

South Plainfield Observer

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60 CENTS

MARCH 12, 2010

Police Advise Residents on Safety

More than 300 residents attended the police department's crime prevention meeting at Roosevelt School on Monday evening. The meeting was held in response to an increase in home burglaries, the most serious being three home invasions which have occurred during the past few months, on Amboy Avenue, off Durham Avenue and most recently, 2nd Avenue. The program was held to raise awareness, answer questions and address the concerns of residents.

In addition to South Plainfield Police

Chief John Ferraro, the meeting was attended by police officers and detectives from the crime prevention bureau, Mayor Charles Butrico and members of the Borough Council and the Board of Education.

Chief Ferraro began by providing an update on the investigation of the home invasions, saying, "These incidents were unlike most past burglaries. We believe they were not random events. We believe these were targeted entries of people who owned busi-

nesses, which were cash businesses."

Ferraro stated that the investigation of these burglaries is still ongoing—using a beefed up detective unit and state and federal forensic help, as well as sharing information with neighboring communities to help solve these crimes. Following his update, Ferraro took questions from the audience.

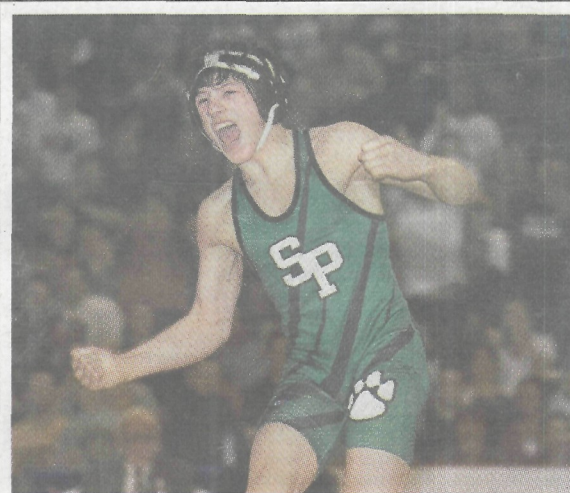
To combat possible future crime activity, Ferraro urged residents to be on guard, and if they see anything suspicious, to contact police. Residents were also encouraged to sign up for a home security inspection whereby police inspect homes and make suggestions on ways to burglar-proof their homes. It is free and open to all residents of South Plainfield. Residents were also reminded to keep their doors locked at all times, even when they are at home, and advised that they do not have to open their doors to anyone.

"It's important that everyone be informed," Ferraro told residents. "You are the eyes and ears for us. If you see a suspicious car, call us and pass the information on to us." He urged all to contact police by dialing 911 or the police non-emergency number, (908) 755-0700. Calling 911 from a home phone will dispatch someone to the location immediately, even if the caller hangs up. However if a call is made from a cell phone, the caller should give his/her exact location, because it may not always go directly to the South Plainfield dispatcher.

Councilman Matthew Anesh, chairman of the Borough Council Public Safety Committee noted, "We are looking at reinstating the Neighborhood Watch program (throughout the borough). I will be meeting with Congressman Lance and ask for additional funding for the police."

Mayor Charlie Butrico assured the public there will be no reduction in manpower, despite the budget crisis the borough is facing. The police department had two officers retire recently, but there is an officer attending the police academy who will be assigned to a patrol unit.

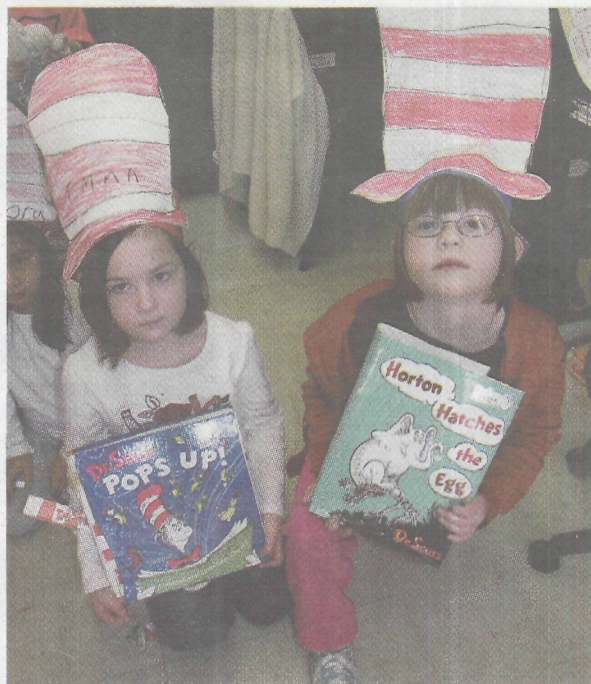
The program concluded with Lt. Charles Seidenberg demonstrating different hardware items on loan from Home Depot that could make a home more secure. To learn more about home security, you can Google "home safety" on your computer and download safety tips. If you would like to sign up for a home safety inspection, call the police department at (908) 226-7684 and ask for Officer LaMonte.



Greater Middlesex Conference

SPHS Freshman Anthony Ashnault Wins State Title

Anthony Ashnault became South Plainfield High School's sixth state wrestling champion, winning the 103-pound final at last Sunday's NJSIAA Wrestling Championships held in Atlantic City. Ashnault was behind 4-2 with only 1:11 minutes remaining and staged a strong comeback, winning the championship match by a score of 6-5. Ashnault finished the year with a 44-0 record.



Dr. Seuss's birthday was celebrated throughout the district last week. See pages 6 and 7 for story and photos.



D.A.R.E. Officers Dave Franchak and Sherilyn Courtney with poster contest winner Gina Bengivenga and essay contest winner Alisa Nguyen.

D.A.R.E. Students Accept the Challenge

South Plainfield Police Officers Dave Franchak and Sherilyn Courtney held the annual Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) graduation program for fifth grade students at Sacred Heart and Grant Elementary school on March 3 and 4, respectively.

Over the past 15 weeks, Officers Franchak and Courtney spent one hour a week with students, teaching them the skills they need to live drug- and violence-free lives. The officers are specially trained to equip children with the tools that will enable them to avoid negative influences and focus on their strengths and potential. The program also helps to establish a positive relationship between students and law enforcement, teachers, parents and community leaders.

Millions of U.S. children in more than 300,000 classrooms in 10,000

communities in all 50 states and millions of children in 43 other countries benefit from the program every year.

Eighth grade middle school student Jacqueline Rivera opened the Grant School ceremony by singing *The National Anthem*. Numerous officials in the community were invited to participate in the graduation. Among those attending were Police Chief John Ferraro, Capt. Paul Brembr, Lt. Charles Siedenburgh, Lt. Kevin Murtagh, Superintendent Jose Negron, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Lorraine Cella, Board of Education members Bob Jones and Debbie Boyle, Mayor Charles Butrico, Borough Council President Matt Anesh, Councilman Ray Rusnak, CFO Glenn Cullen, Borough Clerk Joann Graf, Court Administrator Karen Costantino and Business Association President Debra Leporino. Jeff Kertes was the D.A.R.E. mascot, Daren the Lion.

(Continued on page 12)

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

Don't let it waddle away!

Library Board Approves Move

The South Plainfield Library Board voted 6-1 to lease 14,000 sq. ft. of space at 901 Montrose Avenue.

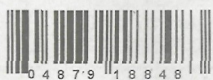
Before the vote was taken, residents were given the opportunity to express their views on the move. Residents who spoke were split, some favoring the move and some opposed.

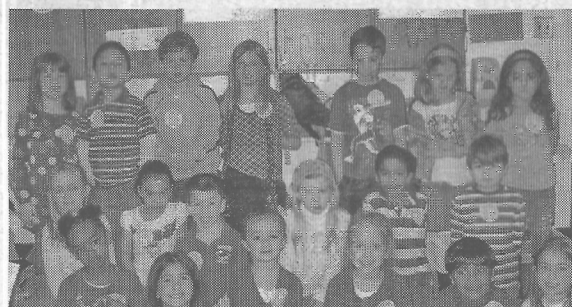
Mayor Charles Butrico asked the board to delay its vote, saying he would appoint a commission to see if they could find a better location.

The board voted 6-1 not to delay a vote and then voted 6-1 to authorize the lease agreement.

The no vote was cast by board member Kathy Thomas, who is opposed to the move. Thomas agreed that a new library is needed, but felt the board should be spending its money on a new building, not on a lease.

The lease will run for 10 years and the library will pay \$275,000 towards the cost of the tenant fit-out.





Kennedy School teacher Carol Christatos' kindergarten class held their own "Olympics 2010." Gold, silver and bronze awards were given to student groups that achieved cooperative behavior. The results were in and all of the children achieved a gold medal award along with a free snack, school store coupon and coloring book.

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

FYI Borough Council & BOE

Council meetings and Board of Education 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. The BOE budget hearing can be seen on Tuesdays at 9 p.m. and Saturdays at 1 a.m. and 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. 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. 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 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)

In My Opinion

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

Dear Editor,

As you may recall I previously wrote urging the library board to reconsider their recommendation to relocate the library to the industrial section of Montrose Avenue. I have noticed that several residents have also sent letters to the editor making the same request. Let me repeat that I have great respect for all of the volunteers who serve on the library board. I can relate to their frustration over the lack of a viable plan to replace the existing inadequate facility. However, the plan to rent space on Montrose Avenue is not the answer. I ask that the library board and the mayor and council immediately come to an understanding on the following items:

(1) The lease under consideration for Montrose Avenue should not be entered into at this time. The mayor and council should at its next meeting adopt a resolution opposing the lease arrangement. They should also take whatever action is available to them under state law to negate it if necessary. Hopefully this action will not be necessary.

(2) A bipartisan committee should be appointed to seek input as to where a new library should be located. Input should also be given as to whether it is better to rent a facility or build one. A certain time should be set to come up with proposals for consideration by our residents. I suggest no later than December 31 of this year.

(3) After recommendations are received another Democracy Day should be held to allow our residents to give their input on the best location.

(4) The mayor and council in cooperation with the Board of Education should explore creating an after school program for older kids. One of the concerns of the library board involves young people hanging around the building after school. After they finish their homework they wait at the library for mom or dad to pick them up. It is my understanding that over \$20,000 was incurred last

year to offset the cost of having a police officer present to maintain discipline. I propose that we reach out to the Rescue Squad about renting their meeting room for after school activities. A flat screen TV and video games could be placed there. Maybe a couple of basketball courts could be constructed on the park area behind the squad. It's a perfect location because it is next to the library and across the street from Spring Lake Park and connected by walkway to Veterans Park.

It's time to stop talking about the problems at the library and start doing something about them. I am sure that other residents have other recommendations. Hopefully this proposal will start the process to come up with a plan of action under which the library board, the mayor and council and most importantly our residents, work together to come up with a solution.

VERY TRULY YOURS,
JEFFREY WILLIAMS

Dear Editor,

On February 25 and 26, the youth group of the First Baptist Church of South Plainfield participated in World Vision's 30 hour famine. The teens went without food for 30 hours, while raising funds to help relieve hunger and poverty worldwide including the

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: spobsobserver@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.

United States.

At the end of the 30 hours the teens and their families enjoyed a spaghetti dinner. We would like to thank and acknowledge those businesses whose generosity made the dinner possible.

Front Street Farmers Market, who provided the fresh salad and bread, Roma Foods for providing the delicious meatballs and Pepperidge Farm for the desserts.

We would also like to thank the following businesses for their continued support in our canning efforts. Quick Chek, 7/11, TD Bank, United States Postal Service, Dunkin' Donuts, Bagel Pantry, Oak Tree Liquors, Shoprite and Costco.

SINCERELY,
RYAN FLANAGAN,
YOUTH COORDINATOR

Three Trapped in Overturned Car

A 2002 Buick Century, operated by Joseph Raiello, 78, of South Plainfield struck a 1997 Dodge Caravan, owned by Marco Vasconez, of Plainfield at the intersection of Tompkins and Grant avenues on March 4.

Raiello was traveling eastbound on Tompkins Avenue when the Caravan, operated by Ludim Barrios, 28, of Plainfield entered the intersection traveling northbound on Grant Avenue. The intersection is a stop controlled intersection with a flashing traffic signal.

The Caravan overturned and came

to rest on the northeast corner of the intersection. Barrios and three passengers were extricated from the vehicle and transported to Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick and were treated for minor injuries. The passengers were Angela Castro, 36, Fredy Ramos, 37 and Gloria Guardado, 28, all of Plainfield. Investigating Officer Lloyd McNelly charged Barrios with being an unlicensed driver, disregarding a stop sign and careless driving. Vasconez was charged with allowing an unlicensed driver to operate a motor vehicle.

The South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department and the South Plainfield Volunteer Rescue Squad responded and took part in the extrication and treatment of the injured parties.

Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield, NJ

Rev. John Paul Alvarado, Pastor

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Mass 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

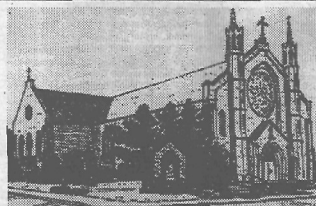
Sunday 9:00, 11:30 a.m.

Daily 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday

7:00 p.m. Monday (Church), Thursday (Parish Center Chapel)

Holy Days 6:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation-Saturday 10-11:30 a.m. and at other times by appointment



South Plainfield Observer

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How to Reach Us



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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

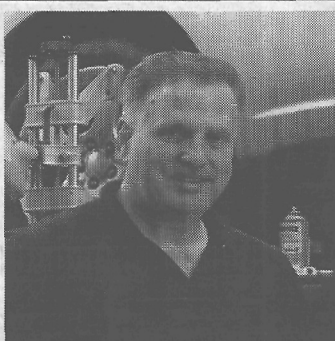
We encourage the submission of stories and photos. To get an article published: Type (double spaced) the article and mail, email or fax. Include name, address and telephone number. Deadline for submission is Monday, 5 p.m.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.



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Middle school bookmark designing contest celebrating Read Across America Day winners are (L-R) Alex Bosse, first place; Julia Prokofieva, second place; and Kelley O'Brien, third place. The winners each received a gift certificate to the Bagel Pantry, a key chain and Dr. Seuss pencils.

Register for Pop Warner Eagles Football and Cheerleading

The South Plainfield Eagles Pop Warner Football and Cheerleading organization will be holding two registration events at the Kenneth Avenue Field House on Saturday, March 20 and Saturday, April 24. Both days will be open for registration between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. You can visit the Web site, www.leaguelineup.com/speagles, to download the registration documents and to learn more details. Don't delay registering your child as teams fill up fast. The first 100 families to register will receive a free gift courtesy of the South Plainfield Football Eagles.

The benefits to our children participating in team sports are innumerable. The number one goal of SP's Pop Warner organization is to provide a safe and fun learning environment for the kids. The coaches will focus on team oriented skills as well as building character through winning, and learning when there is a loss.

Public Meeting for Affordable Housing

A public meeting has been called by the Affordable Housing Agency of the Borough of South Plainfield to discuss the Affordable Housing Program. The meeting will be held on Thursday, March 25 at 6 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue.

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Last Chance To Place SPHS Yearbook Ads

Parents of SPHS seniors: if you have been meaning to place a dedication ad for your graduating student in the 2010 SPHS REGIT yearbook, this is your last chance to send in your ad!

There are a few pages remaining for ads, which will be accepted on a first come-first served basis. Follow these simple steps: compose a short message for your graduating student (or a longer one if you are choosing a larger ad size), pick out photos you would like to include, choose your ad size and include payment. All ads must be received by Wednesday, March 17.

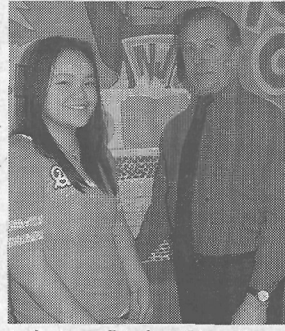
The cost of a full page ad is \$250 and can include 6-8 photos if desired; half page is \$150 (maximum six photos); and a quarter page ad is \$75 (maximum two photos). All materials and payment (checks made out to REGIT) should be dropped off at the high school main office, Attn: D. Egan, yearbook treasurer. Be sure to include the full name of the student, your name and phone number or E-mail address, so that we are able to contact you with any questions.

Library to Close For Staff Training

The South Plainfield Library will be closed Tuesday and Wednesday, March 16-17 for staff training. It will reopen on Thursday, March 18, but there will be no children's program.

JUNIOR JOURNALIST

Koyongian Named Junior Journalist



Junior Journalist winner Mercy Koyongian with Principal Steve Novak.

Middle School seventh grader Mercy Koyongian has been named a winner in the Junior Journalist contest for her composition, "Journey." 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.

Journey

By Mercy Koyongian

My life is a journey. Ever since I stepped into this world, I always wondered where I will end up in 10 years. As time went by, there were many unforgettable memories made. Right now, I'm 13 years old. There is a lot of weight and pressure on me. There are times when I feel like I don't belong here anymore. I know that every step I climb is a new level, a level of life. As you go higher, your life becomes more complicated, but at the end it will change and you will feel free. My life may not be easy right now, but I will stand strong and show the world that this is who I am. I know everything is going to be okay. I have to believe and be thankful for everything I have right now. For I know I'm going to be happy when I accomplish every obstacle I have and win the golden trophy of my life.

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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 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 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.

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. 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.LITC.net for a virtual tour.

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. 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.

American Legion St. Patty's Dinner Dance

March 13

American Legion Chaumont Post #243, Oak Tree Avenue, will hold a St. Patrick's dinner dance on Saturday, March 13 from 6 to 11 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person. Proceeds benefit S.A.L. Squadron 243 Scholarship Fund.

For info call, (908) 668-9414.

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, soda, dessert and cash bar. For more, call Lou Peralta at (908) 756-6406.

So. Plfd. Republican Organization Meeting

March 16

The South Plainfield Republican Organization will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 16 at 7:30 p.m. at Sherban's, located on Front Street. Candidates for Middlesex County Sheriff's office will be speaking.

Rock Darfur Concert

March 19

A concert to raise money to save Darfur will be held at the PAL building, located on Maple Ave. on Friday, March 19 starting at 6 p.m. Bands appearing are A Clear Blurr, The Battle Begun, Matt Koziol and Against the Tide. Performers are SDI and Flipcyde Illstars. Food, games and music; all for a good cause. Cost is \$5 per person.

Franklin School PTO Auction/Raffle

March 20

The Franklin School PTO will be

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

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. If not sold out, tickets can be purchased at the door the night of the auction for \$12.

OLC Lenten Mission

March 20-23

Our Lady of Czestochowa parish will hold a Lenten Mission featuring Rev. David Bialkowski as retreat master. Bialkowski is pastor of St. John Gualbert Parish in Checktowaza, N.Y. Weekend Masses, March 20 and 21, 4:30 p.m., 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.; Monday and Tuesday, March 22 and 23, 8 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. and Wednesday, March 24, 7:30 p.m.

Confessions will be heard on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings after each session.

St. Stephen's Spaghetti Dinner

March 21

St. Stephens Lutheran Church, 3145 Park Ave., is hosting an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner on Sunday, March 21 from 5 to 7 p.m. Includes

beverages and desserts. Free-will offering will be taken. Suggested donation: \$5/adults, \$2/children. No reservations needed.

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

SPHS Athletic Booster Club Comedy Show

March 27

South Plainfield High School Booster Club presents "An Evening Of Stand-up Comedy" on Saturday, March 27 at the PAL on Maple Avenue. Doors open 7:30 p.m. Three comedians. BYOB and food. Raffle prizes and 50/50. Reservations highly recommended. Donation: \$25 per person in advance.

For more information, call Ann Marie at (908) 756-7543.

Republican Org. Victory Dinner

March 27

The South Plainfield Republican Organization will be hosting a victory dinner dance at the Crowne Plaza in Edison on Saturday, March 27.

For information or tickets, call Cynthia at (908) 447-6980.

Lions Annual Palm Sunday Breakfast

March 28

The South Plainfield Lions Club will hold their annual gourmet breakfast on Palm Sunday, March 28 in the SPHS cafeteria from 8 a.m. to noon. Menu includes pancakes, omelets to order, French toast, sausage, bacon and orange juice. Cost is \$6 per person. Come support your local Lions club. Monies raised are used by the Lions club to assist local residents in need, Camp Marcella (camp for the blind), eye banks and seeing eye dogs.

— Out of Town —

St. John the Apostle Gift Auction

March 12

St. John the Apostle School, Valley Road in Clark, will be holding its annual gift auction on Friday, March 12. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and drawings begin at 8 p.m. in the Sr. Donna Marie O'Brien auditorium. Tickets are \$10 in advance; \$12 at the door.

For ticket information, please call (908) 347-4548.

Middlesex East WOWs Open Dance

March 12

Middlesex East Widows Or Widowers, Carteret Chapter, will hold an open dance on Friday, March 12 from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. at the American



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Around Town

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Singles St. Patty's Day Dance Party

March 13
Steppin' Out Singles is hosting an upscale singles dance party at the Woodbridge Hilton, 120 Wood Ave. South in Iselin on Saturday, March 13 at 8 p.m. Admission: \$15; ages 40 and up; no jeans/sneakers. For information, call (732) 656-1801 or E-mail info@steppinoutsinglcs.com.

Disability Awareness Symposium

March 13
The Diocese of Metuchen Disability Awareness Symposium will be held on Saturday, March 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane in Piscataway. Keynote speaker is Tony Melendez; workshops. Cost is \$10 per person. For information, call (732) 562-1990, ext. 1310.

St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef Dinner

March 13
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 info, call (732) 968-6781.

German Dinner Dance

March 13
Singer Hall, 220 Somerset St. in North Plainfield, is holding a dinner dance in the cozy Ratskeller on Saturday, March 13 at 6:30 p.m. A real German Schlachtfest with a pork roast, all kinds of sausages, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, applesauce, etc. Music provided by the Eddie Zee Band. For reservations, call Victor at (908) 276-8572 or Joan at (908) 647-0819.

Send Your Events to:
spobserver@comcast.net
For info on submitting your event, visit www.spobserver.com

southplainfieldpeople Milestones

Lyndsey Murtagh Named to Dean's List

Lyndsey A. Murtagh, a graduate of South Plainfield High School Class of 2009, has been named to the dean's list at Montclair State University. She has earned a 3.55 grade point average in her first semester and is participating in the Montclair State University Ambassador Program. Lyndsey is pursuing a degree in physical education and health.

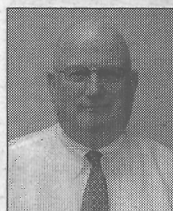
Timothy Moskal Named to Dean's List

Timothy Moskal of South Plainfield has been named to the dean's list at the University of Bridgeport in Connecticut for the Fall 2009 semester. Tim is currently a freshman majoring in graphic design.



Middle School PTO President Debbie Boyle presented librarian Wendy Su with the Caring Award. Su has gone out of her way to assist students with research projects, choose books based on their interests and always lends a helping hand at the PTO Book Fairs. Pictured with Wendy Su (l to r) is student teacher librarian Naomi Sochet, Guidance Counselor Denise DeMello, teachers Katie Wilson, Ann Snee, Michelle Hottendorf, Tracey Gerlitz and PTO President Debbie Boyle.

Skanska USA Hires John Fumosa as Account Manager



Skanska USA has announced that its building business unit, which is a leading provider of construction management, pre-construction, and design-build services, has recently hired John Fumosa of South Plainfield as an account manager in the company's Blue Bell office, serving clients in the Greater Philadelphia area. In his new role at Skanska, Fumosa will apply his more than 30 years of construction industry experience managing high profile construction projects in Philadelphia, New York and New Jersey, including the Eagles Stadium, the US Airways Terminal at the Philadelphia International Airport, and the Cira Center Office Building. His experience also includes a significant

number of projects in the local higher education market including Temple University and the University of Pennsylvania. "John will bring valuable expertise to our higher education projects at Skanska," said Ed Szwarc, general manager and executive vice president at Skanska's Blue Bell office. "His vast experience with high profile projects, in a wide variety of sectors, will provide our clients with the highest quality of service and assist our new business efforts as we pursue additional projects in Greater Philadelphia." Skanska's Philadelphia office has a long-standing reputation in the region for their work in markets such as pharmaceutical, healthcare and higher education. Most recently, the company completed two ground-up construction projects at Lincoln University including a 60,000 sq. ft. International cultural center and a 113,000 sq. ft. high technology building to house computer labs, chemistry labs, and high-tech class-

rooms and lecture halls. Prior to joining Skanska, Fumosa worked at Turner Construction Company and Hunter Roberts Construction Group. He received a bachelor of science in civil engineering from New Jersey Institute of Technology.

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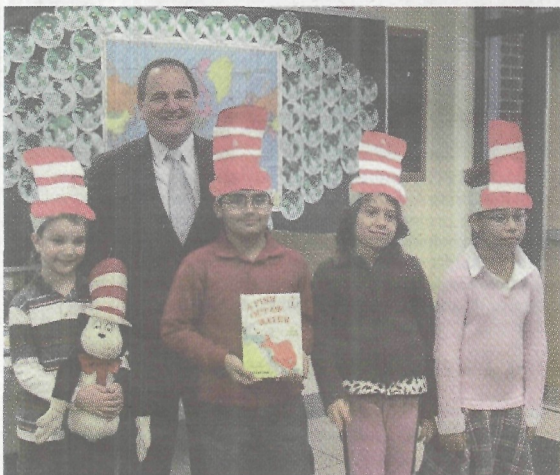
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garden through second grade. First graders enjoyed a colorful mini breakfast of green eggs and ham.

The festivities continued afterschool with a "read in." Pajama clad children armed with books and sleeping bags headed into the gym to spend reading time with their favorite Dr. Seuss book, and to enjoy the movie, *Horton Hears a Who*.

Grant School celebrated both Dr. Seuss's birthday and Read Across America Day. The school librarian met with the students and talked about Theodor Geisel and his illustrious career. They also spent time reading some of his books. On hand to read to a class were South Plainfield Board of Education members Deborah Boyle and Robert Jones.

One portion of the annual project is the observance of Seuss's birthday on March 2. Seuss, who passed away at age 87 on September 24, 1991, is the author of more than 60 books. His first book, *And To Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street*, was written

(Continued on next page)

Children and adults around the world celebrated the 106th birthday of Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known as children's author Dr. Seuss, during Read Across America Week beginning March 1. The program was initiated 12 years ago by the National Education Association to encourage students to read all kinds of books, especially entertaining ones, like those authored by Dr. Seuss.

Roosevelt School reading specialist Patricia Blackadar made arrangements for Police Chief John Ferraro, Senator Barbara Buono, Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan, Superintendent Jose Negrón and Mayor Charles Butrico, along with 40 to 50 South Plainfield High School students, to come to read to students.

In keeping with the celebration of the author's birthday most of the selections read were written by Dr. Seuss; however, Senator Buono brought the book, *Max for President*, by Javite Krosoczka to the combined first grade class of Michèle Santelli

and Julie Anderson. The story tells of a school election between a girl and a boy where the girl wins the election. During the reading, a student raised her hand and asked, "What does candidate mean?" Senator Buono explained and continued reading the story.

Mayor Butrico brought along his favorite childhood book, *A Fish Out of Water*, by Helen Palmer, with illustrations by P.D. Eastman, which he specially purchased to donate to the school library. The book tells the story of what happens when a fish outgrows his fish bowl.

Franklin School joined in the celebration with a variety of activities, both during the school day and after school. In the morning high school students read to students in kinder-



Happy Birthday Sis,

1950 was a good year to give me a sister like you. See, I didn't tell your age. They have to figure it out! Love, Your Brother Bill

P.S. At this age it appears that your neck is bothering you.



Happy Birthday Shirley Thompson!

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in 1937. The book was inspired by the rhythm of the ship's engine while Geisel was returning from Europe. He wrote three more children's books prior to World War II.

Geisel's books have topped many bestseller lists, selling over 222 million copies and have been translated into more than 15 languages. Favorites include *Green Eggs and Ham*, *The Cat in the Hat* and *One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish*. Numerous adaptations of his work include 11 television specials, three feature films and a Broadway musical, *Seussical the Musical*. One Web site on Geisel listed the little known fact on the creation of a well-known Seuss beginner's book. In May of 1954, *Life Magazine* published a report on illiteracy

among school children, which concluded that children were not learning to read because their books were boring. Accordingly, William Ellsworth Spaulding, a textbook editor at Houghton Mifflin who later became its chairman, compiled a list of 348 words he felt were important for first graders to recognize and asked Geisel to cut the list to 250 words and write a book using only those words. Spaulding challenged Geisel to "bring back a book children can't put down." Nine months later, Geisel, using 236 of the words given to him, completed *The Cat in the Hat*.

The winning entries in the Middle School's bookmark designing contest (left to right) first place-Alex Bosse, second place-Julia Prokofieva and third place-Kelley O'Brien.



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Composer and musician, Matthew Fishteyn

Fishteyn Entertains at Library

By Patricia Abbott

The public library recently hosted talented young composer and musician, Matthew Fishteyn of Staten Island. The 17-year-old has been playing piano for more than 10 years and classical guitar for two and a half years.

Fishteyn's piano repertoire includes a wide range of well-known contemporary classical and jazz compositions, as well as original works. His music covers a wide range of styles including classical, jazz, pop, rock and roll, ragtime and more. The February 28 performance also included some of his own pieces.

The afternoon began with an audience of about a dozen. Library visitors working on computers and reading books were drawn into the audience. Soon toes and fingers were tapping in time to the music. Riley School students, Nicole O'Sullivan and Katie Dwyer, began to dance in the aisle. People stopping in to drop off books sat for a few minutes or stood in back

to listen to his music.

Fishteyn graduated from The Special Music School of America in Manhattan. The school combines regular academic classes with rigorous musical training. Fishteyn is currently an eleventh grade student at Tottenville High School in Staten Island.

Fishteyn's interest in performing began at an early age. At two he began to participate in shows at his daycare center. The staff notified his parents of his potential talent. His interest in music began when he was five when he heard a family friend playing piano and asked his parents if he could begin lessons.

Fishteyn's future goals include music composition, especially movie soundtracks. He is also interested in symphony composition.

Fishteyn has performed at a number of libraries across New Jersey. His next performance is April 25 at the Kinnelon Library, 130 Kinnelon Rd.

For more information about Fishteyn, E-mail jzdell@gmail.com.

Sports

By Gary Lampasona

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

Finally we're getting a break with the weather, and it felt a little like baseball season this week.

With player evaluations and Small Fry Drafts complete, managers will be contacting all players in the coming days. Practice will begin next week.

We had a great turnout for Coach Guida's first clinic for the Small Fry C and B players, with over 65 boys and girls participating. The weather cooperated and the kids were outside on the turf field. The session for Small Fry A players will be held on Saturday, March 13 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the PAL. The cost is \$20 for each player and all proceeds benefit the high school program.

Presession Work Detail—The very cold and snowy winter wreaked havoc with our ballfields. We will need the collective help of everyone to get them ready for opening day. The official work detail schedule follows, but we could use everyone's help each week to get the job done.

- Saturday, March 13 at 8 a.m.—Parents of seven- and eight-year-olds.
 - Saturday, March 20 at 8 a.m.—Parents of nine- and 10-year-olds.
 - Saturday, March 27 at 8 a.m.—Parents of 11-, 12- and 14-year-olds.
 - Saturday, April 3 at 8 a.m.—Parents of 13-, 15- and 16-year-olds.
- Rutgers Certification Class**—The lone class is Thursday, March 18 in the SPJBC clubhouse beginning at 6:30 p.m. Call the baseball club at (908) 754-2090 to register. 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.

New Parent Orientation—Any parents new to the SPJBC, or, if you just want to know more, should attend the new parent orientation on Wednesday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the clubhouse.

Snack Stand Sign-up—Wednesday, March 31, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the clubhouse. All parents must complete a snack stand duty for each child playing in the SPJBC. Dates and times are on a first come, first served basis, so come early. You can only sign-up for yourself. If you cannot attend, your snack stand duty date and time will be assigned.

Tickets for the SPJBC sponsored South Plainfield High School baseball game at TD Bank Ballpark, the

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.

Be a sponsor for the opening day program. Cheer your player or team on. Check the parents handbook or download the form from the handouts section of our Web site, the deadline is Wednesday, March 31.

Opening Day Countdown—April 10 is only four weeks away.

You can find all this and more information at our Web site, www.leaguelineup.com/spjbc.

"That's the true harbinger of spring, not crocuses or swallows returning to Capistrano, but the sound of a bat on a ball." ~Bill Vecek, 1976

SP TIGER SKI CLUB

By Debbie Malecki

Club's Last Trip of the Season

The SP Tiger Ski Club went on their final ski trip of the season on March 4 to Mountain Creek Ski Resort. Due to state testing in the school system, the students had a half day and arrived at the mountain about two hours earlier than usual. It was a beautiful day for skiing. The students were all saddened that this was their last trip, but are looking forward to participating again next year.

This group of students has really made us proud, whether someone had fallen or just needed a morale lift; they were there for each other during these

trips. They are a nice group of high school students that represented South Plainfield well.

We want to thank all the parents who volunteered to be call parents, the skiing chaperones and Dr. May and his staff for allowing us to use the high school to store all the equipment.

I would like to take this time to personally thank Frank Malecki, Jr. and Lisa Petriello. If it wasn't for their help above and beyond, this would not have worked as well as it did.

Thank you all and see you next year!



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| Bacardi Light Rum 1.75L— | \$21.99 | Di Saronno Amaretto 750m— | \$21.99 |

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Obituaries

Phillip S. Quagliariello, 95

Phillip S. Quagliariello entered into eternal rest on Wednesday, March 3 at McCarrick Care Center in Somerset.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Phillip resided in Edison before moving to South Plainfield in 1947.

He was employed for 33 years at the former Woodbrook Dairy Farms in Edison and later in Perth Amboy as a general utility worker, retiring in 1978. He was a member of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local #680 Milk Industry Workers Union.

During WWII, he served in the infantry division as a sergeant with the U.S. Army. He had been stationed in the European Theater and was awarded the purple heart for injuries he received in battle. While in Africa, he was captured and held as a prisoner of war for 25 months.

Phillip is a member of the Disabled American Veterans New Jersey State Chapter #28 and a member of the POW Chapter #1 of Fort Dix.

He was a former member of the Oaktree Volunteer Fire Company in Edison, where he held the position of captain and is a life member of the Exempt Fireman's Association of Edison Township as well as a member of the New Jersey State Exempt Fireman's Association.

He was a communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield and a member of the Sacred Heart Senior Citizens, serving as president from 1978 -1991. He also served as the first president of the South Plainfield Senior Citizens and belonged to the South Plainfield Adult School Seniors.

He is predeceased by his wife, Loretta "Lee" (Laquino) in 2005; five broth-

ers, Andrew Quagliariello who was killed in action in WWII, Massimo, Anthony, Salvatore and Peter, and by a sister, Rose Miller.

Surviving are his son, Rev. Phillip J. Quagliariello (Laurie) of Belmar; a daughter, Donna Schleif (John) of Somerset; a brother, Victor and Ann of Union; three grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

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

Theodore M. Kline, 80

Theodore M. Kline died on Monday, March 1 at the Bridgeway Care Center in Bridgewater.

Born and raised in Somerville, Mr. Kline resided in Piscataway for the majority of his life.

Theodore worked for the federal government as a material handler at Fort Monmouth for over 30 years, and during the Korean Conflict, Mr. Kline served with the Marines.

In 2008, his wife of 57 years, Jacqueline, passed away. He is also predeceased by his grandson, Corey Kline, who died in 2009 and by three brothers, Arnold, Harry and Russell.

Surviving are two daughters, Karen Serrano of South Plainfield and Debbie Rabouin and husband Robert of Piscataway and a son, Gary Kline and wife Linda of Calabash, N.C.; two sisters, Shirley Stover and longtime companion Joe Grassi of Piscataway and Ruth Valenti of South Plainfield; seven grandchildren, Justin and Jason Kline, Joseph and Michael Glowacki, Mandy Rook and Paul and Robbie Rabouin as well as three great-grandchildren, Jaxon, Elizabeth and Dylan Kline.

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

Martha V. Robinson, 87

Martha V. Robinson passed away on Tuesday, March 2 at home with her family at her side.

Born and raised in Elizabeth, she resided in North Plainfield and Plainfield for nearly 40 years before settling in South Plainfield in 2004.

During WWII, Martha served as a Rosie the Riveter working for General Motors in the former Linden plant producing the Navy Hellcats. She also worked for the former Strand Department Store and Fleck Knit Wear, both in Plainfield.

Martha was a longtime communicant of St. Joseph's RC Church in North Plainfield and enjoyed trips to Atlantic City casinos, as well as spending time gardening with her dog, Stoli.

She is predeceased by her husband Harold; a daughter, Joyce E. Wills and by two sisters and a brother.

Surviving are a son, Harold "Harry" Robinson and wife Joanne of South Plainfield; five grandchildren, Scott Robinson and wife Lisa and their son Zachary, all of South Plainfield, Charles West, Jeffrey Bender, Christopher Bender and Pamela. Wills and four great-grandchildren.

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

Memorial donations may be made to the South Plainfield Rescue Squad 2520 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

Melinda Lally (Urciuoli) Jimenez, 71

Melinda Lally (Urciuoli) Jimenez passed away peacefully on Saturday, March 6.

Melinda was born in Bayonne to

Grace (Auletta) and Joseph Urciuoli, immigrants from the Campania region of Italy. She attended grammar school at Our Lady of the Assumption in Bayonne. She graduated from the Academy of St. Aloysius in Jersey City in 1955 and went on to study at Georgetown University's School of Nursing until her capping in 1957. She completed her bachelor's degree in education at Seton Hall University in 1961 and received a master's degree in early childhood education from the New Jersey City University in 1978.

Melinda's 33 year career in primary and secondary level, public education in the South Plainfield school system was distinguished by dedication, guidance and tireless advocacy for the specialized learning needs of her new students.

She is survived by her husband, Milton; two sons by her first marriage, Patrick J. Lally and wife Rosemary of Washington, D.C. and Christopher S. Lally and wife Marlene of Glenside, Pa.; four grandchildren, Christopher, Michelle, Patrick and Grace; a daughter, Judith who died in infancy, and a brother, Joseph Urciuoli and wife Li-ana of Port Reading.

Funeral services were held at G. Keenen O'Brien Funeral Home in Bayonne.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations in her memory to Deborah Hospital Foundation, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or American Cancer Society.

Joseph C. Balazs, 93

Joseph C. Balazs died on Monday, March 8 at Robert Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick.

Born and raised in Columbus, Ohio, Mr. Balazs resided in Irvington and Maplewood prior to settling in South Plainfield in 1965.

For 30 years Joe worked for Ches-bor-Whitman in Newark in the ware-house. He retired in 1982.

Mr. Balazs earned two Purple Hearts during WWII while serving in the Army. He also fought in the Battle of the Bulge.

He was a member of the South Plainfield VFW Memorial Post #6763 and was a communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield.

Mr. Balazs took pride in his family, particularly in his grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He always attended his great-granddaughter's annual dance recitals and was often found helping his wife around the house. He enjoyed the Sunday night card games with his family and friends and his trips down to Atlantic City.

He is predeceased by two sisters and one brother.

Surviving are his wife of 62 years, Lena (Santoro); a daughter, Madelyn Aquilina and husband Philip Jr. of South Plainfield, and two grandchildren, Philip III and wife Doris of South Plainfield and Steven Aquilina of Asbury Park. Also surviving are two great-grandchildren, Philip IV and Alexis Aquilina.

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

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policereport

- On March 9, a Plainfield resident was arrested for driving under the influence after he backed into a marked patrol vehicle during a motor vehicle stop. Omar Y. Harris, 37, of 1222 Arlington Ave. in Plainfield was stopped for a traffic violation by Officer Mark Bullock. As the suspect's vehicle pulled to the side of the roadway and the officer exited his patrol car, Harris put his vehicle into reverse and struck the front of the patrol car. Officer Bullock approached the vehicle and placed the car in park to prevent further damage. Harris was arrested for driving under the influence. Neither Officer Bullock nor Harris sustained injuries as a result of the crash.
- On Feb. 23 Amanda Michelle Schifano, 32, of Port Reading was arrested for driving while intoxicated and reckless driving.
- A Grant Avenue resident reported the theft of the rear license plate of their vehicle.

- On Feb. 25 William Jerome Campbell, 52, of Piscataway was arrested for driving while intoxicated, reckless driving, leaving the scene of an accident and failure to report an accident.
- On Feb. 26 Milind Dilip Shah, 20, of Piscataway was arrested at Sears Essentials for shoplifting two bottles of Mustang cologne and a bottle of Baby Phat cologne worth \$108.
- Rahman H. Muhammad, 47, of Orange was arrested for receiving stolen property after taking a GPS from a Fairmount Avenue resident's vehicle.
- On Feb. 28 Michael Rogan Powell, 24, of Piscataway was arrested for hindering apprehension and driving on a suspended license.
- A Basking Ridge resident reported the theft of their purse that was left on the bleachers at the PAL.
- Verizon Wireless on Hadley Road reported the theft of a BlackBerry phone from a display.

- The owner of a bus parked at Engine City Technical Institute on Hadley Road reported that the windows, windshield and headlights were broken and the paint had been damaged.
- On March 1 Adrian Rojas-Horizonte, 20, of New Brunswick was arrested for being an unlicensed

driver, disregarding a red light and an outstanding warrant.

- On March 2 Umara Shahid, 25, of Buffalo, N.Y. was arrested for making an illegal u-turn and an outstanding warrant.
- Francisco D. Rivera, 32, of Newark was arrested for fictitious plates and an outstanding warrant.

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Grant School D.A.R.E. Graduates (Continued from page 12)

Matthias Adams, Aiden Adamson, Rachel Aguiar, Chelsea Alers, Lanae Ali, Elijah Anderson-Claybrook, Hannah Armitz, Jose Arrubla, Chris Ayala, Alexandria Barrios, Serenity Batson, Elijah Beatty, Jason Belanger, Ashli Bell, Jessica Bilak, Andrew Bisgaard, Surindra Boodhoo, Vanessa Borja, Katelyn Borsos, Christopher Bowser, Marquise Bradley, Ayanna Bright, Shane Brophy Knight, Abigail Brown, Christina Brown, Shayla Brown, Divya Budhan, Julie Budhan, Ariel Buenano, Kenny Bui, Cristian Butrico, Kyle Bythell, Genesis Calderon, Samuel Campbell, Gabriella Cangialosi, Amanda Cavaliere, Genesis Ceballos, Alejandro Cepeda, Connie Chen, Sydney Christian, Crystal Chum, Jason Cieszkiewicz, Nicole Cifuentes, Jack Cochrane, Ariel Cortez Ochoa, Matthew Cox, Colby Cross.

Leon Dass, Calvin Davis, Kyle Davison, Leann DeCillis, Cassidy DeGrazio, Megan Decarlo, Jessica Deepan, Salvatore Dente, Lindsey Diamant, Nicholas Diaz, Jenna Dickerson, Anthony Doan, Arlecia Dobie, Matthew Dolan, River Dress, Anthony Eastman, Ziad Elmasry, Nicholas Farinella, Isiah Feeley-Sudeall, Sabrina Fisher, Gregory Forbes, Megan Forster, Austin Frize, Alexandria Frontz, Ny'keem Gaddy, Melissa Galant, Britanny Garcia, Carlos Gil, Jake Giordano, Javier Gonzalez, Julio Gonzalez, Lucas Gonzalez, Anthony Granados, Gabriela Guerrero, Grace Hageman, Ishani Haldar, Dillon Harris, Ny'Asia Haygood, Stephanie Heim, Anthony Hernandez, Diana Herrera, Lovely Hills, Jake Hoffman, Josiah Holloway-Velez,

Aniyah Hooks, Ryan Hu, John Huber, Caitlin Hughes, Dakota Hummel.

Christa Iazzetta, Adanna Ibeke, Tatiana Ishod, Christopher Jefferys, Chace Jones, Gavin Jones, Julio Jones, Marteesse Jones, Patrick Kapolka, Jenna Karcher, Andrew Kensey, Kayla Khan, Elijah Koyongian, Caleb Kuberiet, Charles LaDelle, Anthony Lacasale, Joseph Lacasale, Patricia Lacasale, Stephanie Lacasale, Michael Lampasona, McKenzie Larsen, Nam Le, Isalah Leiby, Elizabeth Lee, Lawrence Lenau, Thomas Licato, Yvianna Lipke, Justice Lipuma, Benjamin Lundy, Drew Mackenzie, Alliana Makowski, Annalise Markessinis, Jared Marks, Diana Marroquin, Ryan Marston, Ashley Martinez, Shanaya Martinez, Nicholas Matos, Emily Mazellan, Ceara McCormick, Michael McCormick, Megan McDermott, Marcus McEachron, William McLaughlin, Mary McNeil, Catherine Mechler, Gabriela Medina, Heather Melendez, Adia Menendez, Morgan Merkle, Owen Milane, Daisy Millan, Brianna Mitchell, Jaiylin Mitchell, Sanjay Mohan, Ethan Montalvo, Anthony Montuori, James Moore, Kian Morgan, Camila Mosquera, Bianca Murcelo, Nicole Murtagh, Claire Nagel.

Liam Nagel, Jessica Neal, Damani Nelson, Helen Nguyen, Justin Nguyen, Steven Nguyen, Dylan O'Connor, Olivia O'Leary, Lawren O'Neal, Danny O'Shaughnessy, Grace Ochoa, Ever Orellana Castro, Jasmine Ortiz, Kimberly Ortiz-Samayoa, Emily Padilla, Alec Paez, Jacob Painton, Anthony Palmeri, Sebastian Paredes, Sierra Pasquarella, Pooja Patel, Raj

Patel, Reina Patel, Riya Patel, Elie Paul, Ricky Pellegrino, Joseph Penyak, Daniel Persaud, Nikolas Peterson, Nicholas Pezolla, James Piedilato, Samantha Pisano, Nicholas Plate, Bryan Dominic Pontevedra, Meagan Praul, Zachary Prehn, Abigail Ramirez, Daniel Ramotowski, Kimber Reels, Joseph Reo, Katherine Reo, Samantha Reo, Scott Riccardi, Dante Rivera, Jacob Rivera, Tyeenah Rivera, Mia Roach, Jameer Robinson, Jaime Rochotte, Selena Rodas, Justin Rodriguez, Nathaniel Rodriguez, Travis Rogers, Sara Roman, Natalie Romano, Angel Ruiz, Kaylah Ruiz.

Alexis Salernitano, Angela Sanchez, Kayla Santiago, Seth Santos, Jean Sapini, Vincent Savoca, Camryn Schaeffer, Gabriel Schuch, Nia Sears-Bullock, John Serro, Bryanna Shaw-Stoudemire, David Shawiak, Benjamin Sheaffer, Pooja Sindha, Jake Smith, Samuel Smith, Cody Soper, Kevin Soper, Michael Soto, Drew Spahn, Owen Sprigle, Justin Spry, Vera Squero, Ryan Stankan, Constantino Stattoudis, Cody Storm, Olivia Stragapede, Nicolea Sutor, Tahirshah Syed, Gina Taricani, Tomasz Tarnawski, David Tavaraz, Michaela Therattil, Adriana Toca, Nicholas Torchia, Michael Tran, Ashley Veliz, Katherine VIII, Jacob Villacres, Lauren Villares, Rena Voelkel, Sandra Vordzorgbe, Andrew Vota, Asadulah Waheed, Joshua Ward, Brianna Weber, Kyle Whalen, Talia Wilson, Aliyah Wimberly, Zachary Wolpin, Jonathan Yanchapanta, Arnold Zavala, Nicole Zultowski.

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D.A.R.E. Students Accept the Challenge

Sacred Heart and Grant School Fifth Graders Graduate

(Continued from page 1)

At the conclusion of the 15-week class students were asked to write an essay and create a poster based on what they learned. Two winners from each class were chosen randomly by the officers. The winners received a stuffed "Daren the Lion" and movie theater tickets.



This year's winners are: first marking period-period 2, poster-Julio Gonzalez, essay-Sebastian Paredez; period 3, poster-Anel Cortez, essay-Ishani Halder; period 4, poster-Scott Riccardi, essay-Jared Marks; period 8, poster-Brianna Weber, essay-Ryan Stankan; period 9, poster-Vinny Sonoca; essay-Andrew Kensev; second marking period, period 2, essay-River Dress, poster-Kaylah Ruiz; period 3, essay-Jason Cieskiewicz, poster-Megan Decasio; period 4, essay-Nicole Murtagh, poster-Samantha Reo; period 6, essay-Sydney Christian, poster-Kyle Davidsson; period 7, essay-Jake Hoffman, poster-Oliva Stragapede; period 8, essay-Genesis Caballos, poster-Caleb Kuberier; period 9, essay-Martecese Jones; poster-Drew Mackenzie.

Sacred Heart D.A.R.E. Graduation

Dave Branchak and Sherilyn Courtney led the March 3 Sacred Heart D.A.R.E. Guest speakers included Mayor Charles Butrico, Police Chief John Ferraro, Borough Council President Matt Anesh, Capt. Paul Brembt, Lt. Charles Siedenber, Rev. Charles Mingle, Asst. Superintendent Dr. Lorraine Cella, BOE member Debbie Boyle, Municipal Court Judge Hon. Spencer Robbins, Father John Alvarado and Sister Nadine.

DARE mascot, Daren the Lion (played by Jeff Kertes), helped the special guests congratulate students as they received their D.A.R.E. class certificates of completion. Essay contest winner was Alisa Nguyen and poster contest winner Gina Bengivenga.

The Sacred Heart School D.A.R.E. graduates are Gina Bengivenga, Nora Bogart, Myrna Brignol, Ethan Dodge, Tatiana Gault, Emily Kearney, Nathaniel Lee, Askia Nash, Alisa Nguyen, Matthew Ozbalik, Alyssa Pitt, Zeli-Anne Policarpio, Rebecca Rhein, Niara Rowe, Anthony Villavicencio and Logan Werrlein.

(See Grant graduates on page 10.)



Junior Journalist 2009-2010



Congratulations Aaliyah!

Charlie and Debbie Kurland from Hometown Heros deliver dinner to Junior Journalist winner Aaliyah King pictured with mom Tsane, Grandma Bertha and brother Justin.

LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Greg Cassio requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit proposed 16' wide by 18' deep (288 sq. ft.) deck lacks required 8' side yard setback; 8' proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 564 Harrison Avenue, Block 166, Lot 31, Zone R-7.5 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, March 25, 2010 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at 7:00 p.m.

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

\$38.50

March 12, 2010

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Boar's Head Combo 2/3 lb. Genoa Salami	Boar's Head American Cheese	Boar's Head Deluxe Ham	5 lb. bag All-purpose Potatoes	Romaine Lettuce	Romaine Lettuce hearts
\$5.99 lb.	\$3.99 lb.	\$5.99 lb.	79¢	89¢ hd.	\$1.99 bag