

South Plainfield Observer

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Four high school students, Jordan Davis, Jennifer Villacres, Richard Rotella and Bjorn Delacruz, were offered a unique opportunity to intern at Borough Hall this summer in a shared services collaboration between the Board of Education and the borough. Students gained practical experience and performed community service. The interns were recognized at a recent council meeting. Pictured along with the interns are borough officials.

Officials Meet With DEP on Truck Bypass

By Jane Dornick

Borough officials met with high ranking members of the N.J. Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) last Wednesday to discuss plans for the upcoming submission of designs and permit applications for the Hollywood Avenue truck bypass. Survey and traffic studies are near

completion as well as obtaining written permission from affected property owners. The necessary applications should be ready for formal review by the DEP in November.

Mayor Charles Butrico, along with Council President Matt Anesh, Councilwoman Chrissy Buteas (who arranged the meeting), Ad hoc committee member Frank Mikorski and

Remington Vernick & Vena engineers Terry Vogt and Randy Laks appeared in Trenton to discuss the importance of the project to the borough.

Buteas described some of the topics of discussion being quality of life issues, the scope of the project and how it has changed over the years, the timeline for submitting permit applications and the significance of maintaining an open dialogue between both parties.

"The meeting was very productive and I appreciated the opportunity to speak with the DEP about the overall importance of this project to the residents of South Plainfield," remarked Buteas.

Mikorski said it was strictly an "information meeting" where they presented drawings and viewpoints of the borough. He felt it was good to get to see and know the people that they will be dealing with in the future; however, the DEP cautioned that they would not make any comments or judgments at this particular stage.

"I believe we presented a good review of the history of Helen Street and the need to move forward with Hollywood Avenue," said Anesh. "We were encouraged to move forward with an application if we wanted the project evaluated from a DEP perspective. We indicated to the administration officials the safety, business and environmental impacts of our current truck route and how the Hollywood Avenue extension would alleviate them."

Mayor Butrico felt it was an "excellent meeting with a lot of good dialog" between both parties and that the DEP was able to give the borough some guidance and direction on getting the permit applications completed. He said he stressed the negative effects the current truck situation poses and how the new road will enhance businesses in the borough. One of Mayor Butrico's main goals at present is to obtain support from local establishments in favor of the new truck bypass route.

Tax Appeals Business As Usual for Borough

By Jane Dornick

The Borough Council returned more than \$42,000 to 20 property owners who won favorable judgments on tax assessment appeals at the September 7 meeting. An additional \$4,500 was refunded during Monday evening's meeting.

Tax Assessor Marge Ackerman said that her office has seen over 200

applications this year alone. Most of the petitioners receiving reductions on Monday were commercial real estate owners; the remainder were residents who had purchased newly constructed homes during the real estate boom, explained Ackerman. Some of the appeals had been initiated several years prior and were fought in court by attorneys.

"It's funny," remarked CFO Glenn Cullen, "every year we have tax appeals, and so far we have paid out less this year than in other years."

It was recently reported that this year Piscataway had to bond nearly

\$8M for tax appeals, Monroe \$5M and East Brunswick \$1.3M. Cullen can't understand why South Plainfield is making front page headlines.

"I'm not sure why we are getting the press. The market affects the real estate values.

There are some properties in town that are probably over assessed and others that are under assessed. It is an issue that has always existed, and the borough is doing everything it can to make sure it stays financially sound," said Cullen.

The borough chose to place all of the appeals on the agenda at this particular time to coordinate with the mailing of fourth quarter tax bills. Credits were issued to property owners as opposed to the town collecting the money and then having to refund a portion.

There is currently \$155,000 set aside in this year's municipal budget for successful tax appeals, as well as \$150,000 in reserves. According to Cullen, prior to now the borough had

"...Every year we have tax appeals, and so far we have paid out less this year than in other years."

—Glenn Cullen, Borough CFO

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Will Lamastro of South Plainfield, on leave from the Air Force, greets a youngster at the Labor Day parade. The boy approached Lamastro to shake his hand and thank him for "keeping us safe." Will showed his appreciation with a smile and a handshake.

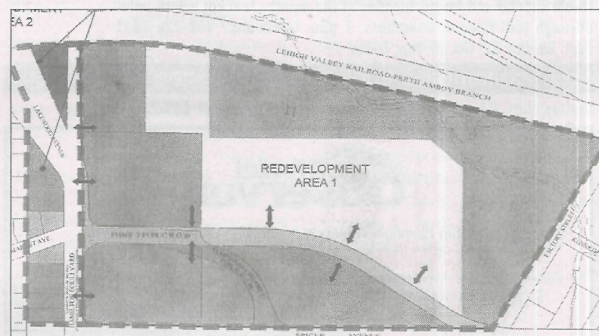
—Photo by Patricia Abbott

Eligible Property Owners to Receive Homestead Benefit Applications

The Division of Taxation will be mailing 2009 Homestead Benefit applications to all eligible homeowners, both seniors and non seniors, during the month of September 2010. The deadline for filing is November 1, 2010. Members of the public who need assistance should contact the Homestead Benefit Hotline at 1-888-238-1233.

The Division of Taxation recently

mailed 2009 Senior Freeze (Property Tax Reimbursement) checks to eligible applicants who filed by the original deadline of June 1, 2010. The application deadline has now been extended to November 1, 2010. Public inquiries may be made by calling (800) 882-6597. You can also access information at www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/.



Plans for the redevelopment of the Hamilton Industrial site.

Hamilton Industrial Site Redevelopment Plan Approved

By Libby Barsky

The Borough Council approved the final adoption of an ordinance amending the redevelopment plan for the Hamilton Industrial site (formerly occupied by Cornell-Dubilier) at Monday evening's meeting.

Electronic components were manufactured on the property from 1936-1962 during which time the company dumped polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and other hazardous substances directly onto site soils during its operations. In 1998, the site was added to the National Priorities list for Superfund cleanup. Cleanup at the site has progressed steadily over the past year, and should be completed in 2011.

According to the amended redevelopment plan, the site is divided by Hamilton Boulevard into two redevelopment areas: Area 1 on the east where the newly opened New Market Avenue Extension cuts through, and Area 2 on the west side.

Area 1 contains approximately 27 acres bounded by Hamilton Boulevard, the Lehigh Valley Railroad, Spicer Avenue and Factory Street. Principal permitted uses include retail stores and commercial and service businesses, including self-storage and office/warehouse. A portion of the land along Spicer Avenue is proposed as a landscape buffer to act as a screen between the site and the residents on Spicer Avenue. The buffer would consist of a six-foot high, board on board fence and evergreens or deciduous trees and shrubs. There would also be pedestrian access at a Spicer Avenue location.

Proposed for conservation purposes are environmentally sensitive flood plain and wetland areas containing an existing stream and located along the easterly and southerly portion of the property bordering the Lehigh Valley Railroad and Factory Street. Also left remaining will be the water

(Continued on page 5)

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In My Opinion

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

To South Plainfield Police Officer Pete Magnani,

It is with tremendous gratitude that we send this letter thanking you, and all of the wonderful people who made the benefit softball game last Friday evening a huge success.

As my wife, three sons and I enjoyed an evening of great fun, and enjoyed a terrific softball game and home run derby, I was so taken by the outpouring of love and support that was shown by our neighbors and by the brave men and women who keep us safe every day. Your dedication to this town and the people in it was never more evident than it was on September 10.

We cannot begin to put into words the thankfulness we have for thinking of Matty (and Alyssa Ricciardi) when planning this event, and how much we appreciate all that you did to make this event happen.

We would also like to thank the members of the South Plainfield Police Department and the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department for donating your time, talent and treasure to these young people, and I also want to thank every single person who came out to support these two wonderful children. Just knowing that your thoughts and prayers are with them is a

tremendous feeling, but seeing you all out there for them was overwhelming.

In closing, Keri, Matthew, Nicholas, Justin and I would like to thank you all from the bottom of our hearts, and want you all to know that we thank God for all of you every day. To the men and women of South Plainfield's finest and bravest, and especially Pete Magnani, you are in our thoughts and prayers everyday for your safety and continued success.

Thank you again and God bless!
**SINCERELY YOURS,
CHRIS & THE HANNON FAMILY**

To the Editor:

On September 19 the South Plainfield Field Hockey Association had its annual car wash, and what a beautiful day it was. If not for all the volunteer parents who came out to help, it would not have been the success it was.

I would like to thank Kevin Hughes for allowing us to use the PAL parking lot. What would I have done without the help of Nick DeSantis, Tim Jarema, Robin and Gary Prendergast, Mike and Gale Butrico, Mr. Lubach, Mr. Remsing, Mr. Macchia, Val Hunteerton and Christine Dispenziere? Your help was far beyond what I would ever have hoped for and I'm so grateful. Please accept my gratitude if I overlooked

anyone who helped out with this event.

To all the field hockey girls who came out to participate: A great big well done! Thank you very much indeed.

**PAT DESANTIS, PRESIDENT
FIELD HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**

Dear Editor,

I am writing this to say I love Labor Day in our town. I love looking forward to seeing people I haven't seen in a long time, the parade, the festivities after and, of course, the beautiful fireworks at night. This year it was extra special for me. My husband, Allen, retired this year from the police force and was actually able to spend the day with me and not work like he has for the last 25 years.

The parade was very nice, although I was puzzled and couldn't understand, with all the characters in it from clowns, to Mickey Mouse, to Sesame Street characters, so many for the children, but there were two very special and important characters missing: McGruff the Crime Dog and Daren the DARE lion.

These characters represent to the children what my husband and his partners have been teaching all these years. Where were they? My husband retires and it stops? This program meant a lot to him and his partners who worked so hard even just to reach a few kids each year, if not all of them. Where was the Police Academy?

The people who did the characters in the parade each year would have done it again but were never asked. I understand we have a new officer who will be teaching DARE and he will be great, too. I hope things will continue. It makes a person think: Why weren't these characters remembered? My husband was disappointed and I'm sure other people were too. This was wrong, and I hope it is corrected!

SHERLYN LAMONDA

To the Editor:

Thank goodness there are still some people running for office who still have integrity. I want to thank Jeff Williams for that.

Jeff was a student at the high school when I was working there as a secretary. He was always a fine upstanding young man; I am so very proud that he is running for council. I really hope he gets the majority vote; he will do a wonderful service to this community.

I was so upset when I read the slanderous letter about Michael English. I also worked with Michael at the high school, and he was a wonderful teacher and mentor to the children. He is also

a dedicated family man. He has done so much for this community, where he and his family live. He has my vote.

John Sorrentino is a fabulous neighbor and friend. He is a dedicated person, who takes anything he undertakes seriously. He is a wonderful family man, and hard worker. He would also be an asset to this community.

These are dedicated people who only want to improve our town and see that we get what we need with cost in mind. I don't usually get involved in politics, but I feel very strongly about these three men running for office.

**THANK YOU,
PAULA DICK**

Dear Editor,

I have to agree with some of the comments recently about adding several hundred apartments to our town.

I can only imagine what 700-plus rental units on New Brunswick Avenue would do to our community, especially our school system. Just think about what these additional students would do to class sizes. It would inundate Roosevelt School with new students, and it would also affect Grant School, the middle school and the high school. Personally, I don't think Roosevelt School could handle hundreds of more kids, particularly in light of the multi-unit housing project that was approved for the Tingley Rubber site. Would these additional kids mean widespread busing or even a redistricting plan?

While I'm not happy about the new complex being built at Tingley Rubber, there's nothing we can do about that one, since it was already approved. The borough council made a huge mistake a few years back when the all-Democratic council rezoned that property and now the residents are going to pay.

We need to protect our community and say "no" to these types of huge housing projects. South Plainfield doesn't need more garden apartments.

I think Republican Councilman Tim McConville has it right. He's opposed these projects and has promised to continue to oppose them. He's correct when he says our town's small-town atmosphere is worth fighting for.

**SINCERELY,
DENNIS LITTLE**

Dear Editor,

Last Saturday I, along with my eight-year-old daughter and four-year-old son, attended the UNICO 9/11

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. 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.



To the Editor:

This summer, for the first time, the NY Jets ran a fun and energetic dance and cheer program offering kids the opportunity to train with and learn from professional NFL cheerleaders. Kyrsten Grabinsky and Shayna Hodge, both eighth graders at the middle school, attended the program.

The name of the team was called the Junior Flight Crew. They were required to pay a participation fee which included a Junior Flight Crew Uniform, pom poms, and lunch on game day. The participants focused on improving their talents and abilities in a non-competitive environment. They attended several practices in which they learned their routine that they got to perform during halftime at the August 27 preseason Jets game.

According to Kyrsten, the experience was amazing and she would highly recommend it to anyone interested in a fun and exciting program in which she got to meet a lot of really great people, not to mention cheering with professional cheerleaders in a brand new stadium in front of 40,000 shouting fans!

LAURIE GRABINSKY

memorial service which was held at the South Plainfield Firefighters Memorial. Although my children have only a minimal understanding of what took place on that day, the memorial gave me the opportunity to pass on the importance of celebrating, honoring and respectfully remembering the contributions and sacrifices of the

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

FYI

Borough Council

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
October 4 October

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
Sept. 28, Oct. 12, Oct. 26, Nov. 9 Dec. 7.

ad hoc alternative truck route committee

Monday, Sept. 27 at 7 p.m. in the Senior Center Questions? 908-226-7605

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Observer**

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

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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.

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First Baptist Designated Oldest Church



(L-R): Historical Society President Dorothy Miele, First Baptist Church of South Plainfield Pastor Gordon Braun, Mayor Charles Butrico; from the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission History Services/Grant Coordinator Isha Vyas and Curator of Exhibitions, Katie Zavoski; Dr. Richard Veit and Larry Randolph at the church marker dedication.

By Jane Dornick

The First Baptist Church of South Plainfield held a dedication ceremony on Sunday morning as it received an historic marker as a gift from the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Located at 206 Hamilton Boulevard at the intersection of Church Street, the church has the distinction of being the oldest religious institution and church building in the borough.

According to local historian Larry Randolph, local Baptists founded the church in 1792 and named it the Samptown Baptist Church. The first church building was constructed the same year outside the colonial hamlet of Samptown on what is now Hillside Cemetery on New Market Avenue. A larger structure was built there in 1832 which was destroyed by a fire in 1879. The church on Hamilton Boulevard was constructed the following year in what was called the "vil-

lage of New Brooklyn" that was quickly becoming the economic and social center of the community.

The parsonage for members of the clergy was built next door in 1911. Many prominent families in the town's history were part of the Baptist congregation over the centuries. The church has had several name changes throughout its history, from the New Brooklyn Baptist Church in 1883, to the South Plainfield Baptist Church in 1892 and the First Baptist Church of South Plainfield in 1966.

Attending the ceremony were South Plainfield Historical Society President Dorothy Miele, Dr. Richard Veit from the Department of History and Anthropology at Monmouth University, Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission Service and Grant Coordinator Isha Vyas, and Katie Zavoski, curator of exhibitions. Also present were Mayor Charles Butrico, Council President Matt Anesh and Council members Chrissy Bureas, Tim McConville and Ray Rusnak.

Editor's Note: Visit the South Plainfield Historical Society's History Center to learn more about the history of your town during the week-long open house, October 11-15 from 2 to 8 p.m. each day. The History Center is located at the old Roosevelt School (now the Board of Education building) at 125 Jackson Avenue.



Congratulations to Jennie and Dan Ratti of South Plainfield for winning the South Plainfield Historical Society's 2010 Quilt Raffle. Thanks to all who purchased tickets and supported the Historical Society.



To Promote & Protect Public Health & Welfare

MIDDLESEX COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

By Ronald G. Rios, Chair, Committee of Public Health & Education

Family Health & Nutrition

Healthy kids... are happy kids. One way we can keep our children both happy and healthy is by adding more fruits, vegetables and whole grains to their diet. Research shows that these food groups contain essential vitamins, minerals and fiber that are crucial to promoting good health, yet research shows that more than 90 percent of adults and children do not eat the daily recommended amounts.

To remind us of the importance of eating with good health in mind, the month of September is National Whole Grains Month and National Fruits & Veggies-More Matters Month.

Whole grains are an important source of vitamins, minerals and antioxidants. They also supply fiber, help decrease the risk of heart disease, and can even help with weight loss.

The USDA suggests that adults get between three and five portions of whole grains per day. Here are some easy ways to incorporate more whole grains into your family's diet:

Choose more whole grains over refined ones; look for labels that read, "100% whole grain" or "100% whole wheat"; bake with whole wheat flour; substitute brown rice or pastas for white with your meals.

Fruits and vegetables are filled with vitamins, minerals and dietary fiber, are naturally low in fat and calories and have no cholesterol. Experts suggest that we should all consume five to nine portions of fruit and vegetables every day. Here are some easy ways to incorporate more fruits and vegetables into your family's diet:

Serve your family fresh fruit in place of a high fat or sugary snack; start dinner with a small salad; add berries to your yogurt or sliced bananas to your cereal; use a variety of canned, frozen and even dried varieties of fruits and vegetables.

Lower blood pressure, the ability to help maintain a healthy weight and a reduced risk of heart disease and stroke—it's hard to argue with the health benefits of adding more fruits and vegetables to your diet. Every serving matters when it comes to improving your family's health and nutrition. Each improvement you make, no matter how small, is a step in the right direction.

The Middlesex County Health Department offers programs designed to teach basic nutrition concepts and exercise. To request a health education program for your school, group or workplace, call (732) 745-8860.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Sunnie Randolph

Garage sale season is here and the library is getting a lot of book donations. Please do not bring books to the library that are dirty, torn, smelly and not in good shape. The library accepts books, DVDs, videos and children's books. The library does not accept magazines, textbooks and old, outdated books, like a 2004 almanac and travel books from 1999. Please recycle the books, etc. that are not in good condition to donate to the library. You carry them into the library and we have to carry them right back out to be recycled. The library pays for pest control every month, mainly to deal with the critters that come in with boxes of book donations. The library is very grateful for all the nice hard-back and paperback books that are donated and we can sell at the ongoing book sale. Please go through the items you are donating and discard unacceptable items.

Reminder: The library has a new policy for school age children. Between

2:30 and 6 p.m., school age children may not use the library unless they have their library card and a photo ID with them. Children who come with their parents may use the library as long as their parents stay with them. Children will be required to sign in when they enter the library. Each time they go in and out between 2:30 and 6, they will be required to sign in again. There is no eating or drinking allowed in the library. Parents of school age children may bring them to the library and have their picture taken and stored on the library's computer system. This can act as the student ID. Each person must have their own library card. This policy is for the safety of everyone who uses the library after school. The library is also monitored by closed circuit cameras that are backed up to a DVR. If you want to see what your child is doing in the library after school, we can show you.

Mayor Butrico's committee is looking for a new home for the library. If you have any viable solutions, please contact the mayor.

Safely Dispose of Prescription Drugs This Saturday

The Borough will be participating in Operation Take Back New Jersey on Saturday, Sept. 25 whereby residents may drop off unwanted, outdated and unused prescription drugs to the South Plainfield Municipal Building between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The campaign is in conjunction with the Drug Enforcement Administration and is designed to allow residents to clean out their medicine cabinets of expired and unwanted drugs. It is a safe method to prevent youngsters access to drugs, and provides a method of discarding old medications without flushing them down the toilet and possibly polluting the water.

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Events

Knights Mums Sale

September 25 & 26,
Weekends in October

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 is conducting its seventh annual fall mums sale the next five weekends, ending on October 24. High quality mums in various colors will be on sale at the South Plainfield Rescue Squad, 2506 Plainfield Ave. \$7 for eight inch pots and \$25 for large pots.

This fundraiser supports the Knights various charitable works.

OLC Spaghetti Dinner

September 25

All are invited to attend the spaghetti dinner at Our Lady of Czestochowa, located on Hamilton Boulevard, on Saturday, Sept. 25 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Cost for adults, \$8; seniors, \$7; children five to 12, \$5; under five are free. Dessert and salad are included. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

For info, call (908) 753-4077.

Paper Shredding at The Senior Center

September 25

Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders, in conjunction with the Borough of South Plainfield, will sponsor a free paper shredding event on Saturday, Sept. 25, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., or until the truck is full, at the Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave. Confidential papers—old files, receipts, bills, financial statements—will be shredded on-site. No need to remove staples, paper clips or paperboard binder covers. Books, magazines, newspapers or plastic won't be accepted.

For more information, email solid waste@co.middlesex.nj.us or call (732) 745-4170.

Woman's Club G&G Boutique/Yard Sale

October 2

Suburban Woman's Club presents G&G Boutique/Yard Sale on Saturday, Oct. 2 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (rain date October 3) at the American Legion, 243 Oak Tree Ave.

Scrapbooking Croptoberfest at Elks

October 3

South Plainfield Elks, 1254 New Market Ave., is holding a scrapbooking croptoberfest on Sunday, Oct. 3, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registration fee: \$35 (mail in by Sept. 24) or \$40 at the door. Eight hours of cropping time, lots of layout ideas, door prizes and fun! Light breakfast and lunch. Snacks and beverages. Register early.

For more information, call Sandi Smith at (908) 656-4041.

Rescue Squad Comedy Club Fundraiser

October 3

A fundraiser at the Stress Factory Comedy Club, 90 Church St. in New Brunswick, to benefit the South Plainfield Rescue Squad will be held on Sunday, Oct. 3.

Headliner comics are Buddy Fitzpatrick and Melvin George. Dinner at 5 p.m.; show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$35.

For tickets, call Andy at (908) 548-3861.

Donate Blood, Save a Life at OLC

October 8

Our Lady of Czestochowa Church annual blood drive will be held at the

OLC Parish Hall on Hamilton Boulevard, Friday, Oct. 8 from 3 to 8 p.m.

For more information, call (908) 757-4490.

Girls Field Hockey Wine Tasting Fundraiser

October 9

Wine director Kevin Kessler of the Wine Chateau located at 1380 Centennial Ave. in Piscataway will be selecting six wines to taste during a fundraiser held to benefit the SPSHS Girls Field Hockey Association. The event takes place on Saturday, Oct. 9 from 6 to 8 p.m.

A selection of cheese, meats, fruit and finger food to complement the wine will be served. Cost is \$40 pp.

For information, email Gary Prendergast at gsprendergast@comcast.net or call (908) 208-3151.

40th Anniversary Plainfields' UNICO

October 9

Plainfields' Chapter UNCIO will celebrate its 40th anniversary on Saturday, Oct. 9, 6:30 to 11 p.m. at the Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave. featuring renowned tenor Nino Rossano.

Donation: \$25 adults; \$12.50 children under 12. Includes Italian food, soft drinks. BYOB. Make checks payable to Plainfields' Chapter UNICO.

For more information, call Robert Bengivena at (908) 753-0247 or Elaine Biribin at (908) 561-9898.

SPHS Class of 1984 25th Reunion

October 9

South Plainfield High School Class of 1984 will hold a 25th reunion on Saturday, Oct. 9 at Leon's Catering

Hall in Berkeley Heights. \$60 per person includes dinner and open bar. Dress is casual.

For information, email Lisa Petrosiello Carone at lpetro@comcast.net or Bill Price at bprice31@hot mail.com.

Open House at The History Center

October 11-15

Visit the South Plainfield Historical Society's History Center during the week-long open house, October 11-15 from 2 to 8 p.m. each day. Learn more about South Plainfield's history.

The History Center is located at the old Roosevelt School (now the Board of Education building) at 125 Jackson Ave.

MOMS Club of South Plainfield Open House

October 14

The MOMS Club of South Plainfield will hold an open house and pot luck brunch to welcome new members on Thursday, Oct. 14 at 10 a.m. at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, 3145 Park Ave. (We are not a religious organization).

The MOMS Club is a national support group for mothers who stay at home with their children. Children are welcome at all MOMS Club activities.

For more information, visit us online at www.momsclub.org/.

— Out of Town —

Blackrose to Perform

September 25

Blackrose, the band, playing classic rock and roll and today's hits will be performing at Rug's & Riffy's Bar and Grill, 493 Rahway Ave. in Woodbridge on Saturday, Sept. 25 at 10 p.m. No cover charge.

Motorcycle Run for Cancer

September 25

A motorcycle run for cancer will be held on Saturday, Sept. 26 (rain date September 25). Sign up 8:30 to 11 a.m. at the Edison Moose Lodge. Breakfast buffet, food, drink, prizes and live music. Cost: \$25 per rider; \$12 per passenger; walk-ins \$12.

SENIOR CENTER Calendar

Coming Up....

Sept 25 Paper Shredding 9-11am
Oct 11-15 Indian Head Resort
Nov 14 State Theatre: In the Mood, Big Band Music, \$35, noon
(Call the 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
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

Senior Center is open daily 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays & Sundays.

For information, contact Debra Shueski at (908) 346-5049.

Deutscher Tag-German Day

September 26

Deutscher Club of Clark, 787 Feathered Lane is hosting Deutscher Tag-German Day on Sunday, Sept. 26 from 1 to 6 p.m. Music by Oetzer Wellerbruggeler from Tirol, Austria. Open to the public; rain or shine. Free parking available. German and American food and beverages available; no outside food or beverages permitted. No bicycles, skates, skateboards, scooters or pets permitted.

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

Blessing of the Pets

September 26

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any tame pets to the lawn at Willow Grove Church, 1961 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains on Sunday, Sept. 26 (rain date October 10) between 4 and 5:30 p.m. to receive a blessing from Rev. Cynthia Cochran-Carney. If your pet is sick or has died, bring a picture and we will include this pet in a blessing. All pets are welcome, but must be on a leash or in a cage.

For more, call (908) 232-5678, email info@willowgrovechurch.org or visit www.willowgrovechurch.org.

44th Annual NJ Senior Art Show

September 27-October 28

The 44th annual New Jersey Senior Art Show opens on Monday, Sept. 27 and runs through October 28. Over 200 of the best works of art from senior artists throughout New Jersey will be showcased at Meadow Lakes Art Gallery, 300 Meadow Lakes in East Windsor. Free and open to the public; however, reservations are requested.

To make a reservation, call Angie Cook at (609) 720-7317 or email acook@springpointsl.org.

Blue Mass

September 29

Bishop Paul G. Bootkoski will serve as principal celebrant of the Diocese of Metuchen's ninth annual Blue Mass at St. Stephen Church in Perth Amboy on Wednesday, Sept. 29 at 10 a.m. The Mass honors all active, retired and deceased law enforcement officials from Somerset, Middlesex, Hunterdon and Warren. Federal, state, county and local police, sheriff and corrections departments, along with members of the Port Authority Police Department, will be participating.

For information, call (732) 562-2461 or visit www.dioctmetuchen.org.

Visit our website to view newly posted photos:
www.spobserver.com



Knights Install New Officers-Knights of Columbus Council #6203 held its installation of officers for the 2010-2011 Columbian year on September 12 at Our Lady of Czestochowa Church followed by a barbecue lunch. The installation was run by District Deputy Mike Chomo and Father Maciej of OLC Church. The officers are Chaplin-Father John Paul Alvarado, Grand Knight-Joe Scudato, Deputy Grand Knight-Brian Cargill, Chancellor-Greg Gaydos, Recorder-Joe Wilkowski, Treasurer-Gerry Butrico, Financial Secretary-Steve Belanger, Advocate-Gene Baker, Warden-Phil Thomas, Inside Guard-Joe Polakowski, Inside Guard-John Eder, Outside Guard-Dan Ratti, Outside Guard-Rob Richkus, Trustee (1 Year)-Vacant, Trustee (2 Year)-Bob Walker, Trustee (3 Year)-Bill Butrico, Lecturer-Joe McGeehan.

Redevelopment Plan Approved

(Continued from page 1)

tower transformed into an existing "cell tower" with antennae on top of the structure, used as a wireless telecommunication facility.

Area 2 on the west side of Hamilton Boulevard is proposed for retail and commercial development, and will include the South Plainfield Police substation which will remain in its present location.

The purpose of the ordinance is to redevelop and rehabilitate the area once the cleanup is complete. Based on the

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative policy of supporting Superfund site redevelopment, the Planning Board requested that planner Les Nebenzahl prepare a redevelopment plan with Denholtz. The redevelopment ordinance was adopted on April 19, 2001.

The EPA Record of Decision (ROD) of 2004 preceded the final clean up of the site. In 2007 the EPA began the demolition of the buildings and soil remediation began soon after.

Tax Appeals Business as Usual

(Continued from page 1)

only paid out \$50,000 in appeals.

"These appeals have been going on since I've been on the council," said Councilman and Finance Committee Chair Ray Rusnak. "The most recent ones stand out due to being paid out together as opposed to being spread out over 12 months. This is nothing new, and we were prepared by having the money budgeted in the event that this might happen."

Tax appeals can be filed with the Middlesex County Tax Board by April 1 of the tax year or 45 days from the date of the bulk mailing of Assessment Notices, whichever is later. A property owner must prove that their

assessed value is unreasonable compared to a "market value" standard through similar recent property sales.

A revaluation of the entire town has not been performed in more than 25 years. The borough has had an attorney on retainer since 2008 who specializes in arguing tax appeals.

Retirement Party For Steve Novak

A retirement party honoring former middle school Principal Steve Novak Jr. will be held on Thursday, Oct. 14 at The Primavera Regency, 1080 Valley Rd., Stirling at 5 p.m.

Interested in attending? RSVP to Debbie Czech or Angela Raimondo-Hajduk at (908) 754-3420 by October 5.

Vote 2010
Watch. Listen.
Learn. Vote.

The opinions expressed here are solely those of the organizations that submitted the articles. They do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the publisher, nor do we attest to their accuracy.

From the Democrats

OPINION

It's Time to Give Residents Relief from Permit Fees and Variance Applications

The Democratic Team of Mike English, Jeff Williams and John Sorrentino think it's about time government should put you first. They want to reduce the red tape and the unnecessary fees when our residents are trying to improve their homes or replace existing systems. When someone in town needs to replace a hot water heater or a bad air conditioner condenser they should not be forced to pay for the required permit. We feel that the residents of South Plainfield should be encouraged to improve their homes without paying for it. Mike, Jeff and John are determined to stop the endless trips to the Board of Adjustment because a person wants to build a shed or add a deck. When this type of construction is in violation of the building rules by only a couple of feet we feel our residents should be cut a break. We also believe

that permits for this type of work should be available with five days.

Mike, Jeff and John realize that our town is very lucky to have hundreds of mature residents who have made South Plainfield their home for decades. The Democratic candidates know that all of them have to spend money to keep their homes up to date. They are also very grateful for all the volunteers who have given hundreds of hours to keep our town safe and secure. If elected they promise to pass a law within six months that will give financial relief to any senior or a member of the volunteer municipal services who want to improve their primary residence.

Mike, Jeff and John want to waive building permit fees to anyone who qualifies under this proposal. All qualified persons will not be charged a con-

(Continued on page 11)

From the Republicans

OPINION

Anesh: "It's About the Future"

This week's Republican column is a question and answer forum with Council President Matt Anesh, candidate for mayor.

Q: You've been campaigning for mayor for several months. Any regrets?

Anesh: No, not one. I've been going door to door talking to residents and I hear what they are saying. They want accountability, especially when it comes to spending, and they also want an end to the partisan bickering. They know we need new leadership for that to happen.

Q: What do you think is the most pressing issue for South Plainfield?

Anesh: There are two. Controlling taxes and spending is the top priority, but stopping overdevelopment (projects like the 700-unit apartment

project the Democrats were pushing last year) is also vital.

Q: Why is controlling taxes and spending so important?

Anesh: You always want to hold down taxes, but with the current state of the economy, we need to double our efforts. Parents shouldn't have to choose between paying their taxes and saving for their children's college. And just as important, we can't let our seniors be forced out of the town where they raised their families.

Q: Taxes are down \$178 for the average family this year. How did you do that?

Anesh: Several ways. We streamlined departments, reduced the size of the borough workforce, renegotiated contracts, and looked for savings from

(Continued on page 11)

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Public Notice

RETURN OF PERFORMANCE BOND

To A. Frieri for public improvements at 1112 Belmont Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey, Lot 1.01, Block 359.

A public meeting has been scheduled by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield to hear objections, if any, to the release of a Performance Bond posted by A. Frieri for public improvements at 1112 Belmont Avenue, South Plainfield, N.J. known as Lot 1.01 in Block 359 listed on the official tax maps of the Borough of South Plainfield. Said public hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, October 4, 2010 in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

A. Frieri
1112 Belmont Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

\$38.50 September 24, 2010

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Public Notice

RETURN OF PERFORMANCE BOND

To Layeg Amini for public improvements at 701 Tremont Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey Lot 1.03, Block 404.04.

A public meeting has been scheduled by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield to hear objections, if any, to the release of a Performance Bond posted by Layeg Amini for public improvements at 701 Tremont Avenue, South Plainfield, N.J. known as Lot 1.03 in Block 404.04 listed on the official tax maps of the Borough of South Plainfield. Said public hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, October 4, 2010 in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

Hector Amini and Layeg Amini
701 Tremont Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

\$38.50 September 24, 2010

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1901

An Ordinance amending Ordinance 1278 entitled "Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield 1992", adding a new subsection of "Zoning Violations" was adopted after a Public Hearing and final reading were conducted on Monday, September 20, 2010 at the Public Meeting of the Governing Body which began at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 and is being advertised in The Observer on Friday, September 24, 2010.

ATTEST:
Joann Graf/Municipal Clerk

\$28.50 September 24, 2010

LEGAL NOTICE

Take notice, that the undersigned shall expose for sale, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 39:4-56.6, at public sale/auction a 2001 Mack Truck, VIN #1M2AD62C21M010926 on October 7, 2010 at 10:30 a.m. at 419 Adams Street, Newark, NJ which came in possession of Fidel Alonso through abandonment or failure of owners to claim same.

The motor vehicle may be examined at 419 Adams Street, Newark, New Jersey 07105.

Fidel Alonso
419 Adams Street
Newark, New Jersey 07105

\$33.24 September 24 & October 1, 2010

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 1903

An ordinance adopting an amended Redevelopment Plan for the Hamilton Boulevard Industrial site was adopted after a Public Hearing and final reading were conducted on Monday, September 20, 2010 at the Public Meeting of the Governing Body which began at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 and is being advertised in The Observer on Friday, September 24, 2010.

ATTEST:
Joann Graf/Municipal Clerk

\$27.56 September 24, 2010

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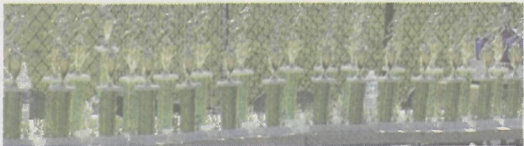


View the Labor Day Parade on Comcast Channel 96. September 25-11 a.m. & 7 p.m.; September 29 at 8:30 p.m. and October 2, 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.





And They're Off...



Labor Day 5K Race Results

Top Male Overall Tim Morgan – 16:25		Top Female Overall Jennifer Arozamena – 20:00	
14 & Under Male		14 & Under Female	
1 Chris Tkach	19:08	1 Anna Butrico	21:52
2 Adam Butrico	19:12	2 Dianne Ferraro	23:15
15 - 19 Year Old Male		15 - 19 Year Old Females	
1 Pat Procaccini	18:42	1 Cristina Butrico	23:44
2 Luke Sprenger	18:42	2 Katherine Piekarski	26:26
20 - 29 Year Old Male		20 - 29 Female	
1 Tim Morgan	16:25	1 Jennifer Arozamena	20:00
2 Justin Van Dyk	18:22	2 Emily Peregrin	20:46
30 - 39 Year Old Male		30 - 39 Year Old Female	
1 Stephen Ritter	19:35	1 Darla Slade	23:24
2 Steve Novick	20:28	2 Donna O'Connor	24:44
40 - 49 Male		40 - 49 Year Old Female	
1 Alan Wells	16:35	1 Joy Jaworowski	20:53
2 Cristobal Arias	18:23	2 Susan Richardson	21:15
50 - 59 Year Old Male		50 - 59 Year Old Female	
1 Dane Doyle	21:50	1 Asteria Howard	26:17
2 George Mcfly	22:35	2 Kim Williams	27:40
60 And Over Male			
1 Sidney Howard	22:13	2 Ron Winner	25:43



231 runners came out for the annual race.



Overall 5K race winners-Jennifer Arozamena and Tim Morgan



Participants in the fitness walk.

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¹The advertised 2.99% APR (Annual Percentage Rate) applies to new lines of credit of at least \$10,000. Applications must be received by October 30, 2010. Borrowers with a credit score of 710 or better will receive 2.99% APR for 6 months from the opening date. For borrowers having a credit score of less than 710 (not receiving an introductory rate), APRs are variable and may range from 4.25% (Wall Street Journal Prime plus 1.00%) to 6.25% (WSJ plus 3.00%), depending on credit qualifications.
²After the expiration of the 6-month introductory rate period, the APR will be based on the WSJ as published daily plus a margin or minimum APR of 3.99%, whichever is greater. The advertised 3.99% APR is our current standard rate. For borrowers having a credit score of 710 or better, the current APR is 3.99%. This maximum APR is 18.00%.
³Offers and terms subject to change and may be withdrawn without notice. May not be combined with any other offer. Offer applies to new OptionLine home equity lines of credit of at least \$10,000 with an advance of \$10,000 or more at settlement to receive a gift item of your choice. Limit one offer per household. Item will be mailed within 60 days of establishing the line of credit. Skylands Community Bank reserves the right to substitute an item of equal value. Borrowers are responsible for possible tax implications. Skylands Community Bank is not affiliated with Garmin® or RCA®. Additional restrictions may apply. Offer expires October 30, 2010.
⁴All fares are in U.S. dollars and do not include applicable U.S. percentage transportation taxes. One (1) discount certificate valued of \$100.00 may be applied to base fare of \$250.00 or more. Ticket must be purchased at least 14 days in advance of travel. All applicable departure taxes, government inspection fees, security surcharges, Passenger Facility Charges, flight segment fees, foreign and local government taxes and September 11th security fees are not included in the fare and are the responsibility of the certificate holder. Seats are limited and may not be available on all flights or on all days of the week. Cities served and schedule is subject to change without notice. See complete terms and conditions at airfarecash.registration.com. Travel service is provided by Promotions in Travel and is not associated with Skylands Community Bank.
⁵Offer expires October 30, 2010.

Sports



Alannah Esporin, a NY Jets Flight Crew Cheerleader and Shayna Hodge.

Pop Warner Eagles Cheerleaders Attend NY Jets Flight Crew Program

The first ever Junior Flight Crew Cheerleader program kicked off on August 6 with a "meet and greet" whereby parents and participants were able to spend time with the NY Jets Flight Crew and watch them perform. The girls were welcomed to the program and given the opportunity to talk to and take pictures with the entire flight crew. The girls then attended camp for three days where they focused on improving their talents and abilities in a non-competitive environment, meeting new friends and learning new cheers.

On August 27 the Junior Flight Crew members took to the field alongside the NFL cheerleaders to perform

at the preseason game against the Washington Redskins at the brand new football stadium in East Rutherford. The information regarding the fun and energetic dance and cheer program, which offers kids the opportunity to train with and learn from professional NFL Cheerleaders, was forwarded to many Pop Warner programs in the area, including the South Plainfield Eagles. South Plainfield was proud to be represented by Alannah Esporin, a Junior Pee Wee cheerleader, and Shayna Hodge, a Midget cheerleader, both of whom have participated in the Eagles program for many years.

—Submitted by Abra Hodge, SP Eagles Cheer Commissioner

SOCCER CLUB

Soccer Club Kicks Off Season with Picnic

The SPSC held the second annual Kickoff Party at the Kenneth Avenue fields this past Saturday, and what a fantastic event it was. With a gorgeous day as a backdrop, board members and volunteers began setting up for the event, ensuring everything was in place to provide club members with an entertaining and enjoyable evening. Over 250 people attended the event which offered its members an evening of fun, music, prizes, giveaways and great food. The club provided free hamburgers and hot dogs, and refreshments. Southern style ribs and chicken were available for purchase, slow smoked by our very own Bill Garner.

A wide variety of music was provided by Jersey Jim Karaoke, and karaoke was a huge hit with the kids. The New York Red Bulls provided four trainers who led the children of all ages through various activities on the field. The highlight of their efforts was a soccer shootout. The shootout was broken into two age groups and the grand prize to the overall winner was a Red Bulls Jersey, signed by the entire Red Bulls team. Game Stop gift cards were awarded to the other winners. There was a horseshoe tournament for the adults, a 50/50 raffle, door prizes, and to top the evening off, everyone was treated to an outdoor movie and popcorn. Members brought desserts to share and there was a table filled with goodies to the delight of everyone! It was a wonderful night of family, friends and fun for all to enjoy.

The event was started last year as a way for the club to welcome its members to the start of a new season and

provide an opportunity for the players and their families to get to know each other. It was a very well received event last year and we knew it was something we wanted to bring back again. Through sponsorship and donations from businesses, including BuyRite Liquors, Flemington Car and Truck Country, Reydel VW of Edison, the generosity of The New York Red Bulls, Ricochet Racquet Club, Sportworld, the talents of Jersey Jim Karaoke DJs, help from the SPJBC and volunteers Laura Readie, Donna Cieszkiewicz, Lilianna Grasso, John and Ranae

Roesch, Chrissy Sanko, Landi Hawk, Chris Kubereit, Joe McGeehan, Lorette Nagel and Theresa Cirilli, we were once again able to offer this free evening to our members. To my fellow board members who all worked so hard to make this night what we envisioned: Phil Battista, Dom Cirilli, Bob Sanko, Joe Evans, and Dawn Farinella, thank you so much for your hard work and dedication. To our players, coaches and families: Our best wishes for a safe, enjoyable and successful season. Thank you all for being a part of the SPSC.

By Dawn Hutchison

U-12 ARSENAL

By Mark Resende

Arsenal Win Season Opener on the Road

The South Plainfield Soccer Club U-12 boys team, Arsenal, traveled to Governor Livingston High School in Berkeley Heights to open their 2010 fall season against the Berkeley Heights Blitz. The game was played on a beautiful Sunday afternoon, the last one of the summer, and would prove to be close contest with Arsenal prevailing 1-0.

The Arsenal defense, anchored for most of the game by Tyler Curtis, Jared Marks, Alec Pacz and Mason Resende, played strong in front of goalie Nick Plate, not allowing even a single shot on goal in the first half. The game's lone goal came in the first half from the foot of Jason Belanger, when his centering pass from the left side deflected off the back side of an opposing player and into the goal. Arsenal had several more chances in the first half but could not capitalize.

The first part of the second half saw

Arsenal continue to control the game, with Jake Hoffman, Dylan O'Connor, Jake Smith, Ricky Pellegrino and newcomer Jack Cochrane having several nice rushes up the field, resulting in shots on goal and near misses. They were fed the ball many times with nice passes from midfielders Cristian Butrico, Jason Cieszkiewicz, Caleb Kuberiet and Ryan Stankan. The Blitz finally put some pressure on the Arsenal goal in the latter part of the second half, even having several chances from corner kicks, but Arsenal held strong and would not yield a goal.

Arsenal is coached by David Cieszkiewicz, Greg Hoffman and Steve Belanger. The team returns 14 of its players from this past spring season that ended with a record of 4-4-2 and is looking to improve upon that mark.

The boys are off to a good start and will get better with each game, working towards a successful season.

SPHS FIELD HOCKEY

By Amanda Calvi

Field Hockey Corner



The South Plainfield Field Hockey Team, now 4-1, is back in season. Varsity, JV and freshman teams work together as a family on an almost daily basis to not only bring wins home for South Plainfield, but also to help the town and other organizations.

The girls will head down to Six Flags on October 3 to participate in the Susan G. Komen Walk for the Cure after fundraising and donating all proceeds to the cause.

On September 22 the team played away at Old Bridge. The schedule for the next week is South Brunswick (away) today; Piscataway (away) on September 27 and East Brunswick (away) on September 29. Our next home game is Friday, Oct. 1 at 3:45 p.m.

Read the *Observer* each week for updates on these games and more.

U-10 ECLIPSE

By Jenn Curtis

Eclipse Open Season and Battle Hard to 1-1 Tie

Interest in soccer is getting stronger and stronger in South Plainfield. This year there was enough interest to spark a brand new U-10 all girls travel soccer team within the SPSC named the Eclipse. On Sunday, the Eclipse played their first game of the season, battling a tough Union Beach team who scored early in the first period, putting the Cougars up 1-0.

The Eclipse never gave up and battled hard the entire game proving

team work and dedication pave the way for a great game. Opening the third period, Alexis Curtis scored the tying goal for the Eclipse and both teams continued to battle to end in a 1-1 tie. Offensive players of the Eclipse include Victoria Meono, Gianna Sacco, Kaitlyn Smith, Katherine Delair and Samantha Pullen. The stellar Eclipse defense was led by Olivia Leonardis, Kristen Smith and Linda Farinella. Goalie duty was shared phe-

nomenally by Cameron Marks, Jill Holobowski and Mackenzie O'Brien, who play offensive and defensive positions as well. The coaches of Eclipse are Gino Leonardis and Ken Curtis.

The girls are energetic and would welcome support at the next game in Millburn on Sunday, Sept. 26 at 2 p.m. The girls are home at the Kenneth Field on October 3 and are looking forward to a fantastic first season. Come on out and support the girls.

Fall Season Adult Baseball Players Wanted

Adult baseball players and teams wanted for the Amateur Baseball Association of NJ, the premier adult men's recreational baseball league in New Jersey. Visit www.AllStarTeamStats.com/aba or call (201) 873-3349.

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Obituaries

Roger C. Newman, 73

Roger C. Newman of Warren Twp. passed away on Monday, Sept. 6 at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

Born in Montclair, Mr. Newman resided in Warren Twp. for 42 years and was a former resident of Montclair and South Plainfield.

Mr. Newman was formerly employed as an engineer with Jersey Plastic Molders of Irvington.

He is the cherished son of the late Carl and Margaret Newman; the dear brother of Richard Newman and wife Dorothy of West Chester, Pa.; and the loving uncle of Christopher and Robert Newman.

Private funeral services were under the direction of the South Plainfield Funeral Home.

Elsie Nieves, 70

Elsie Nieves of Jersey City passed away on Sunday, Sept. 12 at home.

Born in New York City, Ms. Nieves resided in Jersey City for many years.

She was formerly employed as a secretary with Columbia Paint Lab, Inc. of Jersey City before retirement.

She is the dear sister of David Nieves of Midland, Mich. and loving aunt of David Nieves of Piscataway and Danielle Nieves.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of the South Plainfield Funeral Home.

Floyd L. Austin, Jr., 92

Floyd L. Austin, Jr. died on Wednesday, Sept. 15 at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born in South Plainfield on May 14, 1918 to Floyd L. Austin and Daisy Staton, he was a lifelong resident of the community.

In 1979, he retired after 40 years as a locomotive engineer out of the South Plainfield location of the Leigh Valley Railroad, which later became Conrail.

Floyd was honorably discharged from the United States Army after serving during WWII. He was stationed in the European Theater and saw battle action in the Battle of the Bulge while he was attached to the 661st Tank Division. He was a life member of the VFW Memorial Post #6763 in South Plainfield, where he was a former post service officer. Floyd also was a member of the American Legion Chaumont Post #243 in South Plainfield and the Sons of Union Veterans.

In addition, he was a lifetime member of the First Baptist Church of South Plainfield and a 32nd degree member of the Jerusalem Lodge 26

of the Free and Accepted Masons in Plainfield.

Floyd was a charter and life member of the South Plainfield Rescue Squad.

He is predeceased by a sister, Louise Appar; and by two brothers, Edward and Donald "Doc" Austin.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Judith and Ron Beekman of Spokane, Wash.; a son and daughter-in-law, Floyd "Butch" and Mary Jane Austin, III of Broadheadsville, Pa.; a sister, Jacqueline Bucklew of South Plainfield; and by five grandchildren, Judith, John, Shannon, Ron and Greg.

Funeral services were private under the direction of McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

A memorial service reflecting on Floyd's life will be held at a later date.

Elizabeth Stolz, 98

Elizabeth Stolz died on Tuesday, Sept. 14 at Care One at the Highlands in Edison.

Born in Newark, Elizabeth grew up in Union and Elizabeth. In the mid 1930s she settled in Union and resided there until 1965. She then moved to Ocean Beach where she lived until October of 1998, settling with her daughter in South Plainfield.

She is a former member of the Ocean Beach Seniors and the Ortley Beach Moose Lodge.

Her husband, Joseph, died in December of 1967.

She is survived by two daughters, Elizabeth and husband Edward Koznowicz and Jean and husband Robert Johnson of Ocean Beach; six grandchildren, Denise, Edward, Catherine, Elizabeth, Heather and Bradley; and by seven great-grandchildren.

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

Jeanette (Sedor) Kelly, 65

Jeanette (Sedor) Kelly died suddenly on Thursday, Sept. 16 at home.

Born in New York City, Mrs. Kelly was raised in Dunellen and resided in South Plainfield for nearly 40 years.

For 34 years, Jeanette worked for the Levin Management Corp in North Plainfield.

She attended church masses at Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield.

Surviving are a son, Brian of Little Falls; a sister, Marilyn Sedor of Dunellen and a brother, Robert Sedor and wife Joyce of Manville.

Private funeral services were under the direction of McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

Ann Orrico Falocco, 93



Ann Orrico Falocco

Born in Cleveland, Miss., Ann spent most of her years in South Plainfield on Madison Drive and recently moved to Ohio in 2008.

During her lifetime, Ann wore many hats. She started working at a young age at Passes Drug Store, and later at Grand Drugs working in cosmetics. She later became the top wardrobe coordinator in ladies' fine fashions at Teppers Department Store in Plainfield. Later in life she worked at Mary Goodwins and The Wardrobe before retiring at the age of 70.

Ann was active in her South Plainfield community, volunteering her time and services at the election polls, her church (Sacred Heart) and Muhlenberg Hospital in Plainfield. While in Ohio, she volunteered at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

Ann was an amazing seamstress and loved to read and tend to her beautiful gardens in both her South Plainfield and Ohio homes. Ann was extremely social and made friends wherever she went. She was well loved by everyone who knew her.

The family would like to thank the staff from Summa Hospice and Palliative Care for all of their help and kind support.

Predeceased by her husband, Jack Falocco, she was the loving mother of Jacklyn Falocco Buczek of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio and Thomas Falocco and wife Pamela Koharchik of Hamilton; dearest grandmother of Suzanne and Joe Seminars of Gurnee, Ill.; Sharon and Joe Smith of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio; Juliette and Justin Linnabary of Westville and Andrew Falocco of Edison; cherished great-grandmother of Holly Annmarie Smith and Jack Thomas Linnabary. She is also survived by former daughter-in-law Victoria Falocco of Edison; former son-in-law, William Buczek of Milltown, and many nieces and nephews.

Calling hours will be held at South Plainfield Funeral Home on Friday,

Sept. 24 from 5-7 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 25 from 9-10:30 a.m., with a memorial service following.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Summa Hospice and Palliative Care, 444 North Main St., Akron, Ohio 44310 or to the American Cancer Society.

Fiorvanti Riccardi, 92

Fiorvanti "Foo" Riccardi passed away on Saturday, Sept. 18 at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born in Plainfield, Mr. Riccardi resided in South Plainfield since 1948.



For 20 years, he owned and operated Riccardi Trucking and operated his truck out of the Fanwood Quarry. In the 1960s and 1970s,

Fiorvanti Riccardi he was a heavy equipment operator for D&S Construction Co., and from 1976-1983 he was employed by Jesco Co. in South Plainfield as an equipment operator. Mr. Riccardi worked part time delivering auto parts for Buy Rite Auto Parts in South Plainfield.

A veteran of WWII, he was honorably discharged from the United States Army, having gained the rank of staff sergeant and had been with the ground crew of the Air Force while he was stationed in England, Africa and Italy.

He had been an avid bowler for many years and belonged to many bowling leagues. His highest bowling game was a 298.

Mr. Riccardi was a member of Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield and was a former member of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local 478 of Newark.

He is predeceased by his wife, Rose, who died in 1998 and by five siblings, Violet Pizza, Elinor Poklitar, Evelyn Santy, Carmella Merrill and Michael Riccardi.

He leaves behind two loving sons, Gregory and wife Donna of Piscataway and Patrick and wife Donna of South Plainfield. He will be missed by five grandchildren, one great-grandchild and by four siblings, Mary Pizza, Madeline Brueno, Anthony, Irving and Frank Riccardi.

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

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, NJ Chapter, 246 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst, N.J. 07755 would be greatly appreciated.

Vivian Mae (Kelly) Peterson, 88

Vivian Mae (Kelly) Peterson entered into eternal life on Thursday, Sept.

16 at Haven Hospice located within JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born on March 13, 1922 in Albert Lea, Minn., Vivian graduated from A.L. High School in 1940 then went on to work as an optometrist receptionist. She moved to Denver, Colo. and worked at K&C Finance Co. and then General Insurance Co. of America.

She married Elwood R. Peterson on September 5, 1948 and moved to Minneapolis, Minn. She moved to Plainfield in 1950 and has resided in South Plainfield since 1953.

Vivian spent most of her time caring for her family as a homemaker and being involved as a Brownie and Girl Scout Leader and Den Mother.

An active member of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in South Plainfield, Vivian was a Sunday school teacher, a member of the Lutheran Church Women and the Altar Guild for 26 years. She worked at the food pantry for the Social Services Department in South Plainfield, was a faithful volunteer for Muhlenberg Hospital since 1981 and was a longtime sponsor for Children International.

She is predeceased by her husband, Elwood, who died on April 3, 1996; and by three siblings, Dorothy, Loretta and Robert.

Vivian is survived by two loving children, Lori Busch and husband Louis of Townsend, Mass. and Kelly Peterson of South Plainfield; two adored grandchildren, Matthew Busch of Portland, Ore. and Joseph Busch and wife Monica of Westminster, Mass.; a great-granddaughter, Makenia Lynn Busch; and three brothers, John, Joseph and James Kelly, all of Virginia.

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

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to the South Plainfield Food Fund, c/o St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, 3145 Park Ave., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

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SPHS Back to School Night

South Plainfield High School Back-to-School Night is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 28, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Meet your child's teachers and learn course requirements. If you would like an individual conference with your child's teachers or counselor, schedule one by contacting your child's counselor at (908) 754-4620, ext. 298. A copy of your child's schedule will be sent home prior to the 28th; please remember to bring it with you.

Copies of the bell schedule and building maps will be available that evening at Exit 1 and Exit 10.

Senior Parents: Guidance counselors will be in the Information Center from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on September 28 to answer questions concerning college or post-secondary application procedures. Please take full advantage of this early assistance with your child's preparations for the future.

police report

On September 10 Lisa M. Montesano, 45, of Edison was arrested for driving while intoxicated and careless driving.

Claudia M. Tejada, 27, of Piscataway was arrested at Kohl's for shoplifting \$596.99 worth of jewelry.

Jamila K. Lewis, 18, of Plainfield was arrested at Target for shoplifting \$93.94 worth of assorted items.

On September 11 Elder Abilio Veliz-Milan, 23, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, failure to stay right and careless driving.

On September 12 Israel Abarca, 37, of Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated and careless driving.

On September 14 Brian Glenn Green, 24, of Piscataway was arrested for driving on a suspended license, no insurance and two outstanding warrants.

From the Republicans

OPINION

(Continued from page 5)

programs, like for example, the recycling program. Bidding out recycling saved \$40,000. These are the type of things we'll continue to do in 2011.

Q: How would you handle the role of mayor differently than prior mayors?

Anesh: I think my personality is different. On the council I've tried to work in a more bipartisan manner, and I'd do the same as mayor. For instance, while serving as council president I've appointed people from the other party to important spots on committees and sought their input on key issues, something I'd continue to do as mayor.

Q: Now that you have a Republican majority, what's the biggest change?

Anesh: There's a sincere effort to work with the minority on important issues. For instance, Ray Rusnak and I reached across the aisle to work with the other side on the school board budget. That was a first. We were able to reduce the budget so that instead

of a \$100 increase, it came in flat. And that was without cutting a single program or teacher. In fact, we recommended ways to bring back programs and teachers, which is happening now. The council vote was unanimous.

Q: What's the biggest difference between you and your opponent, Michael English?

Anesh: Mike's a good guy, but we already saw him perform as mayor. His first year he raised taxes 55%. That wasn't a fluke. His second year on the school board the average home saw taxes spike by \$375. His record simply doesn't match the promises he's making for South Plainfield's future.

Q: Any final thoughts?

Anesh: There's a clear choice this year. One candidate for mayor represents the past, and the other represents the future. I'm betting on the future, because I know we can improve our town if we work together to make it better, and just as important, make it affordable again.

From the Democrats

OPINION

(Continued from page 5)

struction permit fee for any construction, reconstruction, alteration or improvement to their home. The proposal will be extended to all taxpayers over 60 years old and all the active members of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department and the South Plainfield Volunteer Rescue Squad. There are some state fees associated with building permits that the town can not do away with but most of the fees will be eliminated.

Mike, Jeff and John want a review

of all the town's codes and rules. They want to give back to all our residents control of petty improvements such as sheds and other items.

The Democratic Team will improve everyone's life in South Plainfield if you give them the chance. They realize it's time for straight, honest talk. Each week they will use this space to explain the initiatives and proposals they will enact if elected. If you have any questions please visit the SP Democrats website.

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I dozen extra lg. EGGS 99¢	Green Yellow SQUASH 39¢^{lb.}	This week's BAKERY SPECIAL Chocolate Volcano Cakes \$2⁹⁹^{ea.}	Boar's Head Pepperoni Pouch 2/\$5⁰⁰	Boar's Head Honey Maple Turkey \$6.99^{lb.}	Boar's Head Provolone Cheese \$4.99^{lb.}	Boar's Head Combo 2/3 lb. Oven Gold Turkey 1/3 lb. Swiss Cheese \$6.99^{lb.}

