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County's Free Outdoor
Concert Series Continues

Sunday, August 3 6:30-8 p.m.

The Dave Wilson
Jazz Trio
Spring Lake Gazebo



South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 11, NO. 48

MEMBER NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

50 CENTS

AUGUST 1, 2008

The 2008 South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop

PROUDLY PRESENTS

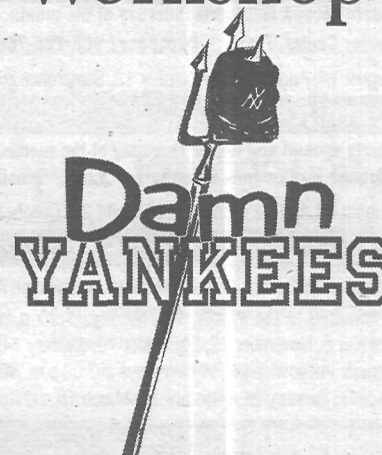
The Richard Adler and Jerry Ross Musical

Words and Music By:

Richard Adler and Jerry Ross

Book By: George Abbott and Douglass Wallop

Based on the novel by Douglass Wallop "The Year the Yankees Lost The Pennant"



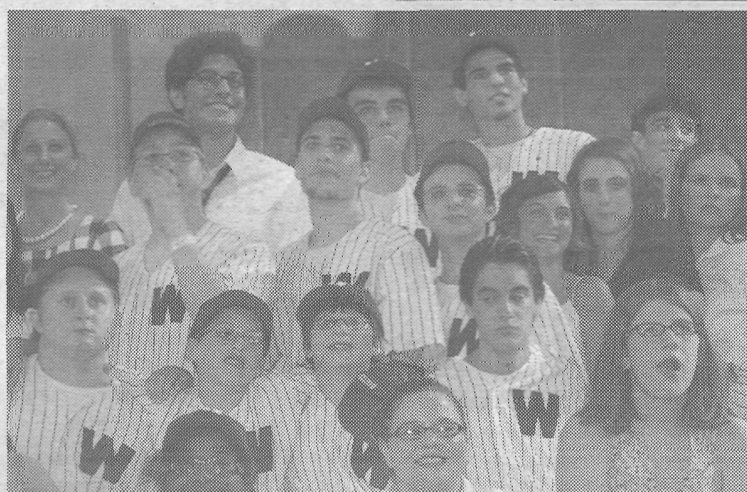
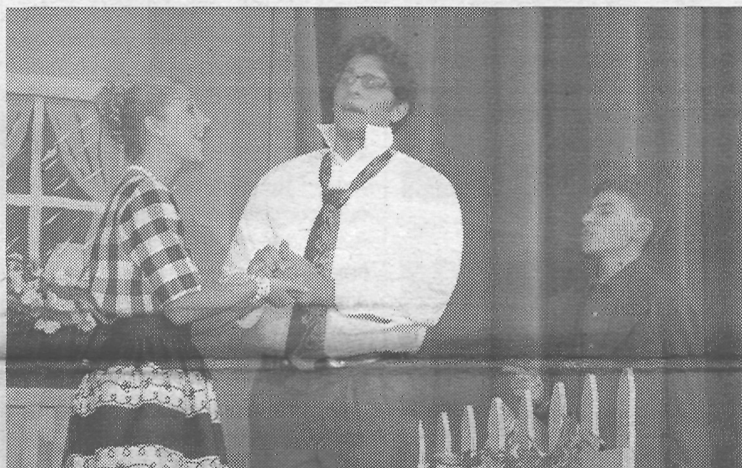
The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop (SPSDW) is celebrating their 37th season with their production of the hit musical, "Damn Yankees," a story about a seasonal favorite with a devilish twist, baseball! The show is based on Douglas Wallop's "The Year the Yankees Lost the Pennant." Middle-aged baseball fan Joe Boyd desperately wants to see his favorite team beat the Yankees and sells his soul to the Devil, a.k.a. Mr. Applegate, for a chance to play for the Washington Senators. He is transformed into a young man named Joe Hardy and his dreams are soon fulfilled when he finds himself leading the team in both hitting and pitching. The Devil and his seductive assistant, Lola, are waiting to collect on their bet, but Boyd's love for his wife throws a curve at Applegate and Lola.

The entire staff is excited about the show. Baseball fan and Director Eric Hafen said, "Damn Yankees is a classic old Broadway musical that is being revived all the time. It celebrates my favorite sport, baseball. The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop kids are learning about baseball as well as Bob Fosse's style of choreography. This show is a lot of

fun. We're having a ball with it!"

Hafen has always given more than 100% to the summer drama program. He truly cares about the students and is continuously working to help them hone their stage skills.

Hafen is also very pleased with this year's interns. "They worked out very well. Peter [Assad] was by far the most impressive. He could easily be a future vocal director for SPSPDW. Jeff [Seesselberg] was very helpful and has worked many hours with the large scenes. Pat [Cantarella] worked hand in hand with Emma [Fulton], even in choreographing 'Heart,' "



Hafen said.

Board President/Producer Bill Mott said, "This year's production of "Damn Yankees" marks the 37th season of the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop. This year's cast, crew and orchestra have enthusiasm, as well as new talent. The SPSPDW continues its expanding arts education program by holding workshops in theater, dance, theatrical lighting and bio writing, just to name a few. The dedication of our staff towards the program and its goals is greatly appreciated and, may I say for all the

time they put in with our youth, a big 'kudos.' Summer drama is all about offering a theatrical experience to the youth of our town, but we are only a small part of the big picture. A well-rounded individual is a combination of mental, emotional and physical well-being. The art often stimulates and develops the creative and emotional being of our soul. Whenever possible support the arts in the area by getting involved yourself or just enjoy a local show. Let the powers that be know the arts deserve their support."

"Damn Yankees" opened Thursday evening and runs Friday, Aug. 1 and Saturday, Aug. 2 at 7 p.m. and on Sunday, Aug. 3 at 2 p.m. Ticket prices are \$12 for adults and \$10 for children and seniors and can be purchased at the box office. The August 1 and 3 performances will be sign language interpreted.

If you would like to become involved with summer drama or would like to make a contribution personally or through a matching program, please contact anyone on the SPSPDW board.

For more information on SPSPDW, visit their Web site at spsdw.com.

Wachovia Bank Robbed

The Wachovia Bank in the Oak Park Commons Shopping Center on Oak Tree Road was robbed around 10:30 a.m. Tuesday by a man who reportedly fled north on Park Avenue.

Initial reports described the suspect as a black male wearing blue jeans and sunglasses with a towel around his neck. He may have gotten into a green taxi cab. There was no report

of a weapon being shown during the crime. After the robbery, the bank had yellow caution tape around the entrance with closed signs posted on the drive-up windows and doors telling customers to visit another branch during the day-long investigation.

The FBI, currently in charge of the scene, has yet to release any further details and as of presstime no arrest has been made.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS air on Mondays at 7:30 p.m.
AGENDA and/or Other SPECIAL Meetings air Saturday at 8 p.m.



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

To purchase a copy of a complete
Borough Council 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 |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| August 4 | August 11 |
| September 2 (Tuesday) | September 8 |
| September 6 | September 22 |
| October 6 | October 14 (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.

ad hoc alternative truck route committee

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month
Senior Center, 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7605
August 14, August 28, September 12, September 26

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
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 7:30 p.m.: August 20 (6:30 p.m.), September 10, October 8, November 12, December 10, January 14, February 11, March 11 and April 1.
Regular Public Meeting, Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.: August 20, September 17, October 15, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, January 21, February 18, March 18 and April 8.

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.
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
August 13, September 10, October 8, November 12, December 10, 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.

To the partiers who dumped their garbage in the Pitt Street Ponytail Softball dumpster:

Two weekends ago, July 18-20, the South Plainfield Ponytail Association hosted their seventh annual softball tournament for girls age 12 and under. Not only did the girls work very hard to prepare for their home tournament, but all of the parents on our softball team also worked very hard through the extreme heat and humidity to keep the park clean and presentable for the visiting towns. This meant spending long hours before and after the teams arrived to prepare and clean up the park. As in past years, the coaches and parents from the visiting towns complimented South Plainfield on how nicely run our tournaments are and how clean our facility is.

As we were leaving Saturday evening, we noticed that several dozen cars were starting to park along Amboy Avenue and in the complex parking lot. You can imagine how we felt when we showed up early Sunday morning to find our dumpster (which was nearly half full when we left Saturday evening) overstuffed with garbage that was apparently left over from a large party the night before. Most of the bags were left open which attracted hundreds of bees and flies. Considering this dumpster is not too far from the children's playground, this became a hazard for the children playing there. There was fried chicken and crab legs left out on the parking lot pavement around the dumpster—not a pleasant odor considering the stifling heat that weekend. There were also numerous boxes left alongside the dumpster filled with empty wine and alcohol bottles as well as several empty boxes of beer.

As the families started to arrive for the games on Sunday morning, the South Plainfield parents could not help but be embarrassed by the foul, disgusting mess left by your party. What you did (in the middle of the night to avoid getting caught) was not only illegal, but unnecessary because we have a fine facility in town where you could have disposed of these items.

We have brought this issue to the attention of both the police department and the recreation department. It's just sad that we even have to do that. We have always asked the softball parents, both local and visiting, to be respectful of the neighbors of Pitt Street Park and we had hoped that would have been returned. Apparently, at least to one of you, that is not the case. Thanks for making us look like slob and we hope you enjoyed your party.

**MARY DELAIR-CHAIRPERSON,
SNACKSTAND COMMITTEE
SOUTH PLAINFIELD PARENTS
PONYTAIL ASSOCIATION**

To former mayors, councilpersons and planning board members:

I invested 50 hours of volunteer time cleaning the [Walnut Street Park] stream bed of manmade dams, and the consequences of these dams, on the former Gallini Farm property from January to May of this year.

One of the consequences of these dams was the retention of a huge amount of debris behind them, and filling of the adjacent flood plain with debris. For the record, this effort was approved by the Gallini Family. This volunteer effort was initiated due to the flash flooding of my property caused by the backup of water upstream near Mc Donough Street. This flash flooding regularly filled my walk-out basement leaving lots of mud and silt that required thorough cleaning after each occurrence.

There is a positive outcome to report on my efforts. The recent storm on July 23 dumped 2.2 inches of rain without any backup onto my property. The improvements due to the stream restoration project reported in last week's *Observer* undoubtedly contributed to the absence of flash flooding of my property.

My question to our borough's representatives is why the construction of 30 homes was approved in this neighborhood while not securing the stream's flow path just three blocks downstream on the former Gallini Farm property? How was a farm in Piscataway allowed to physically block the stream for irrigation purposes while properties in South Plainfield had flooding problems for 30 years?

LARRY MURRELL

Dear Editor:

I am just beginning to get over the shock of this year's property tax bill which we all received last week. The municipal tax rate has jumped from \$.89 to \$1.044 per hundred dollars of value. That is an increase of 15 tax points in one year! In terms of percentage, that amounts to close to a 20% tax increase in one year?

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: spobsobserver@comcast.net. **Deadline is Monday, 5 p.m.** Letters must be accompanied by a name and telephone number for verification. Please limit letters to no more than 200 words. We reserve the right to refuse a letter, to edit for clarity or length, and to limit the number of letters submitted on the same subject.

The borough council turned from a Democratic Majority to a Republican Majority. This tax increase is greater than the total of the last 10 years under Democratic control combined. The most amazing part is that Council President Bengivena and his runningmate, Councilmember Anesh, are proud of this budget. Their spokesman goes to a movie and dinner.

Want to hear the worst part? The Republicans aren't finished. They have announced that they expect to raise taxes another four or five points in February. If they keep this up none of us will be able to afford HBO, no less going to a movie and dinner.

There is good news—it's less than 100 days 'till election. We can stop this insanity on Tuesday, Nov. 4 by putting the Democrats back in charge of the borough budget.

**SINCERELY,
PAT DESANTIS**

To the Editor:

Check your change. Recently I used the coin machine at the post office to buy stamps. I put a \$10 bill in to purchase a book of stamps. When the book and change came out of the machine I thought I had been "short-changed." When I took a second look at the change, there was a \$1 "gold" coin, in place of a dollar bill.

These coins are slightly larger than a quarter, so it may be easy to mistake it for a quarter. If a person is not careful they could cheat themselves out of 75 cents. Coin vending machines will not return dollar bills in change. A word to the wise!

BILL TUTHILL

Notice of Action at August 4 Council Meeting

Please be advised that official action will be taken at the regularly scheduled August 4, 2008 meeting of the South Plainfield Borough Council on the following matters:

1. To hire Carmen Monticchio as a part time summer employee for Borough Hall, effective immediately, at the summer staff rate of pay.
2. To override the Mayor's veto of Ordinance #1828.

The meeting will be held in Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Ave. at 7 p.m.

Questions should be directed to the Clerk's Office at (908) 226-7606.

Joann L. Graf
Acting Municipal Clerk

South Plainfield Observer

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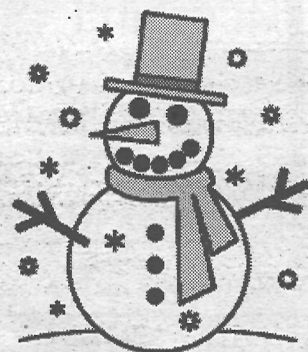
We look forward to hearing from all of you and encourage you to send in your stories and photos. The *South Plainfield Observer* is your paper. Please let us know what you would like to see in it.

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 spobsobserver@comcast.net. Include your name, address, telephone number.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Jaimie Donnelly

With a few weeks left in our summer reading program there is no better time than now to catch up on your summer reading. As a person who normally reads non-fiction I decided to challenge myself this summer to trying different genres of fiction. I surprisingly found myself loving the stories and continue to try different authors each week. I highly encourage anyone to try my challenge this summer and see if it works out for you. With new books arriving on the shelves weekly, there is always a guarantee to find a new adventurous story at the library.

The library has acquired all the new releases from Patterson to Steel in regular print, large print and audio books. Here are some books that may fancy your mind! If legal thrillers are something you have always wanted to try I recommend "The Appeal" by John Grisham. If you are seeking a good thriller in general check out "Fearless Fourteen," a Stephanie Plum series book, by Janet Evanovich. For a good light read for anyone looking to relax and laugh I recommend "Remember Me" by Sophie Kinsella.

If you have been an avid fiction reader and frown upon non-fiction books I have some selections that may change your mind. If you are into celebrity lives why not check out this year's juiciest biography, "Audition" by

Barbara Walters. The amazing photos inside the book alone should be looked at because they are some amazing moments in Ms. Walters life. If you are a fan of thrillers and Douglas Preston's books you need to check out his first non-fiction thriller book, "The Monster of Florence," about Florence's most evil killer. If it is wise humor you seek then check out "When You Are Engulfed In Flames" by David Sedaris.

There are still several children's summer reading events going on for the month of August. Until August 11 join us on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. for a children's movie. Then on Monday nights children ages five and older are invited to join us for a kids craft at 6:30 p.m. Registration and a \$1 material fee is required for the craft which has limited seating. For children six and older join us on Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. to play various board and card games.

Besides these ongoing summer programs, please join us for two more exciting summertime children events. On Thursday, Aug. 7 at 6:30 p.m., children ages six and up can join us for an exciting program on Monarch butterflies. Then, on Thursday, Aug. 14 at 7 p.m., join us for Sing Along With Robert The Guitar Guy. Both programs are free, but please register for the butterflies program.

For more information on anything mentioned above, please call the library at (908) 754-7885.

Nguyen is Asking For Your Support

Andrew Nguyen, a junior at South Plainfield High School, has been nominated to represent SPHS as a member of the National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C.

The Congressional Youth Leadership Council nominates exceptional students from around the country to attend an experiential educational program. This experience will enable him to interact with many prominent men and women.

Nguyen says that attending this program will enable him to further his interest in the field of politics and reach his career goal of becoming an ambassador. He maintains a 4.03 GPA.

His participation in the conference depends on whether he can raise \$2,400 in sponsorships. Tuition is \$1,600 and travel expenses are \$2,100. Nguyen has already invested every dollar he can of his own money to make sure he doesn't miss out on this unique experience.

He still needs assistance for some of these costs. He has received some contributions, but hasn't met his goal. If you would like to make a contribution, contact him at (908) 754-7884.



Andrew Nguyen



Mayor Charles Butrico presents a gift to Pat Vargo, former municipal court administrator, at the July 21 council meeting. Vargo retired recently after working for the Borough for 30 years.

Properties in Dismal Swamp are Studied for Open Space Preservation

The Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders has authorized the Middlesex County Improvement Authority (MCIA) to study three properties within the environmentally sensitive Dismal Swamp area for open space preservation.

The MCIA, acting as the county's agent, will perform engineering studies, appraisals and environmental assessments on each of the properties.

The Borough of South Plainfield, under the leadership of Mayor Charles Butrico, requested that the county consider purchasing the 12.6-acre Adams Farm. It is the last remaining farm in the borough. A developer has preliminary approval to build homes on this environmentally sensitive land in the flood-prone area of the Dismal Swamp.

Also in South Plainfield, there is a proposal to build a warehouse on the 13.03-acre Quincy Place site, considered the most ecologically important area in the Dismal Swamp.

Lastly, the 13.9-acre Visco Property

site in Edison is a land-locked area on which additional development is being proposed. It is adjacent to the 69-acre site the county recently purchased for open space.

The Open Space Advisory Committee, which performs initial reviews on possible open space purchases, also is in the process of determining if there are any other funding sources available, such as the State Department of Environmental Protection, the NY-NJ Baykeeper, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and any others, to help the county purchase the lands.

Planning Board Approves Two New Homes

By Libby Barsky

The Planning Board approved a minor subdivision located at 455 Highland Ave. Approval was necessary before the builder can implement his plan to demolish the existing home and build two new homes.

The 3,375 sq. ft. property, located 500 feet off New Market Avenue and located in a flood plain, will be divided into two lots. In earlier attempts, builder Bob Goldsmith's application was denied and an appeal was made in Superior Court. The case was then remanded back to the Planning Board after receiving approvals from the Department of Environmental Protection.

At the July 22 meeting, Civil Engineer Noel Young reviewed the plans for the site and stated that the proposed new two story house would be built higher than the adjacent home, which is owned by Peter and Lisa Spahn. Plans include grading the side yards with swells (earthen mounds), grass pavers and drains to direct the flow of water out to the street so the water doesn't back up into the backyard.

Developer Goldsmith approved board member John Mocharski's request to have the South Plainfield Fire Department practice fire fighting skills on the existing structure on the property before it is torn down.

Peter and Lisa Spahn, who reside

at 447 Highland Ave., told board members that flooding caused them to lose their kitchen last year in their home, which is next door to the site where two new homes will be built. They were concerned about possible future drainage problems.

To create more of buffer on the site to prevent drainage from backing up and going onto neighboring properties, the board adjusted the site plan by establishing two 20 ft. side yard areas to create swells, one on each side.

A second application involving drainage of property also came before the Planning Board. Daveco Industrial LLC, headed by David Lackland, sells industrial real estate. With Daveco's receiving EPA approval to fill in the wetlands occupying one third of their 1.7 acre site on Bushwick Avenue, the Board approved their application to make the improvement, create a detention basin, replace damaged curbing and replace the trees removed along Durham Avenue.

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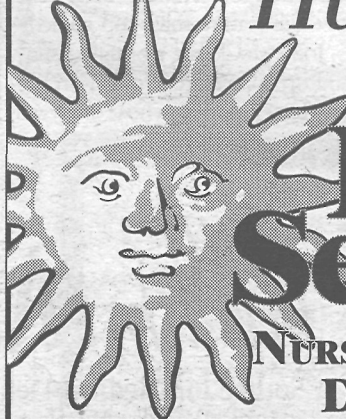
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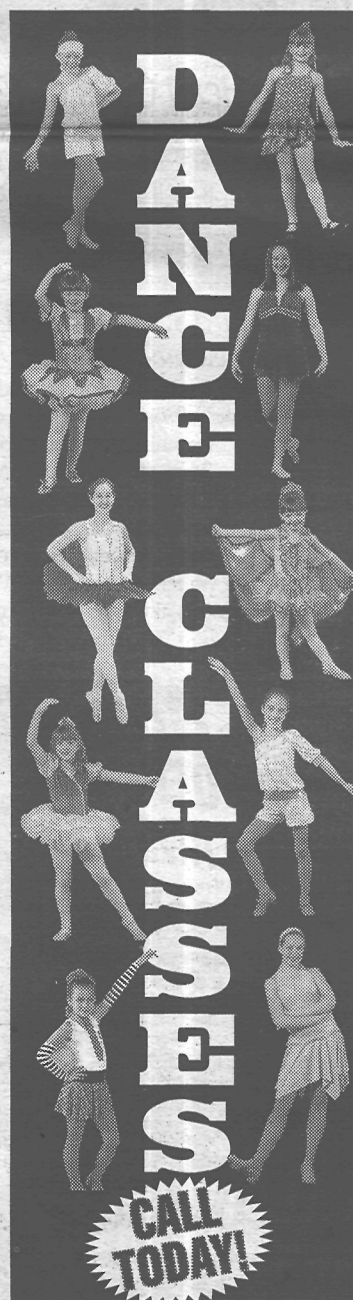
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Around Town

Benefit Piano Recital August 1

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, 3145 Park Ave., is hosting a piano recital on Friday, Aug. 1 at 7 p.m. All proceeds will benefit Lutheran World Relief. Donation is \$7.

For more information, call the church at (908) 757-4474.

Knights of Columbus Comedy Night August 1

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus comedy night will be held on Friday, Aug. 1. Doors open 7 p.m.; show starts at 8 p.m. Tap beer, soda and light snacks are included. BYO for whatever else you want to drink or eat. This will be a PG-13-rated show and will not be appropriate for anyone under 13. Tickets are \$25.

For ticket and table reservations call Bob Barone at (732) 266-7144 or Bill Butrico at (908) 346-2491.

First Baptist Presents Bible Stories August 4-8

Come and join us at VBS! as we learn "We are his... Stories of the Shepherd!" at the First Baptist Church, 201 Front St. Monday, Aug. 4 through Friday, Aug. 8, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Children ages five through the fifth grade are invited for a week of excit-

What's
happening at the

SENIOR CENTER

AUGUST

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

UPCOMING
EVENTS

The Center will be closed on Saturdays during July and August due to minimal attendance. However, if you have suggestions for programs for Saturdays, let us know and we can possibly schedule something.

Summer Picnic—August 7, noon to 4 p.m.
Reservations Required, \$12 per person

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

4

Bingo 10am-2pm
Ladies Social
Group 10am

5

Aerobics 8:30 am
Computer 10am,
11:30am, 1pm
Line Dancing 10am
Crocheting 1pm
Tai Chi 2pm
Taj Mahal 9 am

6

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

7

Bingo
10am-2pm

8

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

ing games, crafts, songs and Bible stories. Registration is \$5 per child or no more than \$10 per family. Registrations are now being accepted.

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

Wesley Methodist Vacation Bible School August 4-8

You are invited to attend Vacation Bible School Beach Party at Wesley United Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave. The party begins August 4-

8 from 6:30 until 8:30 p.m. Program includes Bible stories, crafts, snacks, games and music and is for children ages 4-10. Cost is \$10 per child or \$20 per family.

Call (908) 757-2838 to register.

Summer Picnic at the Senior Center August 7

The Senior Center is holding a summer picnic on Thursday, Aug. 7, noon to 4 p.m. Hot dogs, burgers, sausage and peppers, corn on the cob, french fries, onion rings, salads, dessert, watermelon, assorted beverages and live musical entertainment! \$12 per person. Reservations required.

Visit the Senior Center or call (908) 754-1047.

American Legion Annual Picnic August 9

American Legion Post #243, Oak Tree Ave., is holding their annual picnic on Saturday, Aug. 9 from 2-7 p.m.

Menu: claims, hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken, ribs, sausage and peppers, corn on the cob, salad platters, mellow and desserts. Live DJ, dunk tank, horse-shoes, games, face painting, moon bounce and a 50/50. Cost: \$15 adults; \$7 children under 13.

Advance tickets may be purchased at the American Legion or at the door.

Comedy Show at Polish Home August 9

A comedy show will be held at the Polish Home on Saturday, Aug. 9. The show will feature three top comedians. John McClellan, a brutally funny stand-up comedian; Doug Karpf, a New Jersey native whose material

comes from family experiences as a father, husband and child. Rounding out the team is Andy Hayward, who is enriched with a cast of characters and sound effects.

This is a great family night of laughter. Set up a table of family and friends and bring your own snacks or food (no outside alcohol). Cash bar. Tickets are \$15. The show runs from 9 to 11 p.m. Doors open at 8 p.m.

For more information, call the Polish Home at (908) 668-9442.

KCs Korner Charity Golf Fundraiser August 11

KC's Korner, 100 Oak Tree Ave., is hosting a charity golf outing at Concordia Golf Club in Monroe to benefit Haven Hospice on Monday, Aug. 11 beginning with breakfast/registration at 7:30 a.m. at the course. Shotgun start, scramble format 9 a.m. Cost per golfer is \$125 and includes two hour open bar, buffet lunch at KC's Korner and door prizes. Cash bar/no cover charge for non-golfers.

To donate merchandise or services that can be raffled, monetary donations or to register, call Grace Ciampi at (732) 599-7222, or mail donations to Haven Hospice, c/o Grace Ciampi, 145 Howard Ave., Edison, N.J. 08837.

AARP Chapter #4144 Bus Trip August 18 to 22

AARP #4144 five-day charter bus to the New York Catskill Resort Hotel from August 18-22. Cost includes transportation, room, all meals, use of two pools, gym and spa, daytime games, nighttime dancing, entertainment and more! Adults only; non-members are welcome. Double occu-

pancy \$530 pp. Singles \$630. Beat the heat and gasoline prices! Call Mary (732) 752-3764 or Chuck (908) 268-0345.

— Out of Town —

"Funny Girl" at Bucks County Playhouse

Through August 3

The Broadway Musical, "Funny Girl," is playing at New Hope's Bucks County Playhouse through August 3. The season continues with "The Full Monty," August 6-31, and "Evita," September 3-21. Seats are \$23.

For tickets and schedule call, (215) 862-2041 or visit www.buckscountyplayhouse.com.

Oktoberfest at the Deutscher Club August 9 & 10

An outdoor Oktoberfest at the Deutscher Club, 787 Featherbed Lane in Clark, will be held on Saturday, Aug. 9 from 5-10 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 10 from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Flea market on Sunday; live music. Wooden dance floor, covered pavilion. German and American food. Picnic tables. No outside food or beverages. Donation \$5 per person, children under 12 free, free parking. Rain or shine.

For more information, call (732) 574-8600.

Augustober Festival August 16 & 17

The 134th Augustober Festival sponsored by the Plattduetsche Volksfest-Verein of New York and New Jersey will be celebrated at the historic Schuetzen Park, located on Bergen Turnpike and Kennedy Boulevard in North Bergen on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 16 and 17 from noon until 10 p.m. each day. Open to the general public; admission is \$5 adults, children are free.

For more information, call Kathryn Brinkrode at (201) 290-8147.

Hawaiian Night August 23

The Deutscher Club of Clark, 787 Featherbed Lane, is hosting a Hawaiian night outside on Saturday, Aug. 23 from 5 to 10 p.m. Live music by Norbert Ludewig Orchestra. Wooden dance floor, covered pavilion, picnic tables. No outside food or beverages permitted. Donation \$5 per person, children under 12 free. Free parking. Rain or shine.

For more information, call (732) 5574-8600.

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Reunions

Sacred Heart Class of 1989 Seeking Classmates

A 20th class reunion is being coordinated for Sacred Heart School Class of 1989. They are currently looking for classmates who may have moved from the area, as well as those who are interested in attending.

Any questions, contact Liz Marsh at liz5150@earthlink.net or call (908) 328-5755 with your updated information.

SPHS Class of 1988 20th Reunion

The South Plainfield High School Class of 1988 will be holding its 20th class reunion on Saturday, Nov. 29 at the Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick. Cost is \$105 per person and includes a dinner buffet and three hours open bar.

We are also searching for the following classmates: Holbert Benjamin, Tyrone Coney, Michael DeAngelis, Matthew Dvorak, Maureen Flowers, Martha Fuentes, Jennifer Gielen, Lamar Hall, Noreen Houlihan, David Jamieson, Marie Reneelyn Mapa, Alexander McNair, Colleen Murphy, James Rios, Tania Martinez-Roberts, Fernando Sanabria, Thien Tu, James Voorhees, Joe Walters and William Wraight.

The invitation is also extended to any former teacher who would like to attend our reunion. To receive an invitation to attend, contact Jay Zazzara at (908) 279-6719.

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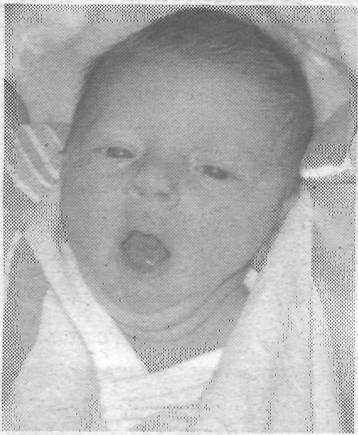
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Anthony Giovanni Cianfrocca

Cianfroccas Welcome Newborn Son

Proud grandparents Dan and Terry Cianfrocca, and Aunt Jena would like to congratulate Robert Cianfrocca and Jennifer Maloney on the birth of their son, Anthony Giovanni Cianfrocca.

Anthony was born on April 29 at 10:30 p.m. He weighed 7 lbs., 1.5 ozs. and was 20.5 inches long.

Welcome to our family, Anthony!

Jeffrey Seesselberg Named to Dean's List at Hofstra University

Jeffrey Seesselberg, a 2006 graduate of South Plainfield High School, has been named to the dean's list at Hofstra University for the Spring 2008 semester.

Jeffrey is majoring in film studies and production. He has also completed the training necessary to join the staff of the campus radio station, WRHU-FM, and is also a member of other organizations, including Drastic Mea-

Adam Toth Graduates Summa Cum Laude from Ramapo College

Adam Toth graduated summa cum laude and received college honors from Ramapo College of New Jersey. The ceremony was held May 16. This was the college's 50th commencement.

Adam graduated with a B.S. in biochemistry and a minor in music. Currently he is working as a clinical information manager in the emergency room of a local hospital. His plans for next year are to continue his education in medical school.



Adam Toth with Dr. Peter Mercer, president of Ramapo College.

Susan Brooks New Girl Scout Chief

Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey has named lifetime member Susan M. Brooks its new chief executive officer. She will begin her new position on July 28 in preparation for the October 1 launch of the new organization that will serve



Susan Brooks

nearly 27,000 girls and 11,000 adult volunteers.

The new organization will merge three local councils—Girl Scout Council of Greater Essex and Hudson Counties, Girl Scouts of Rolling Hills Council and Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Council—and will serve girls in seven counties spanning the state from east to west in Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Somerset, Union and Warren.

Brooks brings a wealth of leadership experience and expertise to her new post. Most recently, she worked with Motorola as director of customer advocacy, training, and technical publications. Her previous experience includes executive roles within AT&T.

Longtime New Jersey residents, Brooks and her husband are the parents of 19 year-old twins, a son and daughter, who just completed their freshman years of college.

The merger will result in the formation of Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey and is part of the national realignment plan led by Girl Scouts of the USA.

Town Borrowing Slashed By Two-Thirds Says GOP

Crediting fiscal restraint, South Plainfield's head of administration and finance this week announced a big dent in borough debt. Borrowing, which hit \$2M in 2006-2007 and has averaged about \$1.7M a year for the last five years, has been slashed by two-thirds.

"Our total borrowing for 2007-2008 was only \$642,000," said Councilman Ray Rusnak, chair of the council's administration and finance committee. "That's a huge drop from prior years."

Rusnak gave much of the credit to fellow committee members Matt Anesh and Rob Bengivenga, who have been working with the Borough's new administrator to cut costs on construction projects.

"We focused on projects that benefited taxpayers but at the same time were low-budget or supported by grants," explained Anesh.

"It also helped that contract costs came in under budget," added Bengivenga. "For example, the repaving and upgrading of Tompkins Avenue, which will begin in a few weeks, came in considerably under budget."

Aside from Tompkins Avenue, the Borough is also working on three other road projects, including the repaving and upgrading of South Plainfield Avenue. Both Tompkins Avenue and South Plainfield Avenue are chiefly funded through grants.

In addition, work is about to start on the Borough's curb restoration program, which includes new curbs on Houston Street, Bleeker Street and Nunnink Lane. The work will also include handicapped-accessible ramps on several other streets, including Sampton Avenue. The project was supposed to cost \$372,000 but came in \$90,000 under budget.

The third project is Anesh's "Safe Streets, Safe Kids" pilot project, which will include testing speed humps on Linden Avenue, Selene Avenue, East

Crescent Parkway, East Hendricks Boulevard, Audobon Avenue, Terrace Avenue and Oxford Avenue. Linden Avenue will also be repaved south of Maple Avenue and will get storm sewers to alleviate flooding that's been plaguing residents for decades.

Two other projects were handled in-house and required no borrowing, the repaving of Metuchen Road and improvements to Cotton Street Park, which was re-graded and received new storm sewers to control flooding.

Rusnak said borrowing was supposed to go up by an estimated \$10M or more, but the town canceled two huge projects. Voters rejected a new library, which would have added several million in debt and the council shelved a plan to extend New Market Avenue, which also would have carried a multi-million dollar price tag.

The New Market project was put on hold after council members questioned possible contamination under the path of the road and whether the town would be liable for clean-up costs.

Since then, the Edison Wetlands Association has announced that contamination is more extensive than previously thought and includes increased levels of polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs, that leaked from discarded electronic parts.

Councilmembers worried that underground water contamination would be affected by the construction and that the town would be liable for remediation costs, something the town's attorneys said was a possibility.

While debt payments will go down in next year's budget, they will be offset by cuts in state aid, which Rusnak says will be nearly \$300,000. In addition, the borough faces state-mandated increases in pension costs, which will be about half a million dollars.

CORRECTION

In last week's *Observer*, in the stream restoration story on page three, the last paragraph should have read: "Another blockage behind Franklin School was discovered and cleared by Murrell. Within a few days, the water had subsided on the Smith, Murrell, Luber and Johnson properties." We regret the error.

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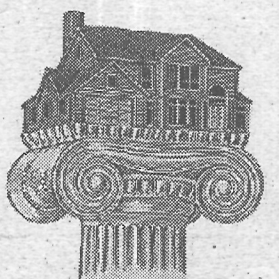
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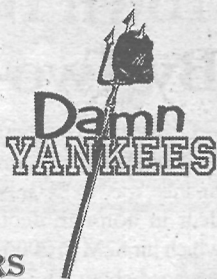
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CAST OF CHARACTORS (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

| | |
|---------------|--------------------|
| Joe Boyd | Paul Assad |
| Meg Boyd | Taylor Kurilew |
| Mr. Applegate | Joey Palazzo |
| Sister | Brittany Penevolpe |
| Doris | Nora Stasio |
| Joe Hardy | Chris Fulton |
| Henry | Darren Kaczowski |
| Sohovik | Chris Seesselberg |
| Smokey | Nate Udell |
| Linville | Eric Nuber |
| Van Burren | Will Mott |
| Rocky | Chris DeOliveira |
| Gloria | Susie Mott |
| Lynch | Josh Rochotte |
| Welch | Ryan Miller |
| Bryant | Mark Piltz |
| Lola | Kelly Kline |
| Edie | Lauren O'Day |
| Bouley | Tim Ratti |
| Lowe | Rocco Severini |
| Mickey | Alan Kasmer |
| Vernon | Justin DeOliveira |
| Miss Weston | Katie Nuber |
| Commissioner | Stephen Wagner |
| Guard | Richard Rotella |
| Postmaster | Rusty Teller |

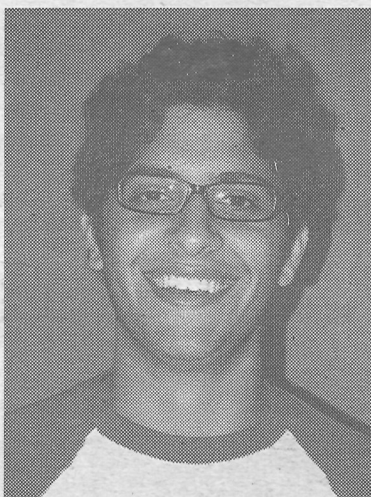
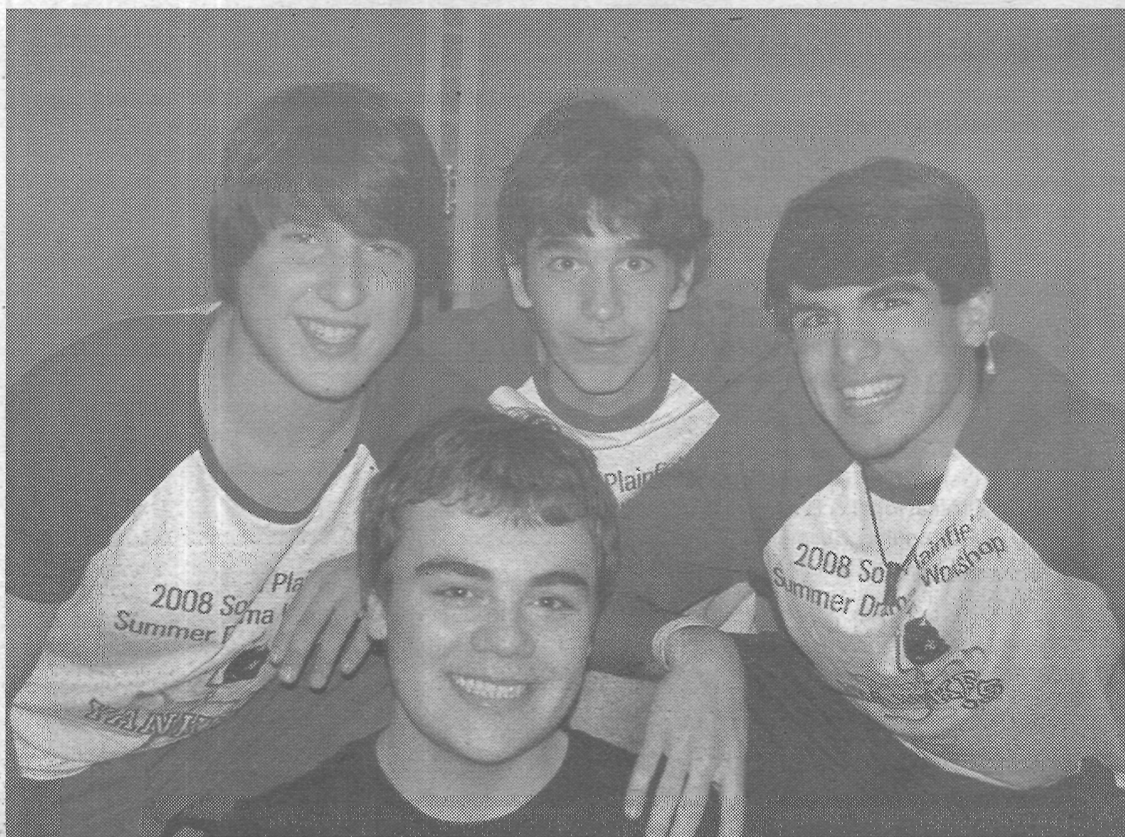
Ensemble—Corey Singer, Christine Nau, Nick Papianni, Sarah Brooks, Rusty Teller, Jessica Vasquez, Jenalee Jenkin, Joanna Marston, Christina Kasmer, Ally Piersanti, Alyssa Adamson, Kayla Prins, Gabrielle Nilla, Allison Wagner, Ellen Zinsky, Tara O'Day, Erin O'Connor, Danielle Tramutola, Lacey Hogan, Ryan Temple, Sarah Hageman, Jordan Katowich, Kristina Palazzo, Jade McDonough, Alyssa Aiello, Alyssa Kelly, Courtney Calvey, Desiree Jackson, Dominic Penevolpe, Erica Linick, Danny Sims, Natalie Madurski, Sheena Higgins, Marissa Kline, Ashley Linick, Amylin DiDario.

INTERPRETER

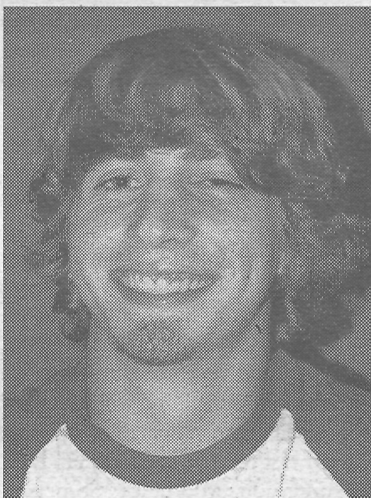
Suzanne Baker CI/CT, Joanne Engel CI/CT and Andrew Galuskin will be interpreting the Friday, Aug. 1 and Sunday Aug. 3 performances for the deaf and hard of hearing. Baker and Engel have been interpreting for summer drama for the past five years. The two have interpreted over 20 shows together in such venues as The Bickford Theatre in Morristown as well as several college and community productions. Galuskin has previously toured with the Cleveland Sign Stage in their production of "Beauty and the Beast."

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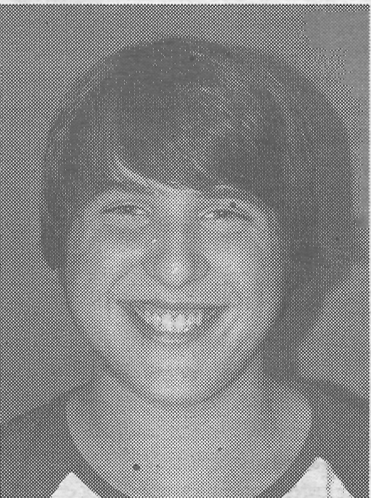
Paul Assad



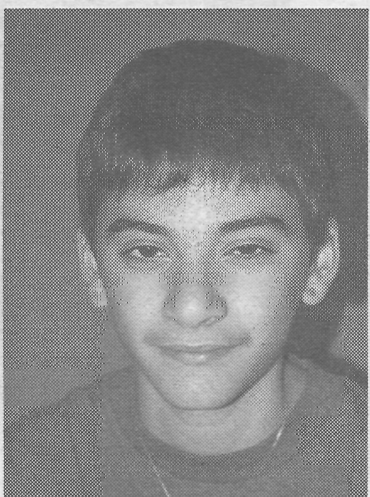
Chris Fulton



Taylor Kurilew



William Mott



Joey Palazzo



Susan Mott

WHO'S WHO

Paul Assad (Joe Boyd), a 2007 graduate of South Plainfield High School is entering Middlesex County College in September. He has been involved in theater for about two years and has been singing since he was young. In 2007 he appeared with Summer Drama Workshop's (SDW) "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying," where he played Bert Bratt. He also played various ensemble roles in "Jekyll & Hyde" and "Cinderella" with the SPHS Drama Club.

Chris Fulton (Joe Hardy) is entering his senior year at SPHS. "Damn Yankees" is his third SDW appearance. He previously appeared in "Carousel" as the Captain and in "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" as the hysterical Bud Frump. He most recently appeared as con man Harold Hill in the high school's production of "The Music Man." He sings in the school chorus, concert choir and the elite male group, the Jades. He also plays varsity basketball and runs cross country.

Kelly Kline (Lola) is entering her junior year at SPHS. "Damn Yankees" marks her fourth appearance with SDW. She has appeared in "The Pajama Game," "Carousel" and "How to Succeed in

Business Without Really Trying." In middle school she appeared in "Peril on the High Seas" as Aranchia Webb. She has attended Spotlight on Dance for 11 years studying ballet, tap, jazz and pointe. Her most recent stage credit is "The Music Man" at the high school.

Taylor Kurilew (Meg Boyd) is a recent graduate of SPHS. "Damn Yankees" marks her third show with SDW. She previously appeared in "Carousel" as Julie Jordan and "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" as Mrs. Krumholtz. Other stage credits include "Jekyll & Hyde" as Emma Carew, "My Fair Lady," "Cinderella" and "The Music Man" as Marian the Librarian with the SPHS drama club. She has also performed at the Middlesex County College Summer Theater Camp. Taylor has been dancing and competing with the Marie Moore School of Irish Dance for 13 years. Vocal appearances include the Central Jersey Regional Choir, Woman's Choir and SATB Choir. She has also been active with the Pilgrim Covenant Church Youth Group. She will be attending Montclair State University in the fall to further her studies in music and theater.

Ryan Miller (Welch) is a 2008 SPHS

graduate. He is making his stage debut with "Damn Yankees." He recently worked backstage for the SPHS production of "The Music Man." He is a three-year member performing with the Almost Famous Players (AFP) Haunted Woods Tour and also performed two years with AFP at the St. Peter's Cancer Survivors Picnic. He is a lover of music and spends his free time as a singer with local band Salmonella Meat Pudding. He hopes to pursue a life in music and the arts.

Susan Mott (Gloria Thorpe) is making her eighth and final appearance on the SDW stage. Some of her favorite roles include "The Pajama Game" as Maybell, "Carousel" as Mrs. Mullins and "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" as Hedy LaRue. In 2005, she performed at the prestigious Perry Awards as Maribel in "Pirates of Penzance." She is a four-year member of the SPHS Players Drama Club appearing in "South Pacific," "My Fair Lady" and "Cinderella" as the Fairy Godmother and "Jekyll & Hyde" as Lady Beaconsfield. She has been involved with theater since second grade. She has been a member of school choral groups for 10 years, as well as a selected soloist for the Regional II Choir. She has studied jazz, tap and ballet with Joanne's Dance Studio. She

ORCHESTRA

Duane Cosby- Conductor

Violin—John DeLaCruz, Diane Lee, Trevor Rastelli, Alexa Sambat, Daniel Sambat and Jessica Vasquez

Viola—Spencer Stubbs

Guitar—Joe Stasio

Bass—Marc Stasio

Percussion—Paul Cantarella and Joan Stasio

Keyboard—Liz Harrington

Reeds—Duane Cosby, Amanda Tjong, G. Bjorn DeLaCruz, Emily Roseo, Alvin Scott, Kristen Carol and Erik Donough

Cello—Robert Moreira

Trumpet—Glenn Parisi, Kyle Thompson and Melvin DeLaCruz

Trombone—Frances DeLaCruz and Tobie Baldwin

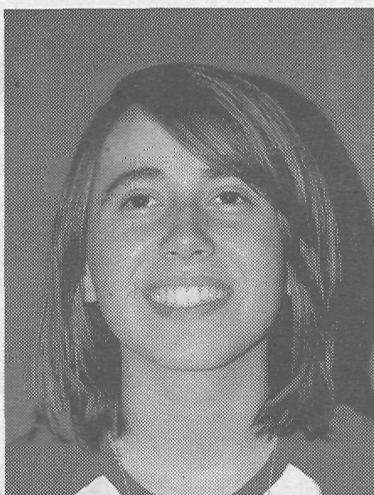
CREW

Cheyenne Britt, Christopher Duquette, Austin Jenkin, Danny Kelly, Carla Scala, Michael Sullivan, Bob Rann, Lory Jackson, Bob Alcaro, Nick Hogan and John Slattery.

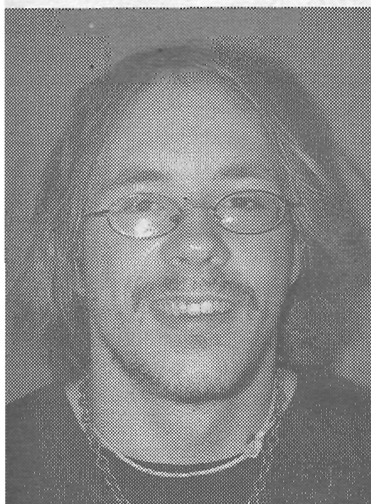




Brittany Penevolpe



Nora Stasio



Ryan Miller



Kelly Kline



Katie Nuber

PRODUCTION STAFF

Eric Hafen (director) Eric is the artistic director of the Bickford Theatre in Morristown. He has worked throughout New England, New York and New Jersey. He received a master's degree from the University of South Dakota and a bachelor's degree from Boston College. He served as the artistic director for Theatre at the Mount, the Little Theatre Stage Company in Massachusetts, the Park Performing Arts Center and Six Flag Corporation in N.J. Regional acting and directing credits include work with East Lynne Company, Trinity Repertory, Worcester Foothills Theatre, N.J. Theatre Alliance, Lovejoy Productions, Winter Theatre Company, Black Hills Playhouse, Lyric Stage Company, Rainbow Dinner Theatre and others. His film and video acting credits include national commercials for American Stock Exchange, Nature's Bounty Vitamins and Wonder Bread; Primetime NBC series, Alternative Healing, soap operas Ryan's Hope, and As the World Turns. This is his eighth consecutive year with the Summer Drama Workshop (SDW).



Eric Hafen

Liz Harrington (vocal director) returns for her second year with SDW. She is a vocal music teacher in the Piscataway school district. She is a resident of South Plainfield.

Emma Fulton (choreographer) is a SPHS alumni and a seven-year veteran of the SDW program. She appeared in "Oklahoma," "The Wizard of Oz," "Guys and Dolls," "The Music Man," "42nd Street," "Bye Bye Birdie" and "Footloose." She returned as choreographer intern for "Pirates of Penzance" and then served as choreographer for the "Pajama Game," "Carousel" and "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying." She also choreographed the SPHS drama club's productions of "Cinderella" and "The Music Man." After a five year hiatus from performing, she returned to the stage to dance in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" with the Livingston Community Players. She recently appeared in "Annie Get Your Gun" at Villagers Theatre. Emma has a B.A. in mathematical science and is a teacher certified in mathematics.

Mark Reilly (lighting designer) returns to SDW for his fifth year. He served as lighting director for "Crazy For You" which received a NJACT nomination, "Pirates of Penzance," "Carousel" and "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying." Additional work includes Ata CDC Theatre "Children of Eden" which received an NJACT award, "Aida," "Jesus Christ Superstar," "Noises Off!" and "Into the Woods," "The Wave at OAS; Open Admissions," "The Lady in Question," "Irma Vep," "Top Girls, and "Pterodactyls" for The Theater Project at UCC; "West Side Story," "Sniper" and "Jekyll & Hyde" which received a NJACT nomination for Phoenix Productions and "The little Shop of Horrors" for Chatham Playhouse. Laser show credits include the Empire State Winter Games in Lake Placid 2002-2004 and 2006-2008; opening days for the Philadelphia Flyers and NJ Nets; Opsail 2000 and the Ultimate Fighting Championship Tour.

Ellen Cusick (assistant director/stage manager) is a South Plainfield resident. "Damn Yankees" marks her fourth year with SDW. She has been performing in local and professional theaters throughout New Jersey for over 35 years. Her favorite roles include Ma Joad in "Grapes of Wrath," Eileen in "Cripple of Inishmaan," and Mrs. Johnstone in "Blood Brothers," for which she won a Perry Award. She believes that summer drama is a great program and is pleased to be a part of the family.



Ellen Cusick

Duane Cosby (orchestra director) teaches choir and is the assistant marching band director at Linden High School. "Damn Yankees" marks his third year with SDW. He began in 2006 as assistant vocal director for "Carousel." He was vocal director for last year's "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying." This is his first show as orchestra director.

Mary Sikanowicz (rehearsal pianist) is a lifelong resident of South Plainfield and a SDW veteran. She spent many summer days performing on the SPHS stage with the group. She returns to the program this year to assist behind the scenes. Mary is a teacher of students with disabilities in the South Plainfield school district.

THE CAST

is studying pre-law at William Paterson College. She also sings the "National Anthem" for sporting events around the campus.

William Mott (Van Buren) is entering his sophomore year at SPHS. He has been with SDW for five years. The first three years he worked as a member of the stage crew. He made his acting debut with "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" as a policeman. In 2007 he appeared with AFP Putnam Park Haunted Woods Tour. He most recently appeared in the SPHS production of "The Music Man." He played soccer on the freshman team last year and is also a member of a traveling soccer club.

Katie Nuber (Miss Weston) is a 2008 SPHS graduate. This is her sixth year with SDW. She has appeared in "Footloose," "Crazy For You," "Pirates of Penzance," "The Pajama Game" and "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying." She interned with the costume department for the production of "Carousel." Katie is a two year member of AFP, assisting the director with locating, organizing and distributing costumes and props, making phone calls and organizing meetings and rehearsals. In 2007, she organized AFP's indoor entertainment at

the St. Peter's Hospital Cancer Survivors Picnic. Katie has done consulting work for theaters throughout the community, most recently for the SPHS production of "The Music Man." She will be attending Ohio State University for a five-year secondary English Education Masters Program in September.

Joey Palazzo (Applegate) "Damn Yankees" marks his second year with SDW. He has appeared in "Journey to Broadway" and "Almost Oz" with his acting school, Stars Theater Academy.

He appeared in the Middle School Drama Club's production of "The Vile Veterinarian" as Charlie Horse, "Thumbelina" as the cat and was student director of "The Smartest Woman in the Kingdom." Stage credits also include "Grease" and "The Sound of Music" as Frederich Von Trapp at Mt. St. Mary Academy. He is also a member of South Plainfield's Almost Famous Players.

Brittany Penevolpe (Sister) is a recent SPHS graduate. This is her fourth year with SDW and her 11th show in general. Her most recent stage credit is Mrs. Paroo in the SPHS production of "The Music Man." Other SDW shows include "Carousel," "How to Succeed in Business

Without Really Trying" and "The Pajama Game." She has appeared with the SPHS Drama Club in productions of "Jekyll & Hyde" as Nellie, "13 Past Midnight" as Louise Burke and "My Fair Lady" as Mrs. Hopkins. She performed with AFP in the Putnam Park Haunted Woods Halloween show for three years in a variety of roles including a supporting actor and a lead role of tour guide. She also appeared as a clown entertaining children and adults alike at AFP's St. Peter's Hospital Cancer Survivors Picnic. Brittany will be attending Middlesex County College where she will be majoring in elementary education. She plans to continue acting.

Nora Stasio (Doris) is entering her senior year at SPHS. She is a longtime member of the SDW appearing in "Crazy For You," "Pirates of Penzance," "The Pajama Game," "Carousel" and last year's "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying." She has appeared in several productions with the SPHS drama club, most recently in the role of Mayor's wife Eulalie McKeckinnie Shinn. She is a member of the high school band, traveling choir and the elite girl's group, the Emeralds. She wrote the scripts and performed in two productions at her church, Cedarcroft Bible Chapel.

MEET OUR INTERNS

Peter Assad (music intern) is a music education major at Mason Gross School of the Arts and will graduate in the fall of 2009. Though his theater experience is a bit limited, having only participated in one musical, his love for the stage manifests itself through other means such as choral singing and performing original compositions.

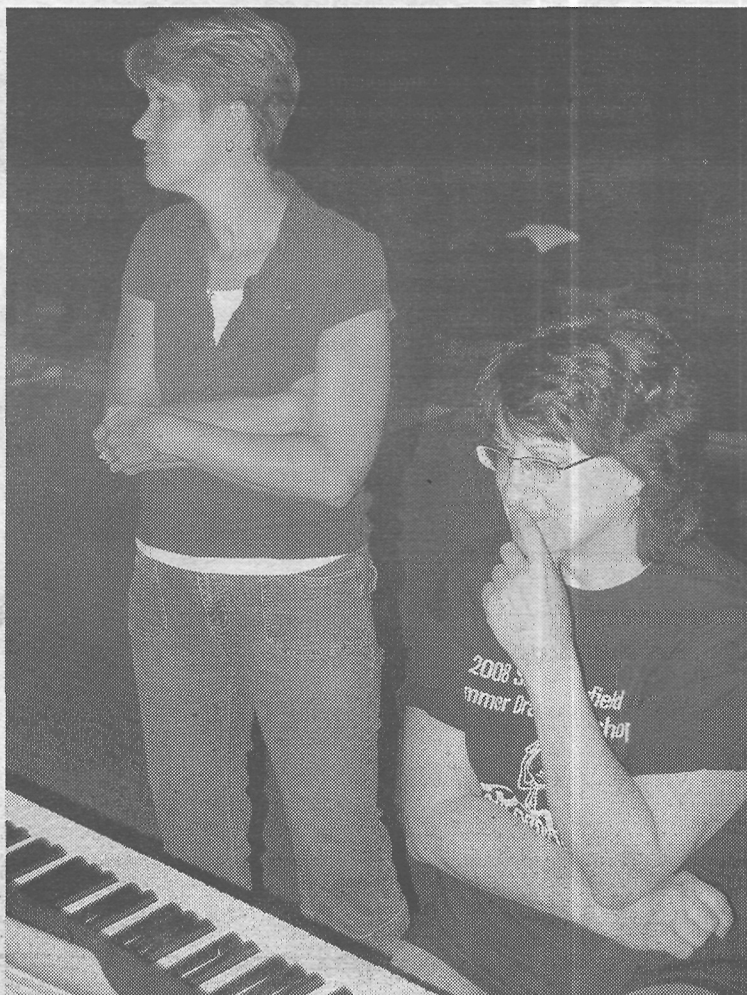
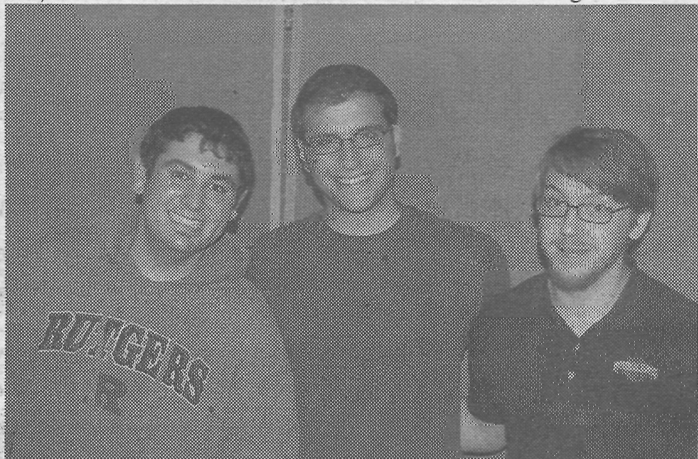
Pat Cantarella (dance intern) is a 2005 SPHS graduate. In high school, he participated in concert band, marching band and orchestra playing alto saxophone. He played saxophone for the high school drama club productions of "Hello Dolly," "Anything Goes," "South Pacific" and "My Fair Lady." He participated in chorus his junior and senior year. He has appeared in several SDW productions including "Crazy For You," "Pirates of Penzance," "The Pajama Game" and "Carousel." Other stage

credits include "Sweet Charity," "Suessical" and most recently, "Annie Get Your Gun" at Villagers Theater. In his spare time, Pat goes to the city to take dance classes in tap and jazz. He is currently a senior at Rutgers University majoring in microbiology.

Jeff Seesselberg (directing intern) is a 2006 SPHS graduate. He has been involved with the Summer Drama Work-

shop for the past seven years, performing in "Bye Bye Birdie," "Footloose," "Crazy For You," "The Pirates of Penzance," "The Pajama Game," "Carousel" and last year's "How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying." In high school, he was a member of the elite boys chorus, the Jades, and appeared with SPHS players in "My Fair Lady," "Cinderella" and "Anything Goes," and worked on the stage crew for "South Pacific." He returns

this year as directing intern under director Eric Hafen. Jeff is a film studies and production major at Hofstra University in N.Y. and last semester appeared in "The Musical of Musicals-The Musical!" at Edison Valley Playhouse. Jeff will be entering his junior year this September. He hopes to move to L.A. and get involved in the film and entertainment industry.



Sports

Ponytail Softball U12 Girls All Star Team

The South Plainfield U12 all-star team began their softball season on a good note. The 11 players and their coaching staff, could not be prouder of their accomplishments thus far. For a young team, they have progressed and matured in a way people did not expect. Of course, their number one fans, the parents, expected their child to just do the best she could. I do not think they expected the success they encountered this season and the friendships that developed among the girls as well as the coaches. These girls worked hard, played hard and fought back in certain game situations when it was needed the most. Although we did have some set backs and disappointments throughout the season, the girls always showed up with their game faces on.

Currently, this team has participated in three tournaments: Clark Tournament the week ending June 22. Unfortunately, they did not place, but the girls walked away with a 2-2 record. Cheesequake (Old Bridge) Tournament the week ending June 29. In this tournament, only the top four teams were invited back to play the semis and the finals. The girls made it to the semifinals, only to lose in a struggle against the Monroe team. They played hard and everyone was very proud of them.

The week ending July 13, the girls participated in the Colonia Cyclones Tournament. What an exciting weekend it was for softball. The girls played with their heart and soul. The first game against Clark, the girls beat them with both offense and defensive plays, scoring 7-3. In the second game against the North Edison Blue Devils, they shut them out in three innings 17-0. The next game against Colonia (B), they continued their strong play by shutting them down in three in-



Ponytail Softball 2008 U12 Girls all-star team—First row (L-R): Nicole Miller, Jessie Bishop, Shannon McMahon, Holly Delair, Haley Hlavka; Second row: Annie Pezzolla, Emily Skula, Kate McLaughlin, Gina Louise, Shannon Hughes, Danielle Pisano; Third row: Coach Dave Delair, Manager Rick McMahon and Coach Kevin Hughes. Not pictured: Scorekeeper Cheryl Hughes.

nings, scoring 14-1. In the fourth game against the Hamilton Heat, the girls still full of energy and determination, came through again closing out the game in five innings, with a score of 10-2.

The team made the semifinals again and the girls were not going to let this one slip through their fingers. They had to face the Clark team once again. Both teams were ready to play. Each inning for both teams was identical. Clark scored one run, we came back and scored one run; second inning, nothing, third inning they scored one run, we scored one run; fourth inning they scored three runs, we scored three runs; fifth inning, nothing; sixth inning Clark scored two runs to take the lead 7-5. South Plainfield came back in the bottom of the sixth inning scoring six runs to take a 11-7 lead over Clark. Their offense was unstoppable. In the top of the seventh, they retired the last three batters with two strikeouts and a ground out to first base and made it to the finals.

With little rest and after playing three straight games in a row, they now had to face the undefeated Traveling A Hillsborough Hustle, who had not given up one run throughout the entire tournament. The Hustle continued with their dominance and won in the finals. The team walked away with their heads held high, accepting the second place trophy.

Only with hard work, awesome guidance from their coaches and continued support from the parents, they would not have made it that far. Manager Rick McMahon, along with Coaches Dave DeLair, Kevin Hughes and Scorekeeper Cheryl Hughes could not have been more proud of their girls.

Read next week's *Observer* for more all-star softball news.

For more information on the South Plainfield Parents Ponytail Association, please visit our Web site at www.spponytail.com.

Submitted by Nancy McMahon

Notes from the South Plainfield Golf League

In one of the best-played matches of the season, Frank Weingart of the Roughriders shot a wonderful 1-over 34 and his playing partner, Jerry "Eagle" Foglia fired a 36. For Buy-Rite Liquors, John Gaven matched Weingart's score with his own terrific 1-over 34 while his partner, Irish Danny Griffin, had three, three-putt greens and still turned in an impressive round of 35. The Roughriders prevailed and won the match 15-5 to maintain their slim first-place lead in the National Division.

In another extraordinarily well-played match, Danny McCreesh put together a masterful round of golf, a marvelous 2-under 31, to set a new low-round record for the season, as he led his talented B-Datt Squad to a 14-6 triumph over the Hackers. McCreesh sank a three-footer on the second hole for a three, drained a long twister on the par-3 third hole for a two, and then chipped in on the seventh hole for this third birdie of the night.

One of his opponents commented, "It was a terrific round, all right, but it could have been even better—Danny just missed a couple of putts and could easily have had a 29."

Other fine scores for the B-Datt Squad included Tony Cassano, Jr.'s 36, Tom Creesh's 37 and Sam Martin's 39. The Hackers got excellent performances from Bill Mann who carded a 35, from Todd Sherman who posted a 36, and from Kevin Boyce who shot a 38.

Efrain Solis is in high spirits these days because he's getting married next week. In his state of joyful exuberance, he fired his best round of the year, a sparkling even-par 33, highlighted by birdies on the seventh and ninth holes. Playing partner, Bill Thorne, was uplifted by Efrain's display and he also carded his best round, a 37 and with

his 8-handicap, that's a net 29. Marty Van DeVaars contributed a 38 as Pornovets clobbered 2 Buds, 2 Dubs 16-4. Dale Dube earned the medal for his team with his round of 37.

Captain Chris Dillon of Unique Sports Accessories is playing some beautiful golf these days and putting together a wonderful 1-under 32 to lead his team to a rout of Sport & Social, 19-1. Ted Stanick had another good night posting a 35 and Jay Bertleson pitched in with a 38.

Guy Severini of Twin City was in superb form, shooting an even-par 33, to spark his team to a 13-7 victory over Witty's Liquors. Guy's partner, Jay Coppola had a solid round of 36 for the victors who are just one match behind the league-leading Rough-Riders.

Kevin "Boom Boom" Bickunas of Witty's Liquors double hit his chip shot on the first hole and called a penalty on himself and had a hockey stick (7). But after that dreaded triple-bogey, Bickunas played the next eight holes, 1-under par for a 35, a score that was matched by his partner, Marty "Kiwi" Simpson.

In the closest match of the night, Andy Oravec had birdies on the third and ninth holes on his way to an impressive 1-over 34 to lead Plainfield Animal Hospital to an 11-9 win over KC's Korner. Captain Mike "Rack Em" Cortese had another good night, recording a 38. For KC's Korner, who lost another tough match, Mark Dugan had a 36 and Dan "I've Got My New Driver Under Control" Conti had a 37.

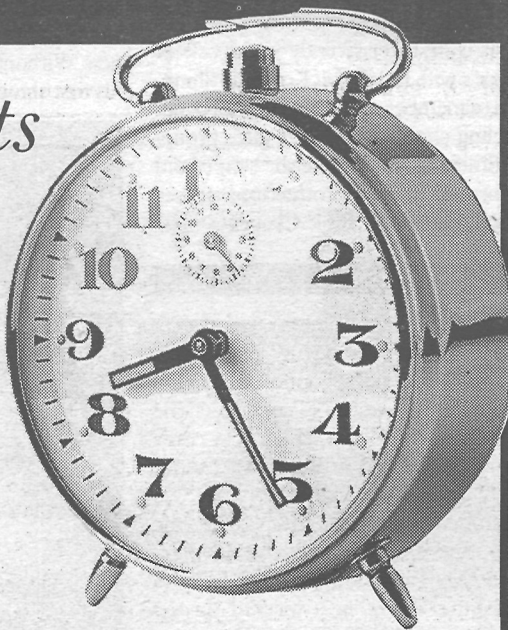
Low scores for the night: Danny McCreesh, 31; Chris Dillon, 32; Guy Severini, 33; Efrain Solis, 33; John Gaven, 34; Andy Oravec, 34; Frank Weingart, 34; Danny Griffin, 35; Bill Mann, 35; Kevin Bickunas, 35, Marty Simpson, 35 and Ted Stanick, 35.

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| USA | 7 | 5 | 0 | Twin City | 7 | 4 | 1 |
| PAH | 6 | 6 | 0 | KC's Korner | 6 | 6 | 0 |
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| Pornovets | 3 | 9 | 0 | 2 Buds, 2 Dubs | 2 | 10 | 0 |

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Menken Hits Her Target

A good deal of Melissa Menken's time as president of the Riley School PTSO is spent on fundraising activities and sending applications for grants to the likes of Best Buy, Target and Staples. This year, her application was accepted, but she didn't learn about it until the \$2,000 check from Target was donated to the South Plainfield Board of Education and recognized at the July 16 meeting. The Target donation was for Riley School.

Back in the fall of 2007, Menken applied for a grant to be used to add new books to the school library.

"There is no greater gift than a book in a child's hands. Anytime my son reads I'm thrilled. I wrote an essay telling them I was the president of Riley School and looking to get more updated books for our library. I asked them if they would consider us," said Menken. Then she forgot about it. Menken sends out a lot of applications for grants to help fund the special programs the PTSO wants to present to the children during the year.

"I try for all the grants we can get. It takes the cost off the parents and then we don't have to do so much fundraising," she said.

The check was mailed, but school Principal Al Czech didn't realize it had been sent until Target called him to find out why the check wasn't cashed. Hearing from Target was the first time Czech learned that the grant application to purchase books for the Riley School library had been approved.

"We didn't find out until I heard from Mr. Czech. They had called him and that's how we found out," said Menken. "Joanne Otowski, Riley librarian, will be so pleased!" she added.

Although Menken is in the midst of having the bathrooms in her home remodeled, she is beginning to plan next year's PTSO programs.

"In September, I'll go back on line again [to search and apply for grants]," she said.

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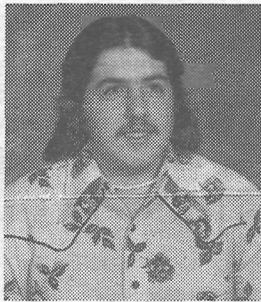


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Always in our thoughts

Mom-Jean, Brothers Jim & Doug
Nephews-Anthony, Jay & Nicky

Obituaries

Gerald F. Scholato, 73

Gerald F. Scholato died on Tuesday, July 22 in the Haven Hospice at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born and raised in Minersville, Pa., Jerry had resided in North Plainfield since 1969.

A former volunteer for the Plainfield Rescue Squad and an avid Mets fan, Mr. Scholato enjoyed fishing and collecting stamps.

He is survived by his wife, Angela (Leonardis); three children, Gerald T. and wife Leslie of Easton, Pa., Peter K. and wife Susan of Wall and Kenneth M. of North Plainfield; six grandchildren, Heather, Danielle, Khrystine, Kierstin, Katlyn and Kevin Scholato and two great-grandchildren, Brandon and Tyler.

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

Susan C. Dalto, 52

Susan C. Dalto, a longtime resident of South Plainfield, Scotch Plains and Middlesex, died on July 20 at Compassionate Care Hospice in Trenton.

Susan was born in Plainfield on April 4, 1956, the second daughter of Peter and Celeste Dalto.

She was a 1974 graduate of Mount Saint Mary Academy in Watchung, where she sang in the Glee club.

Susan attended Union College in Cranford and earned a diploma in secretarial science from Taylor Business Institute in Plainfield.

She was employed in the insurance industry for more than 20 years, first at Hanover Insurance Company and later at Anthem Health and Life, both in Piscataway. While at Anthem, she was awarded the Corporate Commitment to Excellence Award. Susan was a volunteer at Somerset Medical Center from 1998 to 2001, contributing over 600 hours of service.

Susan was predeceased by her par-

ents.

She is survived by a sister, Valerie Chileski of Highlands Ranch, Colo.; a brother-in-law, Roger; a beloved niece and goddaughter, Allison; an aunt, Barbara Dalto of Piscataway; a great aunt and uncle, Fannie and Anthony Rundella of South Plainfield and many cousins.

A memorial service was held at the First Presbyterian Church of Dunellen.

Donations in Susan's memory may be made to Plan New Jersey, Planned Lifetime Assistance for People with Special Needs, P.O. Box 547, Somerville, N.J. 08876.

Richard W. Moran, 71

Richard W. ("Fuzzy") Moran of South Plainfield passed away at home on Wednesday, July 23.

He was born April 28, 1937 in New Brunswick to the late Daniel and Ethel Moran.



Richard W. Moran

After graduating in 1955 from his beloved alma mater, St. Peter's High School, Richard enlisted in the U.S. Army, from which he received an honorable discharge.

He worked for New Jersey Bell and retired after 35 years of service.

He was a member of Sacred Heart Parish, as well as a member of American Legion Chaumont Post #243.

He was predeceased by his wife of 43 years, Joan E. Moran, who passed away in June.

Richard is survived and will be greatly missed by his son, Daniel and daughter-in-law Deirdre; a daughter, Patricia and son-in-law Robert Micks; two brothers, Daniel and sister-in-law Priscilla and James ("Red") and sister-in-law Evelyn; two sisters-in-law, Evelyn and husband Stephen Topolancik and Nancy and husband John

Ivan; seven grandchildren, Thomas, Francis, Bridget, James and Henry Moran and Ryan and Riley Micks and numerous nieces, nephews, neighbors and friends.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The American Legion Chaumont Post #243, 243 Oak Tree Ave., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

Kavita Davie Lall, 62

Kavita Davie Lall died on Friday, July 25 at the Center for Hope Hospice in Scotch Plains.

Born and raised in Guyana, Kavita came to the United States in the 1970s, residing in Jersey City before moving to South Plainfield in 2007.

She worked as an LPN at New York University Medical Center for three years.

Surviving is a daughter, Sarah and husband Ralph Velez of South Plainfield; two sisters, Serome Mohabeer and Verina Narian; three brothers, B.L. Pancham, Narian Lall Pancham and Alfred Baychu and four grandchildren, Stephanie, Sarah, Kimberly and Megan Velez.

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

Melanie A. McCarthy

Melanie A. McCarthy passed away suddenly on Tuesday, July 22 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick.

Born in London, England, Melanie came to the United States as a child and resided in North Carolina. She later resided in South Plainfield for most of her life, before settling in Somerset 15 years ago.

Predeceased by her father, Thomas, who died in 2002, she is survived by her dear mother, Joan D. Fox; two beloved brothers, Bret McCarthy of California and Blaise McCarthy and wife Kim of South Plainfield; three aunts, Joyce Rundan, Brenda Woodham and Beryl Nestola; an uncle, John Woodham and two nephews, Aiden and Kyle.

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

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting memorial donations in her memory to Easter Seals of N.J., Raritan Valley Workshop, 9 Terminal Road, New Brunswick, N.J. 08901.

Dorothy Louise Yatzyn, 79

Dorothy Louise Yatzyn passed away on Saturday, July 26 at home after a short illness.

Dorothy was born April 14, 1929 in Brooklyn, N.Y. to the late Frederick and Mary (Shedlock) Sanders and moved from New Jersey to Orlando in 1991.

Dorothy is survived by her husband of 60 years, Charles Yatzyn; a daughter, Cynthia Louise McMaster of Apopka, Fla. and a brother, Frederick Sanders.

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



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LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Borough of South Plainfield invites sealed bids for:

FOUR WHEEL DRIVE WHEEL LOADER BACKHOE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey on Thursday, August 21, 2008 at 10:00AM prevailing time in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at which time and place bids will be opened and read in public for:

Specifications and other bid information may be obtained from the Municipal Clerks' Office in person or by calling 908-226-7605. A fee of \$50.00, payable to the Borough of South Plainfield, must be received by the Borough prior to the release of any bid packages. Only bidders who have picked up specifications will be allowed to submit bids. All bids must be submitted on the Proposal Forms furnished by the Borough.

Bids shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed to the Municipal Clerk, Borough of South Plainfield, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080. The name of the item being bid must be noted on the envelope.

Bids shall be made upon the Standard Proposal Form. Any bid guarantee required will be so specified in the bid documents for that item.

Attention is called to the Federal requirements regarding employment non-discrimination and safety and wage rates.

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27.

ATTEST:
Joann Graf/Acting Municipal Clerk

\$52.25 August 1, 2008

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Borough of South Plainfield invites sealed bids for:

RECREATION MATS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey on August 19, 2008 at 11:00AM prevailing time in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at which time and place bids will be opened and read in public.

Specifications and other bid information may be obtained from the Municipal Clerks' Office in person or by calling 908-226-7605. A fee of \$50.00, payable to the Borough of South Plainfield, must be received by the Borough prior to the release of any bid packages. Only bidders who have picked up specifications will be allowed to submit bids. All bids must be submitted on the Proposal Forms furnished by the Borough.

Bids shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed to the Municipal Clerk, Borough of South Plainfield, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080. The name of the item being bid must be noted on the envelope.

Bids shall be made upon the Standard Proposal Form. Any bid guarantee required will be so specified in the bid documents for that item.

Attention is called to the Federal requirements regarding employment non-discrimination and safety and wage rates.

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27.

ATTEST:
Joann Graf/Acting Municipal Clerk

\$50.25 August 1, 2008

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Borough of South Plainfield invites sealed bids for:

BULKY WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be opened and read by the Municipal Clerk at the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey on Tuesday, August 19, 2008 at 10:00 AM prevailing time. All bids must be addressed and delivered to the Municipal Clerk on or by the designated hour.

Specifications and other bid information may be obtained from the Municipal Clerks' Office in person or by calling 908-226-7605. fee of \$50.00, payable to the Borough of South Plainfield, must be received by the Borough prior to the release of any bid packages.

Notice is also given that an addendum has been added to the original bid documents to include weekly Senior Citizen Yard Waste pick up from April through to October.

Bids shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed to the Municipal Clerk, Borough of South Plainfield, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080. The name of the item being bid must be noted on the envelope.

Bids shall be made upon the Standard Proposal Form. Any bid guarantee required will be so specified in the bid documents for that item.

Attention is called to the Federal requirements regarding employment non-discrimination and safety and wage rates.

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27.

ATTEST:
Joann Graf/Acting Municipal Clerk

\$50.35 August 1, 2008

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

July 23, 2008-Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Planning Board at its meeting held on July 22, 2008.

A. Case #705/Site/V-Skyline Management Corp. for Plainfield Associates. Block 254; Lot 1.04; Case Drive. The applicant's request for final site plan approval was GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Beth Khidre
Recording Secretary-Planning Board

\$19.95 August 1, 2008

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

July 25, 2008-Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its meeting held on July 24, 2008.

A. Case #12-08-Metro PCS New York, LLC. Block 458; Lot 1; 1500 Seymour Street. The applicant's request for a use variance, height variance, waivers and site plan approval was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

B. Case #16-08-Jie Zhen Wen. Block 528; Lot 46.13; 4811 Stelton Road. The applicant's request for an interpretation allowing a licensed massage facility was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

C. Case #17-08-Dawn and Michael Niemeyer. Block 130; Lot 11; 1908 Wickford Road. The applicant's request for (2) variances in order to erect a garage and front porch was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Beth Khidre
Recording Secretary-Planning Board

\$31.35 August 1, 2008

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Dana Ricciardi requesting permission to erect an above ground pool. (1) Lot coverage exceeds 30%; 25% required. (2) Ward Place frontage requires 30'; 10' proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 126 Lincoln Ave. Block 266, Lot 18 R-10 Zone on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, August 14, 2008 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at 7:00 p.m.

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

\$38.50 August 1, 2008

police report

• A roadside inspection detail conducted by the South Plainfield Police on June 26 resulted in 30 motor vehicle summons being issued. They included: 15-failure to inspect, 1-failure to make repairs; 8-fictitious inspection stickers, 1-no insurance, 1-unlicensed driver; 1-failure to produce documents and 3-equipment violations.

• On July 22 Shaunette L. Briggs, 19, of Edison was arrested at Pathmark for shoplifting various items worth \$142.

• Atit Benphuder Patel, 18, of Piscataway was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

• K-Foods on Park Avenue reported the theft of a pack of cigarettes and two packages of scratch-off lottery tickets by a dark-skinned black male, thin build, early 20's who ran out of the store.

• On July 34 East Garden Chinese Restaurant on Durham Avenue reported that their front door had been broken and a cash register with \$100 in cash was taken.

• An Irving Street resident reported that several credit cards had been taken out using his personal identification without his knowledge.

• On July 24 the PAL reported that the side of the building had been

spray painted with graffiti.

• Jagal Rana, M.D. on Park Avenue reported that the side of the building had been spray painted with graffiti.

• On July 25 the Spring Lake Park ranger reported that the comfort station had been spray painted with graffiti.

• On July 27 a Perry Street resident reported that their vehicle has been ransacked and a Garmin GPS and two gift cards were taken.

Athletic Boosters Host "Meet the Coaches Night"

The Athletic Boosters Club annual parents "Meet the Coaches Night" will take place on Tuesday, Sept. 9 in the high school cafeteria C/D at 6:30 p.m. All sporting seasons will be represented by a coach and the booster club will have a buffet dinner, dessert and coffee available for attendees. Promotional Tiger merchandise will be available as well as a membership table for anyone interested in joining the club.

Parents are encouraged to attend this meeting to learn about the athletic program at the high school and meet your child's coaching staff.

Annual "Run for the Children" Announced

Open Your Heart to Children Battling Cancer Foundation, Inc. in cooperation with The Old Timers Motorcycle Club and Moretti Realty, will hold the third annual "Run for the Children" on Sunday, Oct. 5 (rain date Sunday, Oct. 12) beginning with sign-in from 9:30-11 a.m. Cost is \$20 per rider, \$10 per passenger.

The run starts at the PAL and includes a scenic ride through Somerset County before returning to the PAL for plenty of food, prizes, music and vendors. Last year more than 400 riders participated.

This event is also open to non-riders and the public for \$10 per person. Food will be donated by Roma Foods and Freihofer's, with music provided by Mirage. Raffle tickets will be available at a cost of \$5 each for a chance to win a Vespa motor scooter.

Vendors are welcome. If you are interested in riding, volunteering or attending the after-ride festivities, contact Rich D'Urso at (732) 406-2826 (offhebear@aol.com), Greg Rhein at (908) 405-7753 (congoman63@yahoo.com) or Guy Moretti at (908) 755-5300 (moret tig@morettirealty.com).

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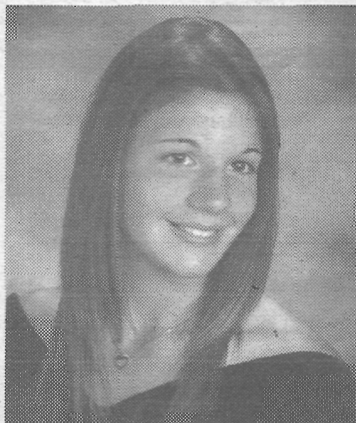
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Sports



Megan Boyle (L) and Stephanie Falzarano (R), sophomores at Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pa., were chosen to play for the New Jersey Elite Women's 23 Under softball league. Boyle plays centerfield and outfield and Falzarano plays second base and outfield. The team played in Auburn, Ala. at the Amateur Softball Association Women's 23 Under Fast Pitch National Tournament in July. The team placed third in the nation. Both are 2007 graduates of South Plainfield High School.

Juniorettes Look for New Members

Do you enjoy helping others in your community? Are you looking for service hours for confirmation or college? The South Plainfield Juniorettes are currently looking for new members and have accomplished a myriad of projects over the years. We are a group of young women who work together to meet the needs of the community through volunteer service projects. In addition, Juniorettes receive national recognition and awards and have fun!

If you are interested in becoming a member, E-mail Jessica Vasquez at josblink1825@aol.com.

Tiger Sharks Swim Team

Tiger Sharks Shake The Willows

The Tiger Sharks Swim Team shook the swimmers of The Willows right out of the water, and veteran swimmer Bill Lillis broke the pool record in the 100 meter butterfly with a time of 1:14.48 in the 13/14 age group.

The Willows explored unknown waters at the South Plainfield Community Pool on July 9 and were sent sailing home with a loss of 177-99.

In the opening meet, only Miles Green and Enzo Butrico placed second and third in the 11/12 age group in the individual medley. However, the girls swam full speed ahead, taking three first place wins in the longer freestyle events.

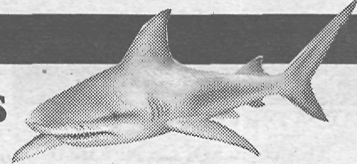
Megan McDermott (10 and under), Ali Huber (11/12) and Emily Piekarski did the first place navigating. Taylor Aljian (11/12) placed second and Jennifer Huber (10 and under) and Gracie Piekarski (13-18) placed third.

The boys came back winning four out of five first place ribbons in the butterfly. Taking home blue ribbons were Miles Green (8 and under), Nick

Gurrieri (9/10), Bill Lillis (13-14) and Matt Moates (15-18). Brandon Tang (8 and under), Enzo Butrico (11/12) and Anthony Gurrieri (13-14) placed second, while Charlie Butrico (11-12) placed third.

Swimming the breaststroke for the girls, Jenna Yan (8 and under) placed second and Aubrey Marish placing third. Brianna Tang and Gennifer Huber placed first and second in the 9/10 age group, sister Ali Huber placed second while veteran swimmer Amy Zinsky placed third for the 11/12 year-olds. Powerhouse swimmer Maggie Valentino easily scored a first place win in the 13/14 group and her teammate Cristina Butrico placed second for a one-two punch.

The boys finished off The Willows by taking all the first place ribbons in the shorter freestyle events. Blue ribbons went to Brendan Tang (8 and under), Nick Gurrieri (9/10), Marcel Green (11/12), Bill Lillis (13/14) and Matt Moates (15-18). Cristian Butrico placed second and Miles Green was third in the 8 and under age group,



completing the sweep. Charlie Butrico (11/12) and Anthony Gurrieri (13/14) placed second.

Backstroke events gave the girls three wins. Megan McDermott (9/10), Taylor Aljian (11/12) and Maggie Valentino (13/14) received first place ribbons. Jenna Yan (8 and under), Brianna Tang (9/10) and Emily Piekarski (15-18) placed second. Vicky Tumati (8 and under), Gracie Piekarski (13/14) and Chelsea Cullen (15-18) came in third.

The team took five out of six first place ribbons for the relays. Free relay, 8 and under: Jenna Yan, Chandler Carter, Vicky Tumati and Aubrey Marish. Medley relay, 8 and under: Miles Green, Cristian Butrico, Michael Stanczak and Brendan Tang. Free relay, 9-12: Ali Huber, Taylor Aljian, Megan McDermott and Brianna Tang. Free relay, 13-18: Maggie Valentino, Chelsea Cullen, Gracie Piekarski and Emily Piekarski. Medley relay, 13-18: Matt Moates, Billy Lillis, Michael Boyle and Anthony Gurrieri.

Swimming second heats and taking first place were: Maggie Mogollon-25m breaststroke, Michelle O'Sullivan-100m breaststroke, Chandler Carter-25m backstroke, Elissa Mackenzie-50m backstroke, Donovan Carter-50m freestyle, Evy Peregrin-100m backstroke, Kaitlyn Faustini-50m breaststroke, Nicole Stanczak-50 breaststroke, Michael Stanczak-25 freestyle, Isabella Mosquera-25 backstroke, Nicole Bythell-50m backstroke and Abby Petritsch-100m backstroke.

Thanks to our 11/12 age group swimmers: Taylor Aljian, Courtney Allocco, Charlie Butrico, Enzo Butrico, Nicole Bythell, Ryan Bythell, Kaitlyn Faustini, Madison Faustini, Frank Ferraro, Mariah Garcia, Rebecca George, Carlee Gonzalez, Marcel Green, Allison Huber, Eric Ivaniuc, Sara Kamal, Charlotte Macchia, Naomi McNeill, Vanessa Mosquera, MaryAnn Novack, Kelley O'Brien, Mike Olano, Bridget Pepe, Michael Petritsch, Emma Piedilato, Maggie Quintanilla, Amanda Rowlands, Ed Sheaffer, Kimberly Stanczak, Nicole Stanczak, Marcos Toapanta, Ashley Valencia, Joey Valentino, Jaime Valladares and Amy Zinsky.

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