

South Plainfield Observer

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MARCH 5, 2010

Home Invasion Spurs Crime Prevention Meeting

Police responded to a call of a home invasion on the 1900 block of 2nd Place in the borough on February 26 at about 1 p.m. The residence is a single family home.

When police entered the home they found four individuals in a downstairs bedroom, bound and on the floor. The victims were identified as a 37 year-old female, her 3½ year-old daughter, a nine year-old nephew and an eight year-old niece.

Police determined that two males, both with their faces covered and carrying snow shovels, knocked on the door. They entered the residence and ushered the victims into a downstairs bedroom where they bound their feet and hands. The suspects were armed with handguns. While one suspect watched the victims, the other removed items from the home.

The suspects are described as two

black males, one approximately 5'9" and the other approximately 6'2". No further description has been released at presstime.

There were no injuries reported; however, Somerset EMS responded and examined the victims.

Anyone with additional information is asked to contact the detective bureau at (908) 226-7660.

Police Department to Hold Crime Prevention Meeting

During the past several months, the borough has experienced an increase in residential burglaries. In response to the concerns for the safety of residents, the mayor and council, the South Plainfield Police Department and the Board of Education will give a presentation relating to crime prevention. Topics discussed will include how to burglar-proof

your home, personal safety guidelines, neighborhood awareness, the use of 9-1-1 and other general safety tips. The intention of the presentation is to raise awareness and to answer any questions residents may have regarding their concerns.

This event is scheduled for Monday, March 8 at 7 p.m. in the Roosevelt School auditorium located on Jackson Avenue. Crime Prevention Officers will be present and crime prevention literature will be displayed.

The police department will also be offering home safety assessments which will be performed by the Crime Prevention officers. Residents will be able to sign up for this free service at the event or they can call (908) 226-7716 or 7717.

As a reminder for residents, the South Plainfield Police Crime Tip Line is (908) 226-7675.



Police Chief John Ferraro reads to kindergarten students at Roosevelt School on Tuesday in celebration of Read Across America Week. See next week's issue for coverage at all local schools.

Morgan Resigns BOE Seeks to Fill Vacated One-Year Seat

After almost eight years as a member of the Board of Education, Tim Morgan has resigned his seat.



Tim Morgan

The announcement of Morgan's resignation came during the board's meeting held to rework the 2010-2011 school budget held on March 1.

Board President Jim Giannakis read Morgan's short statement referring to "personal issues at this time" as the reason for his resignation.

(Continued on page 6)

BOE Candidates Announced

Three candidates will be vying for the three open seats on the Board of Education on Tuesday, April 20. Incumbent Debbie Boyle is seeking a second, three-year term, along with newcomers Christopher Hubner of Matis Street and Gary Stevenson of Oak Tree Avenue.



Recreation wrestlers in the Raritan Valley League (above) and the Central Jersey League (below) who both won their respective championships.



Tigers Finish on Top!

The South Plainfield wrestling program had its most successful weekend ever. South Plainfield High School was recognized as the number #1 team in the state by the NJ Coaches Poll and both recreation wrestling teams won their respective league tournaments.

After the Tigers beat #1 High Point 26-24 to win the Group 3 State Championship, there was much debate as to whether they would be awarded the #1 ranking. Well, that debate ended on Sunday when the NJ Coaches Poll announced the SPHS wrestling team as the #1 team in the state.

The team will be recognized and awarded the #1 team trophy this Sunday in Atlantic City on the floor of Boardwalk Hall, prior to the Individual State Championship Finals. In addition, nine Tiger wrestlers—Region Champs Anthony Ashnault, Tyler Hunt, Nick Heilmann, Ryan Sacco and Mike Wagner, runner up Bobby Sacks and third place finishers Troy Heilmann, Richie Szeliga and Scott DeVecchio will be representing South Plainfield in the state tournament.

At the recreation level, both the Central Jersey and Raritan Valley League teams finished undefeated and won their respective league tournaments to be crowned league champs.

At the highly competitive Central

Jersey League tournament, the young Tigers outscored two time defending champ Bridgewater by one point to bring home the title. South Plainfield sent eight wrestlers to the finals, team captain Danny Hedden was the lone champion winning a thrilling overtime match. Finishing in second place was Tommy Fierro, Ryan Duhamel, Jake Giordano, Joe Penyak, Christopher Maszczak, Christian Gonzalez and Dion Pender. Third place finishes went to Joe Heilmann and Jake Hoffman. Fourth place to Jeff Plungis and Desmond Santos with Kyle Bythell finishing in fifth place.

In the Raritan Valley League tournament, the young Tigers crowned 14 champs. Finishing in first place in the B division was Sebastian Santos, Richard Marcovecchio, Matthew Cassio, Josh Stasenko and Justin Bell. Second place went to Luke Niemeyer, third place to Xavier Santos and fourth place to Gabe Painton and Kenny Clevenger. In the A division, the young Tigers blew the competition away, outscoring Ridge 253-132.

Finishing in first place was Jake DeVecchio, David Loniewski, Joseph Sacco, Alex Amato, Kyle Davison, Michael Marrero, Ben Lundy, Zack DeVecchio and Ryan Marston. Second

(Continued on page 8)

"Worst Case Scenario" Budget Unveiled at BOE Workshop

With the very real possibility of Governor Christie reducing state aid to schools by 15 percent for its 2010-2011 school budget, the Board of Education met Monday to prepare a re-worked budget.

"Because the actual amount of state aid will not be determined until the

governor's address on the state of New Jersey on Tuesday, March 16, budget plans are being called the worst case scenario in order to deal with what could be a reduction of \$4.5M from what South Plainfield received this current year," said BOE Business Administrator Richard Guarini.

"The result of the cuts would mean a \$750,000 reduction of funding for instruction, resulting in eliminating from 10 to 16 staff members," said Super-

intendent of Schools Jose Negron. "An additional \$330,000 would be needed to fund the unemployment costs for those affected."

Also under consideration are reductions in supplies (25%), \$859,000 in capital outlay and athletics. Despite the

severe cuts in staff and materials, the impact of the "worst case" budget will impact residents with a three percent tax increase or approximately \$110 for a home valued at \$120,000.

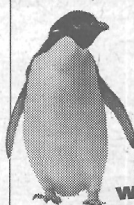
The board is continuing to look at ways to save money and jobs."



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The Big Issue

To reserve your space in the March 26 borough wide issue, call (908) 668-0010.



South Plainfield
Observer

Don't let it
waddle away!



Want to be informed about the business of your Council and BOE?

FYI Borough Council & BOE

Council meetings air on Comcast Channel 96 Mondays at 7 p.m. (Check Comcast community bulletin board for last minute time changes.) To purchase a complete copy of a council or BOE meeting, contact the Observer. BOE Meetings air on Thursdays at 7 p.m.

council meetings

Meets twice a month on Mondays, *except where noted.

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

Agenda Meeting Public Meeting

March 15 March 15

April 5 April 5

April 19 April 19

All Agenda Meetings begin at 7 p.m. followed immediately by the Public Meeting, unless otherwise noted. Meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with the N.J. Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Ave.

planning board

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

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

Mar. 9, Mar. 23, Apr. 13, Apr. 27, May 11, May 25, June 8, June 22,

July 13, July 27, Aug. 10, Aug. 24, Sept. 14, Sept. 28, Oct. 12, Oct. 26, Nov. 9 Dec. 7.

zoning board of adjustment

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

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

Mar. 11, Mar. 25, Apr. 8, Apr. 22, May 13, May 27, June 10, June 24,

July 8, July 22, Aug. 12, Aug. 26, Sept. 9, Sept. 23, Oct. 14, Oct. 28, Nov. 11* and Dec. 9.*

board of education

Meets Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave.

*except where noted.

Committee of the Whole: March 10 and March 31

Regular Public Meeting: March 17 and April 14

BOE curriculum/technology/student activities

Meets once a month on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in 2nd floor conference room,

Roosevelt Administration Building on Jackson Ave.

(April to be announced)

BOE buildings & grounds

Meets second Monday of the month at 7 p.m., 2nd floor conference room,

Roosevelt Administration Building—March 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.

Mar. 16, Apr. 20, May 18, July 20, Aug. 17, Sept. 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 16, Dec. 21

environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday) Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m.

Questions? 908-226-7621

Mar. 10, April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, Aug. 11, Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10,

Dec. 8 and Jan. 12 2011.

business advisory group

Meets once a month (first Wednesday) Borough Hall Council Chambers, 5 p.m.

In My Opinion

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

Dear Editor,

On behalf of our residents, I would like to offer our gratitude to Robert Capparelli and all of the members of our South Plainfield DPW. In the last few weeks, we have experienced a series of unusually heavy snow storms that have made this winter the worst that many of us have experienced. Our DPW staff has gone above and beyond, working diligently to keep our roadways clear and our residents safe.

I would also like to recognize the extraordinary efforts of the South Plainfield Police Department, Office of Emergency Management, Volunteer Fire Department, and Volunteer Rescue Squad. Our dedicated public servants and volunteers have spent countless hours in the cold and snow attending to emergencies and responding to calls for assistance.

It is this kind of neighborly spirit that makes me proud to call South Plainfield my home.

**SINCERELY,
COUNCILWOMAN CHRISSE BUTES**

Dear Editor,

My name is Jackie Jackson and I am a resident of South Plainfield. I am one of millions of people who have joined the movement to end Multiple Sclerosis. I'm writing you to ask for your help in changing the lives of people living with MS in this community and across the country.

Every hour someone is diagnosed with MS, a chronic disease of the central nervous system for which there is no cure. Multiple Sclerosis interrupts the flow of information between the brain and the body and stops people from moving. Many have trouble imagining what their lives would be without the ability to move, but I know the effects of MS; both my adult daughter and I have been diagnosed with MS. I am actively involved with the MS Society-Mid Chapter not only as a person living with MS, but also as a board member and an ambassador. I participate on an annual basis with the MS Walk, bike tours and other events to raise awareness about this devastating disease.

MS Awareness Week takes place the week of March 8-14. I encourage people to join the movement to end MS and help people with MS move their lives forward.

It's easy to get involved. It only takes a few minutes to make a difference in the lives of the millions of people worldwide who live with this disease. My connection to the MS Society as a champion, a board member and an ambassador has opened my eyes and has given me insight to see a brighter future of living with MS and I know that I am not alone because

the MS Society has been supportive in every way. That is why I am empowered to continue to advocate for others living with MS.

Some simple things you can do: visit nationalMSSociety.org to learn more about MS; tell 10 people that MS Awareness Week is March 8-14 and ask them to tell 10 people they know; sponsor a walker or cyclist in Walk MS or Bike MS events, or participate yourself!

I attended the National MS Society Public Policy Conference in Washington, D.C. from March 1-3 so that I could position myself to go and lobby on Capital Hill as a change agent for Multiple Sclerosis.

In addition, I will be calling my dear family and friends to make a donation and join my team for the upcoming MS Walk on Sunday, April 18 in North Brunswick at Babbage Park. Please make a donation on my behalf, my daughter's or the millions of others living with MS. Visit the MS Web site and make a donation under my team name, "Angel Network." We need your support!

Progress on MS can't wait. "Move It" during MS Awareness Week and move us closer to a world free of MS.

**THANK YOU,
JACKIE JACKSON,
MSW/DISABILITY ADVOCATE**

Dear Editor,

I'm sorry, but I'm confused by the mayor's latest letter. Isn't the \$1.6M he writes about money we gave the Board of Education to hold for a rainy day? And isn't a state government on the verge of bankruptcy a rainy day? So why shouldn't the board spend it to meet the needs of our children?

Also, if the \$1.6M is part of the board's surplus, why does the mayor insist our property taxes will have to be raised to replace that money? Are they entitled to a surplus, and how large a surplus? Shouldn't we expect the board to live within its yearly budget like the rest of us?

The board might do well spending its time on more important things than resolutions the governor has no choice but to ignore. Or trying, as it did last year, to convince us to borrow \$13.5M that it knew it didn't need, but wanted us to borrow anyway. They'd also do better by us hard pressed property owners by rescinding the 10% salary increase, over three

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.

years, they just gave the superintendent, principals and vice principals.

FRANK J. GARBARINI

To the Editor:

It seems I am always a bit behind on my reading, but while reading the February 12 and February 19 editions of the *South Plainfield Observer* this weekend, I noted two letters to the editor, one from Mike English and one from Patrick Diegman and Peter Barnes who used the term "democracy" when referring to political issues.

The letter from Diegman/Barnes stated: "This is still a democracy after all and the will of the people must be followed." Not to be disrespectful to my fellow residents, but the good old USA's form of government was not set up as a democracy, it was set up as a republic. There is a large difference. There is a great Web site, www.wimp.com/thegovernment/, that has a 10-minute clip that explains the difference very well—probably far better than I can communicate here in a letter to the editor. There is a plethora of additional information on the subject if one types "democracy versus republic" in an internet search engine. Even our *Pledge of Allegiance* states, "And to the republic for which it stands," not democracy.

I am not a politician, nor am I active in politics, but I do know both of these gentlemen are or have been elected officials and/or are politically active (thanks to articles I have read in the *South Plainfield Observer*) and should know and understand the difference between these two terms.

Again, I am not admonishing anyone, but I do think we and our politicians need to understand the basics of where we came from so we know what direction we need to take within the Constitution now and in the future.

WAYNE DIETERLE

South Plainfield Observer

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How to Reach Us



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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.**

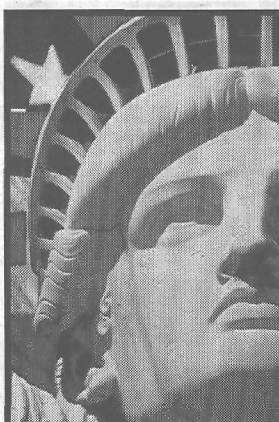
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To comment on the content or to suggest a special story idea, contact the publisher at (908) 668-0010.

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Buteas to Sponsor Women's History Month Essay Contest

High school students: Submit entries by March 28

In order to provide high school students with an opportunity to recognize the importance of Women's History Month, Councilwoman Chrissy Buteas is sponsoring a Women's History Month Essay Contest. A committee comprised of South Plainfield residents will select a student that recognizes the importance of women's history and the continuous struggle to provide equal rights for all women.

"As a woman who is passionate about public service and engaging women in civic life, I am delighted to sponsor a project that celebrates the life of one of New Jersey's greatest advocates of women's rights. The 2010 induction of Alice Paul into the New Jersey Hall of Fame presents us with the opportunity to examine her life, learn about the ideals that fueled her passion and explore avenues for continuing her legacy," said Buteas.

Essay participants are asked to discuss a specific event or accomplishment of Alice Paul's life that is significant to him/her. If he/she had the opportunity to create a project to continue Alice Paul's legacy here in South Plainfield, what would that project be and how would he/she implement it? Essays should be between 500-750 words and open to any South Plainfield resident in grades 9-12. Essays must be submitted by Friday, March 26. The winner will receive a \$250 American Express gift card, a copy of *Past and Promise, Lives of New Jersey Women*, and be recognized in the local newspapers. The winner will be chosen by committee and announced on or before Sunday, March 28.

The following Web sites may be helpful in research: The Alice Paul Insti-

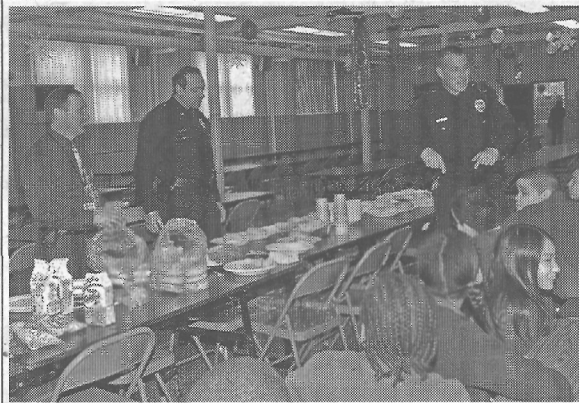
tute: www.alicepaul.org/; NJ Women's History: www.scc.rutgers.edu/njwomenshistory/; and The National Women's History Project: www.nwhp.org/.

Essays should be submitted to: Councilwoman Chrissy Buteas, Borough of South Plainfield, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080, or E-mail your essay to chrissybuteas@comcast.net. Please include your name, address, grade, phone number, and E-mail address.

Alice Paul was the architect of some of the most outstanding political achievements on behalf of women in the 20th century. Born on January 11, 1885 to Quaker parents in Mt. Laurel, New Jersey, Paul dedicated her life to the single cause of securing equal rights for all women. She founded the National Woman's Party in 1914 and led the first picketers to the White House gates in the name of women's suffrage. When women won the right to vote in 1920, Paul turned her focus to the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), which she authored in 1923. She worked for women's rights internationally and founded the World Woman's Party in 1938 with its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. Paul then succeeded in getting a sexual discrimination clause written into Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. She lobbied representatives to pass the ERA from her wheelchair in a nursing home in Moorestown, until her death in 1977. Though the ERA never passed, her legacy lives on through the work of the Alice Paul Institute.

Women's History Month, now celebrated annually in the United States, is a month long celebration of women's contributions to culture, history and society.

Please join Councilwoman Buteas in celebrating women's history and advancement in the United States of America.



Sacred Heart Principal Terry Golden, Police Chief John Ferraro and Officers Dave Franchak and Sherlyn Courtney (not pictured) host a lunch for the Sacred Heart D.A.R.E. students. Lunch was donated by Mr. Subs. Sacred Heart students don't attend the end of the year D.A.R.E. pool party since their school year is already completed when it occurs. Sacred Heart and Grant D.A.R.E. graduations took place March 3 and 4. See next week's *Observer* for complete coverage.

Library Trustees Meeting March 9

The next meeting of the South Plainfield Public Library Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, March 9 at 7 p.m. in the library building.

The meeting will address elements of the library's current and future plans, including the proposed move to the Montrose Avenue location, as well as important matters of library policy. Members of the public are welcome to attend. There will be a public comment period early in the meeting. No pre-registration is required.

The South Plainfield Library is located at 2484 Plainfield Ave.

For information, call (908) 754-7885 or visit the library's Web site at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us.

Laser Magic Makes Grant School Shine

The Grant School PTO sponsored a dazzling laser-light show on February 17 as part of its efforts to fund programs that supplement and enhance the school's curriculum.

The Black History laser tribute, presented by Prismatic Magic of Wayne, unfolded before the eyes of the fifth and sixth grade students last Wednesday. After a four day break, with schools being closed on the previous Monday and Tuesday, students were welcomed back with a dynamic production.

Prismatic Magic's laser science teacher, Norberto Cancel, transformed the Grant School multipurpose room into a fitting display space for the show, an exciting ensemble of mesmerizing laser-drawn animations set to the music of legendary African-American musicians. After an introduction that included a quick science lesson on the laser technology used for the presentation, Cancel launched into the 40 minute program. Eighty years of African-American influences in music provided a background to

showcase African-American achievements throughout the decades.

"The assembly was a fantastic experience for the students," said Allison Schneider, fifth grade teacher and student council advisor. "The show integrated pop culture along with giving a valuable history lesson about important African-American figures in past history as well as modern times."

As one student commented, it was "very interesting and exciting for a school program." Other students agreed, with reactions ranging from "really good," to "wonderful," "great," "awesome," "exquisite," "spectacular," and "laser-tastic!"

Prismatic Magic, founded in 2002, is a school assembly provider and laser show company in one. They use laser-generated animation as a captivating

medium to address a wide range of topics in a new, refreshing way. According to Cancel, "Every minute that you see on the screen takes two and a half hours to create, from selecting the music to creating the animation."

Nancy Donahue, Grant School fifth grade social studies teacher and faculty liaison to the PTO Cultural Arts Committee, was instrumental in the program's selection. "Based on the students' level of interaction and participation, it was evident that the program was a big success. Every time I consider booking a program, my intent is to bring a variety of cultural and multi-media experiences to our students. Productions should be entertaining, as well as educational. Prismatic Magic blended the two well."

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Project Graduation Auction/Raffle
March 6-Tickets: (908) 755-4349.

Events

Lenten Fish Dinners At Sacred Heart

Fridays through March 26

The Knights of Columbus Council #6203 and Sacred Heart Church are sponsoring Lenten fish dinners on Friday, March 5, 12, 19 and 26 in the school cafeteria, from 5 to 7 p.m. Menu: fillet of fish (fried, broiled, parmesan), pasta (cheese ravioli, manicotti or linguini) or pizza; garden salad, rice pilaf, French fries or macaroni and cheese, cole slaw, coffee, tea or cold drink, dessert. Take out available. \$8 adults, \$7 seniors, \$4 children. Stations of the Cross in the church at 7 p.m.

Project Graduation Auction Tickets on Sale

March 6

The South Plainfield High School PTA will host its annual auction/raffle on Saturday, March 6 from 7 to 11 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.) in the high school gym. Profits go towards Project Graduation for the Class of 2010. Tickets will be sold at the door.

For tickets, contact Tracey Hartmann at (908) 755-4349. To make a monetary donation, contact Sharon Miller at (908) 754-5461.

Girls Scouts to Hold Pancake Breakfast

March 7

The South Plainfield Girl Scout Community, in conjunction with the South Plainfield Elks, will host a pancake breakfast on Sunday, March 7, 8

a.m. until noon. The all-you-can-eat menu features pancakes, eggs cooked to order, French toast, bacon, sausage, home fries, toast, juice and coffee. \$7 for adults; \$5 for seniors; \$4 for children 3-12; under two are free. The Elks is located at 1254 New Market Ave.

For more information, please call Sharon at (908) 791-1214.

VFW Country Breakfast

March 7

The South Plainfield VFW, located on Front Street, is holding a country breakfast on Sunday, March 7 from 8 to 11 a.m. Public is welcome.

Night of Recollection At Sacred Heart Church

March 8

Sacred Heart Rosary Altar Society presents a one woman play featuring Gina Smith as St. Anne on Monday, March 8 following the 7 p.m. Mass at Sacred Heart Church, 149 South Plainfield Ave. Admission is a free will offering. Light refreshments will be served after the play. All are welcome.

SP Historical Society Monthly Meeting

March 9

The South Plainfield Historical Society monthly meeting will be held in the history center at the Board of Education Administration building on Tuesday, March 9 at 7 p.m. Parking and entrance to the lower level are on Jackson Avenue. Ideas for new pro-

grams will be discussed. New members are always welcome. Come and learn about the history of your town. The history center is open Tuesday afternoons from 2 to 4 p.m.

41st Annual District Music and Arts Festival

March 11

The 41st annual District Music and Arts Festival will be held on Thursday, March 11 at South Plainfield High School.

The concert will be divided into three sections: orchestra at 6:30 p.m., chorus at 7:30 p.m. and band at 8:40 p.m.

Tickets for each portion of the concert are \$5 each. Tickets can be purchased at all borough schools or at the door.

Little Treasures Open House

March 13

Little Treasures, 2177 Oak Tree Rd. in Edison, will hold an open house on Saturday, March 13, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. They provide infant care through preschool and summer camp for children ages five to eight. Low child-teacher ratios and daily parent-teacher communication. A state-of-the-art atmosphere, warm and inviting as home, and providing each child with the experience to open their minds and expand their abilities.

For more information, call (908) 769-3224 or visit www.LTLC.net for a virtual tour.

SENIOR CENTER *Calendar*

Coming Up....

March 21 Christmas Fling
March 25-Showboat
April 25-27 Tulip Festival
May 13-15 Washington, DC
June 7-10 Niagara Falls
(Call the senior center for more info)

MONDAYS

Silver Sneakers 8:45 am
Crocheting 9:30-11:30 am
Yoga 10:30 am
Art Class 11:30 am

TUESDAYS

Bingo 10 am-2 pm
Ladies Group 10 am
Call (908) 754-1047 for more info or visit
www.southplainfieldnj.com

WEDNESDAYS

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

THURSDAYS

Active Seniors 8:45 am
Shopping Trip 9 am
Crafts Class 10 am
Computer 10 am, 11:30 am, 1 pm
Exercise Class 11 am

FRIDAYS

Bingo 10 am-2 pm

Daily Activities: Morning coffee, pool, cards, board games, computer classes, exercise, art, Tai Chi, yoga and crafts.
Lunch Served Monday-Friday.

Senior Center is open daily 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Saturdays and Sundays.

Boy Scout Troop 309 Clothing Drive

March 13

Boy Scout Troop 309 will be holding a clothing drive fundraiser on Saturday, March 13 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the parking lot of Wesley Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave. They are collecting usable clothing, shoes (please bag separately), accessories, linens, stuffed animals, hard toys (dolls, cars, etc.), children's activity sets and small and medium bikes.

If you need items to be picked up, call Nancy Pauls at (908) 917-4700.

Elks Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner

March 13

The South Plainfield Elks-Veterans Committee is sponsoring their annual corned beef and cabbage dinner at the Elks Lodge on New Market Avenue on Saturday, March 13 from 4:30 to 9 p.m. Adults \$12, children \$5. All you can eat, includes soda, dessert and cash bar.

For more information, call Lou Peralta at (908) 756-6406.

Franklin School PTO Auction/Raffle

March 20

The Franklin School PTO will be hosting its 15th annual auction/raffle, "Spring is in the Air," on Saturday, March 20 in the high school gym. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; auction begins at 8 p.m. Bring your own food

and drinks. There will be complimentary coffee and tea. Lots of great prizes. Profits go towards cultural arts, class trips, end of year celebrations and events for Franklin School students.

Advance tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by contacting Sue at (908) 797-6218 or Karen at (908) 723-4546. Tickets will also be sold on Tuesday, March 9 at Franklin School from 6 to 7 p.m. If not sold out, tickets can be purchased at the door the night of the auction for \$12.

— Out of Town —

Jagerfest at Deutscher Club

March 6

Deutscher Club of Clark, 787 Featherbed Lane in Clark presents Jagerfest, a traditional German hunter's dance on Saturday, March 6 from 5 to 11 p.m. The event is indoors and open to the public. Admission: \$6 non member; \$3 members. German-American dinners available from 5 to 9 p.m. No outside food or beverages permitted. Music by the Adlers from 7 to 11 p.m. No jeans or sneakers allowed. German outfits encouraged. Free parking.

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

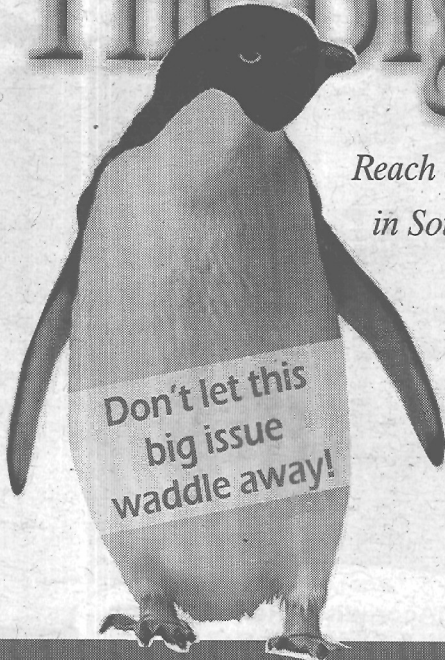
Robotics Competition

March 6-7

The 14th annual NJ FIRST Robotics competition will be held at the Sun National Bank Center in Tren-

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Around Town

ton on Saturday and Sunday, March 6 and March 7. Free and open to the public, games start at 8 a.m. on Saturday and 9 a.m. on Sunday.

For more information, visit www.nycnjfirst.org.

Adopt a Pet

March 6

People for Animals, a nonprofit animal welfare organization serving New Jersey, will sponsor a dog adoption event on Saturday, March 6 from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Petsmart store in Bridgewater's Promenade Mall, intersection of Rtes. 28 and 287.

To adopt or for information, go to pfa.petfinder.com.

Our Lady of Mt. Virgin Concert

March 7

Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church, 600 Harris Ave. in Middlesex, will present a concert, *Stabat Mater* by Giovanni Battista Pergolesi, on Sunday, March 7 at 4 p.m. The public is invited to attend free of charge.

For more information, call (732) 356-2149.

Remembrance of Deceased Priests

March 7

The Diocesan Office of Liturgical Music, in collaboration with the Office for Priest Personnel, is scheduled to present the concert "In Remembrance of Our Deceased Priests" at St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral, 32 Elm Ave. in Metuchen on Sunday, March 7 at 5 p.m. All are welcome to attend. No tickets required.

For more information, call (732) 548-1000.

Blood Drive at Grace Alliance

March 7

Grace Alliance Church, 2008 Ethel Road in Piscataway is sponsoring a blood drive in memory of Sean Hanna. The New Jersey Blood Services Blood Mobile will be parked outside of the church from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, March 7.

Donors receive a coupon for a free chicken sandwich from Chick-fil-A in the Woodbridge Center Mall.

For more information, visit www.gracealliance.org or www.seanhanna.foundation.org.

Learning for Life

March 8

Learning for Life, a senior citizen educational program, will begin a 10 week program on Monday, March 8 at the United Presbyterian Church, 525 East Front St. in Plainfield. Choose two courses from Tai Chi, drawing and sketching, the music class, gardening, issues and answers, knitting and crocheting. Registration fee is \$20 for the 10 week term.

For more information, call (908) 755-8669.

Hunterdon Chamber Non-Profit Symposium

March 8

The Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce will partner with TD Bank, the Somerset County Business Partnership and the Hunterdon and Somerset United Ways to host a non-profit symposium on Monday, March 8 at Raritan Valley Community College from 8 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Tickets are \$10.

For more information, visit www.hunterdon-chamber.org or call the chamber office at (908) 782-7115.

Woodbridge WOWs Business Mtg.

March 10

Woodbridge Widows Or Widowers will hold a business meeting on Wednesday, March 10 starting at 7 p.m. in the Children's Room of the Main Library, George Fredrick Plaza, Rte. 35, Woodbridge. All widows and widowers are welcome to attend.

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

Women's Business Forum Twitter Workshop

March 11

The Women's Business Forum of Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce will hold an in-depth look at Twitter with speaker Jenna Nichols of Markations on Thursday, March 11 from 8 to 10 a.m. at the chamber office located at Liberty Village Premium Outlets, 1 Church St. in Flemington. Cost of \$15 includes a continental breakfast. Seating is limited; bring your own laptop.

For information, call (908) 782-7115 or register online at www.hunterdon-chamber.org.



Sacred Heart School held its annual charity basketball game to benefit Children's Specialized Hospital in Mountainside on February 18 in the school gym. Student athletes played against the coaches, parents and clergy, and raised \$1,600 for the hospital.

Project Graduation Auction Raffle Saturday Night

It's finally auction time. The South Plainfield High School PTA Project Graduation Auction/Raffle takes place tomorrow, Saturday, March 6 from 7 to 11 p.m. in the high school gym.

Great Prizes—An authentic autographed Jones Brothers CD-Lines, *Vines & Trying Times*, a 52" Samsung LCD TV, Dell laptop (custom ordered to include the best features), a night out for two in NYC (theatre tickets to any Broadway show and dinner at a top NYC restaurant), 32GB iPod Touch, Garmin Nuvi Navigation System, a Wii with DJ Hero, a Cape May weekend getaway and Devils tickets with an authentic autographed puck and so much more!

Proceeds will go towards Project Graduation. This year will mark the 22nd year of providing SPHS graduating seniors with a graduation celebration. Senior parents, this is for your children, so gather some of your friends together and join us for a fun night at the auction. For those of you who have never attended our auction before, it is run similar to a tricky tray.

Ticket Information—Call Tracey Hartmann at (908) 755-4349 for door tickets or to reserve a table. We will also be selling tickets at the door and have extra tables set up to accommodate anyone who buys tickets tomorrow night.

Auction Information—The auction begins at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tables will be reserved for all ticket holders. The reservation will be

in the name of one person from your group. There will be paper products on the tables (plates, cups, napkins). You may want to bring extras. As far as food goes, the sky is the limit. You can bring anything from snacks and desserts to complete dinners. Non-alcoholic beverages only are permitted. We will have a small amount of water, soda and cookies for sale, as well as coffee and tea (at no charge). Plastic bags to hold your tickets will be provided at the door. Remember no one under the age of 18 will be admitted.

Volunteers—If you volunteered to help set up for the auction, meet at the high school gym at noon. If you would like to help, but didn't sign

up, we will be setting up until around 3:30 p.m. We can always use extra help. If you volunteered to help sell tickets or work at the front desk, please arrive between 5 and 5:15 p.m.

To Everyone Attending The Auction—Every ticket you buy could be a winner; so the more tickets you buy, the better your chances of winning. But remember, at the end of the night, even if you don't win a physical prize, you are a winner in the eyes of SPHS Class of 2010, because you will have helped give them a fun and safe graduation night. We hope everyone has a great time and we wish you all the best of luck.

Submitted by Sharon Miller

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From the South Plainfield Library Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

So, is it safe to put the snow shovels away? Yeah, it's still technically winter, but we're done with snow by now, right? There hasn't been more between the time I'm writing this and the actual publishing, right? Well, as we nervously await the weather forecast, here's news from the South Plainfield Library.

The next meeting of the Library Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday evening, March 9 at 7 p.m. The meeting will cover a number of subjects, including the proposed move to the Montrose Avenue location, as well as important matters of library policy. Members of the public are welcome to attend; be advised that the public comment time is scheduled for early in the meeting. No pre-registration is required.

We'll follow the normal, usual, routine, kid-tested, mother-approved and people-seem-to-like-it schedule of children's programming next week. The "Monday Morning Movie" program, featuring an age-appropriate video for pre-schoolers, will be shown on Monday at 10:30 a.m. "Storytime," for children ages four and over, will be held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. "Time for 2's & 3's," for children ages two and three, will be held on Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 10:30. And "Baby Time," for children ages two and under, will be held on Friday morning at 10:30. Each program lasts about an hour. The story programs feature stories, songs and a craft activity for the older kids. If you'd like more information, please call us and ask for Miss Linda or Miss Mija. (Look down four-or-so paragraphs for the number.)

While there has been a delay due to the weather, the latest group of Circuit DVDs should be available today.

Unfortunately, the list isn't available at press time; just stop by and see what's on the rack. DVDs may be borrowed, four at a time, for two days.

You may have noticed that there has been a bit of a delay in getting some of our newly-added items out to you. The reason for this is actually a combination of the wintry weather, a recent large influx of new items, and our being temporarily short-staffed due to circumstances beyond our control. Perhaps the biggest reason for this is our view that serving our patrons, be it checking out their items or answering their questions, comes first. Rest assured that the new stuff will be processed and out to you as soon as possible. Please be patient.

It's been a while since we've reminded you of this, so here it is again: One of the most important qualities of a library is that it should be well-organized. Our items are placed on our shelves in a particular order and according to a particular arrangement, making it easy for staff and patrons to locate something. The best way you can help us in that respect is, basically, not to help. Specifically, don't try to re-shelve items that you're finished with or aren't going to borrow. Just leave it on a table or bring it to the desk and we'll take it from there, making sure to put it back where it's supposed to go. As always, we really appreciate your help on this.

That's about all for now. Don't forget that we're always interested in your comments and opinions (good, bad or indifferent). For more information or to pass along your views, please call us at (908) 754-7885. For information, you can also visit our Web site at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us, and for opinions you can also put a note in our community suggestion box next to the photocopier. See you next Friday, weather permitting.

Soccer Club Celebrates Mardi Gras



Charlie Butrico and April Bengivenga were named "King and Queen" of the Mardi Gras celebration.

South Plainfield residents had the opportunity to experience the flavor of the south-New Orleans style-on February 12. The event was the South Plainfield Soccer Club's Mardi Gras party. The event was held at the Senior Citizen Center.

The room was decorated with the traditional Mardi Gras colors of green,

gold and purple. Guests enjoyed a variety of authentic Cajun style dishes cooked by club board member Bill Garner.

Garner once operated the Memphis Barbecue Company, but concentrates on fundraising events featuring Cajun or BBQ dishes. The meal also included appetizers and beverages. Pat O'Brian

hurricane glasses were available for purchase. New Orleans drinks were equally popular with those in attendance.

Music is an essential part of any Mardi Gras celebration, and Marshall's Dixieland Band kept the guests tapping their toes. Near the end of the evening, the crowd, as well as the band, were parading around the room in time to Dixieland favorites, including *When the Saints Come Marching In*.

On hand for the evening were Mayor Charlie Butrico, Councilwoman Chrissy Butcas, Councilmen Matt Anesch, Rob Bengivenga, Ray Rusnak, Tim McConville, and Board of Education member Bob Jones.

Due to the many other events happening in town the turn out was lighter than expected, but the soccer club didn't let that stop them from enjoying a fun-filled successful evening. Chrissy Butcas summed it up perfectly saying, "There is nothing better than celebrating Mardi Gras by supporting the South Plainfield Soccer Club. I had a wonderful time."

Morgan Resigns; Board Seeks to Fill Vacancy

(Continued from page 1)

"He's an upstanding guy you have to respect and is as honest as the day is long," said Giannakis of Morgan, who chaired the board's Transportation Committee for five years. He was also the board liaison to the borough's Traffic Safety Committee.

When Morgan first joined the board in 2002, he was frequently invited as a board member to the many concerts, plays and sporting events in the district, and he attended almost every one.

"At half-time at a marching band competition, I usually stood at the top of the stand to watch half the performance so I could get a better per-

spective of the performance," said Morgan.

After attending an event, Morgan always took time during the public session to give a glowing report on the students' accomplished performances, noting the increasing ability of the students as they played sports or performed as musicians and actors while they went from elementary grades through high school.

According to board member Carol Byrne, the board's nepotism policy, which doesn't allow a "relative" to be hired by the BOE to any position in the district, triggered Morgan's resignation from the board.

Kathleen Morgan, Tim's daughter,

has served as long-term substitute teacher since November 2009 for high school physical education teacher Nataliè Zeno-Carr, who is on parent-hood leave. If Morgan was to take over Zeno-Carr's position, Morgan could no longer serve as a member of the board.

The Nepotism Policy was introduced at the July 2009 BOE meeting and adopted after its second reading. The first sentence of the policy states, "The Board of Education adopts this Nepotism Policy as a condition of receiving state aid."

While the Nepotism Policy excludes student employees and substitutes who are relatives of board members, the superintendent cannot recommend a board member's relative for a full time position.

The board is accepting applications to fill the vacancy for the one-year unexpired term. The board has until May to fill the seat.

An applicant must be a U.S. citizen; be at least 18 years of age; be able to read and write; must be a resident of South Plainfield for at least one year; must not be disqualified as a voter pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:4-1; and must be a registered voter in the district.

Applicants should submit a letter of interest by Tuesday, March 9 at 4:30 p.m. to the attention of Richard A. Guarini, board secretary/business administrator, South Plainfield Board of Education, Administration Bldg., 125 Jackson Ave., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

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St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef Dinner

St. Francis Episcopal Church, 400 New Market Rd. in Dunellen is holding St. Patrick's Day dinner on Saturday, March 13 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Corned beef and cabbage, potatoes, carrots and dessert. Price: \$12.50/adults; \$7/children under 10.

For more information, call (732) 968-6781.

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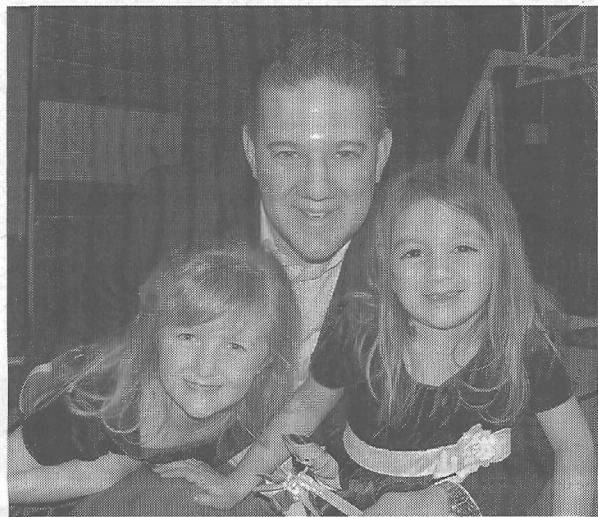
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Kennedy School "princesses" wear their finest party dresses to the Royal Court gala on February 19.

Kennedy School Holds Royal Court Gala



Kennedy School students and their dad attend the father/daughter dance.

Kennedy School PTO presented its annual father/daughter dance on February 19. It was a gala affair, as this year's theme was the "Royal Court."

Nearly 100 princesses arrived with their guests and were positively beautiful. The "Royal Hall" was colorfully adorned with decorations and balloons. The feast included tasty treats (amazing creativity on the baked goods), tea sandwiches and "pink princess punch."

The sounds of the enchanted evening were provided by Party On DJ; everyone danced the night away.

Special thanks to Principal Parker, Sue DeFrancesco, Janice Strassburger, Jenn Ratti, Sherri Courtney, Elaine Taitt, Lisa Guertz, Danielle Mendez, Bridgett Lovett, Kim Van Herk, Mr. Hook, Rande Brown, Chara Fuschetti, Kerry SantaMaria and Elham Abdeljaber.

—Submitted by Tree Olano

Booster Club to Host Evening of Stand-up Comedy

South Plainfield High School Athletic Booster Club will be hosting an outstanding evening of stand-up comedy on Saturday, March 27 at the PAL building on Maple Avenue. The talents of three comedians will be on display for an evening sure to be filled with fun and laughter.

Comedian Larry Defelice, a feature act in the Boston Comedy Festival and Santa's Elf in the golf cart in the old Circuit City commercials, was also seen on ABC's "Good Morning N.Y." and Fox TV's "Fox and Friends."

A regular on XM-Satellite's Opie

& Anthony Show, Long Island's Joe Currie also appeared on cable's Shameless TV, and has opened for Judy Tenuta, Kevin James and Adam Ferrara.

A regular at N.Y.C. clubs like Broadway Comedy Club, NY Comedy Club and Stand-up NY, Alex Barnett is a lawyer by day, and has a regular column in the *NY Daily News* and the *Coil Review*.

You are invited to B.Y.O.B. and food, and be ready to enjoy a fantastic evening of fun and laughter

amongst family and friends, while supporting the SPHS athletic programs.

Raffle prizes for lucky guests, as well as a 50/50 raffle, will be featured. Doors will open at 7:30 p.m.; comedy will start at 8 p.m. Reservations are highly recommended as tickets have sold out in the past. Donation is \$25 per person in advance.

For tickets or more information, call Ann Marie at (908) 756-7543. All proceeds will benefit the SPHS athletic programs.

ADA: After the Basics, What Happens Next?

The Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission presents ADA: After the Basics, What Happens Next? at East Jersey Olde Towne Village in Piscataway, on Wednesday, March 10 from 6-8 p.m. This ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) technical assistance workshop will be led by commission executive director, Anna M. Aschkenes.

Attendance at this workshop assumes you already are familiar with the general requirements of the ADA Law. It will focus on programmatic access (specific to cultural events), seating and comfort, historic displays and art exhibitions and labeling. This workshop is for arts and history organizations, museums, municipal and civic groups and any organization that presents cultural programming to the public.

Aschkenes is the executive director for Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission and one of the founding board members of the Cultural Access Network, formerly known as the New Jersey Arts Access Task Force.

Her agency has been the sponsor of VSArts New Jersey for more than 25 years. Aschkenes has long been considered one of the national leaders regarding issues relating to persons with disabilities. Aschkenes helped to prepare Access to the Arts: An Arts Administration Guide for the National Endowment for the Arts. She has been an ADA workshop presenter for the endowment and an ADA trainer throughout New Jersey for the past 15 years.

This workshop is offered free of charge; registration is required at (732) 745-4489. Persons with hearing disabilities may dial (732) 745-3888 (TTY) or 711, the New Jersey Relay Service. Site is fully accessible and assistive listening devices are in use during the program. Sign language interpreters available with a prior request. Wheelchairs are offered by request for visitors who need assistance from the parking lot to the program. Please call our weather-line, (732) 296-8966, for changes due to inclement weather.

NEWS FROM THE Suburban Woman's Club



President Lucy Hudson of the Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield, Mary Ann Iannitto, past president, SPHS Special Education Teacher Karen Foley and Natalie Bergen, chairman of the NJSEWC Special State Project: Autism-New Jersey.

Members of the Suburban Woman's Club visited the Special Education Self-Contained classroom at South Plainfield High School where Special Ed Teacher Karen Foley demonstrated the use of the Attainment workstation which had been purchased by the woman's club from the proceeds of a fundraising luncheon they hosted in the spring.

Foley explained the 35 Attainment software programs that are

loaded on the hard drive of a fully-functional PC with a built-in touch screen LCD monitor. Autism-New Jersey is the NJSEWC Special State Project for 2009-2010.

The Suburban Woman's Club donated \$3,495 to the South Plainfield Board of Education to cover the cost of this workstation and the students have benefited from the extensive program.

—Submitted by Mary Ann Iannitto

Adult School Classes Available

Space is available in the following South Plainfield Adult School Classes:

Tennis Lessons—beginning on Saturday, March 13. Classes are held at Spring Lake Park in the morning for adults, and the afternoon for children grades two through 12.

Golf Lessons—at Fairways Golf Center start on Tuesday, March 16 in the evening.

For information or to register, call the adult school at (908) 754-4620, ext. 213.

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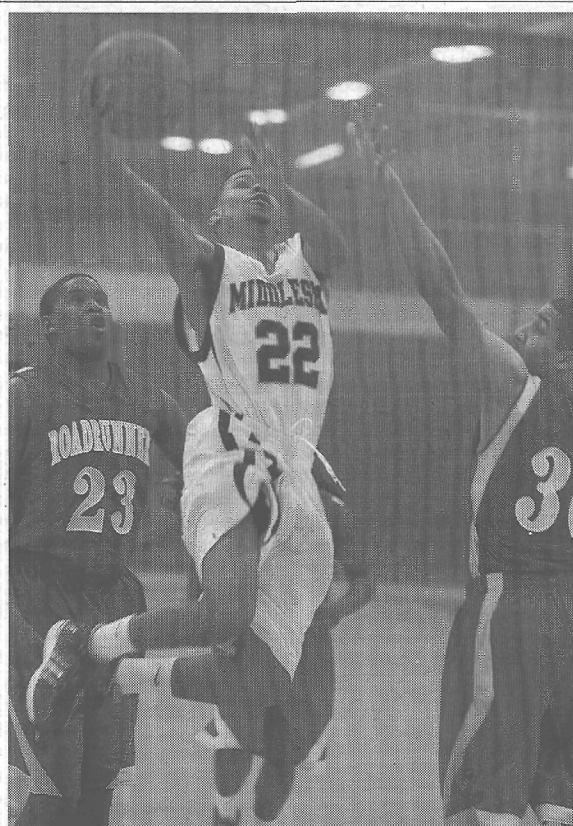
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Extended Until March 8

Sports



The Middlesex County College men's basketball team beat Gloucester County College 77-73 on February 22 in the first round of the National Junior College Region 19 Championship. Shamai Santiago of South Plainfield drives for two points in the contest. The team then fell in the semi-final game to undefeated Bergen Community College, 98-73, on February 28.

Adult Baseball Players and Teams Wanted

Adult baseball players and teams wanted for the Amateur Baseball Association of NJ. The ABA is the premier adult men's (18 & over) recreational baseball league in New Jersey.

For more details, please visit www.AllStarTeamStats.com/aba, E-mail NJBBaseball4all@aol.com or call Jason at (201) 201-873-3349.

RECREATION WRESTLING

By Joe Sacco

Tiger Wrestlers Finish on Top!

(Continued from page 1)
place went to Nick Loniewski and fourth place finishes to Jacob Panton, Ryan Stankan, George Pittenger and Nick Scalera.

The South Plainfield Wrestling Club recently hosted its 36th Annual Wrestling Tournament at South Plainfield High School. Over 300 wrestlers from around the tri-state area participated. Placing in the top four from South Plainfield were:

First Place: Jake DelVecchio, PeeWee 43 lbs.; Patrick Corsello, PeeWee 46 lbs.; Jack Campagna, PeeWee 48 lbs.; Anthony White, PeeWee 51 lbs.; Xavier Santos, PeeWee 60 lbs.; Sebastian Santos, Bantam 60 lbs.; Luke Niemeyer, PeeWee 84 lbs.;

Joseph Sacco, Midget 61 lbs.; Alex Amato, Midget 62 lbs.; Jake Gior-dano, Midget 67 lbs.; Kyle Davisson, Midget 70 lbs.; Zack DelVecchio, Midget 100 lbs.; Tommy Dunn, Junior 78 lbs.; Ryan Walsh, Junior 81 lbs.; Antunee Adams, Intermediate 145 lbs.; Louie Gerardi, Intermediate HWT-C.

Second Place: Marcus Czarrun-chick, PeeWee 57 lbs.; Jordan Hamberg, Bantam 54 lbs.; David Loniewski, Bantam 57 lbs.; Louis Quintanilla, Bantam 82 lbs.; Gregory Algarin, Bantam HWT; Joseph Heilmann, Midget 58 lbs.; Jacob Panton, Midget 67 lbs.; Michael Marrero, Midget 73 lbs.; Ryan Marston, Midget 100 lbs.; Jeff

Plungis, Junior 70 lbs.; Vinny Vetuschii, Junior 70 lbs.; Desmond Santos, Junior 87 lbs.; Inan Sikel, Intermediate 132A-lbs.; Benjamin Otonye, Intermediate 145B-lbs.; Joe Hart, Intermediate HWT-B; Samuel Persaj, Intermediate HWT-C.

Third Place: Tyler Russo, PeeWee 40 lbs.; Christopher Poggio, PeeWee 45A-lbs.; Sean Passarelli, PeeWee 45B-lbs.; Gabe Panton, PeeWee 54 lbs.; Mikey Kurilew, PeeWee 60 lbs.; Steven Twist, PeeWee HWT; Tommy Fierro, Bantam 57 lbs.; Kenny Clevenger, Bantam 64 lbs.; Johnny Padovano, Bantam 84 lbs.; EJ Nieves, Bantam HWT; Connor Adams, Midget 70 lbs.; Brenden Hedden, Midget 77 lbs.; Kyle Byrthell, Midget 90 lbs.; George Pittenger, Junior 85 lbs.; Dan Hedden, Junior 90 lbs.; Jordan Handwerger, Junior 125 lbs.; Dion Pender, Junior 135 lbs.; Jeff Sneed, Junior HWT; Raymond Jazikoff, Intermediate 90 lbs.; Scott Quiroga, Intermediate 132A-lbs.

Bryant Lowlicht, Intermediate 132B-lbs.; Joe Bermudez, Intermediate HWT-A; Tony Russell, Intermediate HWT-B; Austin Rivera, Intermediate HWT-C.

4th Place: Jason Rodas, PeeWee 40 lbs.; Jason Giordano, PeeWee 42 lbs.; Michael Niemeyer, PeeWee 45A-lbs.; Justin Rodas, PeeWee 45B-lbs.; Aidan Mackenzie, PeeWee 54 lbs.; Jaylen Robinson, PeeWee HWT; Francis Niemeyer, Bantam 46 lbs.; Nick Loniewski, Bantam 49 lbs.; Anthony Penyak, Bantam 54 lbs.; Aidan Taber, Bantam 82 lbs.; Ryan Duhamel, Junior 70 lbs.; Josh Stasenka, Junior 96 lbs.; Christian Gonzalez, Junior 105 lbs.; Matt Hurst, Intermediate 120 lbs.; Paul Cano, Intermediate 132B-lbs.

By Gary Lampasona JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

Snow, snow go away! The only white I want to see is white baseballs being pitched and hit on the ballfield!

Player Evaluations: For all Small Fry C and Small Fry B players at the PAL building on Saturday, March 6 beginning at 8:30 a.m. All registered children should have received a post-card with their specific time to report. If you did not receive a postcard, please come to the PAL after 8:30 a.m. and ask to see a board member. All players should come prepared with a glove and wear sneakers. Attendance is important, because these evaluations allow managers and coaches to select competitive teams, which leads to more fun for all players and parents.



The Women's Auxiliary will be on hand to support the club. Continental breakfast and SPJBC clothing will be available for purchase.

We are very excited that Coach Guida, South Plainfield High School manager, will be holding two clinics for any interested players. The cost is \$20 for each player and all proceeds benefit the SPHS program.

The clinic for Small Fry C and Small Fry B players will be held on Saturday, March 6 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the PAL.

The session for Small Fry A players will be held on Saturday, March 13 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the PAL.

Player Draft: Small Fry draft nights (Continued on page 12)

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1878

REFUNDING BOND ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY PROVIDING FOR THE CURRENT REFUNDING OF CERTAIN GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 1998 AND CERTAIN GENERAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS, SERIES 1999, APPROPRIATING \$1,880,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,880,000 GENERAL IMPROVEMENT REFUNDING BONDS OF THE BOROUGH FOR FINANCING THE COST THEREOF was adopted on first reading and advertised in the Observer on Friday, March 5, 2010 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Monday, April 5, 2010 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately following the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Section 1. The Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey (the "Borough") is hereby authorized to current refund all or a portion of the \$780,000 of the outstanding principal amount of its General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 1998, originally issued in the principal amount of \$5,815,000, dated May 1, 1998, which amount matures between August 1, 2010 and August 1, 2012, inclusive, (the "General Obligation Refunded Bonds"), which are subject to redemption on or after August 1, 2008 at the option of the Borough at a redemption price of 100% of the principal amount of the General Obligation Refunded Bonds to be redeemed.

Section 2. The Borough is hereby authorized to current refund all or a portion of the \$1,000,000 of the outstanding principal amount of its General Improvement Bonds, Series 1999, originally issued in the principal amount of \$2,585,000, dated June 15, 1999, which amount matures between June 15,

2010 and June 15, 2014, inclusive, (the "General Improvement Refunded Bonds" and, together with the General Obligation Refunded Bonds, the "Refunded Bonds"), which are subject to redemption on or after June 15, 2009 at the option of the Borough at a redemption price of 100% of the principal amount of the General Improvement Refunded Bonds to be redeemed.

Section 3. In order to finance the cost of the purpose described in Section 1 hereof and the cost of issuance associated therewith, negotiable refunding bonds (the "Refunding Bonds") are hereby authorized to be issued in one or more series in the aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$1,880,000 pursuant to the Local Bond Law of the State of New Jersey.

Section 4. The Borough desires to provide for the refunding of the principal amount of the Refunded Bonds and the interest thereon in order to provide for savings in debt service as a result of lower interest rates in the bond market.

Section 5. An aggregate amount not exceeding \$100,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-51(b) has been included in the aggregate principal amount of Refunding Bonds authorized herein.

Section 6. The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Clerk, and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the gross debt of the Borough is increased by the authorization of the Refunding Bonds provided in this refunding bond ordinance by \$1,880,000, and that an amount representing the principal amount of the Refunded Bonds equal to \$1,780,000 will be deductible from gross debt. The obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by that law.

Section 7. A certified copy of this refunding bond ordinance as adopted on first reading has been filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey prior to final adoption.

Section 8. This bond ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law, provided that the consent of the Local Finance Board has been endorsed upon a certified copy of this ordinance as finally adopted.

Joann L. Graf, RMC
Municipal Clerk

\$63.94

March 5, 2010

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1877

REFUNDING BOND ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY PROVIDING FOR THE CURRENT REFUNDING OF CERTAIN SEWER UTILITY BONDS, SERIES 1999, APPROPRIATING \$2,350,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,350,000 SEWER UTILITY REFUNDING BONDS OF THE BOROUGH FOR FINANCING THE COST THEREOF was adopted on first reading and advertised in the Observer on Friday, March 5, 2010 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Monday, April 5, 2010 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately following the 7:00pm Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) **AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. The Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey (the "Borough") is hereby authorized to current refund all or a portion of the \$2,250,000 of the outstanding principal amount of its Sewer Utility Bonds, Series 1999, originally issued in the principal amount of \$6,200,000, dated June 15, 1999, which amount matures between June 15, 2010 and June 15, 2014, inclusive, (the "Refunded Bonds"), which are subject to redemption on or after June 15, 2009 at the option of the Borough at a redemption price of 100% of the principal amount of the Refunded Bonds to be redeemed.

Section 2. In order to finance the cost of the purpose described in Section 1 hereof and the cost of issuance associated therewith, negotiable refunding bonds (the "Refunding Bonds") are hereby authorized to be issued in one or more series in the aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$2,350,000 pursuant to the Local Bond Law of the State of New Jersey.

Section 3. The Borough desires to provide for the refunding of the principal amount of the Refunded Bonds and the interest thereon in order to provide for savings in debt service as a result of lower interest rates in the bond market.

Section 4. An aggregate amount not exceeding \$100,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-51(b) has been included in the aggregate principal amount of Refunding Bonds authorized herein.

Section 5. The Supplemental Debt Statement

required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Clerk, and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the gross debt of the Borough is increased by the authorization of the Refunding Bonds provided in this refunding bond ordinance by \$2,350,000, and that an amount representing the principal amount of the Refunded Bonds equal to \$2,250,000 will be deductible from gross debt. The obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by that law.

Section 6. A certified copy of this refunding bond

ordinance as adopted on first reading has been filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey prior to final adoption.

Section 8. This bond ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law, provided that the consent of the Local Finance Board has been endorsed upon a certified copy of this ordinance as finally adopted.

Joann L. Graf, RMC
Municipal Clerk

\$68.33

March 5, 2010

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1876

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$111,609.00 FOR THE REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION OF BLOCK 315, LOTS 34, 42, AND 43 AND BLOCK 316, LOT 1

(Suburban Transit property) **WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY** was adopted on first reading and advertised in the Observer on Friday, March 5, 2010 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Monday, April 5, 2010 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately following the 7:00pm Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

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

Section 1. That there is hereby authorized pursuant to applicable statutes of the State of New Jersey, as a general improvement, the following improvements in the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, New Jersey:

Remedial Investigation of the former Suburban Transit Bus Co. site including investigation and testing of ground, soil and water contamination, installation of monitoring wells, vapor testing, sampling and reporting.	\$111,609.00
TOTAL	\$111,609.00

Section 2. That the improvements described in Section 1 hereof shall be authorized as general capital improvements for the Borough of South Plainfield in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey.

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

- That the maximum estimated amount of money to be raised from all sources for the purposes stated in Section 1, hereof, is \$111,609.00.
- That 100% of the cost of said Remediation work shall be paid through a grant from the Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund, as described in Section 1, hereof, in the amount of \$111,609.00
- The estimated useful life of said improvements is hereby determined to be five (5) years.

Section 4. That the total amount of the appropriation to be expended, as provided in Section 48:2-20 of the Revised Statutes, is not to exceed \$111,609.

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

Joann L. Graf, RMC
Municipal Clerk

\$65.79

March 5, 2010

To find out what's
happening in South
Plainfield, visit the
borough's Web site at
southplainfieldnj.com

Sports

SOCCER CLUB By Dawn Hutchison

Season Opens Next Week

College Scholarships Applicatons Available

Hard to believe, but our season is just a week from opening! With opening day planned for Sunday, March 14, Mother Nature has not been very agreeable. We can only hope that March cooperates and decides to bring some mild weather our way so we can get games underway on our fields.

Just a reminder, this weekend March 5, 6 and 7, as well as next weekend, March 12, 13 and 14, we will hold our canning drive. All players should have received their date and time assignments from their coaches. Remember, canning is one of the biggest fundraising events and we hope that everyone will support our fund drive as you see our players out and about on these dates.

Also, our preseason clothing orders are due in the weekend of March 7. This is a great time to order your sweats, flannel dorm pants, T-shirts and car magnets. We also have great Diadora bags and drawstring bags for all your gear. You can view the items available for sale and download an order form at www.soplfdsoccerclub.com. Please remember to bookmark this site and visit it often for club information and announcements.

The soccer club is once again offering \$500 scholarships to two winners this year. To be eligible you must have played in the South Plainfield Soccer Club for a minimum of four seasons, be a current resident of South Plainfield, a senior graduating in 2010 and attending a college in Fall 2010. Proof of college enrollment may be requested prior to release of scholarship funds. You can download the application from our Web site or obtain one from your guidance department. Deadline for submitting applications is Saturday, May 15. You may return your application in a sealed envelope to your guidance department or mail it to SPSC Scholarship, P.O. Box 543, South Plainfield, N.J. 07080. No late applications will be accepted.

Our general meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday, March 10 at 7:30 p.m., downstairs in the VFW on Front Street. We are looking for all our coaches and assistant coaches to be in attendance as this is our last meeting before the season starts.

All are welcome to attend and get involved with the SPSC. We look forward to seeing new faces.

Angela T. (Garbarino) Olechna, 94

Angela T. (Garbarino) Olechna passed away peacefully on Friday, Feb. 26 in the Haven Hospice at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born and raised in Jessup, Pa., Angela married the late Clemence Olechna and they resided in Mt. Cobb, Pa. and Sterling before settling in South Plainfield in the 1940s.

She had been employed at the Jessup Post Office, and later at the former Montgomery Ward department store in Plainfield, working in catalog sales. More importantly, Angela was a dear wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother and sister. She took enormous pride and received great joy in gardening and in addition, she could often be seen outside tending to her yard.

She was predeceased by her husband, Clemence, who died in July of 1993 and by two brothers, Joseph and Gus.

She is survived by a daughter, Lorraine Douglass and husband Robert of East Brunswick; a sister, Theresa Grisky of South Plainfield; two granddaughters, Nicole Lyons and husband Joseph and Robyn Douglass, all of Manalapan, and a great-granddaughter, Mackenzie.

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

Thomas E. Peloquin, 62

Thomas E. Peloquin passed away on Friday, Feb. 26 at home after a courageous battle with ALS, known to many as Lou Gehrig's disease.

Born in Hartford, Conn., Tom had been a resident of South Plainfield since 1979. After three years of service to his country during the Vietnam Era, Tom was honorably discharged as sergeant from the United States Army in 1967. Most of his time was served in Germany, the place he grew to love and eventually returned to for a visit with his sons in March 2007.

He was a hardworking and successful electrical contractor having owned his own business, T.E. Peloquin Electrical Contractor, for 32 years. As a true family man and friend, he was known to help anyone that he could with his electrical talents. Spending time at the beach with his family was something he cherished and looked

forward to every summer.

Tom is predeceased by his father Marcel, who died in 1988.

He leaves behind his loving wife of 34 years, Linda (Green) Peloquin and three children, Thomas E. Jr. of Apex, N.C., Nicole Heasley and husband Ryan of Davidson, N.C. and Matthew and wife Stephanie of Highlands Ranch, Colo. His only grandchild, Emma Heasley "Pop-Pop's little angel," will miss him dearly. He also is survived by his mother, Isabelle (Blake) Peloquin of Orange City, Fla.; five brothers and sisters, Nelson Peloquin (Marianne) of Easton, Pa., Elizabeth Haver of Orange City, Fla., Barbara Lingsch (Paul) of Glen Gardner, Robert Peloquin (Renee) of Northampton, Pa. and Jeanette Dean (Jon) of Milford and several loving nieces and nephews.

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

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made out to the ALS Association, and sent c/o Tom Peloquin Jr., 3026 White Cloud Circle, Apex, N.C. 27502 for the 2010 Walk to Defeat ALS that Tom's children participate in, or online at <http://web.alsa.org/goto/peloquin>, or sent to ALS Association, Northern N.J./Greater N.Y. Chapter, 42 Broadway, Ste. 1724, New York, N.Y. 10004 would be deeply appreciated.

Timothy R. Mount, 55

Timothy R. Mount, formerly of South Plainfield, died on Wednesday, Feb. 17 at his home.

Born in Plainfield, Timmy was a longtime resident of South Plainfield before moving to Binghamton one year ago.

Timmy was formerly a manager for Nissan in Piscataway for 15 years. He was an active member of AA where he helped in the recovery of many of the addicted for over 10 years. Timmy was also a huge New York Yankee's fan.

He is predeceased by his father, Raymond J. Mount.

Timmy is survived by his mother, Adele R. (Nardino) Mount; three siblings, Roseanne Kerek (Robert) of Port Republic, Susan Smith (Allen)

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of Virginia, Frances Mount and her companion Alexander Ruiz of Florida and Daniel Mount of Old Bridge.

A memorial gathering was held for family and friends at McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Heart Association, 1 Union St., Ste. 301, Robbinsville, N.J. 09681.

Emily (Gitler) Meisnest, 85

Emily (Gitler) Meisnest died on Monday, March 1 at the Whispering Knoll Care Center in Edison.

Born and raised in Newark, Emily resided in Irvington prior to settling in South Plainfield in 1950.

A longtime member of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in South Plainfield, Mrs. Meisnest enjoyed sewing and cooking.

She worked as a personnel manager for E.J. Korvetts in Watchung, retiring in 1973.

Emily is predeceased by two brothers, William and Raymond Gitler.

Surviving are her husband, Frederick; a daughter, Linda Lane and husband Tom of Providence, R.I.; a son,

Raymond Meisnest and wife Denise of South Plainfield and a brother, Henry Gitler and wife Bernice of Ohio. Also surviving are two grandchildren, Kevin Meisnest and Tyler Sinclair and a great-grandchild, River Sinclair.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Emily's Garden Fund, c/o Whispering Knoll Special Care Unit, 62 James St., Edison, N.J. 08820.

Victoria Tumaneng, 90

Victoria Tumaneng passed away on Friday, Feb. 26 at the Berkeley Meadows Care Center located in Berkeley Heights.

Born in the Philippines, Victoria moved to the United States, settling in South Plainfield several years ago.

Victoria loved spending time with her family as a homemaker. She enjoyed cooking, gardening, sewing and just being a true family woman.

She is predeceased by her husband, Cipriano in 2001; a daughter, Minerva Gardon in 2003 and three siblings.

She is survived by six children, Esther, Edith, Andrea and Antonio all of South Plainfield and Milagros Elcazar (Edgar) and Andresita Solmirano (Lorenzo) of the Philippines and eight grandchildren.

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

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LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
BOND ORDINANCE STATEMENT AND SUMMARY
The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, has been finally adopted by the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey on December 21, 2009 and the 20 day period of limitation within which a suit, action or proceeding questioning the validity of such ordinance can be commenced, as provided in the Local Bond Law, has begun to run from the date of the first publication of this statement. Copies of the full ordinance are available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk's office for members of the general public who request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:
Title: "Bond Ordinance Providing for Various Improvements to the Central Communications Center and the Acquisition of Various Equipment for the Police Department, Fire Department and Office of Emergency Management, by and in the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey (the "Borough"); Appropriating \$475,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of

\$450,000 Bonds or Notes of the Borough to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof."
Purpose: Various Improvements to the Central Communications Center, including but not limited to the acquisition and installation, as applicable, of various furniture for the Dispatch Center, and also including the acquisition and installation, as applicable, of various equipment for the Police Department, Fire Department and Office of Emergency Management, including but not limited to, a radio and various communications equipment. These improvements shall also include all work, materials, equipment, labor and appurtenances necessary therefor or incidental thereto.
Appropriation: \$475,000
Bonds/Notes Authorized: \$450,000
Grants Appropriated: N/A
Section 20 Costs: \$10,000
Useful Life: 6.72 years
Joann Graf, RMC Municipal Clerk
\$43.80 March 5, 2010

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policereport

- On Feb. 16 Keith William Wall, 42, of Edison was arrested for disorderly conduct.
- An Audubon Avenue resident reported the theft of a boy's Tony Hawk bicycle from their carport.
- On Feb. 18 Ana G. Delgadillo, 21, of Plainfield was arrested for failure to inspect and an outstanding warrant.
- Gary C. Kennedy, 48, of Edison was arrested at the A&P for shoplifting three boxes of Visine worth \$13.
- On Feb. 19 Monct C. Brown, 26, of Vinland was arrested for lack of headlights or taillights and an outstanding warrant.
- Michael Robert Sopko, 19, of South Plainfield was arrested for theft by unlawful taking.

- On Feb. 21 a Fairmount Avenue resident reported that a Tom Tom GPS was taken from their unlocked vehicle.
- A South Plainfield Avenue resident reported that there were pry marks near the door knob of their apartment door.
- A Bergen Street resident reported that eggs were broken and paint had been poured on the hood of their vehicle.
- On Feb. 22 Theresa Cocozza, 41, of Piscataway was arrested at Twin City Pharmacy for attempting to use a fraudulent prescription.
- On Feb. 23 Amanda Michelle Schifano, 32, of Port Reading was arrested for driving while intoxicated and reckless driving.

Arista Care Offers New Hope for Stroke Patients and Their Loved Ones

Hope is such a small word, but its presence in our lives has a huge impact. For patients recovering from a health crisis, bringing hope to their situation can dramatically change their lives for the better. It can turn goals into triumphs, and make the seemingly impossible happen. When sub-acute post-stroke care is needed, there is one stroke rehabilitation program like none other.

From its high tech, computerized body weight-supported gait training equipment which retrains walking, to the cobbled streets of Recovery Lane, a simulated "mini Main Street," where patients learn how to navigate the everyday aspects of their lives, to the state-of-the-art rehab pool, AristaCare at Cedar Oaks is an extreme example of blending the best clinical care and cutting edge technology to most effectively help patients who suffered a stroke make the most complete recovery possible and return to their lives.

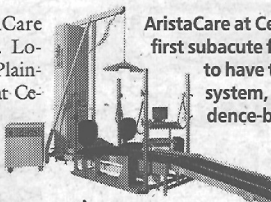
"It's amazing what kind of progress results when no stone is left unturned. We research every clinical approach and every piece of technology available to create the most comprehensive stroke recovery program available," says Renee Pruzansky, senior vice presi-

dent of AristaCare Health Services. Located in South Plainfield, AristaCare at Cedar Oaks was acquired in 2006 and immediately underwent a major overhaul. The company's goal was to create the ultimate stroke rehabilitation program. The most impressive and results-driven high tech equipment was purchased, and the highest caliber acute level resources were established, all with the goal of creating the best stroke recovery program available today.

In an unprecedented move, AristaCare at Cedar Oaks has received Commission on Accreditation of Rehab Facilities (CARF) accreditation for both its rehabilitation and its stroke program, one of the only subacute facilities in the state of New Jersey to distinguish itself with CARF accreditation in both areas.

The center's unique and comprehensive approach to stroke therapy is administered by a team of professionals ranging from therapists to nurses, dietitians and social workers to therapeutic recreation staff, and even a pa-

AristaCare at Cedar Oaks is one of the first subacute facilities in the country to have the TheraStride Trilogy system, a high caliber of evidence-based equipment.



tient concierge team. The expert rehab team constantly sets higher

goals for patients, and combined with positive encouragement and a supportive environment, patients push themselves farther. Unlike other nursing homes and hospitals, AristaCare at Cedar Oaks has a remarkable assemblage of equipment that gets patients moving and improving almost as soon as they are brought to the center.

"Everything we do raises the bar because we've gotten used to higher standards and consider this a mission," Pruzansky concludes. "We want to show our patients that they can still pursue their dreams, even when they have lost so much functionality. It's not just a business for us. We share in the triumphs and milestones of our patients' experiences. That, is pure satisfaction."

For information on any AristaCare facility, including equipment and programs, visit www.aristacare.com.



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Folk Arts Apprenticeship Grants Workshop

Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission and the Folklife Program for New Jersey invites the community to the Folk Arts Apprenticeship Grants Workshop on Saturday, March 13 from 1-2 p.m. at East Jersey Olde Towne Village in Piscataway. This Folk Arts Apprenticeship Grants Workshop will be presented by Kim Nguyen from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts (NJSCA). Please join us along with NJSCA to learn how you, a family or community member can preserve and continue what may be considered a folk art form or cultural tradition that is vital to continuing your cultural heritage.

Do you know a family member, friend, organization, or perhaps yourself, who practices some type of skill or knowledge that is an important part of your culture, or is passed down from generation to generation and is learned by listening and observing? Do you or anyone you know make special foods for important family or religious celebrations? Dance, sing songs, or any other practices that are only to be found within your culture or community?

Here are just some of the many traditions and art forms considered to be a part of what is called folk culture, cultural storytelling, embroidery, handmade quilts, instrument making; beadwork, metal tin designs, folkloric herbal medicine practices, doll making, paper cut designs, cultural rituals and celebrations, weaving, basket making, folkloric dance and music, silversmiths, cultural food preparation, handmade terra-cotta tiles or pottery, woodcarving, cultural languages, egg decoration, needlework, drum making, cultural customs and beliefs, cultural handmade crafts and cultural gardening.

For further information, contact Eva Walters, folklife coordinator, (732) 745-4489, Folklife Program for New Jersey, Middlesex County Cultural & Heritage Commission.

For on-going individualized workshops in your community, contact Kim Nguyen, Folk Arts Program associate, (609) 292-6130, New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

The Folk Arts Apprenticeship Grants Workshop is offered free of charge; registration is required.

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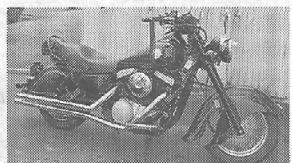
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High School Hall of Fame Seeks 2010 Nominees

The South Plainfield High School Hall of Fame Committee is again holding their search for candidates for induction into the Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame was established at South Plainfield High School to recognize outstanding graduates as leaders in their fields who could serve as role models for current and future students.

To be eligible, candidates must have graduated from SPHS at least 15 years prior to nomination, and have achieved a prominent position in their careers or made a significant contribution to the world/community.

Those candidates selected will be honored at a luncheon and will be inducted into the Hall of Fame at the High School's annual Academic Awards Program on June 2. The nominees will also have their photographs and biographies displayed on a "Hall of Fame" at the high school.

Community members interested in obtaining a Hall of Fame nomination form should call Dr. May at (908) 754-4620, ext. 248 or 249 or stop by the high school for an application. The application deadline is Tuesday, April 16.

Volunteers Needed For Litter Clean-up Week of April 17-24

Yes, we are losing count of snow storms, but the birds have starting singing in the morning. It's time to put Volunteer Litter Cleanup Week on your calendar.

The South Plainfield Clean Communities Advisory Board will sponsor a borough-wide cleanup the third week in April. The main clean-up event will be on Saturday morning, April 17. Volunteers will meet from 9 to 10 a.m. at the municipal building

at 2480 Plainfield Ave., to collect equipment and clean-up assignments. We will target roadsides, parks, streams and vacant lots. Residents are welcome to organize a crew, or to come on their own. All volunteers are invited back to borough hall at noon for a free Pickup Picnic.

Call Alice Tempel, the clean communities coordinator, at (908) 226-7621, or E-mail atempel@southplainfieldnj.com for more information.

Arts In The Garden Tour Tickets on Sale

The Edison Arts Society has announced the date for the 5th Annual Arts in the Garden Tour.

On Saturday, July 17 (rain or shine) five beautiful and unusual residential gardens in Edison and Metuchen will be open to the public. The gardens will all showcase various styles and themes used for gardens.

A special added feature for the event will be a tour of two local historical sites. The Thomas Alva Edison Museum in Edison, which is the original site for the first research and develop-

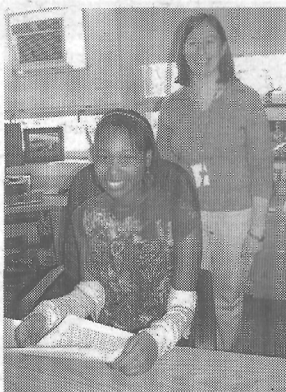
ment laboratory in the United States, and the Franklin School which is a one-room school house circa 1807 which was built by local residents and is listed in the New Jersey Historical Registry.

Tickets are now available at \$20 per adult and going fast. Teens ages 13 to 18 years are \$10 and children under 12 years are free, tickets at the door are \$25. The tour starts at 10 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m.

For additional information and to purchase tickets, contact either the Edison Arts Society

JUNIOR JOURNALIST

Aaliyah King Named This Week's Junior Journalist



Junior Journalist Aaliyah King with teacher Michelle Thompson.

Middle School seventh grader Aaliyah King has been named a winner in the Junior Journalist contest for her composition, "Dear Sanctuary." She has earned dinner for her family courtesy of Hometown Heros.

Students should submit their original written works to their teachers, school principal or the Observer office at 1110 Hamilton Blvd.

Winners will receive a catered dinner for their families from Hometown Heros and will be honored at a year-end banquet this May. Junior Journalists 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.

Dear Sanctuary

By Aaliyah King

Have you ever wondered what the world would be like if you were not here? Each one of these paragraphs holds a piece of my life, soul, and just plain me. Many times have I wished, and my wish was never answered like I wanted it to be. Many times have I wanted, but my wants became my fears. I want to leave here for awhile to see my daddy and Chingi. I love my mother, but sometimes I have to get away. How could someone believe I love my mother less than my stepmother? Fools, all who think this, are stupid fools who do not understand. What will I become?

In life, I want people to see me for me. But only the true ones see me. See what I am able to do. My heart aches for the true ones because they hide in their shadows. Maybe I am a true one. But for the true one, you must hold the sky to the world that unlocks all.

Once, we all believed in fairytales. Now we dream for that stupid childhood dream. The one in which you marry your school or celebrity crush. A dream is something that you want, desire. But is it something that we deserve? No. We work for things that we deserve. Most people dream for free, no pain. I want to deserve my dream, and I will work to get it.

Why do we love so many times? So many loves come, but they always go. I told a friend, don't waste your time chasing when you should be saving your time for someone who needs it. Life is more than what people think. Life has nothing to do with living, breathing. Life is something God gives us. He wants to see how many people are willing to gain, to lose. We lose to gain, but never do we gain to lose. So many people gain, but they choose to lose. They lose what was gained in life because they want more. I have gained, but lost because I could not be happy with what I had. I have learned you never set yourself for something you cannot handle. The world gained, but we lost because we were not ready to accept this life.

God took his son back. I just hope he does not take another. His tears mean nothing now. His tears are history. Those tears represent the blood and sweat that was lost, and he never gained them back. You either ride or die. I will ride because I cried enough to know. There in the mirror we all see it. In this world, there must be thousands of people to trust, but you can only truly trust one. I have done all I can to make people see, hear, and feel. I am not ready to go home yet. I am going to stay and be the star I am. You do not have to be rich and known to be a star. You have to be one of God's children. Every song, picture, word tells a story. My story has only begun.

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

(Continued from page 8)

are next week. Beginning with the SEA draft on Tuesday, March 9; SFC draft is Wednesday, March 10 and SFB draft is Thursday, March 11. All drafts will be held in the clubhouse beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Preseason Work Detail: Begins Saturday, March 13 for parents of seven and eight year old players. Your participation in work detail is vital to preparing the baseball fields for the start of the season. All parents are welcome to come and help us get the fields and complex ready. After this long, hard winter, we need as much help as we can get!

Rutgers Certification Class: The

lone class is Thursday, March 18 in the clubhouse beginning at 6:30 p.m. The fee will be waived for South Plainfield residents. If you are interested in participating on the field with your child's team a SPJBC membership card and Rutgers Certification are a MUST.

Tickets for the SPJBC sponsored South Plainfield High School baseball game at TD Bank Ballpark, home of the Somerset Patriots, will go on sale soon. The date is Sunday, April 18; the opponent is JFK (Iselin) and the time is 11 a.m. Tickets are \$10 each and if you buy three, you get one free. Once we get the tickets, you can see any board member to purchase them.

Opening Day Countdown: April 10 is only five weeks away.

"Little League baseball is a very good thing because it keeps the parents off the streets." -Yogi Berra

Fire Dept. Sponsoring "A Taste of South Plainfield"

The South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department will host a wine, spirits and craft beer tasting event, plus a sampling of foods from our local restaurants at the South Plainfield Senior Center on Wednesday, April 17 at 7 p.m.

The event is sponsored by Oak Tree Wine and Spirits of South Plainfield. Attendees will have the opportunity to taste some of the finest spirits, wines and beers and a wide variety of delicious food from our local restaurants.

Whether you're a novice or connoisseur, you'll increase your wine knowledge and expand your palate. Tickets are \$30 per person; four for \$100. Only 150 tickets will be available.

For tickets, call Ray at (908) 304-3634.

Junior Journalist 2009-2010



Congratulations Dana!

Charlie and Debbie Kurland from Hometown Heros deliver dinner to Junior Journalist winner Dana Turner, pictured with her parents, Wayne and Raycene.

Junior Journalist 2009-2010



Congratulations Stephanie!

Charlie and Debbie Kurland from Hometown Heros deliver dinner to Junior Journalist winner Stephanie Waters, pictured with her parents, Patti and Scott; grandmother, Ann; and brother, Matthew.

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