

# South Plainfield Observer

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60 CENTS

MAY 21, 2010



Nicole Sullivan performs at the Cultural Arts Commission Talent Showcase. For story, turn to page 6.

## Revised Maps Redefine County's Flood Zones

48 borough properties removed—64 added; Residents are urged to consider insurance

Emergency Management Coordinator Mike Zushma has announced that new Middlesex County flood maps will

*Purchasing insurance while still technically in a low risk zone will offer property owners the advantage of a "grandfathered" status.*

go into effect on July 6. The good news for South Plainfield property owners is that 48 properties will be removed from the flood zone; the bad news is that 64 properties have been added.

For the past seven years, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has been revising flood maps across the nation to ensure they reflect new developments, changes in topography, and changes in water pools and flows. The goal is to provide individuals and officials with the most accurate assessment of their risk for flooding, the country's most prevalent natural disaster. The underlying rationale is that when people know their risks, they can work to mitigate them.

Although there is a net loss of over 1,100 structures in the county's newly defined flood plain, many towns have substantial increases in the number of properties designated as residing in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). South Plainfield residents are urged to check the status of their property on the new map at either the municipal office or online at [www.rampp-team.com/nj.htm](http://www.rampp-team.com/nj.htm). Go to the Middlesex County Flood map, click on the search button on the top right of the page and fill in the property address.

Inclusion in a SFHA carries a mandatory flood insurance requirement for all structures with a federally backed mortgage. Homeowners in one of Middlesex County's newly

defined flood plains with a mortgage held by a bank with Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) protections will be required to obtain a flood insurance policy.

To minimize the cost of the insurance, residents are urged to buy flood insurance prior to the revised designations when the new map takes effect on July 6. Doing so will ensure that the insurance premium will reflect the reduced risk for flooding of your location on the current map. Residents who wait until after the new map takes effect will have to pay the full premium associated with risk of being in a newly defined flood plain. Purchasing insurance while still technically in a low risk zone will offer property owners the advantage of a "grandfathered" status. This means that although the cost of a one-year flood insurance policy will likely increase each year, you will never be paying as high a rate as you would if you wait until after the new maps goes into effect to purchase flood insurance.

One example of savings by purchasing flood insurance before the map takes effect is as follows: coverage for a \$200,000 structure is \$368 for a preferred risk policy, or \$1,000 for a B,C,X Zone grandfathered structure before the map becomes effective and \$1,764 after the new map takes effect.

According to FEMA, private insurance is the most effective defense against losses associated with a natural disaster that is four times more common than a fire over the life of a 30 year mortgage.

## 2010 Municipal Budget Introduced

The 2010 municipal budget was introduced at Monday night's Borough Council meeting. If passed, residents will see a reduction in the municipal portion of their property tax bill. According to Councilman Ray Rusnak, chairman of the Administrative, Finance and Public Information Committee, a property with an assessed value of \$122,500 will see a decrease of \$178 in their 2010 property taxes from 2009.

Rusnak explained that this year's municipal budget was a huge challenge because of the substantial reduction in state aid. The goal was to find innovative ways to cut spending without cutting services while keeping property taxes flat.

Councilmen Robert Bengivenga, Jr. and Matt Anesh also serve on the finance committee.

The finance committee had additional work this year after voters rejected the proposed Board of Education budget in April. Last week the committee formally recommended cut-

ting the BOE budget by \$1.5M. The council voted unanimously to accept the recommendations.

In January Rusnak asked members of the council to make recommendations on spending cuts prior to starting to work on the municipal budget. Soon thereafter the council began implementation of some of the suggestions, including staff reductions, rebidding of the borough recycling contract and refinancing of borough debt. The borough also bonded \$800,000 to help offset the payout of retiring employees. Repayment of those bonds will not be included in this year's budget.

Because this is the borough's first full calendar year budget, it is difficult to compare expenses and income to last year's. Last year's municipal taxes were based on two separate municipal budgets; the first half of 2009 included the final two quarters of the 2008/2009 budget which traditionally is always higher than the first two quarters of 2008; and the second half of 2009 was a six-month budget introduced so that

the borough could move to a calendar fiscal year. In the interest of drawing a comparison Mike English asked CFO Glenn Cullen to provide him with the figures of the last fiscal year budget.

Commenting on the budget, Mayor Charles Butrico said that the finance committee did a great job on keeping taxes down, but added that this year's budget shows an increase of \$1M in spending and asked the committee to keep working on finding spending cuts.

Council President Matt Anesh announced that he is forming a budget committee and asked Councilwoman Chrissy Buteus to serve on it along with members of the finance committee.

The finance committee also announced that they will be holding budget meetings on Wednesday and Thursday, June 9 and 10. The time and place to be announced.

A public hearing on the budget will be held at a special meeting on Monday, June 28 at 7 p.m. in borough hall. Copies of the municipal budget are available in the clerk's office.

## BOE Accepts \$1.25M in Cuts, Adopts Budget

By Libby Barsky

Two days after the Borough Council voted unanimously to recommend cutting \$1.25M from the defeated \$52,299,264 school budget, the BOE approved the council's recommendations and formally adopted the 2010/2011 budget.

The final budget of \$51,149,264 includes \$48,804,444 for the general fund, \$161,700 in grants and entitlements and \$1,182,120 in debt services. The amount raised by taxes is \$39,438,003 in the general fund and \$1,183,120 for debt service. The reduced tax rate of 2.7988 for the 2010/2011 school year will be lower than the 2009/2010 rate of 2.823.

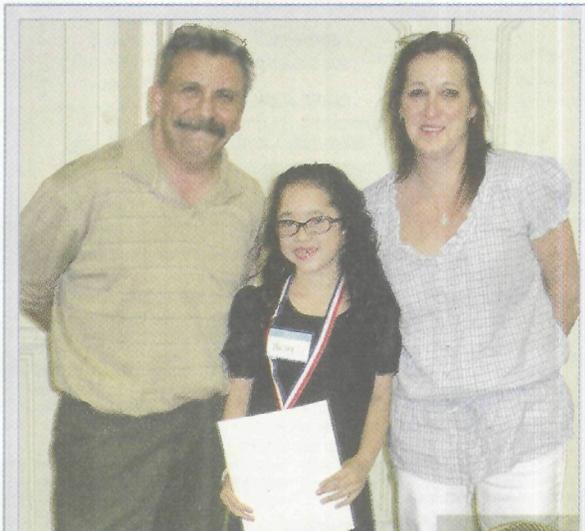
As the 2010/2011 budget was being formulated, the district suffered cuts in state aid and also had its \$1.5M

in 2009/2010 surplus appropriated by Governor Christie. This resulted in drastic cuts in teaching staff and programs in the budget, including the reduction of 33 positions in teachers and teacher aides and a 25% reduction in supplies for all the district schools.

The \$1.25M cut will result in additional reductions in programs. Although the full day kindergarten program initiated for the 2009/2010 school year will continue in the coming school year, two other long term programs—summer school and the adult high school program and its director—have been eliminated in the budget. The director of technology, an administrative position, has also been eliminated. Further reductions are being considered, including the elimination of freshman sports, winter varsity track, competition cheerleading, varsity swimming, fall weight training and the elimination of team leaders in the high school and middle school.

To make up for the \$1.25M reduction, the budget will reflect decreases of \$350,000 from budgeted raises for teachers, school sponsored athletics, secretaries and support services, as well as \$100,000 by eliminating the position of adult school director; \$250,000 savings in health benefits costs by changing to a new health insurance provider; and \$375,000 from a 1.5% employee contribution to health insurance—all amounting to a total of \$1,075,000. The remaining \$175,000 will come from the general fund surplus in the 2010/2011 budget.

The immediate effect of the reduction was the board approval of the withdrawal of \$300,215 from its current expense emergency reserve to meet an increase in total health care costs; the appropriation of \$1,199,785 in excess surplus identified in the audit of June 30 from the 2010/2011 budget; and to use \$175,000 from the general fund surplus in the 2010/2011 budget.



**And the winner is....**

Junior Journalist Hailey Brooke Medina accepts the Ruth Kurland Memorial Award (\$1,000 savings bond) from Charlie and Debbie Kurland at the seventh annual Junior Journalist banquet on May 12. For story, turn to page 7.



Want to stay 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. BOE meetings air on Thursdays at 7 p.m.

To purchase a complete copy of a council or BOE meeting, contact the Observer.

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

### council meetings

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

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

**Agenda Meeting ..... Public Meeting**

June 7 ..... June 7  
June 21 ..... June 21

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.

### planningboard

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

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

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**

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.

**Committee of the whole meetings: June 9, July 14, Aug. 11, Sept. 15, Oct. 13, Nov. 10, Dec. 8. 2011: Jan. 12, Feb. 9, March 2 and March 30.**

**Regular Public Meeting: June 16, July 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 22, Oct. 20, Nov. 17, Dec. 15. 2011: Jan. 19, Feb. 16, March 16, April 6.**

### 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.

### BOE buildings & grounds

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

### 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. 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

June 9, July 14, Aug. 11, Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10, Dec. 8, Jan. 12 2011

### business advisory group

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

### ad hoc alternative truck route committee

Questions? 908-226-7605 Monday, June 28



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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.

## In My Opinion

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

### To the Editor:

I had the pleasure of attending the Junior Journalist banquet held on May 12 at the American Legion. It was an incredible evening!

Charlie and Debbie Kurland of Hometown Heros partner with Nancy Grennier of the *South Plainfield Observer* to run this program throughout the school year. Students from South Plainfield schools write poetry, songs and essays and submit them. Winners are chosen weekly throughout the school year and each is treated to a catered dinner provided by Hometown Heros and have their photos with their teacher published in the *South Plainfield Observer*.

All the winners and their families were invited to an end of year banquet sponsored by Hometown Heros and the *South Plainfield Observer*. The students read and/or performed their selected pieces for the audience of parents and dignitaries. They were each presented with a Junior Journalist medal, a framed picture of the student with their teacher and a certificate from Hometown Heros. South Plainfield Mayor Charles Butrico and Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan were also on hand to award the students with citations.

Three winners were also chosen to receive savings bonds. The first place winner took home a \$1,000 savings bond from The Ruth Kurland Memorial Award. TD Bank also awarded a second place winner with a \$75 savings bond and a third place winner with a \$50 savings bond.

This program has grown over the seven years that these incredible people have been running it. Charlie, Debbie and Nancy and her staff are incredible! I was extremely honored to have been invited to attend, and very glad that I was able to attend this year. The students were excited to be there and read their winning entries to the entire audience.

Charlie Kurland is a member of the South Plainfield Education Foundation. The Education Foundation is very proud of what Charlie, Debbie and Nancy have accomplished with this program. If anyone would like to help contribute to this program—the Education Foundation would be happy to accept donations toward the program for next year. Our address is: South Plainfield Education Foundation, P.O. Box 733, South Plainfield, N.J. 07080. Our tax ID number is

available for those making a donation and requesting a receipt.

Please check out Hometown Heros website at [hometownherosdeli.com](http://hometownherosdeli.com) for more information about this program.

You can also check out the Education Foundation website at [www.vision2001.org](http://www.vision2001.org) for more information on the foundation.

I would like to extend congratulations to all the winners of the Junior Journalist contest this past year. They have done a great job! Keep writing during the summer. I look forward to seeing the winning entries all during the next school year.

**SINCERELY,  
MARJORIE M. REEDY  
PRESIDENT-SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

### Dear Editor,

Last week a united Borough Council reduced taxes for homeowners by finding ways to reduce the school board budget which was defeated by the voters in April. Instead of increasing by \$100, residents will now see a \$15 decrease in their school taxes this year. The council's \$1.25M reduction doesn't cut one teacher, nor does it eliminate a single program for our students. In fact, just the opposite; the council recommended additional ways to bring teachers and programs back.

I want to personally thank the plan's architect, Councilman Ray Rusnak, who heads our finance committee. About a month ago I assigned that committee the responsibility for reviewing the board's budget. I urged the committee to come up with ways to save money that would not take teachers out of the classroom or in any way hurt the students. After many long hours working with Glenn Cullen, our CFO/administrator, and Bob Swisher, our auditor, Rusnak presented a plan that did just that.

I also want to commend the entire council for their teamwork. Rusnak worked hard to make the budget review a bipartisan endeavor. Once the cuts were sketched out, Rusnak reached out to Mayor Butrico who immediately got on board and worked to make sure the others in his party would do the same. The mayor de-

### 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 email: [spobserver@comcast.net](mailto: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.

serves a thank you for the role he played.

The work's not over, as the school board must still decide whether to follow our recommendations, which we tried to make as flexible as possible. Rusnak called the budget reductions a win for the taxpayers and the children. I agree.

**MATTHEW P. ANESH,  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

### Dear Hometown Heros and the South Plainfield Observer,

Once again, the Junior Journalist banquet was terrific. I want to thank you for acknowledging our children for their hard work and accomplishments. It will be a night they will remember for a long time. Everything was perfect: the honored speakers, all the awards and pictures, and the children's readings.

As I said before, "It takes a village to raise a child," and I am glad that Hometown Heros and the *South Plainfield Observer* are part of our village!

**THANKS AGAIN,  
CYNTHIA SEVERINO,  
JOHN F. KENNEDY SCHOOL,  
FOURTH GRADE**

### To the Editor:

Congratulations to the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department for the show they put on for the people who braved the winds of May 8. Ruby Shooz played music for two uninterrupted hours and performed beautifully. The applause after each song showed that the audience was into it and enjoyed the professionalism of each performer. My wife and I were very satisfied with everything.

**BOB WATKINS**

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# Events

## Sacred Heart Concert Series

May 23

Come celebrate the gifts of the spirit with the Festival of Catholic Church Organists on Pentecost Sunday, May 23 at 3 p.m. in the church. The concert will feature William R. Berg, Sr. Augustine of Canterbury in Kendall Park; Christopher M.C. Deibert, Sr. Mary's in South Amboy; Daniel Mahoney, Sacred Heart Church and Anthony Nardino, St. Peter the Apostle in New Brunswick and the Catholic Center at Rutgers University.

## Scrapbooking Day Event at the Elks

May 23

South Plainfield Elks, 1254 New Market Ave. is hosting a scrapbooking event on Sunday, May 23 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registration fee: \$35 in advance; \$40 at the door. Eight full hours of cropping time, lots of layout ideas, door prizes and fun! Light breakfast and lunch will be served. Snacks and beverages will also be provided.

For information or to register, call Sandi Smith at (908) 656-4041.

## Annual Memorial Day Ceremonies

May 31

The American Legion Post #243 and The VFW Memorial Post #6763 invite the public to their annual Memorial Day ceremony on Monday, May 31. Ceremonies start at the VFW

on Front Street at 9 a.m. and end at the American Legion Post on Oak Tree Avenue about 10:30 or 11 a.m. In between there will be a wreath laying ceremony at Veteran's Park and the three cemeteries in South Plainfield.

Refreshments served afterwards at The American Legion Post. The public is welcome to attend.

## Rescue Squad Flea Market/Craft Sale

June 5

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad will hold a flea market/craft sale on Saturday, June 5 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the rescue squad building located on Plainfield Avenue. Tables are available for \$25.

For additional information or to reserve a table, call (908) 917-7920.

## First Annual 5K Run And Family Fun Walk

June 5

Sacred Heart School is holding its first annual 5K run and walk on Saturday, June 5. Race time is 9 a.m.; check in at 7:30 a.m. at Sacred Heart School, 1 Sacred Heart Drive.

Entry fee for the 5K race is \$25; \$5 for students with valid school ID or report card copy. Entry fee for one mile walk is \$10 per family or individual. Free t-shirt to first 100 paid participants.

Register at [www.sacredheartsp.net](http://www.sacredheartsp.net) or mail application with check payable to the above address.

For more information, email Carl Adlassnig at [randcautobody@aol.com](mailto:randcautobody@aol.com) or call (908) 757-1933.

## Feast of Sacred Heart Celebrated

June 11

A Mass to celebrate the Feast of the Sacred Heart will be held on Friday, June 11 at 7 p.m., followed by an evening of sacred music featuring the talents of the Sacred Heart Handbell Choirs, children's choir and adult choir under the direction of Daniel Mahoney.

## — Out of Town —

## Upscale Singles Dance Party

May 22

Steppin' Out Singles is hosting an upscale singles dance party on Saturday, May 22 at 8:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, 3050 Woodbridge Ave. in Edison. Ages 40 and up; no jeans/sneakers. Admission: \$15.

For info, call (732) 656-1801.

## Feline Fundraiser

May 22

The Monmouth County SPCA will be hosting its first feline fundraiser on Saturday, May 22 from 6 to 10 p.m. at the MCSPCA Homeward Bound Adoption Center, 260 Wall St. in Eatontown. Admission is \$75 per person.

For reservations or information, please call (732) 542-1558. Additional information is also provided at [www.mcspcattales.org](http://www.mcspcattales.org).

## A Peek Into Plainfield's Finest Homes

May 23

The United Way Community Council of Plainfield will host the second annual Maidens in May Plainfield House Tour on Sunday, May 23 from 2 to 6 p.m., with a reception follow-

## SENIOR CENTER Calendar

### Coming Up.....

June 7-10 Niagara Falls  
Oct 11-15-Indian Head Resort  
(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

### WEDNESDAYS

Aerobics ..... 8:45 am  
Computer 10 am, 11:30 am, 1 pm  
Line Dancing ..... 10:30 am  
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, 1:30 pm  
Exercise Class ..... 1:15 pm

### 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.

Call (908) 754-1047 for more info or visit [www.southplainfieldnj.com](http://www.southplainfieldnj.com)

Senior Center is open daily 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Saturdays and Sundays.

ing at The Tree Lawn Estate from 4 to 6 p.m. The house tour is being held in association with FOSH's (Friends of Sleepy Hollow) annual garage sale, scheduled from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Proceeds from this event will benefit the Plainfield Medical Transportation Fund. This year's recipients are the Plainfield Rescue Squad and the American Red Cross Tri-County, both located in Plainfield. Tickets for \$25 will be sold at The Tree Lawn Estate, 1038 Central Ave. and 1401 Evergreen Ave.

For information, call (908) 353-7171, Ext.138.

## American Boychoir Spring Concert

May 23

The American Boychoir and the Alumni Chorus annual Spring Homecoming Concert will be held on Sunday, May 23, at 4 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Trenton. Tickets, \$30 or \$20, can be purchased by call-

ing 800-714-6018.

For more information, visit [www.americanboychoir.org](http://www.americanboychoir.org).

## Depression/Bipolar Support Meeting

May 26

The Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance will feature at its monthly educational meeting Bernard Ivin, licensed clinical social worker, on Wednesday, May 26 at 7:45 p.m. using the facilities of the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship, 21 Normandy Heights Road in Morristown. The public is invited; a nominal donation is requested from non-members.

For more, call (973) 994-1143 or (800) 367-6274.

## Fruhlingsfest Spring Festival in Clark

May 30

Deutscher Club of Clark, 787 Featherbed Lane in Clark is holding Fruhlingsfest-Spring Festival, the first picnic of the season on Sunday, May 30 from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Open to the public, rain or shine. German American live band from 1-6 p.m. German American food available-no outside food or beverages permitted. Donation: \$5 pp/children under 12 free.

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

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NEWS FROM THE Suburban Woman's Club

Club Members Honored at Annual Convention



June Flannery is named to the honor roll of the Federation. Club President Lucy Hudson made the presentation.

on the honor roll two years ago, was inducted in the Order of the Lilies, the organization comprised of special honored women.

The members of the club joined in applauding these two honorees at the regular club meeting held at the American Legion on May 6.

Special Project Chairman Natalie Bergen reported on the successful luncheon fashion show held on April 25. The proceeds will be divided between Autism New Jersey and the club's Scholarship Fund.

Education Chairman Debbie Vokral reported that her committee met to chose the recipients of the two scholarships that the club will be awarding to graduating South Plainfield High School seniors.

Proposed new member Whitney Haggerty joined the women participating in a "Pound Auction" with everyone having a grand time bidding on packages containing a pound of "something" ranging from a pound of grass seed to a pound of pennies.

The final meeting of the club year will be a banquet held at Giovanna's Restaurant to feature the installation of the officers for the next club year: Lucy Hudson, president; Natalie Bergen, vice president; June Flannery, treasurer; Diane Gallo, recording secretary and Mary Ann Iannitto, federation/corresponding secretary. Banquet Chairman Grace Bertucci announced that she will be taking reservations for the affair.



Marge Reidy is inducted into the Order of the Lilies.

Five members of the Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield attended the annual convention of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs held at the Trump Plaza in Atlantic City on May 4. June Flannery's name was placed on the honor roll of the Federation; Club President Lucy Hudson related her many accomplishments and offices held in her service to the club and the community.

Marge Reidy, who had been placed

Artistic Scholarship Established in Name of SPHS Graduate

A new scholarship for artistic students, the Jim Painton Scholarship Fund, is being established this year in memory of James Painton, a South Plainfield High School graduate and lifelong resident of the borough.

Painton, whose studios were located in South Plainfield for many years, helped bring a new level of creative and technical expertise to the design field. His tireless efforts on behalf of his clients as well as his eagerness to help his friends and colleagues won him respect and admiration within the

graphic arts community. He could always be counted on to make the "impossible" projects a reality.

His talents were not limited to commercial graphic design, but also included cartooning, creative writing and even songwriting. In 1986, one of his songs captured the attention of Howard Stern, whose humorous radio program with WXRK (K-Rock) in New York attracted a large audience in the greater metropolitan area. Painton was awarded a trip to London, England for a song parody he entered in the competition.

The scholarship is intended to inspire creative students from SPHS and is not limited to graphic design. Its purpose is to encourage students in

graphic arts, music, theatre, animation, puppetry, poetry and creative writing.

The first scholarship will be presented on June 2 by Mara Walter, a respected art educator who taught Painton.

Those who would like more information or would like to contribute to the scholarship fund should email runninman@comcast.net. Please put "Jim Painton Scholarship" in the subject line.



Troop 207 Boy Scout Alex Kelly with The Simpson Family.



Rich Franszon, Scoutmaster John Mocharski and Izhak Ifrach.

Spaghetti Dinner Proceeds Support Troop 207 Outings

By Patricia Abbott

South Plainfield Boy Scout Troop 207 held their annual spaghetti dinner at the American Legion Post on Oak Tree Avenue on April 17. The American Legion Post is the charter organization for the troop.

The boys and adult volunteers, along with Scoutmaster John Mocharski, worked to prepare and serve over 200 dinners between 4 and 8 p.m. The scouts set up and decorated the hall, bussed tables and served meals. Parents handled food preparations and assisted with the cooking.

Scoutmaster Mocharski, who

was attired in a red chef's jacket, ran an efficient kitchen and kept the event running smoothly.

All of the food was donated. Desserts were available for purchase. Takeout service was also available.

The funds raised will be used to replace or purchase equipment and to offset the cost of outings, including summer camp.

Troop 207, consisting of 11 scouts, meets at the American Legion Post on Thursdays from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

The troop originally held all-you-can-eat chili dinners at the high school, but switched to spaghetti dinners about five years ago.

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South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission Talent Showcase



# South Plainfield's Got Talent!

25 acts featured in SPCAC's second talent showcase

By Patricia Abbott

Twenty-five performing acts had the opportunity to demonstrate their talents to the community at the South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission (SPCAC) second annual Talent Showcase. The two-hour event was held at Fellowship Hall in Wesley Methodist Church on May 1.

The event featured South Plainfield solo performers, family acts and friends performing together. Participants ranged in age from 6½ to senior citizens who sang, danced, recited poetry, played instruments and performed stand up comedy. More than 100 audience members

cheered on their favorites.

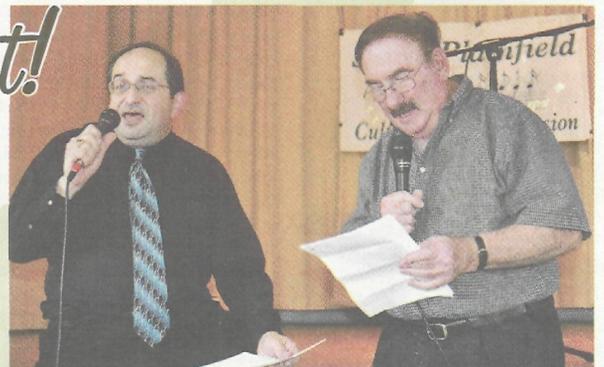
The talent showcase auditions were held in April. Over the course of two days approximately 25 acts auditioned in hopes of a spot in the show. Each performer had three to five minutes to impress the judges with their poise, stage presence, overall impression and talent.

Judges for the auditions were SPCAC members and Councilwoman Chrissy Buteas. The judges had quite a challenge to determine who would become the finalists.

Talent Showcase Chairperson Pamela Stefanek said, "Chrissy was very instrumental in connecting me with the Board of Education and

Superintendent Jose Negron, allowing us to communicate to students of our town. This led to a very diverse show. Last year we had only seven performers. I'm excited about how the program has grown, both in the number of acts, age level and types of performances. The showcase provides a platform for all to express their talents, rather than a competition."

Performing in the show were Kristiana Buschan, Jessica Dandola, Kyle Gallardo, Chloe Lahaie, Hailey Medina, Nicole Mehl, Nicole O'Sullivan, Kimberly Sheedy, Ellie Tom, Amanda Ciardiello, Kim Lam, Katherine Dolinski, Brianna Weber, Denise Weber, Christian Weber, Chloe Wilson, Claire



Minarck, Lee Jackson, Jesse Lacerda, Barry Gould and Ken Reisch.

Girl Scout Troop 65118 purchased and baked refreshments. SPCAC member Ken Cavanaugh donated his services as photographer for the event.

The SPCAC consists of a group of dedicated volunteers who work to bring a variety of programs and performances to the citizens of South Plainfield and surrounding communi-

ties. The commission is always seeking volunteers to assist in organizing events and programs. If you have a talent or know someone locally who does, we encourage you to audition for next year's program.

To volunteer or to learn more about SPCAC, email [spcac.nj@gmail.com](mailto:spcac.nj@gmail.com); contact SPCAC chair Pamela Stefanek at (908) 754-2381 or visit us on Facebook (South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission).

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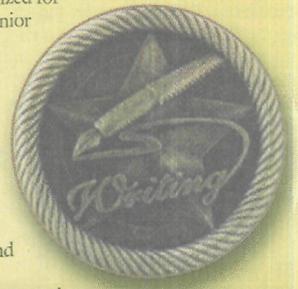
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### Junior Journalists Honored at Annual Banquet

Twenty-six school students in grades one through seven were recognized for their achievements in the area of creative writing at the seventh annual Junior Journalist banquet on May 12.

Students and their families were honored by representatives of the State of New Jersey, local government, as well as Hometown Heros and *South Plainfield Observer*, co-sponsors of the annual contest. After a dinner donated by Hometown Heros, students presented their works to the crowd of close to 140 people. Each student received citations from the state and the borough, a medal and a framed photograph of themselves with their teachers.



Junior Journalist Hailey Brooke Medina was awarded the Ruth Kurland Memorial Award, a \$1,000 savings bond, in the name of Charlie Kurland's mother. Stephanie Waters and Kyle Gallardo were recipients of savings bonds donated by TD Bank.

Roosevelt School teacher Michael Bertram, whose students annually submit hundreds of entries, treated the crowd to humorous poetry conveying the ups and downs of (and his love of) teaching eight-year-olds.

The annual contest is open to K-12 students who live in the Borough of South Plainfield. The eighth annual Junior Journalist contest will begin this October and run through April 2011.

This year's winners are Het Patel, Sarah Sajid, Amirtha Bharathan, Calista Modernel, Alex Amato, Christina LoBosco, Walter Lopez, Neha Lund, Steven Colicchio, Kaylie Macpherson, Jade Nicole Scotti, Aaliyah King, Yenefiker Alamerew, Daria Turner, Stephanie Waters, Alex Pear, Kyle Gallardo, Dania Mohtadi, Angela B. German, Katalina Bedoya, Billy Keane, Gianna Ruzicka, Jackie Battista, Hailey Brooke Medina, Aishwarya Rajesh and Mercy Koyongian.

**Students: Sharpen your pencils & fire up your creativity ...the contest begins in October.**

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Saturday June 5, 2010

Check in 7:30 a.m., Race time 9 a.m.

Sacred Heart School, 1 Sacred Heart Drive, South Plainfield, NJ 07080

Entry fees for the 5K Race: \$20 for applications received by May 1; \$25 after May and on the day of the race; \$5 for students with valid school ID or report card copy. 1 MileWalk: \$10 per family or individual.

**Free T-Shirt to First 100 Paid Participants**

Register at [www.sacredheartsp.net](http://www.sacredheartsp.net) or mail application with check payable to Sacred Heart at the above address.

For more information, contact Carl Adlassnig at (908) 757-1933 or via email: [randcautobody@aol.com](mailto:randcautobody@aol.com)



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# Sports

## SOCCER

By Dawn Hutchison



Adrian, Boris and Tony, members of the Red Bulls evaluation team, with participants at last week's SPSC tryouts. Over 163 kids came out over the course of the four days of tryouts.

### Club Holds Tryouts; Raffle Winner to be Drawn

The SPSC held open tryouts this past week and doing the evaluations for the club were the New York Red Bulls. As part of contracting the Red Bulls for Fall training for our teams, they have agreed to handle our tryout evaluations. Trainers came out and set up the drills and scrimmages that enabled the kids to show their skills on the fields. Approximately 163 kids, ranging from our U-8 group to our U-14, came out and took to the fields to participate in the tryouts. Evaluations are being completed and reviewed by the SPSC board and then sent to the team coaches for team selection. All participants in the tryouts will be contacted about selections by

mid-June. Best of luck to all those who came out.

A reminder that the Super 50/50 tickets need to be returned by this weekend, as our drawing will take place on Sunday, May 23 at the Kenneth Avenue fields after our last game. Please turn in your ticket stubs and monies collected to your coaches by Saturday, May 22. First place winner will receive 70% of the proceeds, second place receives 20% and third place receives 10%. If you need tickets or have any questions, please contact Chrissy Sanko at (908) 561-5533.

Thank you to all those who came out and helped with field duty day this past Saturday. Our fields have

never looked better and a huge thank you to Bob Sanko and Joe Evans, who have worked diligently to get the fields in such prime condition. We get many compliments from our opponents about our fields and facilities. It's nice to know all that hard work is appreciated by all who have the opportunity to play there.

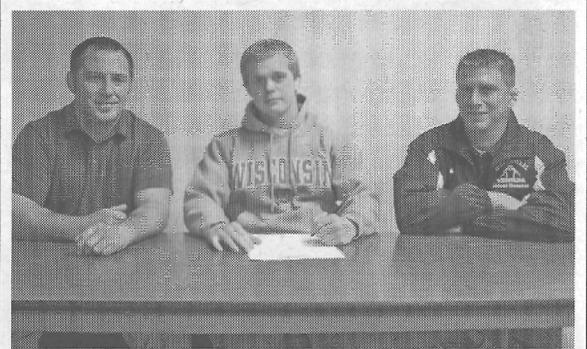
The club will be hosting summer camps by Brandao Soccer and the New York Red Bulls as follows:

- Brandao Soccer Youth Soccer Camp for boys and girls, June 28-July 2 (M-F) for students entering grades 1-8, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Kenneth Avenue Fields. Cost: \$195. For more info, go to [www.brandaosoccer.com](http://www.brandaosoccer.com).

- New York Red Bulls Youth Soccer Camp for boys and girls, August 2-August 6 (M-F) for ages 7 to 14, 5 to 8 p.m. at Kenneth Avenue fields one and two. Cost: \$150.

For more information, go to [www.rbntraining.com/user-pages/public/camps/select-session.asp?CAMP\\_ID=324&](http://www.rbntraining.com/user-pages/public/camps/select-session.asp?CAMP_ID=324&)

Best of luck to all our teams as they take the fields for the last games of the spring season.



Pictured (L-R): Iowa Central head coach Luke Moffitt, Patrick Hunter and assistant coach Justin McClintock. -Photo Courtesy of Paul DeCoursey

### Patrick Hunter Signs With University of Wisconsin

Iowa Central Community College wrestler Patrick Hunter has signed a National Letter of Intent to wrestle for the University of Wisconsin next season. Hunter is from South Plainfield and a graduate of St. Benedict's Prep in Newark.

As a freshman, Hunter was part of a Triton squad that blitzed through the NJCAA National Tournament and set a record for points scored (161.5). Hunter did his part, winning a title at 125. He redshirted this season to train and save a season of eligibility.

At Wisconsin, he will be a part of

one of the top programs in the nation. The Badgers finished third at the ever competitive Big Ten Wrestling Tournament and then took fourth at the NCAA Championships.

"This is really well deserved for Patrick," said head wrestling coach Luke Moffitt. "He really sets the example for the kids in our room that want to go Division I. It's good to see hard work and dedication pay off for a kid."

Patrick also earned Academic All American honors for a 3.5 GPA.

## U-11 ARSENAL

By Mark Resende

### Arsenal Drops a Tough One

On a beautiful spring Sunday afternoon, the South Plainfield Soccer Club U-11 boys team, Arsenal, traveled to Scotch Plains for a match against one of their regular rivals, the Vikings of Scotch Plains-Fanwood. Every time these two teams face off, the game is close, exciting, and well played, and this contest would prove to be no different.

Arsenal was forced to start this game shorthanded with only 10 players, and would not get to even strength until two-thirds of the way into the first half. They would have only 11 players the rest of the way, which meant there were no substitutions on this warm day.

Arsenal withstood the early pressure from the Vikings to keep the game scoreless, with goalie Jason Cieszkiewicz turning away every shot he faced. Once Arsenal was at full strength they would gain control of the game and strike first. Jake Hoffman scored on a breakaway run from mid-field near the end of the first half that was made possible with two great passes from Alec Paez and Jared Marks. The goal

would give Arsenal a 1-0 halftime lead.

Most of the second half was evenly played, but the Vikings began to take control down the stretch as Arsenal ran out of gas. Arsenal could not clear the ball from their defensive end of the field, but kept the Vikings off of the scoreboard for as long as possible. One exciting sequence saw defender Mason Resende clear the ball from in front of an open goal after it got past the diving attempt of goalie Nick Plate, who was making one great save after another to keep his team in the game. In the end, the relentless pressure by the Vikings paid off as they scored two goals in the closing minutes to earn a 2-1 victory over Arsenal.

Despite the final score, this was a great game played by Arsenal. Every player on the field, including Scott Riccardi, Tyler Curtis, Jake Smith, Cristian Butrico and Edwin Rivas, played their guts out, and they would all be winners on this day. Arsenal's next game will be played at the complex on Kenneth Avenue at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 22, so please come out and support the team.

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## LEGAL NOTICE

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD PUBLIC NOTICE RETURN OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE**  
TO: Plainfield Associates FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS LOCATED AT Case Drive South Plainfield, Middlesex County, NJ LOT # 1.04, BLOCK # 254

A public meeting has been scheduled by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield to hear objections, if any, to the release of a Performance Guarantee posted by Plainfield Associates for public improvements at Case Drive known as Lot # 1.04, in Block # 254 listed on the official maps of the Borough of South Plainfield. Said public hearing will be held 7:00 PM on Monday, June 7, 2010 in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

Name: Joseph H. Maffei  
Address: 5 Cambridge Drive, Ocean View, NJ 08290  
\$38.50 May 21, 2010

## LEGAL NOTICES

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**  
**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**ORDINANCE No. 1892**  
**ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE CY 2010 MUNICIPAL BUDGET COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCE AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK WHEN THE COLA IS EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN 2.5 PERCENT (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)**  
WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget to 2.5% or the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA), whichever is less, over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,  
WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14 provides that a municipality may, in any year in which the COLA is equal to or less than 2.5% increase its final appropriations by a percentage greater than the COLA, but not to exceed the 3.5% rate as specified in the law, when authorized by ordinance; and,  
WHEREAS, the COLA for 2010 has been certified by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs as 0.0% and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, in any year in which the COLA is equal to or less than 2.5%, may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,  
WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield in the County of Middlesex finds it advisable and necessary to increase its 2010 budget by more than 0.0% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,  
WHEREAS, the Borough Council hereby determines that a 3.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$704,115.02 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,  
WHEREAS, the Borough Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.  
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield,

in the County of Middlesex, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the 2010 budget year, the final appropriations of the Borough of South Plainfield shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14, be increased by 3.5% amounting to \$704,115.02 and that the 2010 municipal budget for the Borough of South Plainfield be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,  
**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,  
**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,  
**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.  
Joann L. Graf, RMC  
Clerk of the Borough of South Plainfield  
\$55.43 May 21, 2010

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**  
**LEGAL NOTICE**  
May 14, 2010  
Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its meeting held on May 13, 2010.  
A. Case # 22-09-Flanagan's Restaurant, Block 167; Lot 1.01; 2501 Plainfield Avenue. The applicant's request to WITHDRAW this application without prejudice was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.  
B. Case # 11-10-T-Mobile N.E., LLC, Block 50; Lot 1; 580 Cedarbrook Avenue. The applicant's request for a use variance, waivers & preliminary & final site plan approval was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.  
C. Case # 15-10-John Schenk, Block 328; Lot 13; 429 Hancock Street. The applicant's request for a side yard setback variance in order to erect an above ground deck was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.  
Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary Beth Khidre  
Secretary-Board of Adjustment  
\$31.81 May 21, 2010

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**  
**NOTICE OF CHANGE IN CORPORATE STRUCTURE**  
Take notice that on May 1, 2010 a change occurred in the ownership of Vito and Sons Inc., trading as Oak Tree Discount Wine and Spirits, holder of Plenary Retail Distribution License for premises located at 902 Oak Tree Avenue, South Plainfield resulting in the following persons, each acquiring the aggregate one percent or more of ownership thereof: Vito A. Ratti, 405 Tompkins Ave., South Plainfield and Daniel A. Ratti, 1722 Wickford Rd., South Plainfield.  
Any information concerning the qualifications of any of the above current stockholders should be communicated in writing to Joann Graf, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of South Plainfield.  
Vito and Sons Inc.  
\$38.50 May 14 and 21, 2010

**Share Your Good News... Send us your Milestones!**

# Sports

Submitted By Bob Nilan

When Andy "The Caddy Comedian" is doing his wickedly funny stand-up routines, he delivers his lines with a devilish grin. On the golf course, however, Hayward is all business, and he was at his serious best against KC's Korner delivering a blistering even-par 33 to spark the Roughriders to a narrow 11-9 win.

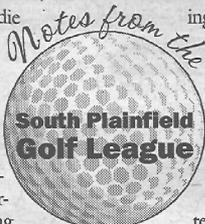
Hayward's driver was on fire as he scorched his drives all night long, made impressive birdies on the fourth and eighth holes, and then capped off his superb round by draining a tricky, side-hill, downhill putt for par on the ninth hole.

Frank Weingart's 40 was a real plus for the Roughriders who badly needed that score because their other twosome was so lost they had to ask for directions back to the clubhouse.

Dan Conti of KC's Korner just returned from a vacation in Florida where he got his sometimes quirky driver under control. Conti's deft touch around the greens helped him score a 38 to earn the medal for his team.

Just when Alfie's Boys looked like they might just run away from the rest of the field in the National Division, along comes Witty's Liquors to give them a sharp come-uppance, 16-4. Sean Brooks again led the way for Witty's with a fine round of 35. Brooks seems to be getting better as the weather gets warmer, and he's already looking forward to some sweltering Tuesdays in July. Teammate Bob Chase contributed a solid 36 as Witty's moved into a three-way tie for second place in the American Division behind the undefeated Roughriders.

In a high-scoring match, the Italian-American Club, led by Frank Approvato's 41, soundly whipped the defending champions, 2 Buds, 2 Dubs, 19-1. News of this total thrash-



ing will not help the recuperative process of Captain Dale Dube who is still on the D.L. following knee surgery. Last year's champs obviously miss the inspirational leadership of their captain—the best score the team produced was a 42 by Jeff Orth.

Ray Starnick hit a beautiful approach shot on the second hole that unfortunately landed on some hardpan and his ball wound up on the third tee box. From that difficult lie, he had a major problem getting back to the green and scrambled to a double-bogey six. That was the only glitch on his card as last season's Player-of-the-Year fired a nifty 36 only to see his team lose a tough one to Oak Tree Dental of Edison 11½-8½. Martin Lillis led the way for the victors with a solid round of 37.

Captain Chris Dillon of Unique Sports Accessories finally got his team untracked by posting a 38 to lead his talented squad to a 12½-7½ win over McCriskin's Home For Funerals. Wally Heinzer had a 45 to earn the medal for McCriskin's.

In the final match of the night, Twin City Pharmacy had a difficult time before they finally prevailed over Sport & Social 11½-8½. Joe Diller and Guy Severini, who are already playing in mid-season form, shot a pair of 37s for Twin City. Dennis Bibby's 40 was the low round for Sport & Social. In a key confrontation next week, Twin City will match their powerful line-up against the red-hot Andy Hayward and the undefeated Roughriders.

**Low scores for the night:** Andy Hayward, 33; Sean Brooks, 35; Bob Chase, 36; Ray Starnick, 36; Joe Diller, 37; Mike Gokey, 37; Martin Lillis, 37; Guy Severini, 37; Dan Conti, 38; Chris Dillon, 38.

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Oak Tree Dental	2	1	0	Polish National Home 2	1	0	0
Twin City Pharmacy	2	1	0	Italian Amer Club	1	2	0
Unique Sports	1	2	0	Sport & Social	0	3	0
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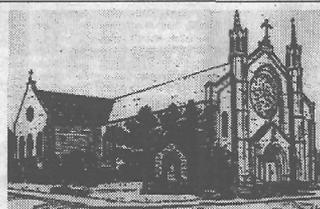
### Mass Schedule:

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



For statewide public notices,  
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# Obituaries

## Harry Lobby, Jr., 83

Harry Lobby, Jr. passed away peacefully on Tuesday, May 11 at Beth Israel Medical Center in Newark.

Born in Madera, Pa., he lived in South Plainfield before moving to Middlesex 53 years ago.

He proudly served in the U.S. Navy, stationed in Guam.

Mr. Lobby attended St. Bonaventure University, where he received his undergraduate degree. He graduated from Seton Hall University with a masters degree in education. He worked for the South Plainfield School District for 38 years, retiring as the assistant superintendent.

He was an avid gardener, enjoyed refurbishing old trunks and loved to travel the world with his dear wife, Marilyn. Harry was a loving husband, father, brother and grandfather who will be sadly missed.

He is predeceased by three brothers, Fr. Basil (OFM), Joseph and Stanley Lobby, and a sister, Ann Maydonovitch.

Surviving are his beloved wife of 53 years, Marilyn; four cherished daughters, Madeline Versteeg and husband Don of Ohio, Michelle Rogers and husband Ken of Pennsylvania, Maurcen Chlebek and husband John

of Massachusetts and Marissa Kaltwasser and husband Dave of Illinois; a son, Harry III and wife Jean of New Jersey; a sister, Rose Baldino of New Jersey; and 13 grandchildren, Krista, Jason, Jenna, Megan, Gregory, Nicole, Kelly, Harry IV, Carolyn, Rachel, Tara, Brittany and Amanda.

Funeral services were held at Middlesex Funeral Home.

Memorial contributions in his name may be made to the American Heart Association National Center, 7272 Greenville Ave., Dallas, Texas 75231.

She is predeceased by her husband, Alfred, in 2003.

She is survived by a dear daughter, Doreen Karns and husband Bruce.

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

Memorial donations in her memory may be made to the First Baptist Church of South Plainfield.

## Mary (Pellegrino) Gonzalez, 99

Mary (Pellegrino) Gonzalez died on Wednesday, May 12 at home.

Born in New York City she resided in South Plainfield for over 85 years.

Mrs. Gonzalez was a seamstress for over 20 years with the former Lena Dress Shop in Plainfield, retiring over 30 years ago.

She is predeceased by her husband, Richard Gonzalez; two sisters, Ann Boccia and Virginia Ashmead; and five brothers, Joseph, Mikey, John, Frank and James Pellegrino.

Surviving is a daughter, Carmen Lis-torti of South Plainfield; four grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild and numerous nieces and nephews.

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

## Helen (Pyatt) Hellriegel, 81

Helen (Pyatt) Hellriegel passed away peacefully on Tuesday, May 11 at Bonham Nursing Center.

Born in Plainfield, Helen was a North Plainfield High School graduate. She resided in South Plainfield for 74 years before settling in Stillwater, Pa. to be near her caring daughter.

Helen was employed by Somerville Lumber in their office before her retirement. She was active with The Women's Evening Circle, the Moose Club, the 101st Airborne and the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

## Pender and Moore Families and Pender & Sons Trucking Renew Adopt-A-Spot Contracts

Pender & Sons Trucking is renewing its Adopt-A-Spot contract with the South Plainfield Clean Business Association to remove litter from the Willow Avenue skate park behind Borough Hall for the next two years. The Pender and Moore Families have extended their agreement for the PAL Building and Community Pool parking lots for two years as well. The Pender and Moore families have also renewed their contract to remove litter from the Nature Center at the Highland Woods Environmental Education Reserve for another year. The Nature Center agreement also includes caring for the butterfly garden and sweeping the Nature Center decks.

Diane Pender checks the sites weekly

to see if they need work. She believes it is important to stay on top of the litter problem in these heavily used recreational areas. If litter begins to accumulate, people think it is not important to be careful and the problem gets worse. People are much less likely to litter in a clean area.

When asked why her family has taken on so many Adopt-A-Spot obligations, Pender replied, "We really enjoy giving back to the town.

We love what it does for us. We spend a lot of time enjoying all [the] activities in these spots. This is another way of saying 'thank you' South Plainfield."

The CBA is looking for more adopters for recreational and open space areas such as Putnam Park and Veteran's Park. For more information about the Adopt-A-Spot program, contact the Clean Communities coordinator at (908) 226-7621.

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The South Plainfield Education Foundation Hall of Fame luncheon will be held on Wednesday, June 2 at 11:30 a.m. at Adelines Ristorante. For more information, call Marge Recdy at (908) 561-5800 or Principal Dr. Ken May at (908) 754-4620.

The high school academic awards presentation is Wednesday, June 2 in the high school auditorium at 7 p.m.

Athletic Booster Club Letter Winner dinner will be held Thursday, June 10 at the North Plainfield Italian/American Club at 6 p.m. RSVPs are required.

Congratulations to the Winter Guard team for a fine performance in the Winter Guard finals; the boys varsity baseball team and coaches Guida, Mosca, Battista and Darby for placing number one in the state; and the girls varsity softball team and coaches Panzarella and Panzarella for winning the Group II White Division.

The Middle School drama presentation will be on Friday, May 21 at 7 p.m. in the middle school gym. The small ensemble and solo concert is Wednesday, May 26 in the cafeteria at 7 p.m.; the Memorial Day service is Friday, May 28 at 1:30 p.m. in the courtyard of the middle school.

The seventh grade picnic will be held at the community pool on Thursday, June 10 (rain date: June 11) with lunch sponsored by the PTO featuring Aunt

### WHAT'S GOING ON IN MY TOWN

#### FROM A BUSY BUSY MOM *jd*

Pammy's Italian Ice.

The eighth grade dinner/dance is Friday, June 18 at the high school. Cost is \$10 per person in advance.

Thank you to all who participated in the Middle School PTO used clothing drive. Thank you to Suzanne, Bill and Jerry Buttrico for helping unload the truck and to Bob Boyle, Ferraro Foods for the use of the tractor trailer.

Congratulations to the seventh and eighth grade students who competed in the finals for the Battle of the Books in Manalapan. Thank you to Principal Steve Novak, Librarian Wendy Su and teacher Mrs. Hepburn for constantly encouraging and instilling the importance of reading to all students.

The Grant School Spring Concert will take place on Monday, May 24 at the high school at 7 p.m.

Kennedy School kindergarten "Get Acquainted" program takes place on Wednesday, May 26 and June 2 and on Thursday, May 27 and June 3; all sessions take place from 9 to 10:30 a.m. or 12:30 to 2 p.m. Registration is required. For more information, call (908) 754-4620, ext. 330 or visit the district's website at [www.spbc.org/](http://www.spbc.org/).

The Franklin School flag dedication ceremony for the Trista Moretti

Memorial will be held on Monday, June 14 at 9 a.m. RSVP to Barbara Rhoads at (908) 754-4620.

The Roosevelt

School Spring concert is Tuesday, May 25 at 6:30 p.m.

The Junior Journalist writing program annual banquet, sponsored by Hometown Heros and the *South Plainfield Observer*, was held on May 12. An outstanding group of young writers were honored, and all had the opportunity to read their winning entries. Thank you to all the students who participated, and to all of the principals, teachers and staff for encouraging the students to write. Thank you to the entire staff at the *South Plainfield Observer*, and Nancy and Wayne Grennier, and the entire staff at Hometown Heros, and Charlie and Debbie Kurland, for promoting the art of creative writing.

Thank you to all who attended the South Plainfield Education Foundation Art Auction on April 30 and the third annual Wine and Beer Tasting on May 7. Thank you to The Ratti Family and Buy Rite Liquors, Debbie and Charlie Kurland of Hometown Heros and April, Nick and Kathy at Flanagan's Restaurant for continually supporting so many events that take place in town and for always going above and beyond the call of duty. Please patronize all those businesses that donate their goods and services to these worthy causes.

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**2010 Municipal Budget**  
**BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX**  
**FOR CALENDAR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010**  
**Revenue and Appropriation Summaries**

Summary of Revenues - Current Fund	Anticipated	
	2010	TY 2009
1. Surplus	1,465,000.00	1,165,000.00
2. Total Miscellaneous Revenues	6,398,670.07	4,884,140.14
3. Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	525,000.00	2,500.00
4. Local Tax for Municipal Purposes	17,528,883.63	8,211,167.53
<b>Total General Revenues</b>	<b>25,917,553.70</b>	<b>14,262,807.67</b>

Summary of Appropriations - Current fund	2010 Budget	TY 2009 Budget
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	10,354,529.15	5,494,405.52
Other Expenses	10,321,294.55	6,230,110.14
2. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	2,104,748.00	403,960.00
3. Capital Improvements	175,000.00	40,000.00
4. Debt Service	1,585,382.00	1,361,482.01
5. Judgments	25,700.00	57,850.00
6. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	1,350,900.00	675,000.00
<b>Total General Appropriations</b>	<b>25,917,553.70</b>	<b>14,262,807.67</b>
<b>Total Number of Employees - Full &amp; Part Time</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>121</b>

2010 Dedicated Sewer Utility Budget		
Summary of Revenues	Anticipated	
	2010	TY 2009
1. Surplus	5,000.00	125,000.00
2. Miscellaneous Revenues	5,835,775.00	2,597,500.00
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>5,840,775.00</b>	<b>2,722,500.00</b>
Summary of Appropriations		
	2010 Budget	Final 2009 Budget
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	440,770.00	229,398.00
Other Expenses	4,792,505.00	2,414,977.00
2. Capital Improvements	4,000.00	5,000.00
3. Debt Service	528,000.00	55,125.00
4. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	75,500.00	18,000.00
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>5,840,775.00</b>	<b>2,722,500.00</b>
<b>Total Number of Employees - Full &amp; Part Time</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

2010 Dedicated Swim Pool Utility Budget		
Summary of Revenues	Anticipated	
	2010	TY 2009
1. Surplus	2,559.66	0.00
2. Miscellaneous Revenues	215,000.00	202,500.00
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>217,559.66</b>	<b>202,500.00</b>
Summary of Appropriations		
	2010 Budget	Final 2009 Budget
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	145,559.66	134,850.00
Other Expenses	50,000.00	41,650.00
2. Capital Improvements	500.00	500.00
3. Debt Service	14,000.00	25,000.00
4. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	7,500.00	500.00
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>217,559.66</b>	<b>202,500.00</b>
<b>Total Number of Employees - Full &amp; Part Time</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

Balance of Outstanding Bonded Debt 12-31-09	
	General & Sewer
Interest	428,041.00
Principal	5,104,000.00
<b>Outstanding Balance</b>	<b>5,532,041.00</b>

Notice is hereby given that the budget and tax resolution was approved by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex on May 17, 2010.

A hearing on the budget and tax resolution will be held in the Municipal Building, located at 2480 Plainfield Ave., on June 28, 2010 at 7:00 (PM) at which time and place objections to the Budget and Tax Resolution for the year 2010 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.

Copies of the detailed budget are available in the office of the Borough Clerk, at the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Ave., during the hours of 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., or the South Plainfield Library, 2484 Plainfield Ave.



Members of Ruby Shooz perform at the fire department fundraiser.

## Fabulous Oldies Show Rocks the House

The South Plainfield High School auditorium was rocking and rolling on May 8 thanks to the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department's annual concert featuring the Ruby Shooz band, musicians who play 50s and 60s tunes as well as some new classics. The event was attended by more than 260.

They captured the audiences attention from the very first song and soon fingers and feet were tapping. By the end of the evening, people were danc-

ing in front of the stage. The lead singer often hopped off stage to interact with audience members.

Volunteers from the fire department were kept busy taking tickets and selling 50/50 tickets. Many ordered their tickets well in advance. This year's group was recommended by their promoter, Spotlight Music Productions. The 50/50 was won by resident Steven Turrisse.

The fire department has been sponsoring the popular concerts since 1996.

## policereport

- On May 4 several residents in the area of Frase Street reported that their unlocked vehicles had been entered and a purse, CD's, Fraternal Order of Police shield and Sirius satellite radio were taken.

- On May 5 an Oak Tree Avenue resident reported that the window and screen in their dining room was open and several rings, a jewelry box, iPod and laptop computer were taken.

- On May 6 Medat H. Mekaail, 57, of East Brunswick was arrested for a fraudulent inspection sticker, failure to inspect and two outstanding warrants.

- Joe's Crab Shack reported the theft of the pirate captain statue from the playground area.

- Acc Disposal reported the theft of a 2006 Komatsu wheel loader that was parked on Roosevelt Avenue.

- Approved Fire Protection on South Clinton Avenue reported that a large glass window had been broken. No entry was gained.

- HK Truck Service on Hamilton Boulevard reported the theft of a 1989 Buick Skylark company car.

- A Blecker Street resident reported the theft of \$200 from their unlocked vehicle that was parked in the Junior Baseball Club parking lot.

- On May 7 Damber C. Veney, 19, of Newark was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.

- Ivette Perez, 38, of North Plain-

field was arrested for driving while intoxicated, reckless driving, unregistered and uninsured vehicle, failure to register and inspect, failure to keep right, possession of a controlled substance and failure to use headlights.

- Sergio L. Wilcher, 40, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license and two outstanding warrants.

- On May 8 Wafaa M. Sekeen, 47, of East Brunswick was arrested at Sears Essentials for shoplifting various items worth \$180.

- Claudia Y. Carmona 34, of Manville was arrested at Sears Essentials for shoplifting makeup worth \$79.

- Curtis J. Weaver, 28, of Plainfield was arrested for burglary after he was found sleeping in a Carone Court resident's vehicle.

- On May 9 Joseph Paul Burro, 35 of Edison was arrested at Sears Essentials for shoplifting \$199 worth of hand tools.

- On May 10 Darren D. Daniels, 42, of Plainfield was arrested at Rite Aid for shoplifting 19 bottles of Head and Shoulders shampoo.

- An employee of Big Lots reported the theft of a car key from their jacket in the break room.

- Distinctive Landscape Design on Hollywood Avenue reported the theft of four backpack blowers and a weed wacker from their trailer.

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