



South Plainfield Observer

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DECEMBER 12, 2008

Council Seeks To Sue Former Borough Attorney

Citing malpractice, Borough Council Republicans pushed through a resolution (3-2) to hire an outside attorney to represent the borough in a lawsuit against former borough attorney, Patrick Diegnan.

The suit centers on the purchase of the Suburban Bus Co. land on New Market Avenue in December of 2006.

Republican members of the council claim that the purchase price of the land by Middlesex County was too high due to cost of remediation and that a hold harmless agreement should not have been part of the sale.

Prior to voting, former Mayor Michael English asked the council to table the resolution until the purchase is thoroughly investigated. English added that there was another buyer who claims the cost of remediation was \$40,000. Republicans disagreed on the potential cost of the cleanup.

English said, "Patrick Diegnan has served the borough for 25 years and to initiate a lawsuit without any proof is outrageous. I think the time for politics is ended. Stop these games! Don't waste the taxpayers money on this." English also questioned if the Republicans' motive was political.

Council Approves 3.75% Pay Hike

The Borough Council voted 4-2 at their public meeting on Monday evening to increase the salaries of municipal officers and employees by 3.75 percent over each of the next three years, effective January 1.

Republican councilmembers, in their last few weeks with the voting majority, approved the new contract despite Mayor Charles Butrico's plea to "tighten their belts" and reconsider their decision. "We are being unfair to our residents if we support an increase for our employees when they are going to work and lucky if they see anything," said Butrico. Finance Committee Chairman Ray Rusnak argued, "I think these folks [borough employees] have been more than fair



Det. Chris Collucci, Recreation Commission President William Cochran, Director of Recreation Kevin Hughes, Mayor Charles Butrico, Councilman Ray Petronko and Middlesex County Administrator John Pulomena at the groundbreaking ceremony marking the start of construction of the turf field at the PAL. The council voted to approve the winning bids for the project during Monday's meeting. The field should be completed in May.

EWA Performing Study on New Truck Route

By Jane Dornick

After the Ad Hoc Truck Route Committee spent nearly a year feverishly working on a less invasive truck route through the Dismal Swamp, Edison Wetlands Asso. (EWA) Executive Director Robert Spiegel says he has hired his own experts on wetlands management to review the proposed Hollywood Avenue extension. He said that he is spending a significant amount of money to have his own analysis of the project and its impact on the surrounding area.

The EWA recently stated that they wanted a "better design" of the Hollywood Avenue extension which would have even "less of an impact" on the swamp. The com-

mittee's plan calls for disturbing only .06 acres of the 660 acre area, but Spiegel feels that the route, in its proposed state, will still

(Continued on page 10)

Raceway Robber at Large

Raceway gas station on W. 7th Street was robbed at gunpoint last Saturday evening.

A cab driver who witnessed the incident said that a suspicious man was walking in circles in front of Sullivan's Auto Shop nearby. The man waited until the gas station was free of patrons before walking into the front office and pointing

a gun at two employees. The cab driver called police after seeing the suspect flee down Clinton Avenue towards Ninth Street and then lost sight of him.

The suspect is described as a black male, 5' 10", 180 lbs., wearing a black ski mask, black boots, a black hooded sweat jacket with the hood over his head, jeans and gloves.

Five-Year-Old Abandoned On School Bus

A five-year-old Riley School kindergarten student was left sleeping on a school bus last Friday after the driver and aide neglected to drop the boy at his school after he attended the Roosevelt School enrichment program in the morning.

The bus was parked in the lot at the high school when the boy was awakened by the noise of students evacuating the building due to a gas leak. The boy exited the bus and was found wandering the area by students. He was cold and scared, but unharmed.

The South Plainfield Police Department is currently investigating the incident, along with the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office. School officials have been advised to halt their investigation.

Schools Superintendent Jose Negrón said he could not comment on the investigation, but "appropriate action was taken to insure the aide and driver are no longer dealing with children." The bus is owned and operated by the board of education and the driver and aide are contracted by the district.

FYI Special Council Meetings Scheduled

The Borough Council has scheduled a special agenda meeting on Thursday, Dec. 18, to conduct interviews and a regular meeting on Monday, Dec. 22, to pass ordinances.



SPHS Help Darfur Now Executive Board—Holly McDede, Cory Harrel, Susan Tian, Sean Coffey, Krissha Patel, Matthew Brazza, Annie Polanco, Kerri Gould, Allison Clawans, Lynn Do and Julie Tran.

Corzine to Honor HDN Students

Governor Jon Corzine plans to recognize students from South Plainfield High School for their efforts in creating awareness about the genocide in Darfur, Sudan and for raising funds for the victims as members of the non profit organization Help Darfur Now (HDN).

Dr. Paul Winkler, executive director of the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education, recommended to the governor that the South Plainfield Chapter of Help Darfur Now be asked to come to Trenton. Although there are over 100 chapters throughout the U.S., South Plainfield was recognized for its

fundraising and awareness efforts.

In April 2006, students started a local chapter of Help Darfur Now with over 40 students. Interest in Darfur began in the genocide class taught by Fran Flannery. Library posters by Steven Tietjen, one of the HDN founders, along with presentations, created interest in the new group. The students raised money by holding fundraisers and selling t-shirts, bracelets and pins.

Senior Annie Polanco, a member of HDN, recalls hearing an announcement for a meeting for the newly formed group and has been a

member since freshman year.

Annie was one of the high school presenters at the middle school, telling the students about the plight of the people of Darfur and how their own government attacks them. To survive they live in refugee camps helped by various international aid groups.

Cory Harnell was in seventh grade when Annie Polanco, along with other members of HDN, visited the middle school for the presentation. Harnell, who had already seen a presentation on Darfur at Wesley Methodist Church, told Annie (whom he knew

(Continued on page 10)

Volunteers Sought for Boards, Etc.

South Plainfield is seeking volunteers who wish to serve on a board, agency, committee or commission commencing January 1, 2009. Vacancies exist on the majority of boards.

Anyone interested in applying should visit the Borough Web site at www.southplainfieldnj.com to obtain more information about the various boards, agencies, committees and com-

missions, or to obtain an application.

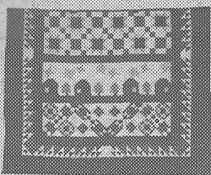
Applications may also be obtained from the Borough Clerk's Office, 2480 Plainfield Ave., between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. The deadline for submission of completed applications is December 15.

For further information, please contact Acting Borough Clerk Joann Graf at (908) 226-7606.

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Friends of the Library Holiday Quilt Raffle Dec. 17. Buy tickets (\$2) at the library or call 908-754-7885.



In My Opinion

The opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily those of the publisher, nor do we guarantee their accuracy.

Residents of South Plainfield:

The South Plainfield Education Foundation held our annual telethon the week of December 1. Students from several groups in the high school made phone calls to the parents of every student in the South Plainfield school district. If a parent pledged a donation to the foundation, a follow

up letter will be sent. There are several areas throughout the district that the parents can direct financial help.

This is our most important fundraiser of the year. Through this fundraiser we are able to continue providing scholarships to deserving seniors from South Plainfield High School. We would also like to continue to

support the Gold Card program at the high school. We have been in existence since 1994. We are a separate non-profit 501c-3 organization. Please be advised that the education foundation is not affiliated with the school board.

If you would like further information on the foundation, you can log on to the South Plainfield school district Web site and click on the link to the foundation. We provide monies for scholarships and incentive programs for the entire district as an independent, non-profit organization.

We would like to thank the community of South Plainfield for their continued support of the education foundation.

**MARGE REEDY, PRESIDENT
SOUTH PLAINFIELD EDUCATION
FOUNDATION**

To the Editor:

We would like to thank Frank Rainear and his staff at The South Plainfield James W. Conroy Funeral Home for the Thanksgiving dinners they delivered on Thanksgiving to the many homebound and sick seniors. You made them feel not forgotten for the holidays. Thank you again for your generosity.

**SOUTH PLAINFIELD SENIOR
CENTER/MEALS ON WHEELS**

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the entire South Plainfield High School Girls' Soccer Team, I would like to publicly thank the South Plainfield Elks Club for donating their party room and other various needed items for our yearly end-of-season dinner. The size of the room was perfect for accommodating all the girls and their families who attended the ceremony. The tasteful decor made for an appealing background to the night. Their generosity is greatly appreciated.

The celebration would not have been possible if it were not for the enthusiasm and hard work of all the parents and coaches involved. Mrs. Jenifer Baldassarre took a leadership position, donating her time and energy to get the preparations started. And special thanks are extended to Mr. Bill and Mrs. Sharon Reuter as well, whose positive contribution was felt through behind-the-scenes help in the kitchen all night. Many other parents, coaches, and players deserve appreciation for their efforts. Whether they donated food or decorations, helped with presentations, or simply helped clean up at the end of the party, they made a difference. Thank you all once again.

**SINCERELY YOURS,
LINDSAY FREDERICKS,
SENIOR, SPHS**

Holiday Giving For Needy Pets

The Plainfield Animal Hospital is collecting pet food donations to be distributed to needy pets for the holiday season. Please bring canned or dry pet foods to the drop off box at the animal hospital, 2215 Park Ave. 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Sundays. Monetary donations will also be gratefully accepted and used to purchase pet food for those in need.

For more information or directions to the hospital, please call (908) 755-2428. Thank you for your generosity and may you have happy and healthy holidays.

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To the Editor:

On November 30 the South Plainfield Soccer Club held a breakfast fundraiser at the South Plainfield Elks Lodge #2298. Hard working volunteers cleared tables and served food to the packed house. The Elks provided a wonderful menu of pancakes, French toast, bacon, sausage, and steak and eggs. We opened at 8 a.m. and had wait times throughout the morning.

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers and to the Elks. Everyone did a fabulous job. Thank you to all who supported the South Plainfield Soccer Club by attending this fundraiser.

From our family to yours, peace and joy this holiday season.

**KENNETH HARRELL, THE SOUTH
PLAINFIELD SOCCER CLUB**

Dear Editor,

I have never written a letter to an editor, but I felt compelled after reading Mr. Diana's (Mr. Scrooge) letter this week. I must agree that there is no need to have the holiday display lit in the wee hours of the morning.

However, the amount of kilowatts that is being used by the display is insignificant. Yes, it is wasteful to see energy burn when it is not needed, but I feel there must be other battles to fight on waste in this town.

I must disagree with Mr. Scrooge's approach to change the issue at hand. Mr. Diana and anyone else who sees wasteful spending must take action. The action that we must take is get involved with our local politics.

We need to approach a councilman/woman regarding our issues. These are our elected officials. These are the people we chose to right the wrongs in our little town. If enough of us take action then we can reduce waste in our town and hopefully see a reduction in our property taxes.

**SINCERELY,
RAMÓN SANCHEZ**

Dear Editor,

It's time to stop the smear campaign.

Last week, the Democrats wrote to this paper, and as usual, they were unable to make their point by telling the truth and supporting their position with facts. Instead, they made false statements, this time about the annual salary ordinance and the professional employee union's contract settlement.

Fact: No employee is getting an extra raise. The Democrats were inaccurate when they claimed otherwise

Submit Your Letters to the Editor:

Send your letters to South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or fax to 908-668-8819, or via E mail: spobserver@comcast.net. Deadline is Monday, 5 p.m. Letters must be accompanied by a name and telephone number for verification. 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. Submission is not a guarantee of publication. We do not accept anonymous letters. Letters are strictly opinion.

using made-up numbers.

Fact: The Republicans did a better job negotiating than the Democrats did. The contract settlement gives these employees less than the other unions in town.

Fact: The Republicans were able to negotiate a contract settlement where these employees will receive less than employees in neighboring towns, less than school-board employees, and less than state employees.

The Democrats should join with us in finding more ways to save the taxpayers money.

Unfortunately, this is unlikely, because their win on President-elect Obama's coattails has emboldened them to continue their arrogant ways.

COUNCILMAN TIM MCCONVILLE

Dear Editor,

The blood drive sponsored by the South Plainfield Business Association on December 5 was well attended. Out of the 59 volunteers only seven were deemed ineligible to donate blood, some because of low blood pressure, some because of low iron count, and some for low white cell counts.

More than 50 pints of whole blood were collected, while other procedures produced products such as platelets and white blood cells needed by cancer patients. This session saw new equipment to do these separations and collect the blood products.

Whole blood donors can give every 56 days. Other donors have different "timetables" so as to give their bodies time to rebuild their blood. Interested persons can receive information about 'how, when and where' by visiting www.givelife.org or calling 1-800-448-3543.

Be a "lifesaver"—donate blood. It doesn't hurt. Needles are discarded after each use, and new ones used, making blood donation safe and needles free of contamination.

Come in and watch at the next drive.
WILLIAM TUTHILL

Want to Stay Informed But Can't Make a Council Meeting?

Regular Council meetings air on Comcast Channel 74 Mondays, 7:30 p.m. Agenda and/or Other SPECIAL Meetings air Saturday at 8 p.m.



(Check Comcast community bulletin board for last minute time changes.) To purchase a copy of a complete Borough Council meeting, contact the Observer.

Current BOE Meetings air on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

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

SPECIAL MEETINGS

Dec. 18 (agenda meeting/interviews) and Dec. 22 (regular meeting to pass ordinances) 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

zoning board adjustments

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month, *except where noted. Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

board of education meetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted

Committee of the Whole, Wednesdays 7:30 p.m.: Jan. 14, Feb. 11, March 11 and April 1.

Regular Public Meeting, Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.: Dec. 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 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. — December 16

environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)

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

ad hoc alternative truck route committee

Senior Center, 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7605 — Tuesday, December 16

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South Plainfield Observer

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

We encourage the submission of stories and photos. To get an article published: Type (double spaced) the article and mail, email or fax. Include name, address and telephone number. **Deadline for submission is Monday, 5 p.m.**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Submit letters to the editor by mail, email or fax. Letters should not exceed 200 words. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. Letters must include name and phone number, for verification.

To comment on the content or to suggest a special story idea, contact the publisher at (908) 668-0010.

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From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

So, you still searching for a mall parking space? Programming the video recorder for the holiday specials? Eagerly awaiting the delivery of that fragile-leg lamp? Well, let's put all that on hold and look at the latest from South Plainfield Library.

Here's an advance word about a couple of schedule changes: we'll be open for half a day (9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.) on both Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, and we'll be closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. (Do I really need to specify the dates on those?)

Once again, we'll be following the recently revised regular schedule for our children's programming next week. For those of you that didn't jot all that stuff down, here it is again: there's the "Monday Morning Movie" for preschoolers on Monday at 10:30. The movie lasts approximately 40 minutes and is age-appropriate. There's our "Storytime" program for children age three and over; it's held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. The "Time for 2's & 3's" program, for children ages two and three, is held on Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 10:30. The "Baby Time" program, for children ages three and under, is held on Friday morning at 10:30. (Just like clockwork, folks.) The story programs each last about an hour and feature stories, songs and a craft activity for older kids. You don't need to pre-register for any of these programs.

Also, there are those special children's programs we mentioned last time. On Monday at 6:30 p.m. we'll have a holiday "Kidcraft" program for children age 4 and over. Participants

Visit with Santa At Senior Center

South Plainfield Recreation is inviting children newborn to 10 years-old to visit with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 13, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the senior center on Maple Avenue.

Gifts for all children visiting Santa will be handed out.

Register in advance at the PAL through December 12. Cost is \$5 per child.

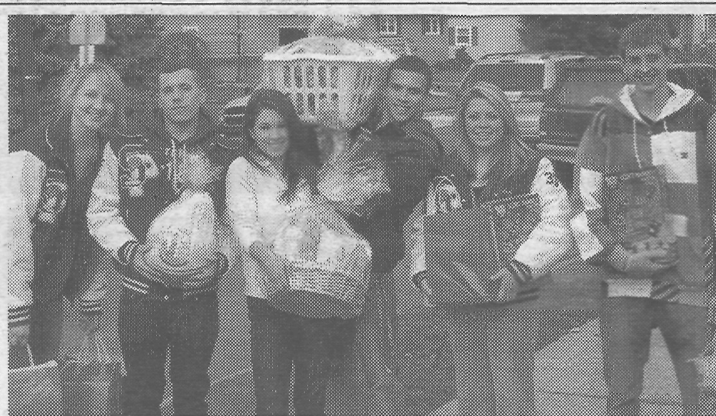
will make a holiday door decoration. Space is limited for this program, so pre-registration is required. There's a \$2 materials fee, payable upon registration. Then, on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. we'll host a holiday sing-along program featuring Lisa Lala. This program is for children up to age eight; no pre-registration is required. For more information on any of our children's programs, please call us and ask for Miss Linda or Miss Mija. (See below for the phone number.)

There's still time to donate to the charity collections at the library. The Books to Keep ingathering of new books for needy children and young people will be accepting books until December 15. Donations may be left at the Circulation desk. There's also the ongoing food drive for the needy sponsored by Middlesex County. The donation box for that drive is located right next to our main doors. Nearby, there's the Lion's Club donation box for used eyeglasses and hearing aids. And you can still get a ticket for the holiday quilt raffle sponsored by the Friends of the Library. The double-sized, homemade quilt will be raffled off on Wednesday evening. Tickets are \$2 each; proceeds will benefit the library.

Here's a bit of a housekeeping note: we have a small but very tightly-packed lost and found box behind the Circulation desk. In it, we've collected a variety of items, ranging from computer discs to cell phones to eyeglasses. We'd really like to clear these things out in time for 2009. So, if you think we might have something of yours, please stop by and check as soon as you can.

Lastly, here's a bit of info for the consumer: if you're looking for a last minute gift and don't want to deal with the crowds at the mall, we can help. We still have some South Plainfield Library tote bags available for purchase. Small totes go for \$7.50 each, with large tote bags selling for \$10 apiece. Stop by the Circulation desk for details.

That's about it for this week. For more information, please call us at (908) 754-7885 or visit our Web site at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us. See you next Friday. Now go make sure you've got enough wrapping paper and credit for the rest of the season.



South Plainfield High School Peer Leadership members—(L to R) Alyssa McCreesh, Michael Boyle, Stephanie Lanza, Tramane Miller, Lyndsey Murtagh and Doug Porzio on their way to deliver Thanksgiving baskets filled with food and items they donated to nine needy families in the borough. Director of Social Services Marge Ackerman also contributed some coats. The peer leadership program is headed by teachers Ms. Vandermark, Mr. Encinas, Ms. Zurka, Ms. Marconi, Mr. Cirigliano and Mr. Emmons.

Sacred Heart and St. Matthias Share Spotlight on Catholic Education

The Diocese of Metuchen has announced that Sacred Heart School and Saint Matthias School in Somerset will be "in the spotlight" at the 2009 Spotlight on Catholic Education dinner.

"We are very pleased with the selection of these two elementary schools," noted the Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski, Bishop of the Diocese of Metuchen. "They exemplify the quality in academic standards and the tradition of faith formation provided by all of the Catholic schools within the Diocese of Metuchen, yet each has its own unique environment."

During the coming months, Sacred Heart and Saint Matthias schools will be engaged in special activities designed to raise funds and focus attention on the value of Catholic education. The culmination of their efforts will be the 2009 Spotlight on Education dinner to be held on Wednesday, April 22 at the Pines Manor in Edison.

Ellen Ayoub, Diocesan superintendent of schools, noted that many families rely on the availability of tuition assistance from the diocese to supplement their own personal financial sacrifice in order to send their children to Catholic school. "Through the dinner, we have been able to help these individuals," she said.

Half of the net proceeds from the dinner go directly to the Foundation

for Catholic Education to be used for much needed tuition grants. As a result, every school in the Diocese is eligible to benefit from the dinner as well as the families from every parish. The "spotlighted" schools share the other half of the proceeds which may be used at their discretion for educational or school operational needs.

Since the inaugural dinner in 2003, over \$1,000,000 in net proceeds has directly benefited the Foundation for Catholic Education and previously "spotlighted" schools.

Father Sylvester Cronin, Diocesan

McCriskin-Gustafson to Host Grief Seminar

The McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals invites you to join them at their annual grief seminar on Sunday, Dec. 14 at Flanagan's Restaurant from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The seminar will be led by Certified Grief Specialist Jessie Flynn and brunch will be served. Whether your loss occurred recently or several years ago, this seminar will offer steps in coping with your loss. All are welcome. RSVP requested.

For additional information or to RSVP, please call (908) 561-8000 or E-mail us at info@mccriskinfuneralhome.com.

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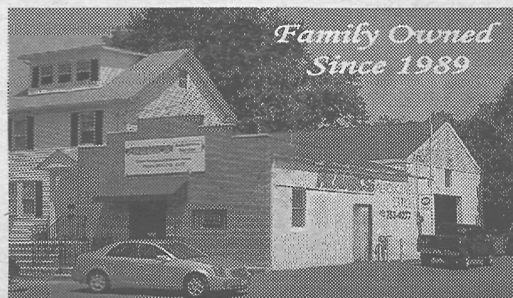
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AROUND TOWN

"Striking 12" at EVP Through December 31

Edison Valley Playhouse, 2196 Oak Tree Rd. in Edison, presents the New Jersey premiere production of the new holiday musical, "Striking 12," on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27 and New Year's Eve, Wednesday, Dec. 31 (includes a special New Year's Eve party; call for details.) Great for all ages and even better as a pre-New Year's Eve party primer event! Tickets: \$20 adults; \$15 students/seniors; dinner package available.

For tickets, call (908) 755-4654 or visit www.evplayhouse.com to order online. Visa/MC accepted.

Visit With Santa at the Senior Center

December 13

South Plainfield Recreation invites children ages newborn to 10 years-old to visit with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 13 from 1-3 p.m. at the Senior Center. Gifts for all the children will be handed out. Bring your own camera to take pictures. Fee is \$5/participant.

Pre-registration required at the PAL by December 12.

Tree Lighting/ Holiday Caroling

December 13

McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals and the South Plainfield Recreation Department are co-sponsoring this year's tree lighting and holiday caroling celebration on Saturday, Dec. 13 at 4 p.m. Following the tree lighting, members of the 101st Airborne Division Color Guard will lead a procession followed by Santa and the high school traveling choir in caroling to the Senior Center where light refreshments will be served.

Everyone is invited to join in the holiday celebration.

Blackrose to Perform

December 13

Blackrose, a band performing classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will perform at Rugs and Riffy's, located on Rahway Avenue in Woodbridge on Saturday, Dec. 13, at 10 p.m. No cover.

Holiday Kidcraft Program at Library

December 15

South Plainfield Public Library will hold a holiday "Kidcraft" program on

Monday, Dec. 15 at 6:30 p.m.

The program is for children ages four and over. Participants will make a holiday door decoration. There is a \$2 materials fee, payable upon registration.

Space is limited, pre-registration at the library is required.

Breakfast with Santa

December 21

Bring your cameras to the South Plainfield Elks for breakfast with Santa on Sunday, Dec. 21, 8 a.m. to noon at the lodge at 1254 New Market Ave.

Pancakes, French toast, bacon, sausage, eggs to order, coffee, tea, milk and juice will be served.

Adults, \$6; children ages 5-12, \$4; under 5 free.

Pancake Breakfast at American Legion

December 21

American Legion Chaumont Post 243, located on Oak Tree Avenue, will hold an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast on Sunday, Dec. 21 from 8 a.m. to noon. Everyone is welcome. Adults \$5, children \$3, under six free.

Boy Scout Troop 125 Monster Truck Show

January 31

Boy Scout Troop 125 is sponsoring a trip to the Monster Truck Show at Izod Center on Saturday, Jan. 31. There will be a pit party on the arena floor from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. before the 2 p.m. show. Pit party pass is \$5 and available to guests with 2 p.m. show tickets (one pass per show ticket). Children under 2 do not require a pass if accompanied by an adult with ticket and pit pass. Pit party pass allows guests to walk the track, meet competitors and get photos with the monster trucks. Seating will be assigned once tickets are purchased. Tickets: \$25-adults; \$14.50-children under 12; \$5-pit party passes (while supplies last). Price does not include parking or transportation.

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SENIOR CENTER Calendar

Coming Up.....

December 18

Bally's Trip 8:20 a.m.

December 21

Christmas Luncheon,
12:30 p.m. \$5 per person

MONDAYS

Silver Sneakers 8:30 am
Crocheting 9:30 am
Yoga 10:30 am
Art Class 11:30 am

TUESDAYS

Bingo 10 am-2 pm
Ladies Group 10 am

WEDNESDAYS

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

THURSDAYS

Closed Christmas December 25-28
Pathmark 9 am
Crafts Class 10 am
Computer 10 am, 11:30 am, 1 pm
Exercise Class 1:15 pm

FRIDAYS

Bingo 10 am-2 pm

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Closed Sundays

ing or transportation.

Order and pay by December 15. Checks should be made out to Boy Scout Troop 125. Mail to Marie Markey 201 Lane Ave., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080. Paypal is also available, add \$2 to each ticket price to cover fees. Paypal address is markey@comcast.net or drop off orders on Monday nights at the VFW on Front Street from 7:30-9 p.m. Tickets may not arrive by Christmas; put a note in a card. Makes a great gift.

— Out of Town —

"A Christmas Carol" at Bucks Playhouse

Through December 21

The Bucks County Playhouse in New Hope, Pa. presents "A Christmas Carol" through December 21.

Tickets are available online at www.buckscountyplayhouse.com or by calling (215) 862-2041.

Mt. Pleasant Animal Shelter Holiday Fair

December 12-14

The annual holiday fair will be held December 13-14 at the Shelter, 194 Route 10 West, Mt. Pleasant. Saturday hours are 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The fair will also be open Friday, Dec. 12 during shelter hours. Admission is free.

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For more information, call (973) 386-0590 or visit www.njshelter.org.

Edison Arts Society 10th Anniversary

December 12

Edison Arts Society proudly celebrates their 10th anniversary season on Friday, Dec. 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the Middlesex County College Performing Arts Center Mainstage Theatre, 2600 Woodbridge Ave. in Edison. The program will include music, dance and theatrical performances, literary readings, and visual arts and new media/film presentations, from a selection of our nationally and internationally renowned artists and is free and open to the public.

For more information, call the Edison Arts Society at (908) 753-2787, or visit www.edisonarts.org.

Storytime/Pictures With Santa

December 13

Pilgrim Covenant Church, 3121 Park Ave., is hosting a storytime and pictures with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 13 between 5 and 7 p.m. Admission: \$5. Crafts, raffles, snack of cookies and milk. Pictures with Santa \$5 each (optional). Storytime begins at 7 p.m.

For more information, call (908) 930-5040 or (908) 294-0634.

Breakfast with Santa

December 14

Breakfast with Santa will be held on Sunday, Dec. 14 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Metuchen EMS, 1 Safety Place in Metuchen. Adults \$7; children \$5. Santa will give out candy canes and

books as members of Metuchen EMS cook breakfast for attendees. This is a key fundraiser for Metuchen EMS to cover costs of medical supplies, insurance, vehicle maintenance and expenses associated with providing emergency care for the public.

For information, visit www.metuchenems.org, call Bill Borden at (732) 910-1620 or E-mail william.bordenjr@optonline.net.

Christmas Concert

December 14

Plainfield Gesang-und Turn-Verein will hold a Christmas concert on Sunday, Dec. 14 at 3 p.m. at Singer Hall, 220 Somerset St. in North Plainfield.

The chorus, under the direction of the talented conductor, Johanna Teubner-Prussak invites you to attend this wonderful concert.

Santa Claus will pay a visit with gifts for the children.

After the concert, join the festivities over a cup of coffee and delicious Christstollen.

Tickets are \$17 in advance and \$20 at the door. Children under 14 are free.

For information, call Gerda at (908) 369-3359.

American Legion Holiday Party

December 20

American Legion Post 401, 148 Major Rd., Monmouth Junction, will host their annual holiday party at the post hall on Saturday, Dec. 20, with dinner served from 6-8 p.m., dancing until midnight and great door prizes. The event is open to the public, 21 and older. Tickets are \$12.50. Only 80 will be sold. If available, tickets at the door will be \$15.

For information, call (732) 329-9861. Tickets available now at the post hall.

"Video Games Live" at the NJPAC

December 27

"Video Games Live" will be presented at New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) on Saturday, Dec. 27 at 2 and 8 p.m. An entertaining new way to celebrate the holidays—featuring a symphonic celebration of classic video game scores—and interactive audience participation, this show combines the power and excitement of a rock concert with the energy and emotion of a symphony orchestra—spiked with the cutting-edge visuals, technology, interactivity and immersive fun that only video games can provide.

For tickets visit www.njpac.org or call 1-888 GO-NJPAC.

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

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

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

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The Lights Are On! The Russo Family at 17 George Street has changed their Christmas light show this year. Be sure to stop by from now through the new year and tune your car radio to 107.3 FM.

SPHS Combined Holiday Concert

The South Plainfield High School Music Department will hold their holiday concert on Thursday, Dec. 18 at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium. It is a combined concert that includes the concert band, choral department and orchestra.

Come, enjoy this festive event! Tickets are \$3/adults; \$2 students and senior citizens. Any student who shows their "Gold Card" will be admitted free. Refreshments will be available for sale during intermission.

The following items will also be available that evening to purchase for any last minute shoppers: band/guard blankets \$47; hot/cold mugs \$6; drawstring nylon bags \$10; marching band tshirts \$5 and cowbells \$3.



Younger members of Sacred Heart Church were thanked for their volunteerism by Father John Alvarado during a special Mass recently. Youth participate in many church functions and activities including choir, bell ringers, Sunday mass readers and altar servers.

COACHes Care Donates \$40,000 to JFK Pediatric Neurological Center

Off of the success of the fifth annual sold out golf outing in June, COACHes Care donated 40,000 to JFK Medical Center's Pediatric Neurological & Neuro-Developmental Clinic located on Oak Tree Road. The donation will assist the neurologists in their efforts to diagnose brain tumors in children as well as support these patients in their rehabilitation after surgery. Included in the donation will be the formation of a classroom that will be named the COACHes Care Classroom, after the charity. JFK Foundation President, John G. Nolan Jr. stated, "The financial assistance provided by COACHes

Care will play a vital role in the coming year as our dedicated medical staff continues to work tirelessly for our most vulnerable patients. My sincerest thanks to COACHes Care for all they do for JFK and the children of the greater South Plainfield community."

COACHes Care chairman Tom McCreesh explained the foundation's successful fundraising saying, "We have a group of gentlemen that work year round to make our tournament a special event. Couple that with the tremendous support we receive from our volunteers, golfers and sponsors each year and you have a winning combi-

nation that makes the effort worthwhile. Year after year, South Plainfield and our surrounding towns continue to prove they are great communities to live in, and we are truly blessed to be associated with so many good people." The name COACHes Care includes an acronym standing for Coaches Offering Assistance for Children's Health. Formed in May of 2001 with the goal of helping sick children, the organization has donated over \$200,000 to charitable organizations.

Anyone seeking information about the charity may call (908) 755-8468 or seek out the committee consisting of McCreesh, Tom Lanza, Tony Cassano, Kurt Ullom, Ted Tucker, Tony Cassano, Guy Moretti, Bill DeNitzio and Keith Heckel. The 2009 golf outing is scheduled for June 13 at the Heron Glen Golf Course in Ringoes.

Borough Accepting Snow Plowing Bids

The Borough of South Plainfield is accepting proposals from contractors for snow plowing for the winter season commencing on or around December 22 and ending April 15, 2009.

Trucks utilized must be at least 1996 or newer and have a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight of at least 15,000 pounds.

Those interested may pick up a pro-

posal package from the Municipal Clerk's Office, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Completed packages must be submitted no later than December 22, 2008.

Any questions, please contact Joseph Glowacki, Public Works superintendent, at (908) 755-2187 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

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Community Tree Lighting and Holiday Caroling

The McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals, along with the South Plainfield Recreation Department, invite the entire community to participate in this year's tree lighting and holiday caroling celebration.

On Saturday, Dec. 13 at 4 p.m. the pine tree that stands 85 ft. tall on the front lawn of the funeral home will once again be lit. This will mark the 24th year the tree will be lit in memory of the members of Task Force 3-502 101st Airborne Division who tragically died when their plane crashed in Gander, New Foundland on December 12, 1985 on their way home from a tour of duty.

As part of this year's ceremony, Rick McCriskin of the funeral home and Kevin Hughes of the recreation department, at the suggestion of Assem-

blyman Patrick J. Diegnan, will coordinate the recreation department's annual caroling program along with the funeral home tree lighting ceremony. Orchestrating both events into one town-wide program will provide residents the opportunity to celebrate the holiday season as a community.

Following the tree lighting, mem-

bers of the 101st Airborne Division Color Guard will lead the procession in caroling down Plainfield Avenue to the Senior Center, followed by Santa and the South Plainfield High School traveling choir. Light refreshments will be served at the conclusion.

Everyone is invited to participate and help kick off this year's holiday season.

Homeside Hospice Seeks Volunteers

Homeside Hospice, a nurse-owned, nurse-operated hospice program providing caring, compassionate end-of-life care to patients and their families, needs your help. Can you spare an hour or two a week to provide companionship to someone in need, or

to read to them? No special skill required, just a desire to help, full training provided. Help out your local community! Volunteer opportunities available in Fanwood and Cranford. Contact Julie Verniero, Homeside Hospice, 732-381-3444.

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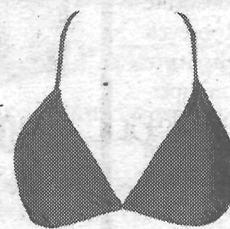
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Sports

SHPS Bowling

By Ralph Fech

Lady Tigers Clobber Monroe... Edged by Carteret and Colonia

SPHS 697-620-605-1922
Colonia 847-880-816-2543

Lyndsey Murtagh rolled games of 177 and 171, but it wasn't enough as the Lady Tigers were jolted by a hot-shooting Colonia squad. Katie Salvatore chipped in with a 161 game.

SPHS 784-785-801-2370
Carteret 1009-789-834-2632

The girls threw a scare into State Group 2 champion Carteret as the Ramblers squeezed out a 4 pin edge in the second game and held off the scrappy Tigers to prevent the upset. Jackie Kukuch led all scorers with 211-226-180 for a sparkling 617 set. Fellow teammates' scores: Gin Curcio 196, Lyndsey Murtagh 180 and Katie Salvatore 175. All turned in solid performances for the Tigers.

SPHS 915-782-782-2479
Monroe 695-631-663-1989

The girls chalked up victory number one as they won all three games and clobbered Monroe. Gina Curcio fired a booming 247 game and 528 set. Lyndsey Murtagh added a 201 and 524. High set honors went to Jackie Kukuch who turned in a solid 187-174-182 for a 543.

Dandola Sizzles... 268 Game... 698 Set, But Tiger Bowlers Fall

SPHS 798-772-759-2329
Colonia 1052-960-992-3004

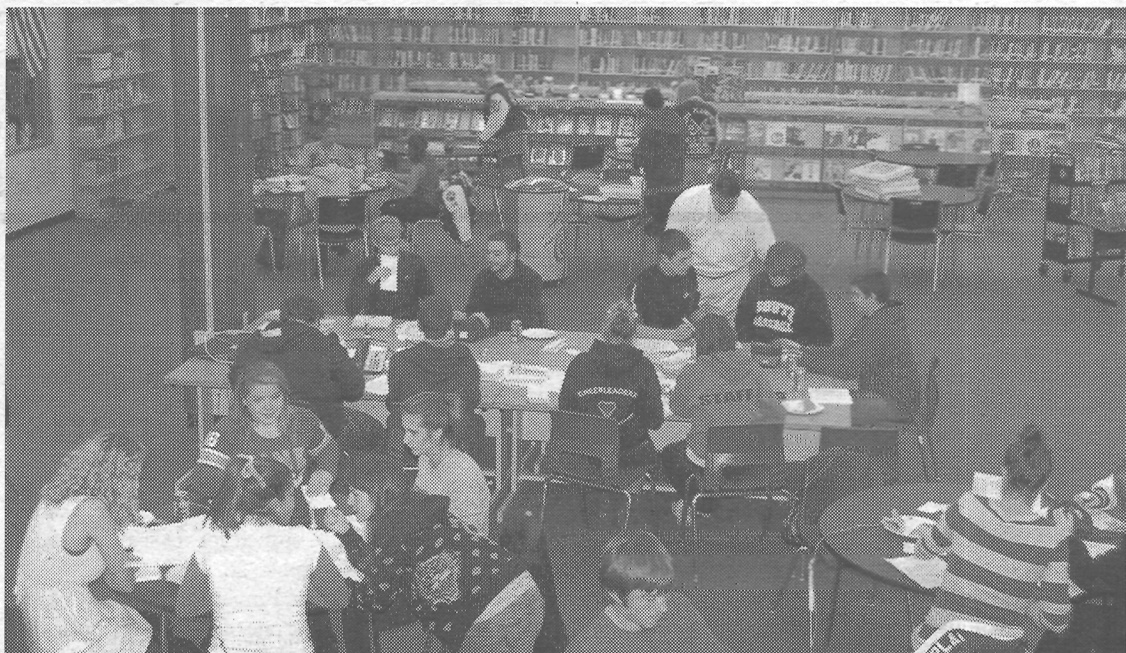
The boys lost their season opener to defending White Division champion Colonia. Senior Captain Mike Dandola led all scorers with games of 224-215-224 for a sparkling 664 high set. Tim Moskal chipped in with a 177 game.

SPHS 786-854-829-2469
Cartaret 941-875-938-2757

Mike Dandola crushed the pocket with games of 193-237-268 for a sizzling 698 high set, but it was not enough to keep the Tigers from falling to a tough Carteret. Tim Moskal added a 183 game and freshman Andrew Yon a 175.

SPHS 918-830-755-2503
Monroe 926-903-851-2680

The young boys team rolled its highest series of the season, but it was not enough as they fell victim to a hot shooting Monroe team. Mike Dandola 236 and Tim Moskal 201 led the Tigers who also received solid support from freshman Nick Kukuch 479 and Andrew Yon with a 460 set.



Student volunteers man the phones during South Plainfield Education Foundation's annual telethon.

Students Garner \$5,585 at Education Telethon

By Patricia Abbott

The South Plainfield Education Foundation, Inc. recently held their 11th annual telethon. On December 1-3 students and foundation members gathered in the high school library. There were nine phone stations set up where teams of three to four students made phone calls and stuffed envelopes. The goal was to solicit donations for the foundation's scholarship program. During the course of the three days approximately 100 students from the National Honor Society, Student Council and other school organizations volunteered their time.

Ten teams competed for prizes. Ralph Errico explained, "During the envelope stuffing portion we awarded scholarship money toward the team that stuffed the most envelopes. During the telethon portion we awarded scholarship money toward the team that received the most pledges for that particular evening."

Hometown Heros donated sandwiches on Monday night. On Tuesday and Wednesday adult volunteers from the Education Foundation, Marge Reedy, Frank Rainear, Charlie and Debbie Kurland, Dr. Fred Ober-

kehr, Rob Richkus, Mike Roughton, Carolyn Allen, Ellen Decker-Lorys, and Michelle Fugazzi provided pizza for the students. The soft drinks, water and paper products were provided by Sodexho Services.

The letters that were mailed to residents requested donations or confirmed telephone donations. They read, "The South Plainfield Education Foundation plays a significant role in supporting our students through various programs. In our 11 year history, we have provided over 100 scholarships in excess of \$200,000, \$125,000 in endowments, \$31,500 for curriculum programs, \$18,000 for academic incentive programs such as the Gold Card and \$30,000 in school equipment. The South Plainfield Education Foundation also coordinates scholarships sponsored by individuals, businesses and other organizations in the community."

Foundation President Marge Reedy said, "The foundation truly appreciates the response over the years from the community of South Plainfield. Without this fundraiser, we would have limited funds for scholarships and to provide incentive programs in the district such as the Gold Card at the high school. I would also like to mention some people to thank... Sodexho services for providing the soda and water and paper products each night for the food; CMF Business Supplies for the glue sticks; Russ Mattoon and Ralph Errico for all their help with the setup of the telethon; Presto Printing

for donating the printing of the raffle tickets and for printing all of our supplies for the telethon; all the members of the foundation for all their help; and finally, the students at the high school for donating their time."

As of presstime \$5,585 had been pledged during the three-day telethon. This does not include donations that may result from the letters mailed to residents who do not have students in the district.

The telethon was initiated by the late Emil Leporino, who founded the education foundation in 1994.

Foundation Board of Directors are Marjorie Reedy-president, Frank Rainear-vice president, Robert Richkus-education VP, Ken LaFreniere-treasurer, Carolyn Allen-secretary. Members are Ellen Decker-Lorys, Ralph Errico, Michelle Fugazzi, Shannon Jeffreys, Robert Jones, Charles Kurland, Frank Mikorski, Jose Negron, Dr. Frederick Oberkehr and Mike Roughton.

If you or your business or organization wishes to sponsor a memorial scholarship, please call Marjorie Reedy at (908) 561-5800, ext. 302 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. or call (908) 561-3951. The foundation says, "We thank you for your concern and support of the young people in South Plainfield. Your gift confirms the importance of the South Plainfield Education Foundation's objective to support programs that 'encourage good citizenship and academic excellence'."

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If you want to keep up with what's going on in South Plainfield, there's no better time than now to beat the 2009 rate increase. Our current \$25 subscription rate has been in effect since 1997. Due to postal increases over the past 11 years, we will be increasing our subscription rate to \$29.95; out-of-town \$34.95. New rates go in effect January 1, so call now (908-668-0010) to beat the price increase for \$25 to the #1 news source for South Plainfield and get the best of South Plainfield delivered to your home every week.

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Sports



Three South Plainfield High School seniors played in the North Jersey All-Star Field Hockey game at Montclair State University on December 7. Cathy Krawiec, Kaleigh White and Kara Thomas were chosen from the high school varsity field hockey team to represent Middlesex County and South Plainfield High in a field hockey event sponsored by the New Jersey Field Hockey Association. Despite the frigid conditions and a few snow showers the girls played their best and tied the opposing team 1-1. The tying score was made during the last few seconds of the game making it even more exciting and a great way to finish the girls winning season.

By Gary Lampasona

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

Spring Registration: We have completed our final registration this year for the 2009 Spring baseball season. But it's not too late to avoid a \$20 fee for late registration. You can download the registration forms from our Web site at www.leaguelineup.com/spjbc and mail it directly to the address on the form. Any registration received

before January 1, 2009 will not incur a \$20 late fee. Be sure to include a copy of your child's birth certificate if they are new to the SPJBC. We cannot identify team needs and schedules for the season until we complete registration.

Sign Sponsors: Become a sign sponsor with the SPJBC. This is a great way to attract local patrons to your business. Your name in front of thousands of local residents—just download the forms from our Web site or contact Gary Rohrer at (908) 380-3346 for more information.



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County Ice Skating Rink Opens

Middlesex County's popular Roosevelt Park Family Ice Skating Rink opened for its sixth season on November 26.

"The Family Ice Skating Rink has become one of our most popular venues, welcoming more than 18,000 skaters last season alone," said Middlesex County Deputy Freeholder Director Stephen J. "Pete" Dalina. "We believe this is the perfect place to spend quality family time, and our residents apparently agree."

The rink is located at the Level Playing Fields Complex inside Roosevelt Park, which is adjacent to Menlo Park Mall in Edison.

Accredited group and private lessons are available. The rink is available for birthday parties and private events. Call (732) 494-3785 for information and reservations.

Hours of operation are Wednesday through Friday from 5-9 p.m.; Saturday and holidays from noon to 4 p.m. and 5 to 9 p.m. and on Sunday from noon to 3 p.m. and 4 to 7 p.m. The rink is closed on Monday, Tuesday, and Christmas Day.

Per session admission is \$5 for adults and \$4 for senior citizens and children 17 and under. Discounts are available for multi-session passes and groups.

For more information or to book an event, call (732) 494-3785 or visit www.co.middlesex.nj.us.

The South Plainfield Elks Veterans Committee is selling the ENTERTAINMENT BOOK for \$25.
Contact Lou Peralta at 908-756-6406.



2008 LBI PRESIDENT'S CUP CHAMPIONS—Sea-Oaks, Stone Harbor and Harbor Pines were the host for the grueling two-day 63-hole President's Cup event. The champions squeezed out a 46-35 victory as they successfully defended the cup. Pictured (L-R) are Tom Casavant, Charles Woodhull, Fred Behr, Frank Cirigliano, Douglas Graham, Lenny Padula, Bill Lane, Joe Sosnak, Fred Behr, Bill Schulte and Jack Kudrick. Kneeling is Ralph Fech.

Wrestling

By Joe Sacco

Recreation Wrestlers Crown Four Champs

This past weekend the South Plainfield Recreation Wrestling team participated in both the Bridgewater Novice and Bridgewater Battle for the Belt wrestling tournaments.

In the novice division, the young Tigers struck gold winning four championships. Taking home first place medals were Jordan Hamberg, Luke Niemeyer, Ryan Duhamel and Ryan Stankan. In second place were: Marcus Czarrunchick, Mitchell McKee, Anthony Massaro, Joseph Anesh, Peter Marotta, Ryan Marston and Richard Marcovechio. Third place finishes went to Cody Hunterton, Joey Walker, Xavier Santos and Anthony Pen-

yak. Fourth place finishers were Dominic Faustini, Gabriel Painton, Harrison Anesh, Tommy Sikanowicz and Darius Mullens.

South Plainfield sent a team of 11 wrestlers to Bridgewater's Battle for the Belt. This is one of New Jersey's most highly regarded tournaments with wrestlers coming from as far away as Kentucky to participate.

Joey Heilmann was the lone medal winner for South Plainfield, bringing home the bronze. Joey went 3-1 scoring a pin, a 13-0 major decision and a 6-0 decision enroute to his third place finish.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
ORDINANCE 1840
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:
Ord. No. 1840 entitled: AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE LICENSING AND REGULATION OF CHARITABLE CLOTHING BINS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF NEW JERSEY STATUTE 40:48-2.60, ET SEQ. was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, December 12, 2008, and that a public hearing be scheduled for Monday, December 22, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.
ORDINANCE NO. 1840
AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE LICENSING AND REGULATION OF CHARITABLE CLOTHING BINS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF NEW JERSEY STATUTE 40:48-2.60, ET SEQ.
WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has enacted N.J.S.A. 40:48-2.60, et seq., which provides that effective January 1, 2009, no person or entity can place a charitable clothing bin in a municipality without obtaining a permit and complying with certain provisions as set forth therein; and
WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield wishes to enact the appropriate procedures and regulations pursuant to the Statute so that charitable clothing bins can be located within the municipality;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that a new chapter shall be created for inclusion within the Code of the Borough of South Plainfield to be titled "Charitable Clothing Bins" to be as set forth as follows:
SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS. As used in this Chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings as indicated:
SOLICITATION/SOLICIT-The request, directly or indirectly, for money, credit, property, financial assistance, or any other thing of any kind of value. It shall include, but not be limited to the use or employment of canisters, cards, receptacles or similar devices for the collection of money or other thing of value. A solicitation shall take place whether or not the person making the solicitation receives any contribution.
APPROPRIATE MUNICIPAL AGENCY—Office of the Municipal Clerk.
CLOTHING BIN—Any enclosed receptacle or container made of metal, steel or similar product and designed or intended for the donation and temporary storage of clothing or other material.

SECTION 2 - REQUIREMENTS FOR PLACEMENT, USE OF CLOTHING BIN FOR SOLICITATION PURPOSES.
A. No person shall place, use or employ a donation clothing bin for solicitation purposes unless all of the following requirements are met:
1. The person has obtained a permit, valid for one year, from the appropriate municipal agency in accordance with the following:
a. In applying for such permit, the person shall include the location where the bin should be situated as precisely as possible; the manner in which the person anticipates any clothing or other donations collected via the bin would be used, sold or disbursed, and the method by which the proceeds of the collected donations would be allocated or spent; the name and telephone number of the bona fide office of any person or entity which may share or profit from any clothing or other donations collected by the bin; and written consent from the property owner to place the bin on his/her property.
b. The appropriate municipal agency shall not grant an application for a permit to place, use or employ a donation clothing bin if it determines that the placement of the bin could constitute a safety hazard. Such hazards shall include, but not be limited to the placement of a donation clothing bin within 100 yards of any place which stores large amounts of, or sells fuel or other flammable liquids or gases.
c. The appropriate municipal agency shall collect a fee for each application in the amount of \$25.00 to offset costs of enforcing this law.
d. An expiring permit for a donation clothing bin may be renewed upon application for renewal and payment of the \$25.00 fee. Any such application for renewal shall include the location where the bin is situated as precisely as possible, and if the person intends to move it, the new location where the bin would be situated after the renewal is granted, and written consent from the property owner to place the bin on his/her property; the manner in which the person has used, sold or disbursed any clothing or other donations collected by the bin, the method by which the proceeds of collected donations have been allocated or spent, and any changes the person anticipates they may make in these processes during

the period covered by the renewal; and the name and telephone number of the bona fide office of any entity or person which shared or profited by any clothing or other donations collected by the bin, and of any entities or person which may do so during the period covered by renewal.
e. The permit number and its date of expiration shall be clearly and conspicuously displayed on the exterior of the donation clothing bin, in addition to the information required in paragraph (d) of this Section.
2. The person and any other entity which may share or profit from any clothing or other donations collected by the bin, shall maintain a bona fide office where a representative of the person or other entity, respectively, can be reached at a telephone information line during normal business hours for the purpose of offering information concerning the person or other entity. An answering machine or service unrelated to the person does not constitute a bona fide office.
3. The following information must clearly and conspicuously be displayed on the exterior of the donation clothing bin:
a. The name and address of the registered person that owns the bin and of any other entity which may share or profit from any clothing or other donations collected by the bin;
b. The telephone number of the person's bona fide office, and if applicable, the telephone number of the bona fide office of any other entity which may share or profit from the clothing or donations;
c. In cases when any entity other than the person who owns the bin may share the profit from any clothing or donations, a notice, written in a clear and easily understandable manner, indicating that clothing or other donations collected by the bin, a notice, written in a clear and easily understandable manner indicating that clothing or other donations collected by the bin, their proceeds, or both, may be shared, or given entirely to an entity other than the person owning the bin, and identifying all such entities which share such donations; and
d. A statement, consistent with the information provided by the appropriate municipal agency in the most recent permit or renewal application pursuant to subparagraph (a) of paragraph 1, indicating the manner in which the person anticipates any clothing or other donations collected

by the bin would be used, sold or disbursed, and the method by which the proceeds of collected donations would be allocated or spent.
SECTION 3 - RECEIPT, INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED RELATIVE TO DONATION CLOTHING BIN.
A. The appropriate municipal agency within the municipality in which a clothing bin has been placed shall receive and investigate, within 30 days, any complaints from the public about the bin. Whenever it appears to the appropriate municipal agency that a person has engaged in or is engaging in any act or practice in violation of this Chapter, the person who placed the bin shall be issued a warning stating that if the violation is not rectified or a hearing with the appropriate municipal agency is not requested within 45 days, the bin will be seized or removed at the expense of the person who placed the bin, and any clothing or other donations collected will be sold at auction or otherwise disposed. In addition to any other means used to notify the person who placed the bin, such warning shall be affixed to the exterior of the bin itself. If the person who placed the bin does not rectify the violation or request a hearing within 45 days of the posting of the warning, the appropriate municipal agency may seize the bin, remove it, or have it removed at the expense of the person who placed the bin, and sell it at public auction or otherwise dispose of any clothing or other donations collected via the bin. Any proceeds from the sale of the donations collected shall be paid to the financial officer of the municipality.
SECTION 4 - ADDITIONAL PENALTIES AND REMEDIES.
A. In addition to any other penalties or remedies authorized by the laws of this State, anyone found in violation of this Chapter, which results in seizure of the donation clothing bin shall be:
1. Subject to a penalty of up to \$20,000.00 for each violation. The appropriate municipal agency may bring the action in the Municipal Court or Superior Court as a summary proceeding pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2A:58-10, et seq., and any penalty funds collected shall be paid to the Chief Financial Officer of the municipality; and
2. Be deemed ineligible to place, use or employ a donation clothing bin for solicitation purposes pursuant to this Chapter. A person disqualified from placing, using or employing a donation clothing bin by violating the provisions of this Chapter may apply to the appropriate municipal agency to have the eligibility restored. The appropriate municipal

agency may restore the eligibility of a person who acts within the public interest and demonstrates that he/she made a good faith effort to comply with the provisions of this Chapter and other applicable laws and regulations, or had no fraudulent intentions.
This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with New Jersey law.
ATTEST:
Joann Graf/Acting Municipal Clerk
\$311.00 December 12, 2008
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1838
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:
Ord. No. 1838 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1754 CONCERNING THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL LAND KNOWN AS LOT 362, LOT 6.01 IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD OF AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A CORRECTIVE DEED was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Monday, December 8, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.
ATTEST:
Joann Graf/Acting Municipal Clerk
\$28.50 December 12, 2008
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
ORDINANCE 1839
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:
Ord. No. 1839 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #1701 ENTITLED: AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD AND THE METHOD OF PAYMENT OF SUCH COMPENSATION FOR THE YEARS 2009 THROUGH 2011 was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Monday, December 8, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.
ATTEST:
Joann Graf/Acting Municipal Clerk
\$28.50 December 12, 2008

Obituaries

Victor Gualano, 86

Victor Gualano died on Thursday, Dec. 4 at Trinitas Hospital in Elizabeth.

Born in Cetraro, Italy, he came to the United States on Columbus Day at the age of 12. He lived in Elizabeth before settling in Roselle Park in 1959.

Victor served in the U.S. Army in World War II in England and Belgium as a telephone switchboard operator from 1943 until his honorable discharge in 1946. He received the World War II Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal, EAME Campaign Medal, as well as an American Campaign Medal.

He graduated from Jefferson High School in 1942 and was awarded a full scholarship to Columbia University, where he earned both a bachelor of arts and masters of arts degree. In 1952, Victor and his wife, Nora, did a tour working for the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in Paris, under U.S. Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr. Upon returning to the United States, he became an English teacher at Thomas Jefferson High School and later at Elizabeth High School, as well as the Jewish Educational Center in Elizabeth. A dedicated teacher, he spent most of his life, before and after his retirement, pursuing first amendment rights, especially related to students. He retired from teaching in 1994 at the age of 72.

Victor served as president of the Elizabeth Teachers Union and was formerly president of the Italian American Club of the Saint Benedict Society in Elizabeth. He was also a devout member of the Church of Assumption in Roselle Park.

Victor loved New York City and would often take the bus to New York to visit his favorite sights—The United Nations, New York Public Library, Central Park and the Museum of National History just to name a few.

He is survived by his loving wife Nora (Ray); four children, Victor Raymond Gualano of Roselle Park, Paul Gualano of Cranford, Meg Hunsicker of South Plainfield and Christopher Gualano and wife Alice of Maple Shade; two sisters, Rose Caruso and husband Augustine of Annandale and Pauline Campo and husband Angelo of Union and five grandchildren, Kristen and Christopher R. Gualano, Michael and Michelle Gualano and Lindsay Hunsicker.

Funeral services were held at Dooley Funeral Home in Cranford.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Victor's name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tenn. 38105 or by phone (800) 805-5856.

Garrett "Gary" S. Goldsack, 50

Garrett "Gary" S. Goldsack died suddenly on Tuesday, Dec. 2 in Scotch Plains.

Born in Plainfield, he grew up in South Plainfield. Gary resided in Avenel for a short time and Toms River for 20 years before returning to South Plainfield.

For over 30 years, Gary owned and operated a landscaping businesses. In addition, he also drove oil and gas trucks for various local Central Jersey companies.

He had a love for baseball. He was a dedicated Yankees fan and coached, managed and even served as president of the Toms River East Little League. He enjoyed plants, woodworking and being a jack-of-all-trades.

Gary was predeceased by his mother, Joan (Stevens) Goldsack.

He is survived by three children, Garrett II and wife Jennifer of Branchburg, Kristen Goldsack of Toms River and Kimberly Tsucalas and husband Matthew of Island Heights; his father, Robert of Nashua, N.H.; a grandson, Matthew Tsucalas II; eight siblings, Robert and wife Diana, Wendy and husband George Robel, Scott and wife Kris, Karen and husband Mark LeFebvre, Kimberly and husband Kevin O'Neill, Doug and wife Justine, Lori and husband Larry Viola and Keith and wife Sara.

He also leaves behind the brother he chose, Tim Curran; 18 nieces and nephews and his dog, Hershey.

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

Anne Knuths, 90

Anne Knuths passed away on Friday, Nov. 21 at the New York Presbyterian Hospital.

Born in St. Louis, Mo., she grew up on a farm in Lowville, N.Y. and was a longtime resident of South Plainfield.

Mrs. Knuths worked at Gilbert Plastics in Somerset for 23 years. She was an active member with the South Plainfield Senior Citizens and an active member and communicant of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church.

She was predeceased by her loving husband Paul, who passed away in 1983; a daughter, Barbara Ann Appling; a brother, Joseph Kozak and her parents, Michael and Theodora Kozak.

Surviving are two daughters, Sharon Suleski and husband James and Susan Czarnik and husband Michael, both of South Plainfield; a son, Paul Knuths of Newark; 10 grandchildren, Christopher and wife Carrie, Ryan, Scott, Justin, Kyle, Hunter, Rosemarie and husband Lenny, Robin and husband Peter, James and Holly; four great-grandchildren Nora, Mallory, Michael and Amber; two brothers, John Kozak of South Plainfield and Frank Kozak of Toms River and three sisters, Mary Szpiech of West Orange, Stephanie Kozak of West Orange and Julie Skryha of Clark.

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

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Anne's name to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, 28 Kennedy Blvd., #180, East Brunswick, N.J. 08816.

Lena Serpe, 91

Lena Serpe of Carteret passed away on Monday, Dec. 1 at home.

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

Antonio J. Sarnicola, 88

Antonio J. Sarnicola died on Friday, Dec. 5 at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born and raised in Long Island City, he resided in Jackson Heights, Queens for many years before moving to South Plainfield in 1986.

A World War II veteran, Antonio served in the Army where he was awarded the Purple Heart. For nearly 30 years he worked for the United States Postal Service in Long Island City as a postal worker.

An avid Yankees fan, Mr. Sarnicola had a great love for life. He enjoyed working around the house and tending to his garden. He was proud of his Italian heritage but his greatest pleasure in life was the devotion to his family. Antonio was a dear husband, father, grandfather and a great friend to many people—old and young—and was notorious for his signature "unlit" cigar which he always carried.

He was predeceased by the love of his life, Fonda, who died in 1987; a daughter, Ann Sarnicola, who died in 1964 and two sisters, Grace LaVolpa and Angie Caldera.

Surviving are three loving children and their spouses, Camille Deutsch and husband David of South Plainfield, Frank and wife Judy of West Milford and Anthony and wife Regina of Manhattan; a sister, Eleanor Bedell of Middle Village, N.Y.; two brothers, Teddy Sarnicola and wife Dolores of Bayshore, N.Y. and Vinnie Sarnicola and wife Joan of East Stroudsburg, Pa.; six adoring grandchildren, Benjamin Deutsch, Jaclyn Polyniak and husband Douglas, Jennifer Painter and husband Jim, Jessica and Madeleine Sarnicola and Gene Roos.

In addition, also surviving is Dolores Rapatski, his longtime dear friend.

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

George Niemczyk, 83

George Niemczyk died peacefully on Friday, Dec. 5 at his home in Edison.

Born and raised in South Plainfield, George resided in the borough for most of his life before settling in Edison several years ago.

A veteran of WWII, he served in the U.S. Navy from 1942-1945 aboard PT boats in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans before being honorably discharged.

He was the former owner and operator of George's Cleaners and Formalwear in South Plainfield.

He was a life member of the South Plainfield Polish National Home, where he served with the utmost dedication to the club in numerous positions for most of his life, including president for two terms and vice president.

George was also a former member of the South Plainfield Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Post #6763 and the American Legion Chaumont Post #243. In addition he served faithfully for many years as an announcer and worker at The Feast of St. Anthony at Our Lady of Czestochowa Church.

He was predeceased by seven brothers and two sisters.

He is survived by a sister, Lee Allerton; 16 nephews; six nieces and numerous great-nieces and nephews.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the St. Jude's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Way, Memphis, Tenn. 38105.

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Rosanne J. (DeAndrea)-Cucurello, 87

Rosanne J. (DeAndrea) Cucurello died on Saturday, Dec. 6 at Riverview Medical Center in Red Bank.

Born in Plainfield, Mrs. Cucurello resided in South Plainfield for most of her life, and for the past 12 years she lived in Plainfield.


She worked for the Boroughs Corp. in Piscataway for several years, retiring in 1983 and recently was honored by the Mayor of South Plainfield for her contribution to the war effort as an authentic Rosie the Riveter.

A member of the Suburban Woman's Club in South Plainfield, Mrs. Cucurello held various officer positions and also served as past president. In addition, she was a member of the South Plainfield Senior Citizens and Sacred Heart RC Church.

She was predeceased by her husband, Daniel J., who died in 1986; a son, Donald J., who died in 2003 and two brothers, Alfred DeAndrea, Sr. and Vincent DeAndrea, Sr.

Surviving are two daughters, Nancy Jo Cucurello of Jersey City and Barbara DeSantis and husband Dino of Brick; a sister, Louise Petrella of Florida and a brother, Joe DeAndrea Sr. and wife Rose also of Florida; a sister-in-law, Lydia DeAndrea of Metuchen; three grandchildren, Amanda Beattie and husband John, Thomas Delaney and wife Denise and Nicholas Cucurello and wife Denise. Also surviving are five great-grandchildren, Jordan, Jacqueline, Michael, Jack and Danielle.

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



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Romuldo "Ray" Tomei

December 13, 1993
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Budget Audit Reveals Surplus

By Libby Barsky

For the third year in a row the annual audit of the districts' school budget showed a surplus. The audit was conducted this year by Vincent Montanino of VM Associates of Mt. Arlington.

According to Business Administrator Richard Guarini, \$874,000 in surplus will be returned to the taxpayer as tax relief in the 2008/2009 budget.

According to State Law 1701, a school district's surplus cannot exceed two percent of their total budget. Any amount over two percent is returned to the taxpayer as tax relief.

In the 2005/2006 budget the excess surplus was \$78,384.33. In the 2006/2007 the surplus amount was \$654,445.88.

The 2007/2008 balance sheet

showed \$6,797,841.63 for total liabilities and fund balances compared to 2006/2007 fund balance of \$2,835,693. The increases were the result of adding a \$170,000 maintenance reserve account, \$1,552,736 for a capital reserve account and \$2,522,900 designated for subsequent year's expenditures.

According to BOE Member Debbie Boyle, the board is currently overseeing the complete replacement of the high school gym bleachers at a cost of approximately \$360,000. New fire panels are also going up in the high school on the recommendation of the fire department. They were often summoned when the existing panels caused school fire alarms to go off needlessly, and fined the board since they had to respond to an excess of false alarms.



South Plainfield Junioresettes sellings pins at Wesley Methodist craft fair.

Junioresettes Sell Pins at Wesley Methodist Craft Fair

On November 22 the South Plainfield Junioresettes sold a variety of pins at the Wesley Methodist craft fair. Unique pins designed by Lucinda were sold to benefit Foster and Adoptive Family Services. This organization assists foster and adoptive children in New Jersey. Gifts are also provided to these children during the holidays through the agency.

In addition, Family Promise Children's Art Pins were sold to benefit

Family Promise, an organization that aids homeless children. The Junioresettes would like to thank Wesley Methodist Church for allowing them to sell their pins. The Junioresettes are currently coordinating a book drive through the high school, the middle school, as well as Kennedy, Roosevelt, Riley and Franklin schools.

Students may drop off books in the main office until January 30. Any and all books will be accepted.

Pay Hike

(Continued from page 1)

2009 Salary	
Administrator	\$20,750
Municipal Clerk	\$18,675
Chief Financial Officer ...	\$122,006
Tax Collector	\$26,845
Tax Assessor	\$116,820
Environmental Specialist .	\$62,509
Recycling Coordinator	\$4,899
OEM Coordinator	\$22,809
Fire Official	\$74,446
Superintendent of	
Public Works	\$113,402
Social Service Director	\$63,141
Executive Director	
Office on Aging	\$69,797
Construction Officer	\$98,956
Court Administrator	\$63,288
Recreation Director	\$68,756
Pool Administrator	\$8,443
Mayor	\$8,930
Council President	\$7,143
Councilperson	\$5,953
Borough Attorney	\$11,503
Municipal Prosecutor	\$43,359
Public Defender	\$8,266
Planning Board Attorney	\$8,679
Zoning Board Attorney	\$8,679
Municipal Court Judge	\$48,639
Housing Assistance	\$6,601
Deputy Registrar	\$1,382
Secretary to Mayor	\$1,551
DVRT Coordinator	\$5,188
Building Maintenance	
Worker	\$19,194

Help Darfur Now Students

(Continued from page 1)

from soccer), that he was interested in joining the group. Annie invited him to attend HDN meetings at the high school. Currently Harnell is in the process of creating a Help Darfur Now Middle School chapter.

"I planned a presentation at the middle school and did it at the end of last year. This year I joined the executive committee. I'm starting the group in the middle school this year. We had one meeting and will be doing more," said Harnell.

On December 10 members of HDN held a special fundraiser asking students to use their lunch money and forgo a meal so they could collect funds to be used to provide solar cookers to refugees at the Oure Cassoni Refugee Camp.

Firewood is crucial for cooking in the camp. When the women leave the camp to forage for wood, they often are attacked and raped. The solar cookers would allow each family to use much less fuel. The women will also be shown how to care for the cooker and also how to manufacture one.

The group operates with the guidance of a teacher and an executive board without a president, vice president or secretary. There are approximately 40 members who are guided by the executive committee. The executive committee has created fundraising activities such as t-shirt competitions and a rock concert with four local bands at the PAL. They are currently plan-

ning another rock concert in the spring.

Members of the executive committee are Matthew Brazz, Allison Clawans, Sean Coffey, Lynn Do, Kerri Gould, Cory Harnell, Holly McDede, Krishna Patel, Annie Polanco Susan Tian and Julie Tran.

EWA Performing Study on New Truck Route

(Continued from page 1)

still have an effect on the wetlands with "noise, vibration and diesel emissions from rumbling trucks." He said he wants to fully examine the route "to quantify potential impacts" and wants even less, or no, impact whatsoever on the swamp. The route that the committee has come up with will extend Hollywood Avenue, skirt the Kenneth Avenue recycling center and connect with Metuchen Road.

The EWA's report should be produced within the next week or two, according to Spiegel, who intends to bring his proposal to the ad hoc committee at the January meeting. Ad hoc committee chairman Mike English said the group is willing to make adjustments to address EWA's concerns. The next step the committee will face with any new truck route would be applying to the N.J. Department of Transportation for permits.

The next meeting of the ad hoc truck committee is Tuesday, Dec. 16 at the senior center at 7 p.m.

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policereport

• On Dec. 2 Simone P. Blount, 24, of Avenel was arrested for failure to inspect and an outstanding warrant.

• A Martin Drive resident reported the theft of a 2000 Honda Civic.

• On Dec. 5 Shop Fair Supermarket on Clinton Avenue reported that a woman shoplifted several Milky Way bars and left the store.

• A Rocky Mount, N.C. resident reported the theft of \$300 from their locked hotel room at Best Western on New World Way.

Classified Advertising Works.

Deadline to place an ad is Monday, 5 p.m. Rates: \$15 for three lines; \$1 for each additional line. Run an ad 4 consecutive issues, get 10% discount.

WEB SPECIAL

PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD & WE'LL RUN YOUR AD ON OUR WEB SITE FOR JUST \$5.

Classifieds

Deadline to place an ad: Monday, 5 p.m. Rates: \$15 for three lines; \$1 for each additional line. Run your ad 4 consecutive issues, get 10% discount.

HELP WANTED

HOLIDAY EMPLOYMENT

HoneyBaked Ham Co., Watchung seeks sales clerks and food prep people. Flex. hrs. Ask for Mgr. 908-755-3524.

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.

FOR SALE

LIFT CHAIR-LIGHT BROWN, electric Lazy Boy type chair. Good condition. \$300. (908) 755-3320.

HOME FURNISHINGS FOR SALE

BED-\$219 QUEEN PILLOW TOP mattress set, new in plastic w/warranty. King \$375. (732) 259-0016.

MATTRESS-\$175 FULL PLUSH TOP set, new still in plastic. Queen \$195. (732) 259-6690.

To Place a Classified
Call (908) 668-0010

APARTMENT FOR RENT

SO. PLFD.-2 BDR, 2.5 BATH, LIV. room, kit., din. rm., washer/dryer. Call (908) 754-7143 or (908) 202-1585.

2 BDR IN 2 FAMILY HOME-\$1250+ utilities. Basement, washer/dryer. Central air. (908) 222-1510.

SO. PLAINFIELD ONE BEDROOM-recently renovated, second floor, \$850+ utilities. Call Frank (908) 295-9336.

SOUTH PLFD.-NEWLY RENOVATED one bedroom, washer/dryer connection. Central air. \$1,050 month, 1½ month security. Call (908) 668-0061.

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HOUSECLEANER - GOOD REFERENCES. 12 years exp. Home, apartments, office. Call (732) 672-1211.

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Affordable Price.**
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WE WILL HAUL AWAY FOR FREE anything made of metal you do not want-washing machines, dryers, A/C units, lawn mowers, cars, etc. Get rid of your junk laying around... **AT NO CHARGE.** Call Tim (908) 208-2413.

Great Deal!

Place a classified ad and we'll run your ad on our web site for just \$5 more.

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Turn Your Trash Into Cash!

Advertise your garage sale in the Observer.

Call 908-668-0010

South Plainfield
Observer

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL/SERVICES

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Pick up or Deliv., Mon. thru Sat

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20 Years Experience

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- Retail Stores
- Schools and Churches

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CAMBRIA, GMC
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Ask for Tony

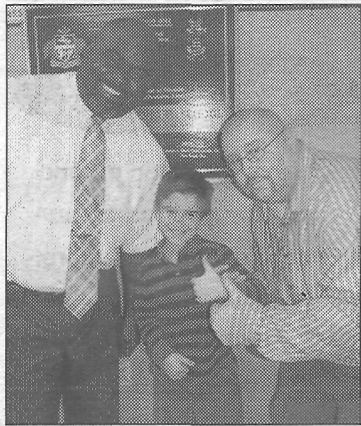
The Season's Here... Are You Ready?
"Come See What We Have to Offer"
We Will Not Be Under Sold

New & Pre-Owned Trucks, Priced to Go...
Mason Dumps, Grain Dumps, Hooklift
Dumps, Landscape Trucks & Box Trucks

IN-HOUSE FINANCE ALSO AVAILABLE

2008-09
JUNIOR JOURNALIST

Heilmann Named Junior Journalist



Junior Journalist winner Joseph Heilmann with Roosevelt School Principal, Charles Ford, and his teacher, Michael Bertram.

Joseph Heilmann, Roosevelt School third grader, is this week's winner in the 2008-09 Junior Journalist program for his poem, "Thanks." His efforts have earned him dinner for his family courtesy of Hometown Heros.

Students are encouraged to submit their original written works to their teachers, school principals, Home-

town Heros on Hamilton Blvd. or the *Observer* at 1110 Hamilton Blvd.

Winners receive a catered dinner for their families from Hometown Heros and will be honored at a year-end banquet in May 2009, where they will be recognized for their efforts. Junior Journalist winners also have the opportunity to win the Ruth Kurland Memorial \$1,000 savings bond which will be awarded at the banquet.

For more information, call the *Observer* at (908) 668-0010 or Hometown Heros at (908) 755-4376.

Thanks

By Joseph Heilmann

I am thankful for my soul
Because if we were not living right now
We wouldn't feel this wonderful
moment in our lives.
Friendship, love, freedom, and peace!
Thank God for all of
our wonderful times.
Feel the shining sunlight of heaven.
Love each other.
Take care of each other
like gleaming stars in the sky.

LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Award of Bids

Pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law of New Jersey, be advised that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield awarded contracts for the Turf Field project at their public meeting on December 8, 2008. By Resolution # 338, the governing body awarded contracts to the lowest responsible bidders as certified by the Borough's professional consultant and Borough Attorney. The companies receiving contracts are as follows:

- Contract #1 - Site Work:** Defino Contracting,
28 Industrial Drive, Cliffwood Beach, NJ 07735
Total Base Bid - \$258,690.00
- Contract #2 - Landscaping:** Silver Creek Landscaping
107 Clarke Ave, S. Plainfield, NJ 07080
Total Base Bid - \$224,422.18
- Contract #3 - Fencing:** Statewide Fence
444 South Ave. East, Westfield, NJ 07090
Total Base Bid - \$78,122.95
- Contract #4 - Artificial Turf:** A-Turf, Inc.
715 Fountain Ave, Lancaster, PA 17601
Total Base Bid - \$561,800.00
- Contract #5 - Bleachers:** Dant Clayton
2000 Richardson Rd., Westminster, MD 21158
Total Base Bid - \$56,330.00

ATTEST:
Joann Graf/Acting Municipal Clerk
\$66.50

December 12, 2008

Hot Christmas Dinner
to any elderly or disabled person
residing in South Plainfield.

*We will deliver to your home on
Christmas Day at no charge.
If you would like dinner or know of
someone who is need of dinner.*

CONTACT:
Shirley Thompson
131 Montrose Ave., South Plainfield
(908) 756-7686

Call between 10-12 Monday through
Friday by December 19.

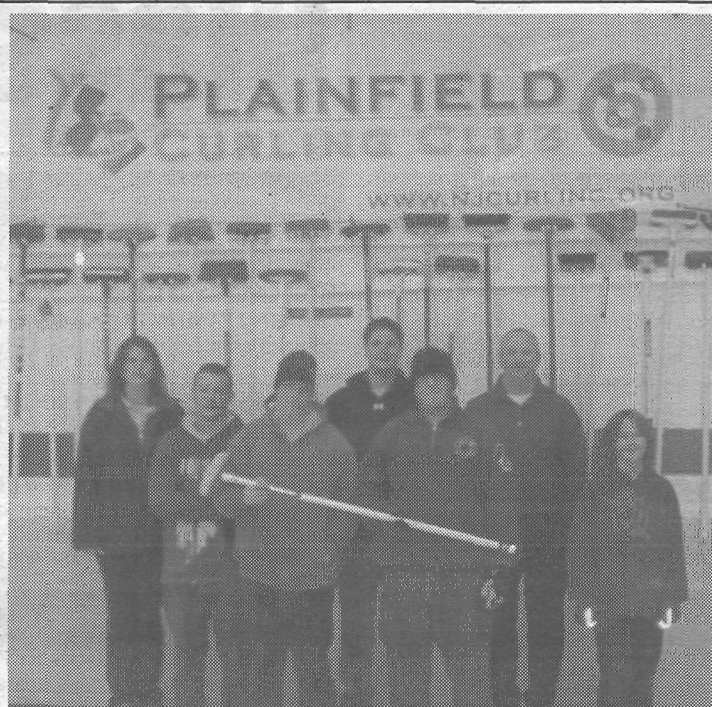
2008-09 Junior Journalist Winner



Congratulations!

Charlie and Debbie Kurland deliver dinner to Junior Journalist winner Nicholas Pezzolla with mom, Margaret; sister, Annie; and dad, Joe; .

2008-09
JUNIOR JOURNALIST



Members of Boy Scout Troop 207 learn the sport of curling from members of the Plainfield Curling Club in South Plainfield. If you would like to learn more about scouting and our troop, please come visit us on Thursdays from 7:30-9:00 p.m. at South Plainfield American Legion Post #243 on Oak Tree Avenue.



LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

Request for Proposals for SNOW PLOWING CONTRACTORS

The Borough of South Plainfield is accepting proposals from Contractors for Snow Plowing for the winter season commencing on or around December 22, 2008 and ending April 15, 2008. Trucks utilized must be at least 1996 or newer and have a Manufacturer's Gross Vehicle Weight of at least 15,000 pounds. Those interested may pick up a Proposal Package from the Municipal Clerk's Office, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Completed packages must be submitted no later than December 22, 2008.

Any questions, please contact Joseph Glowacki, Public Works Superintendent, at 908-755-2187 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

ATTEST:
Joann Graf/Acting Municipal Clerk
\$33.25

December 12, 2008

What's best for your business?

According to a National Newspaper Association survey, local community newspapers are the primary source of information for both news and advertising in local communities by a 5-1 margin over the next most popular media. Enough said?

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The Observer**

The Local News Source

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South Plainfield since 1997*

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE 1841

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

Ord. No. 1841 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 157 OF THE CODE OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, ENTITLED "SEWERS" was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, December 12, 2008, and that a public hearing be scheduled for Monday, December 22, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ORDINANCE NO. 1841

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 157 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED "SEWERS"

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

the following be and is hereby amended as follows:

Schedule A

Annual Sewer Rental - 2009

(Effective for bill periods beginning January 1, 2009)

This Schedule A hereby establishes three (3) sewer user classes under this ordinance as follows:

- (1) Residential structures
 - (1A) Residential structures \$275.00 per service unit
 - (1B) Residential structures reduced rate: \$137.50 per service unit.
- All recipients of the \$250.00 real property tax deduction granted in accordance with the provisions of P.L. 1963, C. 172 (R.S. 54:4-8.41) shall be given a deduction in the sewer rental rate that will result in a net annual rate not exceeding \$137.50.
- (2) Commercial users

Minimum annual sewer service unit user charge for any Commercial user connected to the Borough Sanitary Sewer System shall be five hundred dollars (\$500.00). The following rates are for actual consumption in 100 cubic feet of water used per information supplied by the water company(ies).

(2A) Class 1	\$5.42100
(2B) Class 2	\$6.45200
(2C) Class 3	\$8.01900
(2D) Class 4	\$4.78000
(2E) Class 5	\$4.61800
(2F) Class 6	\$4.63100
(2G) Class 7	\$5.87800
(2H) Class 8	\$5.70900
(2I) Class 9	\$6.93900
- (3) Industrial Establishment Users
 - (3A) Monitored Industrial establishments:

Notwithstanding any rates set forth herein to the contrary, in no case shall the charge for Monitored Industrial users be less than the charge for an equal volume of flow as otherwise would be determined utilizing the commercial establishments rate set forth in Commercial User (2C) Class 3 rate \$8.019 or for a minimum annual user charge of five hundred dollars (\$500.00), whichever is higher. In addition to the loading and flow charges, the Monitored Industrial User shall pay for the cost of sampling and laboratory testing of the wastewater.

(3A) Flow Million Gallons	\$3,111.79
(3B) BOD per Ton	\$731.85
(3C) SS per Ton	\$821.82
(3D) Chlorine Demand per CWT	\$73.85
(3B) Unmonitored Industrial User	\$8.6552 per 100 cubic feet
- (4) Sample collection fees and laboratory analysis fees paid by the Borough shall be a pass-through cost to the User being monitored and shall be included on the next bill.
- (5) Application for a Certificate of Use for sanitary sewer review shall be through the Borough Building Department. The fee shall be \$100.00 for an application of a change of building use. This fee is in addition to the current Building Department Review Fee.

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

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

ATTEST:
Joann Graf/Acting Municipal Clerk
\$174.80

December 12, 2008