

APR 18 2008

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# South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 11, NO. 33

MEMBER NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

50 CENTS

APRIL 18, 2008

## Miller, Bohn, Morgan for BOE

*Despite Split on Budget, 11% of Eligible Voters Give Approval*

The three open seats in Tuesday's Board of Education election resulted in a win for newcomer Sharon Miller, who received 1,051 votes. Former BOE member Steve Bohn took 750 votes and incumbent Tim Morgan, 720 votes. Board member Carol Byrne, a

15-year veteran, lost her seat garnering 683 votes.

The school tax levy of \$39,108,513, that boasts a four-point decrease from last year, passed by only 176 votes, with 593 residents voting against it and 769 in favor. Of the 12,760 reg-

istered voters in the borough, 1,401 (11%) went to the polls, down from last year's election when 2,246 voters went to the polls.

The BOE's reorganization meeting is set for Wednesday, April 30 at 7 p.m. in the Roosevelt Admin. Building.

## SPPD Welcomes Police Officer Indano



Councilman Matt Anesh swears in Officer Joseph Indano as his dad, Joe, holds the Bible.

Joseph M. Indano, a resident of Newton, was sworn in as a South Plainfield police officer during the April 7 Borough Council meeting.

Officer Indano had been a patrolman and detective in Stanhope Borough since January 2003. He graduated from Lenape Valley Regional High School in Stanhope and Morris County Police Academy.

Officer Indano has earned many certifications, including CPR and AED, basic SWAT officer, wildlife firefighter with the New Jersey For-

est Service, deputy fire warden, Firefighters Class 1 through the Sussex County Fire Academy, standardized field sobriety tests, firearms instructor, Alcotest operator, radar operator and basic communications by the National Communications Institute.

Indano has attended the following courses: New Drug Trends Narcotics Update, Eyewitness Identifications and Lineups, Tactical Clearing of Buildings, the Prevention, Detection and Response to Suicide Bombers, Drug Recognition Expert, Law En-

forcement Response to Weapons of Mass Destruction, Level 1 Counter-Terrorism Intelligence and Awareness, Suburban Drug Interdiction Patrol Tactics and Crime Scene Investigation.

Officer Indano has been highly recognized, receiving the following awards and citations for Top Gun Award in 2005; Life Saving Award in 2005, as a result of his actions in rescuing a juvenile who had fallen through a partially frozen lake; The New Jersey State Officer Valor Award in 2006 and the Sussex County Law Enforcement Officer Valor Award from American Legion in 2006.



Police investigate the death of Al Mustafa Rodriques at his home on Woodland Avenue.

## Police Investigating Shooting Death of Woodland Ave. Man

According to Middlesex County Prosecutor Bruce J. Kaplan, on the evening of April 14 South Plainfield Police entered the home of Al Mustafa Rodriques, 30, at 1804 Woodland Avenue and found him dead on the floor of his bedroom. Rodriques was the victim of a gunshot wound.

Police responded to Rodriques' home after receiving a call from his brother who came home and found him on the bedroom floor.

An autopsy performed Tuesday by Assistant Middlesex County Medical Examiner Dr. Alex Zhang determined that Rodriques died from a gunshot wound. Dr. Zhang has classified this shooting death as a homicide.

Anyone with information is asked to call South Plainfield Police Detective James Darby at (908) 755-0700 or Inv. Paul Miller at Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office at (732) 745-3300.

## Residents Speak Out Against Boulevard Trucks

Monday evening's Borough Council Agenda Meeting was packed with area residents pleading with council members to uphold the current truck ban on Hamilton Boulevard and Belmont Avenue.

Mayor Butrico has been trying for weeks to have the condemnation and purchase of the Cornell-Dubilier site approved in order to move along the New Market Extension Project. In turn, the Republican Majority is suggesting that the truck ban on Hamilton Boulevard be rescinded.

Assemblyman and lifelong resident

Patrick Diegnan spoke out at the meeting, he said, "with great reluctance" but felt it was "a necessity" to explain the consequences of lifting the truck ban. "It is important for you to realize that if you put trucks back on Hamilton Boulevard, you will never get them off and we will be killing any chance of ever building the Helen Street Project," said Diegnan. "This will confirm the argument by the Edison Wetlands Association," who have been against the project, and to the DOT and DEP "that there is no need for a Helen Street as there already is

a truck route." Former Mayor Dan Gallagher echoed Diegnan's sentiments, saying to the council, "Do all you can to stop this from happening." Former Council President Dennis Cerami implored the council "to do the greatest good for the greatest number of people" which he says live in that area.

Residents from the Hamilton Boulevard area said how pleased they were with the look of the new roadway and the fact that they can now bike and walk with children and feel safe. New

(Continued on page 3)

## Randolph Recognized for Environmental Preservation Efforts



Larry Randolph

By Libby Barsky

The Borough Council honored Larry Randolph for his 28 years of service on the Environmental Commission, from 1985 to 2008, including the last 14 years as chair, at its April 7 meeting.

During his tenure Randolph was

involved in preserving the physical environment—areas such as Tompkins Avenue for open space and Highland Avenue Woods as a nature reserve in conjunction with the Historical Society—as well as the cleanup and documentation of the Cornell-Dubilier Superfund Site.

"The town was approving developments without a thought of impact or anything else. There was so much that had to be ferreted out. I was asked to be on the commission by Rutgers Professor John Bogden, the first chairman of the Environmental Commission, who wanted a longer perspective, and as I had been involved in environmental issues, I agreed to be on the commission and it grew from there," said Randolph.

Through the Environmental Commission's efforts starting in 1995, the Cornell-Dubilier site was found to be contaminated with PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) and other hazardous wastes from capacitors and other electronic components manufactured at

the plant from 1936-1962.

"We were the first ones who raised the red flag that something might be at the site after reading that Cornell-Dubilier was involved in a massive environmental disaster in Massachusetts. After reading about that we thought, 'They were in South Plainfield first. If they messed things up that badly in Massachusetts, what did they do here? What contamination was left?' We got the DEP to take a look, and what they found wasn't good," said Randolph.

Those first discoveries at the site began investigations on the existing buildings and residential properties and led to the current cleanup as a DEP superfund site.

"They are supposed to place a small stone monument at the site to commemorate it when the cleanup project is done. They also plan to leave the water tower on the site as a reminder of what happened here," said Randolph.

"Residents don't realize that the

Cornell-Dubilier factory site was initially built by Spicer Manufacturing Corporation with some of the original Spicer buildings dating back to 1911. It was their world headquarters until 1931. Clarence Spicer invented the universal joint [used in all cars]. They were a major player in the automotive industry as manufacturer of the universal joint. They were also South Plainfield's major employer, with 1,000 workers on three shifts at the height of their operation."

Because of Spicer, the citizens who were paying taxes to Piscataway and not getting the services to support the south side of the township separated

from Piscataway in 1926 and became the independent community of South Plainfield.

When Spicer moved, Charles Dana bought into the operation, later known as the Dana Corporation. Both Spicer and Dana are in the Automotive Hall of Fame.

While the clean up has been going on, archeologists and architectural historians whose work was overseen by the National Park Service have been surveying the buildings inside and out, photographing them before they were demolished in order to document the entire story of Spicer

(Continued on page 10)

## Library to Hold Special Open Public Meeting

There will be a Special Open Public Meeting of the South Plainfield Public Library Board of Trustees on Thursday, May 1 at 7 p.m. at the South Plainfield Public Library.

This meeting is an opportunity for the public to ask questions and see plans of the proposed new library before Democracy Week.

Formal action may be taken at this meeting.



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

#### council meetings

Meets twice a month on Mondays, except as noted. \* All meetings begin at 7 p.m.

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

Agenda Meeting	Public Meeting
Monday, April 21	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 (NJSA 10:4-6 et seq) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Avenue.

#### planning board

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

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

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

#### zoning board of adjustment

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

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

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

#### board of education meetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted

Committee of the Whole, Wednesdays 7 p.m.

Reorganization meeting Thursday, April 30 at 7 p.m.

#### recreation commission

Meets once a month on the second Tuesday of the month, except July and August

PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7716

#### taxpayers advisory group

The Taxpayers Advisory Group (TAG) meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave. at 7 p.m. Questions? 908-769-0786.

#### site plan sub-committee

Meets once a month on the third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.

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

#### environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)

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

May 14, June 11, July 9, August 13, September 10, October 8 November 12, December 10 and January 14.

#### business advisory group

Meets once a month (first Wednesday)

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

#### traffic safety advisory commission

Meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room, Borough Hall

#### board of education curriculum/technology meetings

Meets once a month on Mondays at 8 p.m. in the 2nd floor conference room at Roosevelt Administration Building on Jackson Ave.

## IN MY OPINION

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

#### Submit Letters to the Editor:

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

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

#### Dear Editor,

As Democracy Week approaches, I would like all residents of the Borough of South Plainfield to consider the following question: If you could increase the educational environment for our children and grandchildren and get a state-of-the-art library, of which we all can be proud, for less than what it costs to buy one (1) cup of coffee a week, wouldn't you do it?

I read with great interest the letter from Glenn Cullen, chief financial officer, which appeared in the April 4 edition of the *Observer*. In his letter, Cullen stated that the increase in the debt service, which would result from the bonding for the new library, would be \$375,000 per year. Subsequent to reading his letter, I had a conversation with Glenn during which I asked him what the added cost per household would be for the increase in the debt service, as set forth in his letter. He informed me that the increase would be approximately \$30 per household per year!

While the Library Board of Trustees is acutely aware of the tough economic times in which we live, it seems that \$30 per year is a very small price to pay for something as important to the quality of life as a modern library. I urge all residents who are eligible to vote during Democracy Week to do so and when considering how you will vote, do a cost-benefit analysis. I believe that when such an analysis is done, the answer will be to vote "yes."

I also urge residents to attend the special meeting of the Library Board of Trustees which will be held on Thursday, May 1 at 7 p.m. in the library. This meeting is being held for the sole purpose of answering any questions about the new library.

**SINCERELY,  
ERIC M. ARONOWITZ, PRESIDENT  
LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



Mayor Charlie Butrico administers the oath of office to the new South Plainfield Court Administrator, Karen Costantino, joined here by husband, Vincent, and grandchildren, Kaitlyn and Mark.



Former Court Administrator Pat Vargo with Police Chief John Ferraro at her retirement party held at the Pines Manor. Vargo retired on March 31 after serving the borough for 30 years.

## PAIN?

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NANCY GRENNIER  
Publisher/Editor-in-Chief  
Web page:  
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WAYNE GRENNIER  
Associate Publisher  
SUSAN KANEPS  
Art Director/Associate Editor

PATRICIA ABBOTT  
Staff Writer/Photographer

LIBBY BARKSY  
Staff Writer

CAROL GRENNIER  
Editorial Assistant

JEAN FULTZ  
NATIA KATSANTONIS  
TARYN BILICH  
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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.

## Here's some great news for newspaper advertisers....

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## Nominees Sought for 2008 Cappy Award

The Police Athletic League, along with the Recreation Commission, has announced they are seeking nominees for the 2008 Cappy Award. Recommendations for nominations are now being accepted through June 1. Recommendations may be made by anyone from the public by sending a letter stating the qualifications of the candidate. Once recommendations have been received, two Police Athletic League and/or recreational peers will approve the recommendations for consideration.

The nominees must have 10 years of service in youth sports and/or recreation; not just serving as a parent-coach to his/her own children, but will be judged on a case by case basis. During the nominee's period of volunteer service, he/she must also have been a resident of South Plainfield.

Nominee must exemplify high moral values and ethical judgment and never have been convicted of a felony, and must possess dedication and commitment to the youth of South Plainfield.

Nominations should be sent to the South Plainfield Police Department, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080, Attn: Chris Colucci, PAL president or directly to the Recreation Department, 1250 Maple Ave., Attn: Kevin Hughes, recreation director.

## Football Eagles Seeking Bidders for New Sidewalk

South Plainfield Football Eagles is currently accepting quotes for a brick pavers sidewalk. Please contact Blaise McCarthy, buildings and grounds, for details at (908) 296-5009. Deadline for submission is May 2, 2008.

## LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### Special Meeting Notice

The Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield will be holding a Special Public Meeting on Monday, April 28, 2008 at Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080 at 7:00 p.m., for the hiring of the Municipal Clerk.

Attest/Joann Graf, Acting Municipal Clerk

\$20.00 April 18, 2008

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

### LEGAL NOTICE

April 11, 2008—Public notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its meeting held on April 10, 2008.

- Case #40-07-Clear Channel Outdoor, Block 535; Lot 1.01; 2992 Hamilton Blvd. The applicant's request for a use variance for a LED billboard was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.
- Case #06-08-William Simmons, Block 127; Lot 7; 168 So. Madison Dr. The applicant's request for a side yard setback variances in order to erect an addition was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.
- Case #10-08-Michael Obadike, Block 126; Lot 19; 170 No. Madison Dr. The applicant's request for a side yard setback variance in order to erect an addition was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Beth Khidre  
Secretary-Zoning Board of Adjustment

\$31.35 April 18, 2008

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

### LEGAL NOTICE

April 9, 2008—Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Planning Board at its meeting held on April 8, 2008.

- Case #08-01/Minor-Kamlesh Patel, Block 404.04; Lot 1; Kosciusko Avenue. The applicant's request for minor subdivision approval was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.
- Case #08-02/Minor-Hector Amini, 404.04; Lot 1; Kosciusko Avenue. The applicant's request for minor subdivision approval was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.
- Case #667/V-Able Labs, Block 390; Lot 5.03; 6 Hollywood Ct. The applicant's request for dismissal of this application without prejudice was hereby GRANTED.
- Case #712-Bett-A-Way Distributors, Block 308; Lots 35.01, 36 & 38; 110 Sylvania Pl. The applicant's request for waivers and preliminary and final site plan approval was GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary Beth Khidre  
Secretary/Planning Board

\$36.10 April 18, 2008



SPHS Principal Dr. Kenneth May with Rotary Students of the Month Brooke DeNitzio and Stephanie Penny.

## Rotary Students of the Month

SPHS Principal Dr. May is pleased to announce the April Rotary Students of the Month, seniors Brooke DeNitzio and Stephanie Penny.

Brooke has been involved in Student Leaders since freshman year. She is actively involved in student council and has been a class officer (president) since freshman year, participated in Tiger 24, Special Olympics and Heroes and Cool Kids. She is an active volunteer with her church, the Junioresettes and is a member of the National Honor Society, girl's soccer and winter and spring track programs. Brooke plans to stay involved

with her community while at college.

Stephanie has been an active member of the student leadership group since sophomore year. She has participated in Tiger 24, Adopt-a-Family and Heroes and Cool Kids. She was noticed by *Who's Who Among American High School Students* and honored as one of New Jersey's Rising Scholars. In the summer of 2007 she was one of 40 to participate in Rutgers University Accounting Career Awareness Program. She is an active member in her local church and plans on attending North Carolina A&T State University in the fall.

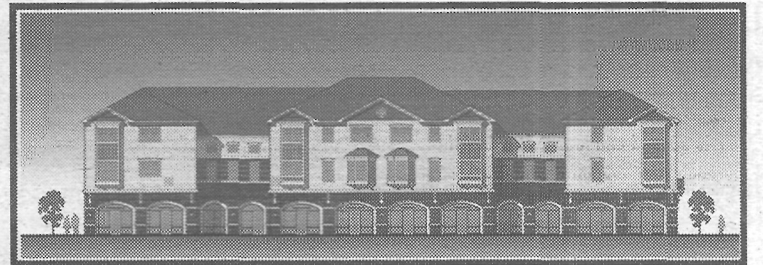
## Residents Speak Out Against Trucks

(Continued from page 1)

Market Avenue homeowners complained about "living in a nightmare" with the increased amount of trucks, deteriorating roadway and the safety element. Mayor Butrico said, "We are not pitting the New Market Avenue against the Hamilton Boulevard team," and encouraged residents to "get involved with the Helen Street ad hoc committee" in their pursuit of a new truck route.

The resolution to hire William A.

Staats, III as a DPW laborer, originally tabled at the April 7 meeting, was put back on the agenda. Mayor Butrico has been hesitant in hiring another worker due to the cost of benefits and pensions for new hires and asked Superintendent Joe Glowacki for a list of the current 17 employees and their job duties. Glowacki pleaded with the council, saying that there is "no new blood" and that the department cannot do the preventive maintenance they should with the manpower they have.



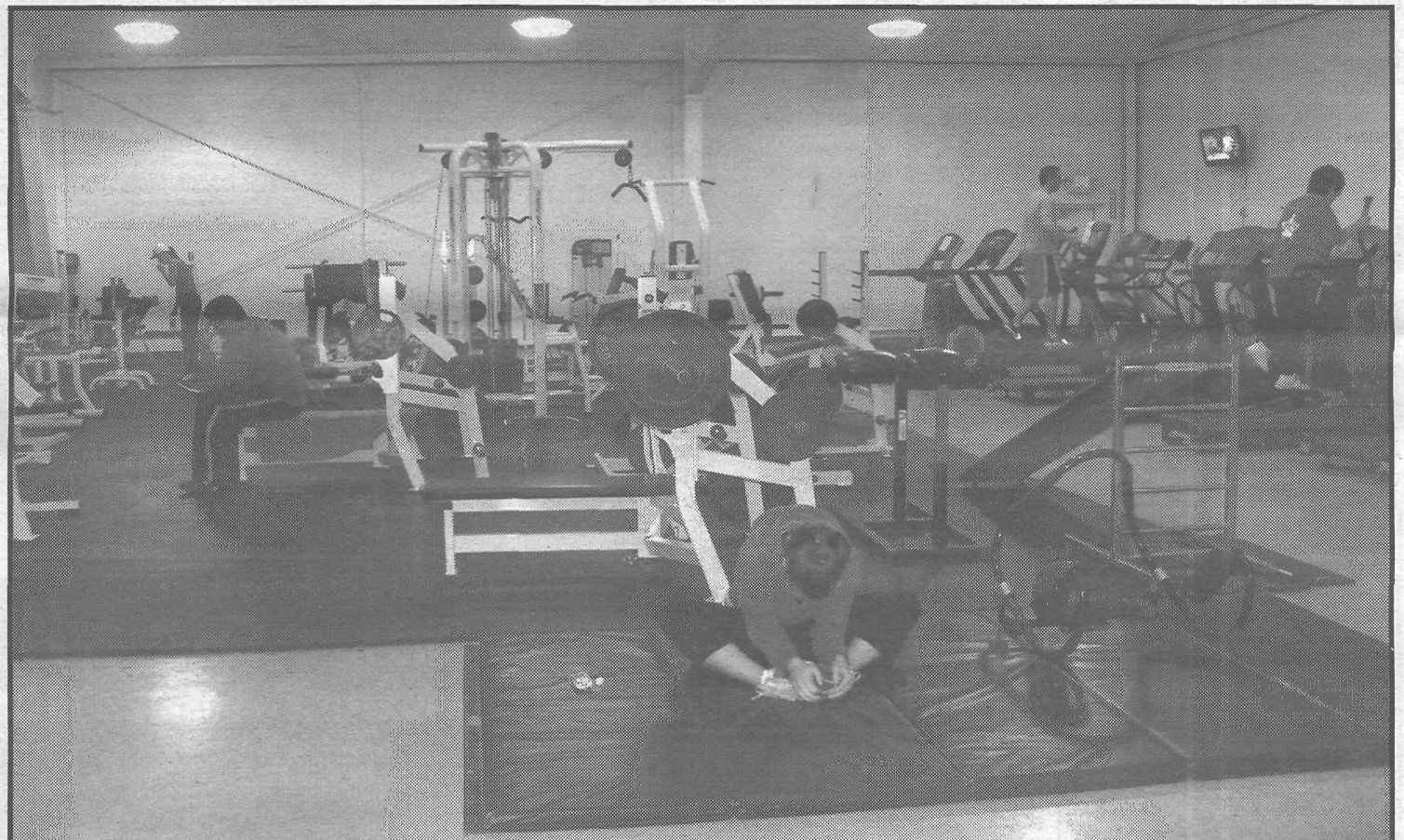
Artist's rendering of Hamilton Commons.

## Hamilton Commons Grand Opening Apr. 24

Century 21 Moretti Realty is holding a grand opening presentation for Hamilton Commons on Thursday, April 24 at 1 p.m. at their office at 225 Maple Ave. Pre-construction pricing and incentives will be offered. A mixed use property being developed in the borough's downtown section will com-

bine residential and retail to include 20 condos with several floor plans and retail space with apartments above.

Call marketing agent Christine Lahay at (908) 755-5300, ext. 343 or Melissa Morehouse at (908) 755-5300, ext. 331 for information. This event is open to the public.

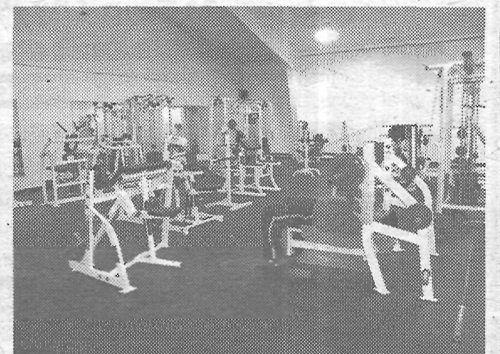
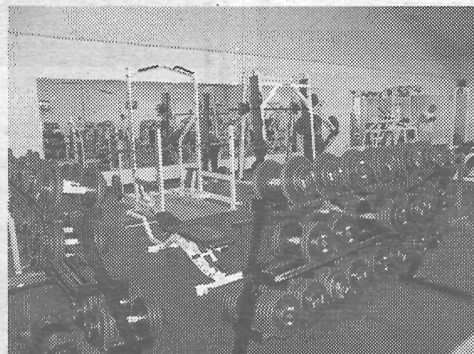
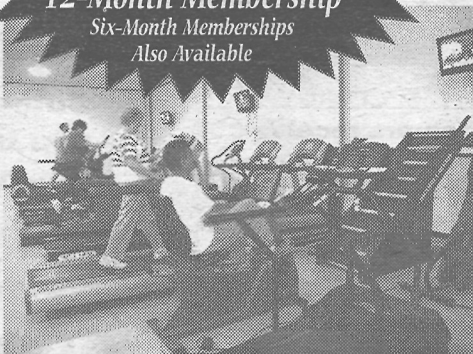


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For more info, call or visit the PAL-1250 Maple Avenue-(908) 226-7713.



# around town

## Italian Night Dinner

April 18

An Italian night will be held at the VFW on Front Street on Friday, April 18 from 5-8 p.m. Come and enjoy. Any questions please call (908) 668-9751.

## Live Music at Wesley

April 20

Come to a special Sunday at Wesley Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave. on April 20 at 9 a.m. Our guest speaker will be Jeremy Mathews. Come hear his message and enjoy live music. For more information, call (908) 757-2838.

## AARP #4144 Mtg.

April 21

Ajanta Vinekar, M.D. will speak on "Diagnosis and Management of Dementia" at the AARP #4144 meeting on Monday, April 21 at 12:30 p.m. at the senior center on Maple Avenue. Needlecrafters meet Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. at the senior center. Call Georgie at (732) 968-3128. They are currently knitting 130 lap robes for the Highlands, preemie hats for DYFS & Muhlenberg Hospital.

## 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.

### 27 Convenient Locations Extended Lobby Hours

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So. Plainfield, NJ 07080

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## Diabetes Day at

### TWIN CITY PHARMACY & SURGICAL

Friday May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008

10:00 am to 2:00 pm



Guests will be given:

- Information on diabetes
- A chance to sign up for a free newsletter
- Answers to questions/concerns on diabetes
- Sugar free snacks and refreshments
- Best of all a FREE Diabetes Monitor

So what do you say?

At Twin City Pharmacy  
It's Diabetes Day!

SPECIAL OFFER COUPON:

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(While Supplies Last)

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South Plainfield, NJ | (908) 755-7696

To receive your free monitor: Bring this ad to your physician & obtain a written prescription for the monitor, test strips & lancets. Bring that prescription into Twin City Pharmacy & Surgical.

What's  
happening at the  
South Plainfield

## SENIOR CENTER

APRIL

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

UPCOMING  
EVENTS

Golden Isles of Georgia Trip  
May 3 through 9

Hunterdon Hills Playhouse  
"Red Hot Lovers" May 14

Crocheting  
9:30am-11:30am  
Yoga 10:30-11:30am  
Art Class 11:30am  
AARP Meeting 12:30pm

21

Bingo 10am-2pm  
Ladies Social  
Group 10am

22

Aerobics 8:45 am  
Line Dancing 10am  
Computer 10 am,  
11:30am, 1pm  
Crocheting 1pm  
Tai Chi 2pm

23

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

24

Bingo  
10am-2pm

25

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

## SPBA April Meeting

April 24

The South Plainfield Business Association will hold their monthly meeting on Thursday, April 24 at 9 a.m. at Sherban's Diner 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.

## GOP Meeting

April 24

The regular monthly meeting of the South Plainfield Republican Organization will be held on Thursday, April 24 at 7 p.m. at Sherban's Restaurant. All residents are invited to attend and bring their concerns and comments for an open discussion on solutions that could benefit South Plainfield.

## 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 information or tickets, contact Susan at (732) 321-0554 or Michele at (908) 757-2523.

## Blackrose to Perform

April 26

Blackrose, a band performing classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will be performing at KC's Korner, 100 Oak Tree Rd., on Saturday, April 26 at 10 p.m. No Cover Charge.

## Girl Scouts Silver and Gold Dinner

April 29

Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Council will honor Linda Maggio, Westfield United Way's longtime executive director, at its Silver and Gold Dinner on Tuesday, April 29 at Snuffy's Pantagis Renaissance from 6-10 p.m.

For more information visit www.westfieldnj.com/girlscouts.

## Spaghetti Dinner

May 3

Wesley United Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave., is hosting a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, May 3 from 5 to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 per adult and \$5 per child 12 years and under. Dinner includes spaghetti with freshly made sauce, a choice of meatballs or sausage, fresh salad, homemade dessert and beverage. Tickets will also be available at the door.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call (908) 756-8655.

## Professional Comedy Show

May 3

South Plainfield Soccer Club is sponsoring a professional comedy show featuring three comics on Saturday, May 3 at the PAL on Maple Ave.; adults only. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. 50/50 raffles; bring your own food, drinks/BYOB. Tickets are \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door. For information and tickets, call (908) 753-6175.

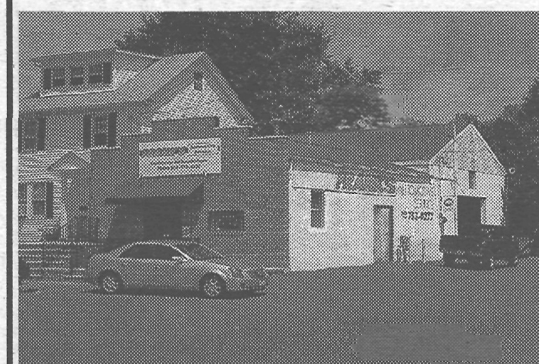
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## — Out of Town —

## Clothing Drive

April 19

Our Lady of Mount Virgin School, Drake Avenue in Middlesex, is holding a clothing drive on Saturday, April 19 from 8:30 to 11 a.m.; rain or shine. Place your items in sturdy bags and drop off in the school parking lot. A portion of the money collected will benefit Our Lady of Mount Virgin School.

For more info, call (732) 356-6560.

## Suessical the Musical At Crossroads Theater

April 18-20

The Livingston Theater Company presents "Seussical The Musical!" at Crossroads Theater in New Brunswick on Friday, April 18 at 8 p.m., April 19 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and April 20 at 2 p.m. Tickets \$6 children, students and seniors and \$11 adults. Reserve at www.rultc.org.

## Folk Dances of China

April 19

The Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission presents Folk Dances of China on Saturday, April 19, 2 p.m. at JP Stevens High School, 855 Grove Ave. in Edison. The program is free, however registration is required. To register, contact the Commission at (732) 745-4489.

## Woodbridge WOWs

April 20

Woodbridge Widows Or Widowers will hold an open dance on Sunday, April 20 from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. at the Elks, 665 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. Live music and refreshments. Everyone is welcome. Admission \$10 members, \$12 guests.

For more information call (732) 381-3255 or (908) 757-0515.

## Fourth Annual Rummage Sale

April 24-26

The NORWESCAP Food Bank, 213 North Broad St. in Phillipsburg, is holding its fourth annual spring rummage sale on Thursday and Friday, April 24 and 25 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., and Saturday, April 26 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.; bag sale noon-2 p.m.

For more information, please contact the NORWESCAP Food Bank at (908) 454-4322.

An Invitation,

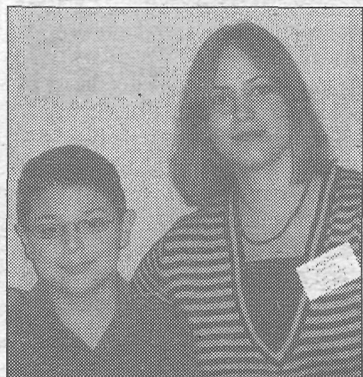
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## southplainfieldpeople Milestones

### Matthew Waters Receives Reader Award



Matthew Waters with Franklin School librarian, Amy Carlos.

Matthew Waters, fourth grade student at John F. Kennedy Elementary School, received the New Jersey En-

thusiastic Reader Award. The award is based on the amount of reading a student does outside of normal school work. Each winner was nominated by their school's librarian or teacher. Matthews was nominated by Amy Carlos, Kennedy School librarian.

Matthew was one of three students chosen in the Central Jersey section of the state and one of three students chosen in the K-5 grade category in the entire state.

Matthew and the other state winners were honored at an award ceremony hosted by the New Jersey Reading Association and the New Jersey Association of School Librarians at the Mount Prospect Elementary School in Basking Ridge on April 12.

### Jim Vokral Elected Secretary of N.J. Association of Election Officials

Jim Vokral of South Plainfield was recently elected secretary of the New Jersey Association of Election Officials for 2008 at their annual conference. It is a non-paid position.

This association is a statewide, non-profit group consisting of election officials from each New Jersey county. Members of this association work together to share information to provide safe and secure elections in conjunction with the Secretary of State, who is the state's chief election official, and the state attorney general who provides legal counsel in accordance with state election laws.

Vokral has been administrator of the Middlesex County Board of Elections since February 2004. The Board of Elections is responsible for managing



Jim Vokral

all elections, voter registration records, voting machines and other election activities within the county.

### Prybella Graduates Cum Laude from Seton Hall University



Cynthia Prybella

Cindy Prybella, daughter of Angela and Bob Prybella, graduated cum laude from Seton Hall University in

May 2007. Ending her four years with a GPA of 3.5, she was inducted into the National Honor Society for Education and Golden Key Honor Society. Cindy majored in mathematics and education and was on the Dean's List all semesters.

She was very involved in Seton Hall's chapter of Habitat for Humanity serving as vice president and president. Each year for spring break, she attended Collegiate Challenges in Georgia, South Carolina and New Orleans, helping to build homes and aiding in hurricane relief efforts.

She is now employed as a high school math teacher in Scotch Plains-Fanwood.

Cindy is a 2003 graduate of South Plainfield High School.



Durham Dental Center, located in the new professional building at the corner of Durham Avenue and Helen Street, held its grand opening on April 7. Family and friends came out to celebrate with Dr. Loay Deifallah; wife, Rouba and daughter, Celine, along with office manager Elisa Vega and Mayor Charles Butrico, who cut the ribbon in front of the new, state-of-the-art office.

## Stop Procrastinating and Get Things Done!

Do you want to be more successful? Do you want to move into action? Do you want to make significant changes in your life?

The South Plainfield Business Association is hosting a networking event for South Plainfield businesses and interested residents on Wednesday, April 30. The event will take place at The Hampton Inn from 6 to 8 p.m. Admission for the event is free and refreshments will be served.

Featured speaker at the event will be Terry Robak of T. Robak Associates, LLC, who is a professional life coach and speaker. Terry's presentation, "Three Keys To Success," will touch on topics of time management, getting out of your own way and get-

ting what you want.

The South Plainfield Business Association encourages local businesses to attend this networking event and take advantage of the opportunity to

establish business relationships.

Please feel free to visit [www.spba.biz](http://www.spba.biz) or E-mail [robakt@comcast.net](mailto:robakt@comcast.net) for more information on this motivating presentation.

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### Friends of the Woods Trail Maintenance

Join the Friends of the Woods for Spring Trail Maintenance Days at the Highland Woods Nature Reserve. Meet at the Sylvania Place trail head on Saturday, April 19 and Sunday, April 27 from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Individuals and groups welcome at either or both days. Gloves and light refreshments provided. Bring helpful tools (pruners, saws, shovels).

Please register by calling Alice Tempel at (908) 226-7621.

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2007-08

JUNIOR JOURNALIST



Charlie and Debbie Kurland deliver dinner to Junior Journalist Alexa Douras pictured with mom, Mary Ellen, and sister, Dina.



From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

By Chris Grippo

On April 9 Governor Corzine signed legislation designating each April as Jewish Heritage Month. In honor of this, and with Passover beginning this weekend, take a look at some of the materials the library owns that relate to this topic.

The holiday is celebrated to commemorate the exodus of the Jews from Egypt. When the exodus occurred the Jewish people did not have time to allow their bread to rise; therefore they were forced to eat unleavened bread. Thus one of the well-known characteristics of the holiday is eating matzo. In fact the holiday begins and ends with meals with the first Seder being when the Haggadah (the story of Exodus) is recited. For information on this holiday, see "Keeping Passover: Everything you need to know to bring the ancient tradition to life" by Ira Steingroot, "Jewish Family Celebrations" by Arlene Rossen Cardozo and "Essential Judaism" by George Robinson. For the foods of Passover we have "The New York Times Passover Cookbook" and "The Essential Book of Jewish Festival Cooking" by Phyllis Glazer. And to learn more about keeping kosher we have "How to Keep Kosher: A Comprehensive Guide to Understanding Jewish Dietary Laws" by Lise Stern. Judaism is a very complex religion and

these books just touch on a few aspects of it, but we have many more items on our shelves should you want to learn more about the rites, rules and beliefs of the Jewish people.

This Sunday, April 20, Alan Snyder will be back with his Antiques Roadshow program from 2-4 p.m. We request that each person bring only two items. There are no reservations; first come, first served.

This upcoming Wednesday, April 23, there will be an Earth Day Program at the library at 6:30 p.m. called "Whales, the Ocean, and Litter" presented by Diana Dove who since 1981 has led whale watching trips. In this case she will lead the kids (children in grades K-5) on a pretend whale watch cruise with slides, singing and exploring hands-on at a discovery table. There is no charge for this program; registration is required. Call (908) 754-7885 or stop by.

Miss Linda and Miss Mija will have their regular storytime programs for three year-olds and up on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m., Time for 2s and 3s on Thursday and Friday at 10:30 a.m. and Books & Babies on Friday at 10:30 a.m.

If you have any questions about the library and our programs please feel free to call us at (908) 754-7885 or stop in. And don't forget Democracy Week coming up the first full week in May!



Participating in this year's Polar Bear plunge were (L-R) Joe Papa, Lloyd McNelly, Peter Papa and Wendel Born.

## SPPD Members Take the Plunge

Members of the South Plainfield Police Department recently jumped into the frigid waters of the Atlantic Ocean for a great cause. It was the 15th annual Polar Bear Plunge held at Jenkinson's in Point Pleasant. The South Plainfield PBA donated \$2,500 to the plunge, which benefits New Jersey Special Olympics. The event supports more than 23 different sports.

The Polar Bear Plunge is the single

largest one-day fundraiser held annually in the state; this year an estimated \$800,000 was raised. More than 1,600 people, many of them police, fire and EMS members from all over the state, took the "plunge" into the cold water.

In addition to the participants, thousands of supporters were on the beach and boardwalk to encourage them.

## policereport

• On April 8 Brian Mauldin, 35, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license, no insurance and several outstanding warrants.

• Willie A. Jones, 56, of Elizabeth was arrested for hindering apprehension and three outstanding warrants.

• On April 9 Darryl M. Trippin, 50, of Plainfield was arrested for hindering apprehension, driving on a suspended license and failure to maintain lamps.

• A Delaney Court resident reported the theft of a basketball net and base from their front yard.

• On April 10 Mary Osterman, 47, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated and reckless driving.

• An employee of Brencorp Inc. on Sylvania Place reported that their vehicle and a company truck had been shot with a pellet gun.

• On April 11 Hillside Cemetery reported that small cups filled with water and candles had been found at various gravestones throughout the older section of the cemetery.

• On April 12 a Conklin Street resident reported that the driver's side window of their vehicle had been smashed and a Tom Tom GPS was taken.

• On April 13 Juan Nieves, 29, of Edison was arrested for driving while intoxicated, careless driving, driving on a suspended license and refusal to take a breathalyzer test.

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## Notes from the Suburban Woman's Club

The Suburban Woman's Club held their monthly meeting on April 3. Guest speaker was Jane Sapienza, president of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plainfield.

Sapienza showed slides of the work they have done in the Plainfield area. She also expressed regrets about the cost of empty lots in the area. In the beginning it was possible to obtain a lot for about \$20,000; now lots are selling for approximately \$80,000 which make it impossible for the organization to purchase a lot and construct a house, even with volunteers and donated supplies, for about \$120,000. When a house is sold to the recipient he or she must have worked 500 volunteer hours and have a steady job with an income of between \$40,000 and \$45,000. The mortgage on the house is for 20 years and interest free. The funds paid are used to build more houses. It was a most enlightening meeting.

Now for the fun part of the day. We held a "one pound" auction and every member brought a gift weighing about one pound. The gifts were beautifully wrapped and even the auctioneer, Mary Ann Iannitto, did not know the contents. We all bid to become the new owner and enjoyed the surprise of opening the gift: a pound of potatoes, a package of baby carrots or even a marble game. Our hostesses were Mary Ann Iannitto and Freida Walker. The refreshments were delicious.

We are proud to announce that our choice for Girls' Career Institute at Douglas College are Lindsey Fredericks, delegate and Rebecca Deffler, alternate. We hope that this young lady from SPHS will find the weekend beneficial and enjoyable. She will experience living in a dorm at a college and meeting new people. She will also attend lectures about careers to be considered when choosing a college and life profession.

Our annual spring yard sale will be held on Saturday, May 3 at the American Legion, 243 Oak Tree Ave., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Rain date is May 4. There will be many bargains.

Our next meeting is Thursday, May 1, 1 p.m. at the American Legion. Guest speaker will be Grace Hulbert, past president. Her program will be "Women and Money." Hulbert has experience in the field of finance and her advice will be most enlightening. Refreshments and tea and coffee will be served. All are welcome to join us.

—Submitted by Gloria M. Breuninger,  
Publicity Chairman

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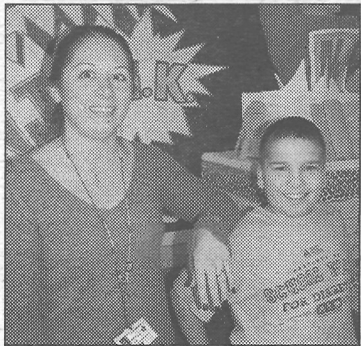
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2007-08  
JUNIOR JOURNALIST

## Drew Catalina Named Junior Journalist!



Language Arts teacher Kristin Bennett with Junior Journalist winner Drew Catalina.

Drew Catalina, Middle School seventh grader, is this week's winner in the Hometown Heros-South Plainfield Observer sponsored 2007-08 Jun-

ior Journalist Contest for his opinion piece on President John F. Kennedy's inaugural speech.

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

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.

Dear John F. Kennedy,

Your inauguration speech taught me several important lessons. The most important lesson, in my opinion, is that regardless of how successful and powerful a nation or an individual becomes by any measures, complacency must not be allowed to stop ongoing improvement and development. We do have the power to resolve serious problems, but we must also be aware of the consequences if we do harm with that power.

A second lesson I learned was that we have many issues that are similar. Not only do we have a new generation of Americans born here in the USA, we also have a new generation of Americans born out of the USA. Nevertheless, this entire generation is committed to American ideals, such as freedom, equality and liberty. Today, as in 1963, we face internal and external challenges. For example, domestically we are still striving to harness and be the masters of technology, instead of it controlling us. We are trying to create a diversified culture of acceptance and create an environmentally sound, and vibrant economy. Glo-

bally, we're presented with many challenges and opportunities for which our friends and enemies should know that we will respond appropriately because we are Americans.

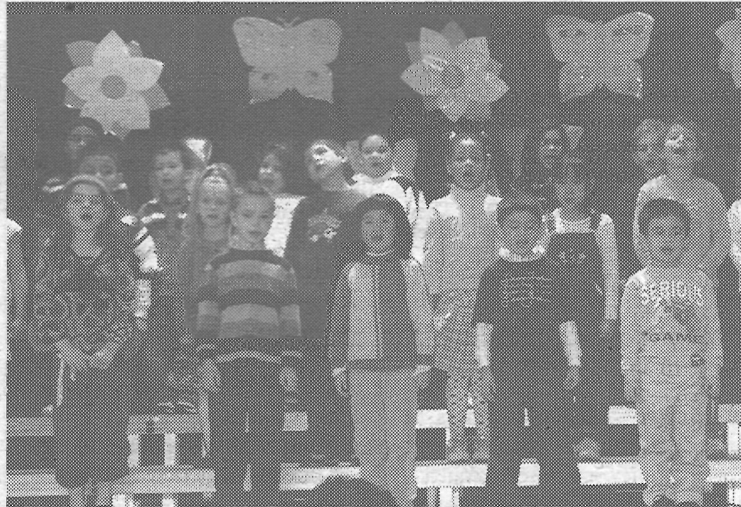
President Kennedy, I think you would agree with me that no matter how smart or strong a person is, you need to be kind, dependable, and considerate of other people's feelings. I would gladly help others because I am a student with Asperger's Syndrome, and many other people have helped me. It is right and fair for me to help others in need of assistance. Just like in your speech, when you said each generation has been asked to do something special, I feel that it is my destiny to educate others about compassion and truth.

In conclusion, your inauguration speech taught me several important lessons. Those lessons include avoidance of complacency, use of one's strengths to avoid mistakes of the past, and to be considerate to the seemingly meek people around you. If we use these qualities today, we can really make a great and lasting difference.

Respectfully yours,  
Drew Catalina



Roosevelt kindergartners perform in celebration of Grandparents Day.



## Kindergartners Sing for The Love of Grandparents

Roosevelt School Kindergarten students demonstrated to their grandparents how very special they are at the annual Grandparents' Day on April 2.

Teachers Mary Beth Boschen and Joy Czaplinski and Music Director Sharon Perez spent several weeks preparing the youngsters with a variety of songs to sing to show their love and affection. Among them were "America," "We Are Roosevelt's Children," "I'm Gonna Climb My Family Tree," "Spend Some Time With Your Child," "Let's Go See Our Grandparents," "Skinnamarink," "All I Really Need," "Grandma, Grandpa, How I Love

You" and "Now We Say Goodbye." Accompanying the students was Aura Akunne on maracas, Sebastian Cordoba on sand blocks, Liesl Co on the cabasa, Gianna Ruzicka on guiro and Jaelyn Storms on claves.

A traditional highlight of the program is the recital of a poem about what grandparents are for: loving, talking, reading, talking, teaching, playing and hugging.

Refreshments were served at the conclusion of the performances courtesy of the PTO.

## SCHOOL BOARD Notes

• Kennedy School students gave a chorus presentation directed by Miss Habeeb at the April 9 BOE.

• Dr. Brian Panek, staff member, received his tenure.

• Upon recommendation of the superintendent of schools the following items were approved:

• The South Plainfield Governor's Teacher Recognition Selection Committee and the BOE approved the committee's selection of the following for awards: Sharon McGrath, SPHS; Joseph Blondo, Middle School, Nancy Donahue, Grant School, Sally Gillis, Franklin School, Kevin McCann, Kennedy School, Patricia Public, Riley School and Elizabeth Lepri, Roosevelt School.

• The Jerseyan Club Trip to Washington, D.C. at no cost to the BOE.

• Accepted the resignation for retirement from Thomas Baker, SPHS student assistance counselor; Ann Brown, SPHS English teacher; Diane Boyle, Kennedy School teacher and the resignation of Shannon Lorenzo, SPHS Spanish teacher and Jodie Fishbein, Kennedy School special education teacher.

• Guidance counselor Gregory Young transferred from the district offices to the K-4 elementary schools.

• A 4.5% salary increase for Superintendent Jose Negron effective July 1, 2008.

• The annual Tiger 24 will take place on Friday, May 2 at 4 p.m. until 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 3 at Jost Field. This fundraiser is for individuals and families in need and will include face painting, volleyball, games, prizes, food and more. Call Kevin Hajduk for information at (908) 754-4620, ext. 495. Sponsored by SPHS Peer Leadership and Sodexo. The Athletic Booster Club needs volunteers to help cook from 4 p.m. until midnight both days. Call Teri Pileggi at (908) 754-4620, ext. 248 to help.

• The Middle School PTO will be sending out notices to over 150 families who have not sent in their \$30 activity fee which will be used for the seventh grade picnic on June 5 at the community pool, the eighth grade dinner/dance on June 20 and cultural art programs. Please send in the activity fee with your child marked "PTO."

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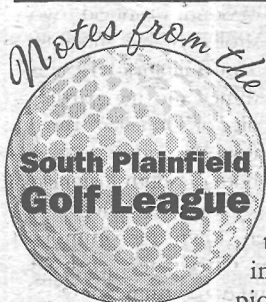
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# Sports



A key issue facing Pornovets, the reigning champion in the South Plainfield Golf League, is how they will be able to make a solid defense of their title without the services of their longtime captain, Jim Pornovets, Jr., a 36-year veteran of the league who has relocated to Kentucky.

Jim's departure leaves a huge hole in the Pornovets lineup, and he will be sorely missed, not only by his teammates, but by all the league members who enjoyed playing against a solid competitor and a genuine sportsman.

Irish Danny Griffin has been sporting his lucky green golf cap the past few seasons, and last year his Oak Tree Buy-Rite Liquors team had some good luck along the way as they completed a fine season by winning the American Division championship. Griffin is hoping to get some assistance from a few

leprechauns in creating some lucky bounces from time to time to help his team to another successful season.

The Hackers were only able to post a 7-7 record last year, despite having the most balanced and one of the strongest teams in the league. Led by Todd Sherman who tied for the low-round of the season last year when he fired a sparkling one-under 32, the Hackers only need a few breaks here and there to become serious contenders for championship honors.

On the last night of the 2007 season, Plainfield Animal Hospital got pounded in the play-offs, 19-1. They are ready to put the agony of that defeat behind them, and captain Mike Cortese hopes his team can get off to the same fast start they had last year when they won their first four matches.

With two stellar performers in Kevin "Boom Boom" Bickunas and Howard "Awesome" Adler, Witty's Liquors always presents a tough test for any opponent. If these two fine

Submitted By Bob Nilan

players bring their A-game to the early season matches, then you can expect that Witty's will be in the pennant battle all season long.

There was a point last season when 2 Buds, 2 Dubs were just one game out of first place in the tough American Division. They then went into a downward spiral and lost their last five regular season matches. Captain Dale Dube hopes his team can avoid that kind of sustained slump in 2008 and remain in contention the entire season.

The Roughriders will again rely on their strong twosome, Andy Hayward and Frank Weingart, who sparked their team to a 7-6-1 record in 2007 after going winless the previous year. Rich Muglia, Ray Costa and Bob Nilan will lend support as the Roughriders look to improve in 2008.

Twin City was one of the dominant teams two years ago when they won the National Division title with eight wins, three losses and three ties, a record that could easily have been 11-3.

Last year, they slipped to ninth place in the overall standings. Jay Coppola, one of the premier players in the league, looks forward to his team regaining their 2006 form and again battle for their division championship.

Two former league champions, Sport and Social and KC's Korner, had disappointing seasons in 2007 and both eagerly look forward to regaining the touch that made them such formidable opponents in the past.

Two new teams will make their appearances in the league this year, following the withdrawal of Eddie's Grinders and Patti's Construction. Chris Dillon, who played with the Grinders, has put together a team sponsored by Unique Sports Accessories of Kenilworth. And Tom McCreesh, a fine player who has been a sub on occasion, has assembled a group that has not yet decided on a name.

League President Mark "Mr. Steady" Chichvar announced at a recent meeting of team captains that opening night is set for Tuesday, April 22. The 14-week regular season will conclude on August 12 with the championship playoffs scheduled for August 19.

SPHS GOLF TEAM

Submitted by Mike Kavka

## SPHS Golf Team Goes to 5 and 1



Brad Martin

With an easy win over Monroe Township at Foresgate Country Club on March 31, the Tigers took another step toward winning their division. Led by Vinnie Padula's 41 at the Palmer Course, the Tigers won 173-198. Monroe is one of the stronger teams in the division so this was an important match.

The team traveled to Shackamaxon

Country Club on April 1, one of the finer courses in New Jersey. Here they ran into a strong Scotch Plains team and aerated greens. The aeration is needed for healthy greens but very hard to play on. The Tigers lost 190-174.

On April 3, New Brunswick was their foe and Coach Kavka gave some of his younger players the chance to play in a match. Steve Wiczork and Zack Olim carded 41's on the home course as the Tigers won 175-225.

The Tigers welcomed a strong Mid-dexsex team on April 4 to West Nine and came away with a 160-165 win. Brad Martin's impressive 37 proved to be the difference. The slick greens proved to be very difficult for both teams but the Tigers were up to the challenge.

The team played five away courses the week of April 7-11 and the results will appear next week. The matches were played at Warrenbrook, Colonia Country Club, Quailbrook, Tara Greens and the Bunker Hill Golf Course.

By Jack Brady

## JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES C-League Opening Games



The C-League Red Sox had a great opening day game versus the Yankees. Jake Hoffman struck out six, tripled and had three RBIs. Jake Giordano pitched two scoreless innings, James Moore had two hits and one scoreless inning and Jeff Plungis had two RBIs.

The C-League Athletics are off to a fast start this season with wins in each of their first four games. The team has featured strong pitching, clutch hitting and exceptional defense. The Athletic team members are Nicholas Plate, Jason Cieszkiewicz, Ben Lundy, Jean Sapini, TJ Scott, Alex Kelly, Jacob Rivera, Billy Keane, Chris Jeffreys, Joseph Nardacci, Anthony Palmeri and Jason Rossow.

Jack Townley of the Rockies hit two

doubles and drove in five RBIs in his first four games. First year player Frankie Savoca struck out the side and added a clean single in a game against the Marlins.

Finally, hats off to the C-League game of the week last Friday between the A's and the Rockies as both pitching staff's yielded only two runs in a well-played game.

A great job by Mike Pellegrino and the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club on a successful opening day!

## Coalition of Cultural Diversity Meeting

The South Plainfield Coalition of Cultural Diversity will meet on Tuesday, May 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the conference room at Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue.

For more information, please call (908) 251-3992.

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## Soccer Association Offering Scholarships for Seniors



The South Plainfield Soccer Association (SPSA) is offering two \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors. To qualify for the scholarship, applicants must be a current resident, graduating this June, and have played four seasons with the SPSA.

Applications are available at the South Plainfield High School guidance office.

Completed applications should be returned to the guidance office or mailed to: SPSA Scholarship, P.O. Box 543, South Plainfield, N.J. 07080. Deadline for the application is May 19.

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# Sports

## Traveling Soccer

By Chris Paez

### Bullets Beat Highland Park Rangers 6-0

After having a week off, the boys U-14 traveling soccer team played last Sunday against the Rangers from Highland Park and won the game with a score of 6-0. The Bullets proved they were determined to win.

After taking control of the game right from the beginning, the players

made it almost impossible for the opposition to keep up. Ryan Marcoux scored four of the six goals with one being scored from a corner kick. Austin Jenkin scored the other two goals.

The offensive and defensive lineup, which includes Alex Valladares, Shaun Alers, Marc Paez, Jimmy Gerber, Jose

Cruz, David Forero, Ryan Riccardi, Joe Krawiec, Kevin Flanagan, Zach Noll, Edgar Callegas, Tony Franczak, Jelani Ptaah and Anthony Quadrel, proved that they only try harder each week to defeat the competition.

The Bullets' next game is away on Sunday against Rahway.

### Arsenal Battles Another Close Game

Last Sunday the boys U-9 traveling soccer team battled against the Stingrays from South Brunswick in another nail biting game. The competition this season really brings out the players ambition to play better as a team.

The entire game was played back and forth giving both teams the opportunity to score and win the game.

Arsenal's hard work paid off in the second quarter when the only goal of the game was scored by Jake Giordano.

The hustling of the defense, the passing of the mid field and the pressuring of the offense by Tyler Curtis, Samardhi Jeedigunta, Jake Smith, Alec Paez, Jose Arrubla, Jake Hoffman, Jason Cieszkiewicz, Nicholas Plate,

Ricky Pellegrino, Jared Marks, Caleb Kuberiet and Nicholas Pezzolla, made it impossible for the Stingrays to come back and score.

Arsenal's next game is against the Cranford Rebels at the Kenneth Avenue fields on Sunday, April 20 at 11 a.m. Please come out and show your support.

### Rockets Defeat No. Brunswick in 4-3 Victory

By Danielle Gray

The South Plainfield Soccer Club U-12 Rockets prevailed over the North Brunswick Flash in an impressive 4-3 victory at Community Park Field in North Brunswick.

In the first half of the game, both the Rockets and the Flash dueled to gain possession of the ball. The Rockets accelerated the pace with a strong passing game letting the Flash know they had met a well prepared Rockets defense. Defender Mike Delgenio led the defensive charge with several major blocks to the Flash offense. Forward Oliver Bautista, midfielder

Danny Arboleda and midfielder Vincent Gray delivered for the defense by stopping the late offensive drives by the Flash.

The second half opened with striker Kevin Ramirez sending a screamer into the North Brunswick goal and followed with his second goal in the first 10 minutes of the half. The dazed Flash offense regrouped and scored their first goal putting the Rockets on high alert. As the half continued plagued by fouls, the Rockets maintained their focus and Kevin Ramirez delivered his final goal of the game before fouling out of the physical match up.

The Flash capitalized off the Rockets change in rotation and tied the game 3-3 late in the half. Goalie Chris Villare eliminated all opportunities for a Flash late quarter foul kick with a strong block reassuring his teammates that match was not over. The winning goal of the game was scored by forward Yasin Yilmaz securing the Rockets victory over the North Brunswick Flash.

## Obituaries

### Mary A. (Antini) Lammers, 90

Mary A. (Antini) Lammers died on Wednesday, April 9 at the Little Brook Nursing and Convalescent Center in Califon.

Born in Plainfield, she resided in South Plainfield since 1954.

Mrs. Lammers had been employed by the former Lockheed Electronics Company of North Plainfield in the assembly department for 24 years before her retirement in 1984.

She was predeceased by her husband, Charles H. Lammers, who died in 1985 and by two brothers, Anthony and Celestini "Sal" Antini.

Surviving are a brother, William (Sue) Antini of Bridgewater and several nieces and nephews as well as numerous great-nieces and great-nephews.

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

who passed away in 1997 and a sister, Bella Vasco, who passed away in 2006.

Janet is survived by her devoted husband of over 59 years, Jesse C. Freeman, Jr. of South Plainfield; two daughters, Carol F. Stahle and husband David G. of Walingford, Pa. and Barbara J. Ahmet and her partner Thomas Schultz of Dunellen; three sisters, Gloria Spohn, and twin sister Joan Culver, both of South Plainfield and Arlene Colacicco of Iselin; two grandchildren, Kevin Fitzsimmons and partner Christine Lamb of Annandale and Aaron Ahmet of Dunellen and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

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

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made in Janet's memory to either Haven Hospice, 65 James St., Edison, N.J. 08818 or The Arthritis Foundation, P.O. Box 96280, Washington, D.C. 20077.

### Janet Freeman, 77

Janet Freeman passed away peacefully on Saturday, April 12 at Haven Hospice in Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center.

She was born in East Orange and resided in South Plainfield most of her life.

She was a retail sales clerk and most recently a service advisor for Sears & Roebuck in Watchung retiring at the age of 62.

Janet was an extremely devoted and loving wife, mother, sister and friend. She will be sadly missed by all whom were fortunate to have known her.

She was predeceased by a daughter, Susan Freeman, who passed away in 1976; a brother, Edward Mullen,

### Doris N. Parker, 87

Doris N. Parker passed away on Wednesday, April 9 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Mrs. Parker was born in Plainfield and resided in Piscataway most of her life.

She was employed as a nurses aide at Ashbrook Nursing home and retired after 32 years of service.

Mrs. Parker was predeceased by her beloved husband, Hoyt Dallas Parker, who passed away in 1959 and a grandson, Randy Peschel.

She is survived by two sons, Dallas Parker of Piscataway and Ron and partner Margarita Parker of Phillipsburg; one daughter, Karen Peschel of East Stroudsburg, Pa. and three grandchildren, Brett and wife Jennifer Peschel of East Stroudsburg, Pa., Kevin Parker of East Stroudsburg, Pa. and Ronald Salazar of Phillipsburg.

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

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## LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
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LEGAL NOTICE  
ORDINANCE 1714A

Ord. 1714A entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #1714 ENTITLED "ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS" TO REALLOCATE \$15,495 IN UNSPENT FUNDS AND APPROPRIATE AN ADDITIONAL \$4,500 FROM THE RECREATION TRUST FUND FOR THE EXTENSION AND INSTALLATION OF STORM WATER PIPES, GRATES AND OVERALL IMPROVEMENTS AT BLOCK 249 LOT 80 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS COTTON STREET PARK LOCATED IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, April 18, 2008 and that a Special Public Hearing be scheduled for Monday, April 28, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ORDINANCE NO. 1714A

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #1714 ENTITLED "ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS" TO REALLOCATE \$15,495 IN UNSPENT FUNDS AND APPROPRIATE AN ADDITIONAL \$4,500 FROM THE RECREATION TRUST FUND FOR THE EXTENSION AND INSTALLATION OF STORM WATER PIPES, GRATES AND OVERALL IMPROVEMENTS AT BLOCK 249 LOT 80 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS COTTON STREET PARK LOCATED IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY as follows:

Section 1. The unspent funds totaling \$15,495 for improvements and appropriations authorized under Ordinance #1714 in the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey be reallocated for improvements within Cotton Street Park and, are hereby supplemented by an additional appropriation as follows:

Recreation Trust Contribution for Cotton Street	4,500.00
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Section 2. The improvements described in Section

1 hereof shall be authorized as general capital improvements for the Borough of South Plainfield in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey.

Section 3. It is hereby determined and declared by this Mayor and Borough Council as follows:

A. That the maximum estimated amount of funds to be available for this amendment be \$19,995.

B. That the cost for the improvements at Cotton Street Park be from the reallocation of \$15,495 from Ordinance #1714 and an additional contribution of \$4,500 from the Recreation Trust Fund.

C. The estimated useful life of said improvements is hereby determined to be (20) years.

Section 4. That the total amount of the appropriation to be expended for architectural and inspection costs, legal costs, and other expenses is not to exceed \$2,000.00.

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication in accordance with the law.

ATTEST:  
Joanne Graf, Acting Municipal Clerk

\$96.90 April 18, 2008

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# Randolph Recognized for Service



Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan congratulates Larry Randolph for his service to South Plainfield.

(Continued from page 1)

and Dana in the development of the automobile, including how South Plainfield was a major player in the development of early automotive history. The site has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The reports are being placed in the Library of Congress.

Randolph's forbearers were original settlers in this area in 1669 when it was known as The Blue Hills. "They came from Massachusetts looking for a little more religious independence. New England was a Theocracy and worshippers needed to be members of a Puritan church. Our family were Baptists," Randolph said.

While researching his relatives, Ran-

dolph also learned about the history of the area and became South Plainfield's unofficial historian.

The stories Randolph told about South Plainfield encouraged Environmental Commission member Dorothy Miele, along with her daughter, Sarah, to do some research. As president of the South Plainfield Historical Society, Miele conducted and taped interviews at the Senior Center to record the memories of places and people in the area. Miele also serves as current chairwoman of the Environmental Commission.

"When I joined the Environmental Commission it became obvious there was no respect for the past, and also none for the future, over how the area was being developed," said Randolph.

Soon after Randolph became a member of the Environmental Commission, Alice Tempel was hired by the

borough and given the task of designing a recycling plan. As recycling coordinator, Tempel's job has grown, and is still growing, with a new recycling ordinance mandating a recycling plan for new multi-residential units and businesses building in the borough.

Randolph counts as an important environmental initiative undertaken by the commission the prohibiting of clear cutting trees by developers. The borough's tree replacement policy requires developers to replace trees. Tempel goes over the builder's plans and suggests the types, as well as the number, of trees in the plans.

"When I took over as chairman, one of the things that shocked me was that here were all these boards in town, but they never met together. Everyone did their own thing—the Environmental Commission, the Planning Board and

the Traffic Safety Commission. One of the things I've advocated was that we have to work together. There has been some movement in that direction, but not as much as I'd like," said Randolph, as he leaves the commission.

"Our only disappointment is that we haven't been able to do more with the schools. Having the children in the district come to the Highland Avenue Environmental Center to learn what is there. Now we have a classroom. Now that we're not as weather dependent—the schools say they don't have the time to do this. We can coordinate things now with the board and in the future the commission members will work it out somehow," said Randolph.

Leaving the board is difficult, but Randolph said, "It's time to go. It's time."

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\$15/3 lines, \$1 for each additional line. Deadline: Monday, 5 pm. Run an ad 4 consecutive issues, get a 10% discount. Call 908-668-0010; or email ad to: spobserver@comcast.net.

### HELP WANTED

CHHA-IMMED. OPENING, 3 DAYS, 9am-12pm, \$12/hr. Other jobs avail., \$11/hr. Car required to reach clients. (732) 246-8900.

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**MGR. ASSIST.-GARDEN AND PET** dept. Experience helpful. Nischwitz (908) 756-0947.

**NURSES/LPNs, RNs, CHHA-IMMEDIATE** opening. F/T, P/T, per diem. Retirees/new nurses welcome. Will train for cases. Mercer, Middlesex & other areas. (732) 246-8905.

**HOME FURNISHINGS FOR SALE** **BED-\$150 QUEEN PILLOW TOP** mattresses, new still in plastic with warranty. (732) 259-0016.

**BEDROOM-6 PC. CHERRY SLEIGH** bed set. List \$2300 sell \$875. Call (732) 259-6690.

### HOME FURNISHINGS FOR SALE

**MATTRESS-\$140 TWIN, ORTHO** plush still in plastic. Full \$175. Call (732) 259-6690.

### FOR SALE

**BABY CRIB-LIKE NEW \$100. MUST** pick up. Call (917) 806-1203.

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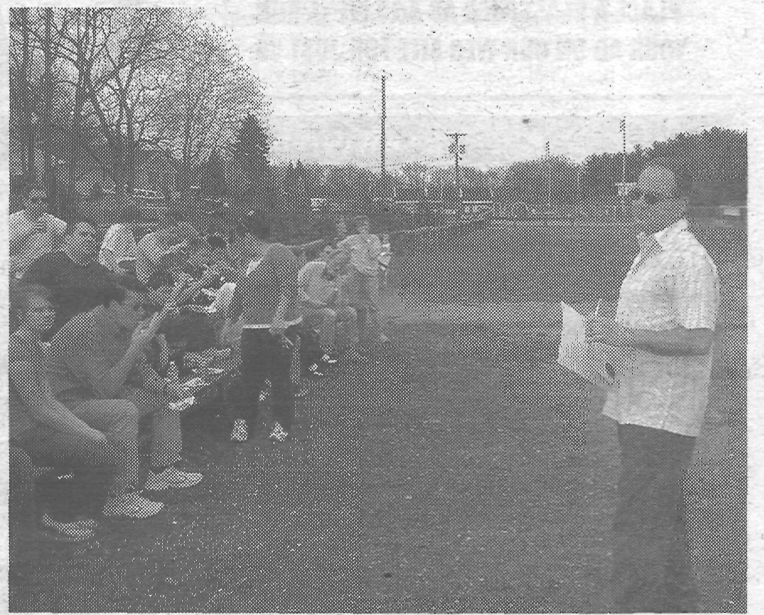
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# Volunteers Answer the Call to Clean Up the Borough



Volunteer Litter Cleanup Week kicked off on Saturday, April 12 and volunteers came out in full force to help clean up the Borough.

The South Plainfield Clean Communities Advisory Board sponsored the annual spring event, which drew more than 250 volunteers over the weekend, including the Mayor and Borough Council members and their families, Boy and Girl Scout troops, Cub Scout packs, church groups and members of the Clean Business Association.

Gloves, bags and rakes were picked up by the volunteers prior to dispersing to their assigned cleanup locations. Locations included all four parks, heavily traveled roadsides, including New Market Avenue, Hamilton Boulevard and Durham Avenue, and vacant lots and stream beds.

Participants were invited back to the PAL building after the cleanup for pizza donated by McCrisky Gustafson Home For Funerals, a six-foot sub donated by Hometown Heros, soda from Krausz's and door prizes from the Environmental Commission. Middlesex County's MC Blue, the Recycling Robot, joined in the festivities.

The clean up continues through April 19.




South Plainfield Soccer Club  
**Presents an Outstanding Evening of Stand-up Comedy by Comedy Blast, Inc.**

Saturday, May 3, 2008  
Doors open at 7:30 p.m.  
Comedy begins at 8:30 p.m.  
Held at: South Plainfield Police Athletic League  
1250 Maple Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ

Donation: \$20 per person in advance (\$25 at the door)  
Includes B.Y.O.B., B.Y.O.F. (food), and of course, a great comedy show.  
50/50 raffles, too!  
You must be over 21 years of age to attend.

**Tickets and information: (908) 753-6175 (Donna)**  
*Proceeds benefit the South Plainfield Soccer Club.*

**Sacred Heart Church**  
149 South Plainfield Ave.  
South Plainfield, NJ  
Rev. John Paul Alvarado, Pastor



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


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

**Emil Leporino Memorial Golf Outing**  
CRANBURY GOLF CLUB WEST WINDSOR  
**TUESDAY . MAY . 6 . 2008**

*Providing scholarships for graduating SPHS seniors and providing educational incentive programs throughout the district.*

Call Carolyn Allen 908.561.3275 or  
Bob Longo 908.753.7004 x106

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Follow the ups and downs of the borough in the Observer, an independent newspaper for South Plainfield. Send check or money order for \$25/one year (out-of-town-\$30) to: South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

**Questions? Call 908-668-0010    \*\* We now accept VISA and Mastercard \*\***