusion is Fired-Up

After taking last fall off from traveling soccer to play for the high school/middle school teams, Fusion is back and stronger than ever. Although the season opener against Long Valley resulted in a 2-1 loss, Fusion quickly regrouped and easily won the next two games.

Fusion faced off against Berkeley Heights on March 30 and controlled play throughout the game, which ended in a 6-0 victory. In the goal were Jason Pattison and Will Mott, and scoring players were Jason Pattison, Edwin Molina, Mike Dispenziere, Jeff Gillen and two by Mike Zelasko.

This past Sunday, Fusion traveled to South Brunswick to take on the Titans, where they once again held power for the entire game. In the first half, goals were scored by Jake Salerno, two by Mike Zelasko once again, and

Agu Ufodu, who recently rejoined the team after returning to South Plainfield. Gary Pastuna and Jake Salerno were responsible for two additional goals in the second half. Newcomer Sam Tejada, proved to be a strong team player with several assists and attempted goals. Goalkeeping duties were shared by Will Mott and Agu Ufodu. The final scored was 6-0.

This season's success would not be possible without mentioning the excellent passing skills and strength of the rest of the Fusion team: Jesse Allen, Ryan Billich, Lucas Goitiana, Steve Lanza and Kyle Pompilio.

Fusions next game will be on April 13 against the South County Scorpions. Please come down to Kenneth Avenue to support them and the rest of the South Plainfield Soccer Club.

Outstanding Team Effort Leads Rockets to 4-0 Win Over Flemington

The South Plainfield Soccer Club U-12 Rockets defeated the Flemington Vipers in a 4-0 victory at Lenape Park in Flemington on April 6. The Rockets took an early lead with a break away goal by striker Kevin Ramirez. Goalie Antonio Alfaro blocked two early goal attempts by the Vipers which energized the team and rallied the defense. By the end of the first half, the Rockets built a fortress around their goal and continued to block the Vipers late attempts to score. Kevin Ramirez delivered two additional goals securing the Rockets halftime lead to 3-0.

The second half was dominated by

the Rockets defense. Goalie Justin Neylon continued to stop the Viper offense in their tracks by blocking their attempts to score. The defense consistently answered their opponent with a united team effort and went on to shut-out the Vipers. The final goal of the game was scored by forward Yasin Yilmaz ending the match with a well earned team victory of 4-0.

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Ponytail Softball Batters Box

Softball Assn. Offering College Scholarships

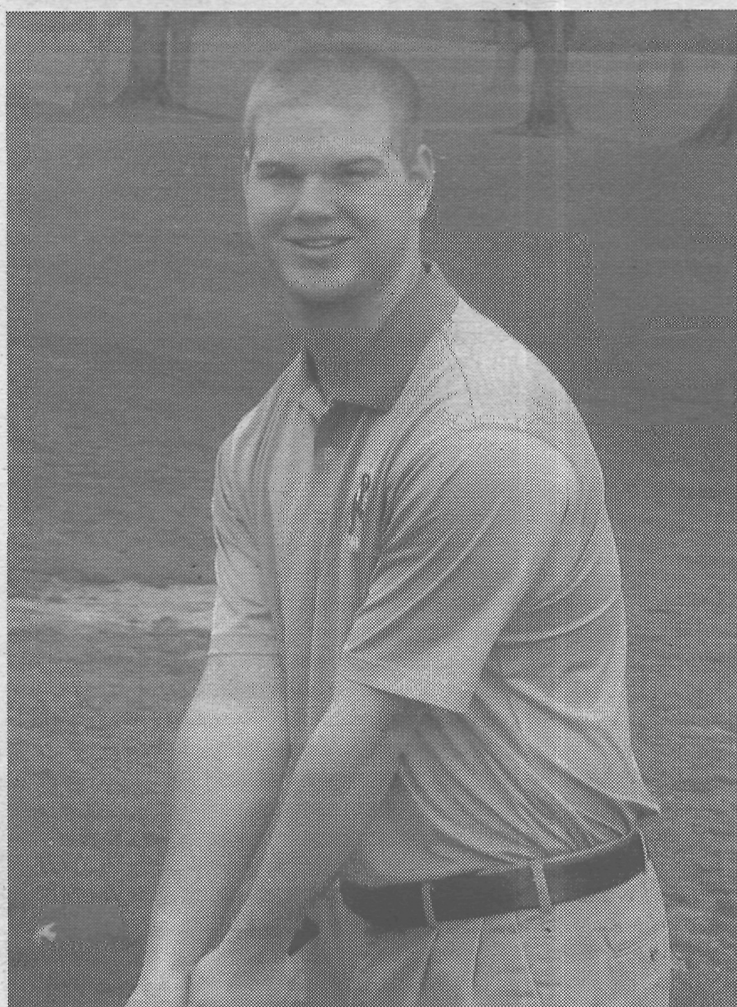
As you may or may not know, the Parents' Ponytail Softball Association is sponsoring three \$750 college scholarships. Applications are currently being accepted and can be obtained from the South Plainfield's High School guidance office.

To qualify applicants must be high school seniors graduating in June and a current resident of South Plainfield. To qualify for one of the two recreation scholarships, applicants must have played for a minimum of four years in the South Plainfield Recreation Department's Ponytail Softball League. To qualify for the Ponytail All-Star scholarship, applicants must have played South Plainfield Recreation softball for a minimum of four years and South Plainfield Ponytail All-Stars for a minimum of three years. All-Star players may apply for both the recreation and All-Star scholarships, but a player is eligible to receive only one scholarship. The application must be received no later than Friday, May 2.

All completed applications should be mailed to SPPPA Scholarship, P.O. Box 441, South Plainfield, N.J. 07080 or returned to SPHS guidance office in an envelope labeled "SPPPA Scholarship." Verification of school enrollment is required prior to funds being awarded. Get your applications and hand them in as soon as possible.

SPHS GOLF TEAM

Submitted by Mike Kavka



Andrew Gray led the SPHS Golf Team to a win over Perth Amboy.

Golf Team Wins First Two Matches

The Tigers beat Perth Amboy 148-201 at Raritan Landing. The Tigers were led by Andrew Gray's 33. Next up for the Tigers was Sayreville where the team cruised to a 166-190 victory at their home course, West Nine. This

was the 500th win for longtime coach Michael Kavka, 1996 National Coach of the Year.

The team is out to defend their White Division Championship which they have won for the last four years.

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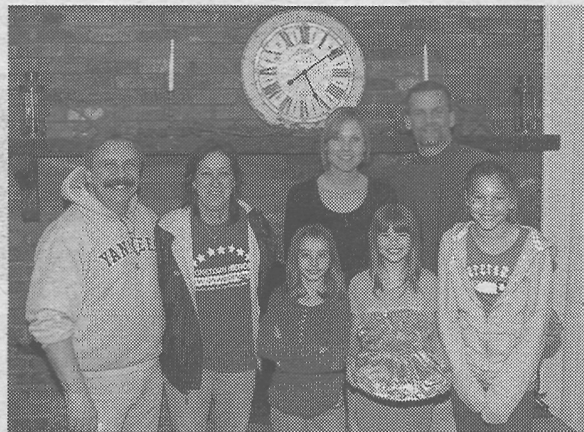
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Congratulations!

2007-08

JUNIOR JOURNALIST



Charlie and Debbie Kurland deliver dinner to Junior Journalist Meghan Hughes pictured with parents Cheryl and Kevin and sisters Shannon and Caitlin.



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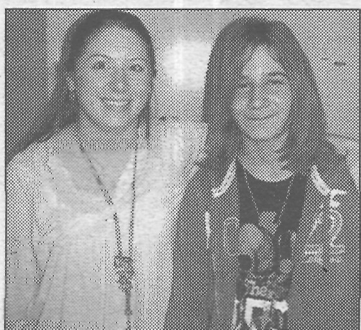
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JUNIOR JOURNALIST

Alexa Douras Named Junior Journalist!



Language Arts teacher Kristin Bennett with Junior Journalist winner Alexa Douras.

Alexa Douras, middle school fourth grader, is this week's winner in the Hometown Heros-South Plainfield Observer sponsored 2007-08 Junior Journalist Contest for her poem.

Alexa will receive dinner for her family courtesy of Hometown Heros. She will also receive a t-shirt. She will be honored at a banquet, along with all the contest winners, on Wednesday, May 14. She also has the opportunity to win a \$1,000 savings bond.

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

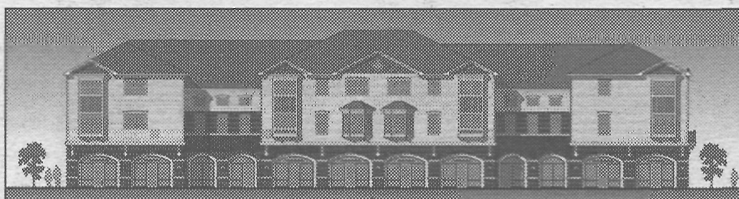
Students should submit their original poetry, articles, opinion pieces or essays to their English teachers, who will submit them to the Observer. Deadline is May 2.

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

Untitled

By Alexa Douras

The night sky is like a painted canvas,
The stars illuminate the night.
They are so abundant,
They shed so much light.
What a hardship it would be,
If the clouds were to obscure the view.
I am grateful that I can indulge this sight,
And not presume to see it a new.



Hamilton Commons Plans Grand Opening

Hamilton Commons, a new "mixed use" property being developed in the borough's downtown section by Village Realty Group, will combine residential and retail space to revitalize the area with people, businesses and jobs. The three-story property includes 20 luxury condo units priced at \$250,000-\$380,000's. Several floor plans are available-averaging 1,000-1,600 square feet-including one- or two-level designs with balconies.

At street level, Hamilton Commons will accommodate up to eight retail

businesses approximately 7,000 square feet. Eight luxury rental apartments will be located above the retail space. It is expected to be completed by October of 2008. Reservations will be accepted after April 24.

A grand opening will be held at 225 Maple Avenue on April 24 at 7 p.m. Details will be presented and pre-construction pricing and incentives will be offered. To reserve your seat, please call marketing agents Christine Lahey at (908) 755-5300, ext. 343 or Melissa Morehouse at ext. 331.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

TAKE NOTICE, that the undersigned shall expose for sale, in accordance with R.S. 39:10A-1, at public auction on April 18, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey, the below described motor vehicles which came into possession of the South Plainfield Police Department through abandonment or failure of owners to claim same. The motor vehicles may be examined by contacting Traffic Safety.

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2003	Jeep	1J4GK48K73W644709	Resale	Liberty	\$5000.00
1989	Toyota	JT2AE92EOK3182571	Resale	Corolla	\$1000.00
1997	Plym	2P4FP2539VR411054	Resale	Voyager	\$2800.00
1997	Ford	1FMDU35P5VUB10647	Resale	Explorer	\$3000.00

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April 11, 2008

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From the South Plainfield Library Bookmarks

By Sunnie Randolph

Today's libraries are modern community centers where everyone is invited to explore, dream and learn. All that is missing is you! April 13-19 is National Library Week, so visit your library-in person or online at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us. Bring your curiosity, imagination and creativity, and join the circle of knowledge at your library, South Plainfield Public Library!

May 5-10 is Democracy Week in South Plainfield for residents to vote on whether or not they want a new library. If you are not a regular user of the library, I ask that you come in the library and look around, ask questions, and look at the plans for the new library before you vote. South Plainfield Public Library is for everyone in South Plainfield. Your tax dollars already support the library so come in and use the library. See what the library can provide for you. Many people who have not been to the library in many years are surprised by what we provide. If you have Internet access, you can go to the library's Web site, www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us and look at the library's Web site and see what is available through the library. Do you want to plan your next vacation? Get help with homework? Write a resume? Connect to the Internet? Find a book to read or listen to? Get the latest DVDs or CDs? Read the daily newspapers? Attend programs for children? You can do all of that and more at the South Plainfield Public Library.

Children's programs next week for children 3+ years are Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday and 1:15 p.m. on Thursday. Time for 2s and 3s is at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday and Thursday. Books & Babies is on Friday morning at 10:30 a.m.

Stop in the library and check out the sale book shelves. We have received quite a few donations lately and we are discarding library books that do not circulate. We have a large selection of paperbacks. All books are \$1 a bag.



Pictured from left to right, top row: Brandon Alpert, Sarah Oehler, Stephanie Bohn, Katelynn Scott, Sabrina Gonzalez, Kelsy Prins, Stephanie Velez; bottom row: Nicole Goitandia, Miranda Bourbeau, Angela Ruhnke. (Troop leaders not pictured: Tina Ruhnke and MaryEllen Oehler).

Girl Scouts "Adopt" a Soldier

Franklin School fourth grade Girl Scout Troop #678 adopted a soldier, Brandon Alpert (US Marines) of South Plainfield.

The scouts first met his mom and found out a little about him. They wrote letters to him and donated snacks, goodies and magazines which

were sent to him in Iraq. He returned to the states in February and the scouts were able to meet him at one of their meetings. Alpert told of his experiences and the girls were able to ask lots of questions. He is due to go back to Iraq sometime in August.

—Submitted by Mary Ellen Oehler

Voters Get Close Look at BOE Candidates

(Continued from page 1)

promote more advanced classes and improve the district's standards. Miller brought up the need of stability in the language departments and suggested the school consider offering foreign languages other than French and Spanish.

Questions were asked about what projects the capital outlay fund, now called a capital reserve fund, will be used for. If the school budget is approved, the \$1,884,264 reserve is not a part of the budget tax levy and does not have to be spent during the fiscal year. Morgan said some of the chimneys are being repaired on schools that were part of the capital outlay and that a possible referendum in the future may be needed to do other costly re-

pairs and upgrades such as air conditioning in all of the schools and replacement of the high school bleachers.

When asked about where the large surplus came from, Byrne explained that paying off the lease purchases for books and busses, increased state aid, and a reduction in the amount previously budgeted for health care costs, contributed to the additional money.

The new truck route was also brought up. Both Byrne and Morgan stated they would like to see Hamilton Boulevard opened up to trucks again as it appears to be a safer route than the current New Market route.

Drawing on the experience of the February presidential primary, where residents entered the schools while the

SPHS Music Boosters

MUSIC NOTES



On Wednesday, April 16, a large group from the South Plainfield High School music program (which includes students from band, chorus and orchestra) will be spending the day in New York City to see not one, but two hit Broadway musicals. In the morning the group will head to the Shubert Theater to see Clay Aiken in the 2005 Tony Award winner for best musical, "Monty Python's Spamalot." Then, after lunch, they will see Disney's "Mary Poppins" at the New Amsterdam Theater. Hats off to the high school music department for giving our students such great opportunities to extend learning beyond the classroom.

Congratulations to the jazz band and Silver Dreams Winter Guard on their dynamic performances last weekend. There are only two more opportunities to see the Winter Guard in action: on Saturday, April 12 they will be performing at Manchester High

School. Championships will be held on Saturday, April 26 at South Brunswick High School. You can check out more detailed information regarding times on the music department Web site, or go to www.MAINGuards.com. These are dazzling events and should not be missed! Come watch and see these students spin their magic on the mat.

Music department seniors, take note! Your opportunity for scholarship is almost due. Scholarship forms are available and are due by Friday, April 25 for consideration. You can download the scholarship form on the music department Web site at www.spnet.k12.nj.us/HSDepartments/HSMusic/index.htm. Anyone applying for a scholarship has to complete an application and essay. Check with your music director for more information.

We are actively looking for people to join our leadership team. Many committed parents are leaving the organization in June when their student graduates and we need to fill a few key positions. If you are interested in any leadership opportunities, please contact Pam Hussey at (908) 412-9704 for more details.

Reminder: The annual elections for the executive board will be held on the first Wednesday in May. If you received a booster membership card and attended at least three meetings, you are eligible to vote and are encouraged to attend.

Submitted by Pam Hussey and Sue Hageman

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