

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 14, NO. 6

Member New Jersey Press Association

60 CENTS

OCTOBER 8, 2010



Playground equipment at all of the elementary schools was roped off with caution tape last week due to safety risks with the lack of mulch in the areas. According to Business Administrator Rich Guarini, the Board of Education is still bidding out the project and is trying to stay within the school's budget. It is unknown when the equipment will be usable again.

Rich History Surrounds St. Stephen Church International Festival



Xenia and John Wrublewski, founders of St. Stephen Church (above) on Lane Avenue.

According to church history, "Her [Xenia] prayers were answered and Xenia had a small Byzantine chapel built beside her home. She worshipped there daily, adorning the altar with hand-crocheted coverings."

The congregants of St. Stephen the Protomartyr Church brought diversity to South Plainfield September 10 through 12 with the third annual International Festival. The festival, held on church grounds on Lane Avenue, was chaired by Joe Keepers and Ted Mandalakis.

More than 1,000 people attended the festival over three days and sampled a diverse menu of freshly prepared Greek, Middle Eastern and Slavic dishes, as well as traditional American favorites and a shrimp and clam bar. Activities included boardwalk-type games, face painting, music and dancing. Super raffle tickets were sold for a chance to win a 52" LCD TV, a laptop computer and a video game console.

While the little white chapel on Lane Avenue near the high school has changed over the years, the dedication of those who worship inside hasn't.

Church founders, Xenia and John Wrublewski of Ukrainian descent, owned a small farm on Lane Avenue when it was a dirt road. It was Xenia who, after sending her four sons off to fight in World War II, vowed to build a chapel to express her thanks to God if He would send her sons home safely.

According to church history, "Her prayers were answered, and Xenia had a small Byzantine chapel built beside her home. She worshipped there daily, adorning the altar with hand-crocheted coverings and religious tokens."

More than 125 children grew up in the wooded neighborhood off Lane Avenue during the 1960s and 70s. Many still live in the area, and fondly recall "Baba" as a very loving and generous woman who considered them all her "children." When she fried donuts word would spread around the neighborhood, and the children would all show up on her doorstep.

It was in 1978 when a group of 15 families from St. Stephen's Episcopal

Church in Plainfield were searching for a temporary home, and the Wrublewski Family graciously loaned them the 20 x 20 ft. chapel. Over the years, the parish purchased the back lot for a nominal fee, and years later the adjacent house, with the stipulation that the land could only be used for a house of worship.

The first addition to Xenia's chapel was made in 1997, and according to church history, "At the groundbreaking, our congregation observed a cloud formation in the shape of a cross in the sky and felt the presence of God amongst us, giving us His blessing to enlarge His house of worship."

Under current pastor Fr. Stephen Tewfik, the membership had expanded to about 55 families, which made a second expansion necessary. In 2006, ground was broken for an addition that doubled the worship space and added 10,000 sq. ft. which included a social hall, bathroom facilities, a chair lift, a commercial grade kitchen, office and storage room. Church services are held each Sunday at 10 a.m., with church school classes held in the large basement at 11:15 a.m. New members are always welcome to join.

St. Stephen Church holds various fundraisers throughout the year to benefit many charities. The next big event the church will host is a Fall Tricky Tray in the parish hall on October 23. For details, see page 2.

For more information about St. Stephen Church, visit www.ststephenchurch.net.

School Board Ousts Superintendent

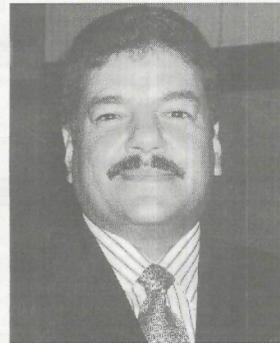
By Jane Dornick

The Board of Education (BOE) voted 5-0 to place Superintendent of Schools Jose Negron on paid administrative leave until further notice at a special meeting held last Thursday evening. Negron had come under fire as interim high school principal recently by SPEA Vice President Diana Joffe for instituting new practices at the high school and shutting out teachers from the process. He had also been at odds with the BOE in respect to his recommendations for interim principal and his overall lack of communication with members, employees and the public during his tenure.

The board also agreed to have background checks for Dr. Gary Bowen expedited so that he would be able to start work as the new interim principal on Monday of this week. He was appointed to the position at the August 18 BOE meeting and was supposed to begin at the high school on September 15. Bowen, a retired superintendent from the Montville Township School District, will earn \$500 a day until a new principal is hired. Assistant Superintendent Dr. Lorraine Cella was appointed to fill Negron's position temporarily until the board can find a permanent replacement. Cella has only been working for the district since February.

BOE President Jim Giannakis did not vote because his wife is a secretary at the middle school. Vice President Pio Pennisi abstained from voting due to a conflict with his position as superintendent of schools in Dunellen. Not present at the meeting were Steve Bohn, whose wife is a secretary at Roosevelt School, and Chris Hubner.

Negron was hired in 2007 after former Superintendent Dr. Robert Rosado announced his retirement. On June 29, the board considered and vot-



Jose Negron

ed on a resolution which, had it passed, would have given him an additional year on his current three-year contract that would end on June 30, 2012. The vote was 4-2 due to abstentions by Giannakis, Pennisi and Bohn. The board voted 2-4 against extending Negron's contract for an additional three years which would have expired in June 30, 2015. Five affirmative votes were required in order for either resolution to pass. Both votes were again reaffirmed by the board at the special meeting.

BOE members Carol Byrne and Bill Scesselberg were the only two in favor of both contract renewals at the time. Byrne read a lengthy statement prior to the vote, outlining Negron's accomplishments in the district. Members Chris Hubner and Gary Stevenson had voted in favor of extending Negron's contract for only one additional year. His current salary is \$177,598 a year, slightly above the \$175,000 a year cap that Gov. Chris Christie intends to impose on school superintendents' salaries in the near future.

"Education in this district needs to prevail, and when good men and women sit back and do nothing, education will be compromised," commented board member Debbie Boyle.

Meet the Candidates Night Set for October 21

The *Observer* and the South Plainfield Business Association is co-sponsoring a Meet the Candidates Night on Thursday, Oct. 21 at the Senior Center beginning at 7 p.m.

The four candidates for Borough Council are Republican incumbents Tim McConville and Ray Rusnak and Democrats John Sorrentino and Jeff Williams, who are both running for the first time.

Also debating with them are mayoral candidates, Republican Matt Anesh and Democrat Mike English. The debate will be divided into two parts—council candidates and mayoral candidates.

As in the past, the questions may be submitted by members of the audience that evening. If anyone would like to submit a question ahead of time, email your questions to the *Observer* at spobserver@comcast.net. The candidates will not be privy to any questions before the night of the debate and it will be up to the moderator as to which questions will be asked and in what order. Candidates will alternate answering questions, and time for rebuttal will be allowed.

This will be the only opportunity prior to Election Day that both parties will meet to debate the issues and set the record straight on their positions.

The public is invited to attend and encouraged to submit questions.

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 2.

Plainfields' Chapter UNICO Sponsoring Columbus Day Program



Plainfields' Chapter UNICO is sponsoring the annual Columbus Day program on Monday, Oct. 11 at 9 a.m. at the South Plainfield Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Ave.

All are welcome to attend. Free admission; refreshments will be served.



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 18 October 18

November 8 November 8

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

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

zoning boardofadjustment

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

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

Oct. 14, Oct. 28, Nov. 11*, Dec. 9.*

boardofeducation

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

Committee of the whole meetings: Oct. 13, Nov. 10, Dec. 8.

2011: Jan. 12, Feb. 9, March 2 and March 30.

Regular Public Meeting: 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

library board of trustees

Meets once a month on the second Tuesday, at the library at 7 p.m.

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.

siteplan sub-committee

Meets once a month on the third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.

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

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

October 25 at 7 p.m. in the Senior Center Questions? 908-226-7605

South Plainfield Observer logo and contact information. Includes address: 1110 Hamilton Boulevard, Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. Phone: 908-668-0010. Fax: 908-668-8819. Email: spobserver@comcast.net. Website: www.spobserver.com. Editorial: 908-668-0010. Circulation: To subscribe to the Observer call (908) 668-0010. Advertising: Display (908) 668-0010. Classified (908) 668-1258. Publisher/Editor-in-Chief: Nancy Grennier. Associate Publisher: Wayne Grennier. Art Director/Associate Editor: Susan Kaneps. Staff Writer/Photographer: Patricia Abbott. Staff Writer: Libby Barksy. Editorial Assistants: Jane Dornick, Jean Fultz. Production Assistants: Jennifer DeCosta, Barbara Smith. Advertising Sales: Jane Dornick, Jean Fultz, Roxanne Cortese. The South Plainfield Observer (U.S.P.S. 018253) is published weekly, except Thanksgiving week. Second class postage paid at South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080-9998. Postmaster: Forward change of address orders to G&G Graphics Inc. 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080-2004. Subscription rates \$29.95/year in South Plainfield; \$34.95 year out of town. 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. 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. 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 would like to take this opportunity to thank the many parents who contacted the South Plainfield Funeral Home in reference to our recent donation of \$10,000 to the Sacred Heart School. Our goal was to encourage other businesses and families in the parish to make generous contributions during this difficult economic period to help support the children and families of Sacred Heart School and further the goals of Catholic education.

We also want to extend our heartfelt thanks to the many friends, neighbors and families of South Plainfield who donated \$152 on the evening of Labor Day during our giveaway of free hot dogs, soft pretzels and beverages at the South Plainfield Funeral Home parking area prior to the fireworks show. The donations were split equally between the South Plainfield Fire Department and Rescue Squad to assist our town emergency services.

**SINCERELY,
JASON M. OSZCZAKIEWICZ
MANAGER, SOUTH PLAINFIELD
FUNERAL HOME**

To the Editor:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the South Plainfield Police and Fire Departments for responding so quickly to what could have been a disaster at our home on September 24. Our thermostat caught fire and, although we were able to get the flames out ourselves, their response was incredible.

While the firemen went inside to make certain there was no further risk, a young officer (whose name regrettably we did not get) was able to keep us calm outside. The professionalism from both departments was incredible and should make all residents of South Plainfield proud.

Again, thank you to all who responded that day.

**SINCERELY,
JAY AND KATHY TRACY**

Dear Editor,

October is here and everyone will be getting fire safety fliers about changing the batteries in their smoke alarms, etc. One or two other items that many people do not seem to think about are the clothes dryer exhaust vent pipe and their toaster.

These things can and do cause many fires because of the buildup of "debris." A simple way to clean the toaster is to spread a sheet of newspaper on the kitchen counter and remove the crumb tray, turn the toaster up side down and give it a good shake.

Of course the dryer vent is a bit more of a job, but cleaning it out will eliminate a fire hazard and improve the flow of air through the dryer.

BILL TUTHILL

Dear Editor,

Three times during this past week, I encountered fire department activity with my own eyes, twice as the engines barreled down the narrow streets off Hamilton Boulevard, already a busy thoroughfare, but much more so during the busy school hours when these vehicles were magically maneuvering to an emergency. From my crossing guard perch, it is a sight that I see more and more often as our town expands.

Sadly, I rarely, if ever read any words of thanks in these pages to these heroic fire persons who amazingly do this dangerous job on a voluntary basis, without pay (I do feel guilty about that).

I believe that I'm talking for the vast majority of South Plainfield citizens in thanking those serving for a job well done, day in and day out, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Stay safe heroes, you're in our hearts and our prayers.

KEVIN (THE ELDER) O'BRIEN

Dear Editor,

A few months ago when I began interning at Edison Wetlands Association (EWA), I was looking forward to learning about different environmental sites the organization was

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.

working on. Much to my surprise, one of these areas fell right in my hometown of South Plainfield. The Dismal Swamp, or the "Diz" as it is better known here, is a 1,240-acre refuge for wildlife that covers the towns of Edison, Metuchen and South Plainfield. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the USEPA placed the Dismal Swamp under "priority wetlands," which basically means it's one of the most important wetlands in the state.

Before working here, I saw South Plainfield as an overcrowded little town, with nothing more to offer than truck companies and railroad tracks. Now, I'm reminded of this wildlife area and how it is such a shame that more people don't know about it. There are dozens of different tree species, such as red maple, sweet gum, yellow poplar and American beech. Add to that 175 species of bird, 25 species of mammals, and about 11 endangered species in general. Not only does the Diz serve as an area of refuge for wildlife, it also plays a huge part in flood control for South Plainfield. It is actually one of the few clean sources of water in the area.

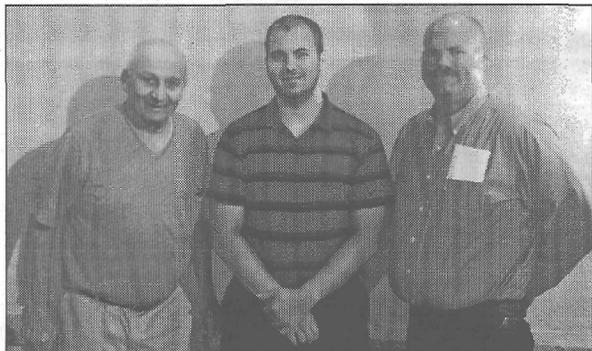
In order to continue preserving the Diz and bringing it out into the public forefront, EWA is working on the Dismal Swamp Conservation Area Trails (Continued on page 16)

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New member of the South Plainfield Lions, Joseph Grennier, with Past District Governor Lion Larry Massaro and his sponsor, Lion Michael Grennier.

Middlesex County College to Offer Saturday Hours on October 16

Students and future students who need enrollment services at Middlesex County College may take advantage of special hours on Saturday, Oct. 16. The offices will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

"This is a convenience for adult students and others who might work during the week and find it easier to come to campus on Saturdays," said Marla Brinson, dean of enrollment and student support services.

Offices that will be open on October 16 include the enrollment center, bursar's office, counseling and career services, admissions, financial aid, the registrar's of-

...fice, student activities, academic advisement and the college bookstore.

In addition, the Department of Counseling and Career Services will hold workshops on choosing a major and transfer planning. They are free, but pre-registration is required by calling (732) 906-2546.

The center in New Brunswick, located at 140 New St. will also be open on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and can be reached at (732) 745-8866; the center in Perth Amboy, located at 60 Washington St. will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. They can be reached at (732) 324-0700.

Borough is Accepting Resumes to Fill Vacancy on Dismal Swamp Board

There is a vacancy on the Dismal Swamp Preservation Commission which the Borough of South Plainfield wishes to fill as soon as possible. The commission acts in the same manner as a planning board for any proposed development of the Dismal Swamp.

The commission consists of two

representatives from South Plainfield, Edison and Metuchen as well as the County of Middlesex. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. in either Metuchen or South Plainfield.

Anyone interested in applying for this position should contact the borough clerk at (908) 226-7606 or email your resume to jgraf@southplainfield.nj.com. You may also stop in at the clerk's office at 2480 Plainfield Ave., between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Deadline for submission of completed application is October 29.

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. in Striving. RSVP to Debbie Czech or Angela Raimondo-Hajduk at (908) 754-3420.

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policereport

On September 23 Nelson Cruz, 39, of Perth Amboy was arrested for making an improper left turn and outstanding warrants.

Cecil C. Johnson, 19, of Plainfield was arrested at CVS on Plainfield Avenue for shoplifting a set of ear bud headphones worth \$16.

N.J. Buddhist Culture Center on New Brunswick Avenue reported that a rock had been thrown at the door cracking the glass.

On September 24 Amitbhai K. Patel, 28, of Edison was arrested for driving while intoxicated and careless driving.

A Maple Avenue resident reported that two political signs on their front lawn had been damaged.

On September 25 a Maple Avenue resident reported that two of their vehicles had been keyed and the tires were punctured.

On September 26 Kymberlee Walker Stewart, 32, of North Bergen was arrested for hindering apprehension, driving on a suspended license and driving without headlights on.

Blanco Rodriguez, 29, of Piscataway was arrested for driving while intoxicated, refusal to submit to breath testing, reckless driving and possession of an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle.

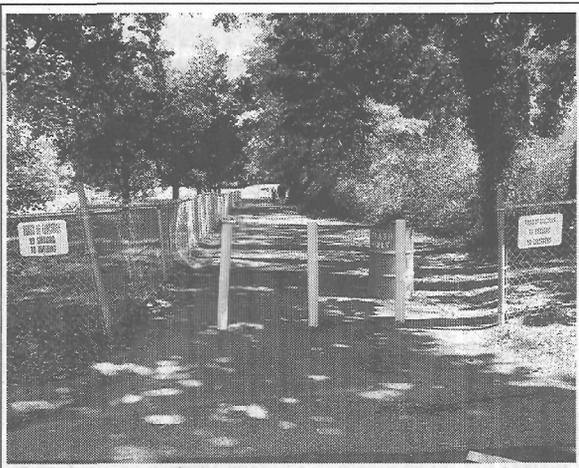
Columbus Day Recycling Schedule

The Columbus Day holiday will not affect the borough's recycling program. The recycling center and the yard waste site on Kenneth Avenue will be open as usual on Saturday, Oct. 9 and on Tuesday, Oct. 12.

Curbside recycling collection in District 1 will be done on Monday, Oct. 11 as scheduled.

Regular hours at the recycling center are 12 to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays, and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Summer hours at the yard waste site are 12 to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays.

Call the recycling hotline at (908) 226-7620 for updates.



The Board of Education recently placed "no smoking" and "no loitering" signs along the pathway leading from the high school parking lot to Spring Lake Park. The measure will allow personnel and police to take action against students found in violation of the school policies. The area is also under surveillance by the school's video cameras.

IMPORTANT NOTICE-FALL CURBSIDE PICKUP

Please be advised that the annual fall curbside pickup began the week of October 4. Bulky waste will be collected from all residences in the borough excluding apartment and condominium/townhouse complexes. If you're not sure of your section, log on to southplainfieldnj.com, click on the "Public Works" section and click on "click here" to check your street.

Bulky Waste Pick Up Schedule

Week 1 . Oct. 4 - 10	District 1	Week 4 . Oct. 25 - 31	District 4
Week 2 . Oct. 11 - 17	District 2	Week 5 . Nov. 1 - 7	District 5
Week 3 . Oct. 18 - 24	District 3		

All pickups will occur during the designated week unless weather conditions are severe.

Leaf Collection Program

The leaf collection program will begin on Monday, Nov. 9 and run for five successive weeks.

Week 1 . Nov. 8 - 13	District 1	Week 4 . Nov. 29 - Dec. 3	District 4
Week 2 . Nov. 15 - 20	District 2	Week 5 . Dec. 5 - 10	District 5
Week 3 . Nov. 22 - 27	District 3		

Anyone who wishes to have their leaves picked up by the borough MUST PLACE the filled biodegradable bags at the curb for collection. All leaves bagged in plastic MUST BE taken to the compost site and completely emptied with bags not left with the leaves, but discarded in the designated receptacles located at the site. This is to comply with composting rules and regulations.

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WHAT'S GOING ON IN MY TOWN

FROM A BUSY BUSY MOM *jd*

All South Plainfield schools will be closed on Wednesday, Oct. 27 for a teachers' professional day.

Grant School pictures will be taken on Wednesday, Oct. 13. Stokes Trip money and paperwork are due. First group departs on Monday, Oct. 18 and returns on Wednesday, Oct. 20 and group two leaves Wednesday, Oct. 20 and returns on Friday, Oct. 22. Students may wear Halloween costumes to school on Friday, Oct. 29; however, no masks or props are allowed.

Kennedy School will hold a new parent orientation on Tuesday, Oct. 19 at 7 p.m. The PTSO membership drive is underway. The cost is \$5 per family. The class that has the most participation wins a prize. Kennedy School Rocks shirts are still available. Download the flier on the school's website. Market Day pick up is October 13 after school in the cafeteria. Trunk R. Treat night is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 28 from 6-8 p.m. (Rain date is Friday, Oct. 29.) Volunteers are needed. Decorated cars are also needed to make the event a success. Food, snacks, desserts, drinks and raffles will be sold in the cafeteria. Look out for the latest fliers coming home soon to see where you can help. The Halloween parade will take place at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 29.

Franklin School has a book fair preview on Wednesday, Oct. 13 from 6:30 until 8:30 p.m. and the book fair is Thursday and Friday, Oct. 14 and 15 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26 is Trunk R. Treating night and Halloween parade is Friday, Oct. 29 at 1:15 p.m.

Riley School is hosting a bike-a-thon on Saturday, Oct. 9 from 9 to 10

a.m. for kindergarten through second grade and 10 to 11 a.m. for grades three and four. Pumpkin sale is Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 19 and 20. Friday, Oct. 22 is school pictures and the Halloween party is 6 to 7:15 p.m. for kindergarten through second grade and 7:30 to 9 p.m. for the third and fourth grade. The judging for Halloween hall decorating contest is Thursday, Oct. 28 and the Halloween parade begins at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 29.

Roosevelt School Kidstuff fundraiser ends on Friday, Oct. 15. There is a Student Council meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 20 at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26 is Spirit Day. Bring teddy bears and wear green or white shirts. Friday, Oct. 29 is the Halloween parade at 1:25 p.m. and the PTO Halloween Fun Night is from 6 to 8 p.m.

Great job to Rich D'Urso from the Old Timers Motorcycle Club and Moretti Realty once again on their fundraiser for children battling cancer held last Sunday.

Congratulations to Dr. Ken May on a wonderful retirement dinner filled with many faces from past and present.

Maryann Sorrentino has come forward with a wonderful idea for no longer needed graduation gowns that can be donated to less fortunate students. If you have any SPHS graduation gowns that you no longer wish to keep, please call Debbie Boyle at (908) 803-1573.

The South Plainfield Education Foundation is in the process of selling 50/50 raffle tickets. The money raised from the telethon, raffle books, wine and beer tasting are all donated to the

(Continued on page 16)



SPHS Jerseyan History Club members kicked off their series of seasonal fundraisers with a car wash on October 2 at the South Plainfield Middle School parking lot. The Jerseyan History Club will hold seasonal events to help fund educational trips to various historical sites as well as club projects. A special thank you to all who donated to the car wash; you made the first series seasonal fundraiser a success!

-Photo courtesy of Louis Mormile

Nineteen BOE Staff Members Awarded Tenure Certificates

By Libby Barsky

Nineteen staff members were presented with tenure certificates at the September 23 Board of Education meeting.

Receiving tenure were:

- Kevin Hajduk, current principal of South Plainfield Middle School, for his years as assistant principal at the middle school.
- Mary Muglia-attendance secretary, registrar for students entering the district's system.
- South Plainfield High School Guidance Director Elaine Gallo and teachers Andrew Casano-art, Stacey Closterman-social studies and Paulo Correia-mathematics.
- Language teachers Claudy Delne-French and Leonardo Perero-Span-

ish. (Both teachers received BOE permission separately to conduct student trips to France and Spain over spring break).

- Three middle school teachers: Reshelle Johnson-special education, Sarah LiVecchi-music and Stephen Phillips-art.
- Three Grant School teachers: Diane Lee-music, Megan Melanson-math and Elizabeth Mills-language and social studies.
- Three Kennedy School teachers: Ann Johnson-reading, Janine Turrise-kindergarten and Laura Von Till-Smith-computers and testing.
- Two Riley School teachers: Christine Brandenburg-media specialist and Mary Sikanowicz-special education teacher.

History Center Plans Weeklong Open House

In celebration of the history and heritage of the Borough of South Plainfield, the Historical Society has extended the days and hours of operation of the History Center on October 11 through 15 from 2-8 p.m.

Visitors are invited to browse through the collections of photographs, oral histories, WWII scrapbooks, bound copies of the local newspaper dating to the 1970s and 1980s, New Jersey history books and other memorabilia. Display boards that tell the pictorial history of Samptown and New Brooklyn grace the walls, and mannequins are attired in vintage clothing.

Among the famous photographers represented in the archives are Paul R. Collier and J. Lloyd Grimstead. The Grimstead Collection focuses on the edifices in South Plainfield in the 1930s. Many of the Collier photographs capture events at Hadley Airfield in the 1920s, including the first night airmail flight, and early stunt flying at the old horse racetrack. The oldest photographs in the collection, dating from 1865, capture rural life at Samuel Manning's Evergreen Farm on Hamilton Boulevard.

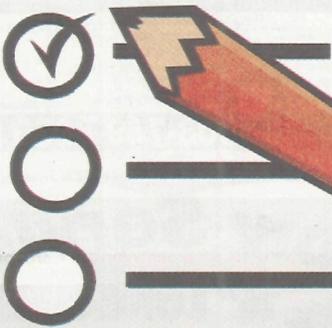
The History Center is located on the lower level of the old Roosevelt School building, now the offices of the Board of Education, 125 Jackson Ave. Normal hours of operation are Tuesdays from 2-4 pm. Regular meetings, which are open to the public, are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

For further information, email sphistoricalociety@verizon.net or Dorothy Miele at (908) 754-3073.

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Election 2010



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Light refreshments will be served.

Make an informed decision on November 2.



From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Danielle Aronowitz

Greetings from the library. We have moved to a new circulation system and re-did our website (our website will still have the same URL). With these system changes comes new circulation policy changes. We will now be charging you a \$.50 fee regardless of whether you pick up your hold item. If you pick it up, it will be \$.50 and if you don't pick it up, it will still be \$.50.

Another very important policy is regarding loan periods for A/V materials such as DVDs and VHS. New DVDs will still be a two day loan, but our new regular DVDs (labeled with a seven day loan sticker) will be checked out to you for seven days. We are no longer allowing holds to be placed on new movies on DVD. The new DVDs will be located on the spin rack next to the circulation desk. Since there will be no holds, these DVDs will be available on a first come, first served basis. We will be allowing one renewal for new DVDs. We are also no longer going to put movies aside that are checked in at the library for people who call and request that. You will need to come into the library and check it out. The fine for overdue DVDs (\$2) will still be the same whether it is a two day or seven day loan. Our new system will now allow you to be notified through email that your holds are available, when items are overdue, and it will also be able to notify you a couple of days in advance of when an item is going to be due. This should help to avoid overdue charges. If you would like this to be available to you, then you need to see the circulation desk and provide us with your email address.

We also have new policies regarding our Internet computers. There is now a maximum of two hours per day per person on our public computers. During the school year between 2:30 and 6 p.m. everyone gets one hour of Internet time with no renewals. Everyone must have a South Plainfield Public Library card with a photo ID on record. Children under 14 must be accompanied by a parent who must stay by the computer and also have a library card. Non-residents will now have to pay \$2 hour (or any part of an hour) to use the Internet. Everyone who wants to use a computer must come to the reference desk to make a reservation for the computer. Access will not be permitted without a reservation.

We have an ongoing book sale where books are \$1 a bag. We have a wide variety of books to choose from. We also have VHS tapes, DVDs, CDs, Books on CD and cassette tapes. These are not \$1 a bag. The prices range from \$.50 to \$1. Come on in and check it out!

We have a great selection from hot new releases to television shows to classics. Some recent new movies that we own are: *Babies*, *Iron Man 2*, *Get Him to the Greek*, *Solitary Man*, *Killers*, *Back Up Plan*, *Letters to Juliet*, *Disney's Prince of Persia*, *MacGruber*, *Marmaduke*, *Tinker Bell and the Great Fairy Rescue* and *Disney's The Princess and the Frog*. Some new TV shows on DVD we own: *Lost Season 6*, *Smallville Season 9*, *Vampire Diaries Season 1*, *Chuck Season 3*, *Glee Vol. 2 Road to Regionals*, *NCIS LA Season 1*, *NCIS Season 7*, *Castle Season 2*, *Office Season 6*, *The Good Wife Season 1*, *The Middle Season 1*, *Modern Family Season 1*, *Grey's Anatomy Season 6* and *The Mentalist Season 2*. We also have new music from Drake, Sara Bareilles, Katy Perry, Jason Drulo, Kenny Chesney, Maroon 5, Miley Cyrus, Jewel and Christina Aguilera as well as new Books on CD. You can go to our website or call us to place any of these items on hold. Be advised that there is a \$.50 charge per item for putting it on hold.

We will be following our regular schedule for children's programs. Please arrive on time for our storytime programs. It is very disruptive to the program if you arrive after it has already begun. The Monday Morning Movie is shown at 10:30 for preschool age children. The Storytime program for ages three and up is held Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday night at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. The Time for 2s & 3s program for children ages two and three is held Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 10:30. We are also doing an afternoon film on Fridays at 3:30 for school age children. The story programs last about an hour and include stories, songs and a craft for older kids and do not require registration. For more information about the programs call (908) 754-7885 and ask for Miss Linda or Miss Mija.

Our hours are Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10-9, Tuesdays and Fridays 10-6, Saturdays 9-5 and Sundays 1:30-5.

To find out more or if there are any questions, call (908) 754-7885 or visit us on the web at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us.

Knights Hold "Don't Cook Friday" Dinner

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 held a popular "Don't Cook Friday" spaghetti dinner on September 18. The dinner is held several times a year, with all proceeds going towards the Knights' General Charity Fund.

The food was delicious; the Italian music set the mood; and the atmosphere was friendly and relaxed. They served over 120 dinners, and delivered meals to several loyal customers who live at the senior residence on Morris Avenue.

The following Knights helped run the dinner: Past Grand Knight Bill Butrico served as maitre'd; Master Chef Joe McGeehan and Charlie Butrico ran the kitchen. Manning the dishwasher was Mike Butrico. Servers for the evening were members of the Columbian Squires and Knights' children. Serving as bartender was Lenny Kleczkowski, and selling tickets at the door were Joe Rea and Steve Belanger. Joe Scudato and Rob Richkus delivered meals to residents around town, and running the salad and bread station was John Eder.

Guests included Father John Alva-



Volunteers for the Knights of Columbus Don't Cook Friday dinner.

rado from Sacred Heart Church and Councilwoman Chrissy Buteas.

Members of the South Plainfield High School Girl's Field Hockey Team came to get in some carbs and the Knights proudly announced that they won their subsequent game.

The Knights would like to thank all the residents who attended the spaghetti dinner. Without that support,

the event would not have been as successful as it was.

Bill Butrico said, "The dinner was a success in that everyone who comes always comes back!"

At evenings end all those who spent hours serving guests had the time to sit down enjoy a cold drink and a great Italian meal together.



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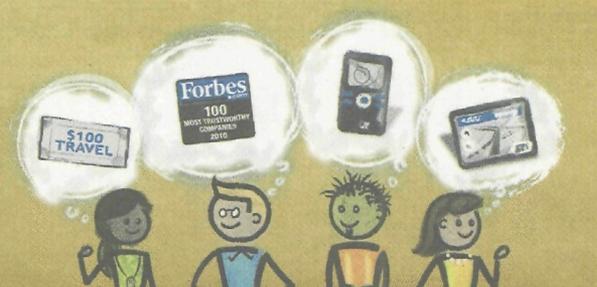
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Around Town

Knights Mum Sale

Weekends in October

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 annual fall mum sale continues weekends until October 24. High quality mums in various colors are on sale at the rescue squad, 2506 Plainfield Ave. \$7 for eight-inch pots and \$25 for huge pots.

This fundraiser supports the Knights various charitable works.

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 to benefit the SPHS Girls Field Hockey Association 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 UNICO will celebrate its 40th anniversary on Saturday, Oct. 9, 6:30 to 11 p.m. at the Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave., featuring Nino Rossano accompanied by Steve and Debbie Berger.

Donation: \$25 adults; \$12.50 children under 12. Includes Italian food and soft drinks. BYOB.

For more information, call Robert Bengivenga at (908) 753-0247 or Elaine Birbin 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 Paulo's Bar & Restaurant in South Plainfield. \$60 per person includes dinner and open bar. Dress is casual.

For information, email Lisa Petrozello Carone at lpetro@comcast.net or Bill Price at bprice31@hotmail.com.

American Legion Atlantic City Trip

October 10

The American Legion auxiliary is sponsoring an Atlantic City bus trip on Sunday, Oct. 10. Bus leaves at noon from 243 Oak Tree Ave. Cost is \$30, with \$30 returned. Sandwiches and refreshments on the bus.

For more information, call (908) 668-9414.

Historical Society Monthly Meeting

October 12

The monthly meeting of the South Plainfield Historical Society will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. in

The History Center located in the Roosevelt Administration Building, lower level on the Jackson Avenue side. Everyone is welcome to attend.

A Day with the Dogs Fundraiser for PAHS

October 10

A fundraiser for the Plainfield Area Humane Society, "A Day With The Dogs," will be held at KC's Korner, 100 Oak Tree Ave. on Sunday, Oct. 10 from noon to 5 p.m. Music, food, face painting, raffles. Bring your furry friend (on leashes). All-you-can-eat BBQ. Admission: \$25 per person; \$15 for ages 10 and under; entry only (no food) is \$10. Rain or shine.

For more information, visit www.youreventsolutionsllc.com or call Jill Pavel at (732) 423-7727.

Open House at The History Center

October 11-15

Visit the South Plainfield Historical Society's History Center during the weeklong 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 in the old Roosevelt School (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/.

Sacred Heart Food Fest Italiano

October 15

Sacred Heart Church "Food Fest Italiano" will be held in the school cafeteria on Friday, Oct. 15. There will be one seating at 6 p.m. for a taste of Italy. Limited number of tickets; no tickets will be sold at door.

For tickets, call or stop by the parish center, (908) 756-0633, ext. 110 or 111.

Cub Scout Pack 324 Spaghetti Dinner

October 15

Cub Scout Pack 324 is hosting a spaghetti dinner at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Hamilton Boulevard on Friday, Oct. 15 from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Cost: Adults/\$7; children under 12/\$5.

USSBA Marching Band Competition

October 16

South Plainfield High School's 29th annual Marching Band Festival USSBA Competition will be held on Saturday, Oct. 16 beginning at 5 p.m. at Frank Jost Memorial Field, Cady Lane (behind the PAL building). Tickets: \$9 adults/\$7 students/senior citizens. Performances by over 10 local high school bands and color guards.

Humane Society Annual Tricky Tray

October 16

Plainfield Area Humane Society's second annual tricky tray auction will be held on Saturday, Oct. 16 from 5 to 10 p.m. at the Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave. Admission: \$10. Refreshments, bake sale plus complimentary tea, coffee, soda and water.

Columbiettes Fall Fashion Show

October 16

The South Plainfield Columbiettes will host their annual fall fashion show and tea on Saturday, Oct. 16 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 334 Hamilton Blvd. Admission is \$10. Fashions, courtesy of Dress Barn in South Plainfield, will

SENIOR CENTER Calendar

Coming Up....

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
Silver Sneakers 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.

be modeled by members and friends. For tickets or information, call Nancy at (908) 561-5917, Emma at (732) 287-2346 or Kathy at (908) 756-3772.

Oktoberfest at St. Stephen's Church

October 16

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, 3145 Park Ave. will hold its 13th annual Oktoberfest German dinner on Saturday, Oct. 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. All-you-can-eat pork roast and gravy, sauerkraut, red cabbage, green beans, applesauce, mashed potatoes, rolls, beverages and dessert. Cost: Adults/\$11; seniors/\$8; children 5-12/\$5; under five are free (hot dogs available for children). Take out dinners will be available. All proceeds go to charity.

For more information, call (908) 757-4474.

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Scrapbooking at Wesley Methodist

October 16

Creative Memories' annual Croptoberfest Scrapbooking Workshop will be held on Saturday, Oct. 16 at Wesley Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave. from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Beginners and experienced scrapbookers are welcome. Workshop fee: \$25, includes prizes, snacks and a hot lunch.

For more information, call Dayel Giammarino at (908) 754 4255 or Michelle Biggs at (908) 754 5791.

Polish Night at the Elks Club

October 16

The South Plainfield Elks is hosting "Polish Night" on Saturday, Oct. 16 from 4 to 7 p.m. Cost: \$12 per person. Authentic Polish food including homemade pierogis, stuffed cabbage, kielbasi, babka and more. Coffee, tea and soda included. Proceeds will benefit Elks charities. Tickets will be sold at the door.

For more information, call Debbie Czech at (732) 491-5310.

— Out of Town —

Journey Through Grief Series

October 6-27

Center For Hope Hospice & Palliative Care will offer a four week lecture series titled "Journey through Grief." The series runs Wednesday evenings until Oct. 27 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Saint Michael's Church, 100 Alden St. in Cranford. Open to the public; no registration required.

For more information, call Acadia House at (908) 654-3711.

Middlesex East WOWs Open Dance

October 8

Middlesex East Widows Or Widowers, Carteret Chapter, will hold an open dance on Friday, Oct. 8 from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, 1155 Roosevelt Ave. in Carteret. Live music and refreshments. Admission: \$10 members; \$12 guests.

For more information, call (732) 969-2228 or (908) 757-0515.

Pet Adopt-a-Thon

October 9

Associated Humane Societies, in partnership with Best Friends Pet Care of North Plainfield will hold its "Hope for Home Adopt-a-Thon" at Best Friends Pet Care, 825 Rt. 22 West on Saturday, Oct. 9 from noon to 4 p.m.

Upscale Singles Dance Party

October 10

Steppin' Out Singles is hosting an upscale singles dance party at the

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SPHS Coaches Introduced to Parents

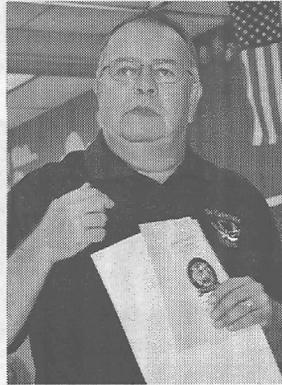
By Patricia Abbott

South Plainfield High School held the annual Meet the Coaches Night on September 17. The evening offered parents of SPHS athletes a chance to meet the coaches and learn about the teams and the agenda for the year, as well as the Athletic Boosters Club and what they do to support the student athletes.

The Boyle Memorial Foundation provided cold drinks and an array of desserts for the guests.

The group was welcomed by Barbara Whitefleet, president of the Athletic Boosters Club, and an introduction of the coaches by Athletic Director Mike Buggey. Buggey discussed the various sports programs offered which enhance the athletes' education. "They learn self-discipline, build self-confidence and develop skills to handle competitive situations. It also gives them a positive way to spend their time, is an outlet for stress, and promotes self-esteem. They learn poise under pressure and the value of hard work. The program encourages a healthy lifestyle and discourages unhealthy activities."

South Plainfield High School has more than 375 athletes and the Middle



SPHS Athletic Director Mike Buggey

coaches and parents of SPHS athletes.

Coach Malone, who has been a coach at SPHS for over 30 years, is still going strong. He was a mentor to many students, including 1974 graduate Dennis Madalone who went on to become a stunt man in Hollywood.

Coach Bill Malone began coaching in 1968 at Kenilworth and came to SPHS in 1969. He taught physical education, health and drivers' education from 1969-2005, retiring from teaching in 2005. He coached girls cross country and girls spring track.

Board of Education member Debbie Boyle said, "Meet the coaches night is a great way to enjoy a one on one personal interactive discussion with your child's intended coach and to hear their expectations."

The coaches who attended included Bill Schulte, Bryan Holt, Steve Johnston, John Foscolo, Anthony Perfilio, Danielle Chiera, Jessica Wilson, Mike Capizola, Bill Milone, Cheryl Hughes, Tammy Zurka, Alyson Oller, Vickie Uniacke, Anthony Guida, Patricia Porzio, Bob Conway, Stacy Closterman, Chris Fish, Georgeann Larsen, Angela Hajduk, Jim Darby, Mike Battista, Anthony Emmons, Donald Panzarella, Joe Blondo, Leslie Rippon and Maria Leonardis.

School has close to 175.

The SPHS athletic program is extensive. There are 34 coaches representing 24 sports. Several of the coaches could not attend due to the Middle School's back to school night. About 70 parents attended.

The Athletic Boosters Club was happy to report that at least 90% of parents who attended signed up.

SPHS graduates are extremely loyal to South Plainfield and the education they received here. They return from college and they become teachers,

Woodbridge Hilton, 120 Wood Ave. South in Iselin on Sunday, Oct. 10 at 8 p.m. Admission: \$15; ages 40 and up; no jeans/shorts/t-shirts/sneakers. For more information, call (732) 656-1801.

Blackrose to Perform

October 9

Blackrose, the band, playing classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will be performing at the Stagehouse Restaurant, 366 Park Ave. in Scotch Plains on Saturday, Oct. 9 at 10 p.m. No cover charge.

Woodbridge WOWs Business Meeting

October 13

Woodbridge Widows Or Widowers will conduct a business meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 13 starting at 7 p.m. in the Children's Room of the Main Library, George Fredrick Plaza, Rt. 35 in Woodbridge. All widows and widowers are welcome to attend.

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

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MONDAY-SATURDAY 10AM-8PM, SUNDAY 11AM-5PM



PBA Benefit Golf Outing Draws Nearly 100 Golfers

South Plainfield Police PBA Local 100 held its 15th annual golf tournament on September 28 under cloudy skies at the Colonia Country Club in Colonia. The golf outing helps the PBA raise money and allows them to support many worthwhile causes, including providing for sick and injured police officers and sponsoring youth sports teams, the Special Olympics and scholarships for local students.

This year's event was attended by nearly 100 golfers and the generous donations of numerous local businesses and individuals raised thousands of dollars. The golfers enjoyed a full day of fun at the course, which started with a shotgun start at 10 a.m. All golfers had a chance on the second hole to win a new car courtesy of Flemington Buick Chevrolet Pontiac GMC, Rt. 202 and 31 in Flemington. Both breakfast and

lunch were offered at the course, and the golfers competed for many prizes and awards during the day.

The day concluded with an awards banquet held in the grand dining hall

ing & Cooling, Crisdel, Restaurant Depot, Buy Rite Liquors and South Plainfield Golf Association for their extremely generous donations. Each was presented with special appreciation plaques.

The following awards and trophies were presented: low score team, four man best ball (pictured top right)-Jim Kohl, Tim Fech, Tom Kaufman and Jim Kavka; longest drive-Sean Brooks, closest to the pin-Warren Tamaroff, and putting contest winner-Jay Culver.

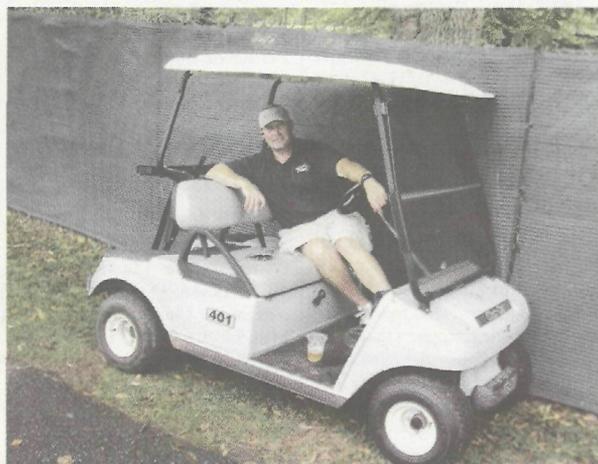
PBA Delegate Brian Iarrapino and Golf Committee Chairman Joe Glowacki would like to thank all the golfers, individuals and local businesses who attended or donated to this worthwhile cause. They stressed that the event could not have been a success without them.

-Submitted by South Plainfield PBA 100 Golf Committee



at the country club. Golfers enjoyed a delicious meal and dessert. Door prizes included two flat screen televisions, a complimentary foursome of golf at the country club, golf equipment and apparel.

Special thanks go to Hall's Fast Motor Freight, McCriskin's Home For Funerals, U.S. Plastics, Amboy Aggregates, Imperial Iron Works, Sal's Spirit Shoppe, Edison Heat-



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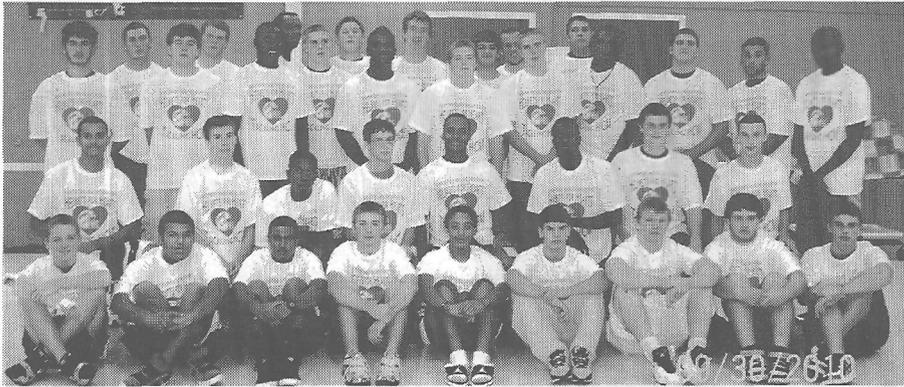
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Sports



SPHS Tigers Football Team

SPHS Football Tigers: Helmets For Hearts

The South Plainfield High School Tigers football team took part last weekend with other Greater Middlesex Conference teams throughout Middlesex County to raise the awareness of HCM, also known as hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. To bring awareness to this detectable, but silent

killer, the football players all wore red and white shirts in place of football jerseys during their classes last Friday prior to their game against New Brunswick on Friday night.

The stadium was decorated with red balloons and streamers, and information was distributed to everyone who

came to the game. They wore red heart decals on their helmets to honor survivors of sudden cardiac arrest.

This silent killer has taken the lives of two athletes from our area. One was from Edison who died during a track and field practice and the other was from South Brunswick who died during a basketball game.

While this is a silent and deadly killer, with early detection it can make the difference between life and death.

HCM usually appears during or after early adolescence and is the leading cause of sudden cardiac death. HCM's warning signs can include palpitation, a racing heart, dizziness, lightheadedness, shortness of breath, fainting and chest discomfort. Symptoms do not always appear, which is why Helmets for Hearts is trying to bring awareness to young athletes to get tested.

Get the facts and learn how to protect your loved ones. Together we can tackle this silent killer.

SOCCER CLUB

By Dawn Hutchison

Sign up for Two Day Soccer Camp

Well, the sun decided to come out and support our teams this weekend with a beautiful fall-like weekend for some great soccer games. Let's hope it decides to continue its support for the upcoming weekend. Here's this week's news:



Team Updates:

Ambush moves to 3-0. This week's game was highlighted by goals by Claire Nagel and two great goals by Sarah Cargill. The defense was anchored this week again by Grace Ochoa and Katherine Vill and the rest of

the Ambush team. Congratulations on being undefeated!

Thunder wins a tough one 1-0 over Basking Ridge. This week's game was a birthday celebration for Thunders own John Parcja, who scored the games only goal. The game was highlighted by strong play from the entire Thunder team, especially Gavin Castro, Nick Battista, Christian Gonzalez and newcomer Johnathan Vargas. Congratulations on a tough victory.

Come on out this weekend and catch a game as we have several games being played on our home fields. The schedule for Sunday, Oct. 10 home games is as follows:

- Spartans**—12 p.m. at Kenneth #2
- Eclipse**—1:30 p.m. at Kenneth #2
- Sharks**—3 p.m. at Kenneth #2
- Mustangs**—1:30 p.m. at Memorial
- Arsenal**—3:30 p.m. at Memorial

Cheer on our teams and show your support of their hard work. Hope to see you at the fields!

The final weekend for satisfying your canning obligations is upon us. Shifts are available for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 8 through 10. All families are required to can and this will be the last opportunity—no other dates are available. Please contact Laura Sansone to secure your location and time slot. You can reach Laura at (908) 755-3626 or (908) 370-8118.

The SPSC and the South Plainfield Recreation Department have joined forces once again with Spencer Rockman and the Rovers Soccer program to bring the Teachers Convention Soccer Camp on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 4 and 5. This two day program of fun, skills and drills runs both days from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the PAL Memorial Turf field. Cost is \$49 per person for the two days. For more information, please contact Dawn Farinella at (908) 769-6959.

U-10 ECLIPSE

By Kathleen Smith

Eclipse Battles New Providence

South Plainfield U-10 girls suffered their first defeat last Sunday against New Providence, 1-0.

Mackenzie O'Brien in goal blocked back eight shots on goal before New Providence scored off a penalty kick in the third quarter. The defensive line of Olivia Leonardis, Kristyn Smith and Jillian Holobowski kept the game tight throughout by continually pushing the ball back upfield. Offensively Alexis Curtis, Catherine Delair and Linda Farinella kept the pressure on

throughout the game with assistance from Kaitlyn Smith, Cameron Marks and Samantha Pullen in mid field.

Team Eclipse members are Alexis Curtis, Victoria Meono, Gianna Sacco, Kaitlyn Smith, Linda Farinella, Catherine Delair, Samantha Pullen, Olivia Leonardis, Kristyn Smith, Cameron Marks, Jillian Holobowski and Mackenzie O'Brien.

The next game for Eclipse is home on Sunday, Oct. 10 at 1:30 p.m. Come on out and cheer them on!

SPHS Football Moms Support Group

The South Plainfield HS Football Moms are the support group for the varsity football team. Our parents host weekly dinners for the boys, as well as the end of season banquet.

We are holding a yard sale on Saturday, Oct. 9 on the middle school lawn. Please help support our student athletes.

If you have any items that you can donate, please contact Barbara White-

fleet at (732) 742-5421 or Debbie Malecki at (908) 208-4136 to arrange for drop off or pick up of items.

We also have discount cards available for \$20. These cards are well worth the price, with discounts for many local restaurants, businesses and fast food establishments. Please contact Barbara Whitefleet to purchase a card.

By Gary Lampasona

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

Rain is falling on the Fall Ball games. Please see your manager for information on any make up games.

Registration for Spring 2010 Season will be held at the clubhouse on Friday, Oct. 15 from 6 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 16 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. If your child is new to the program, please bring a copy of their birth certificate. Make your checks payable to SPJBC. You can download the forms directly from our website,

www.league lineup.com/spjbc, and bring them down or we'll have blank copies for you, too. Sign up now to avoid any costly late fees. Early signups also help the executive board better prepare for the season by making league decisions so everyone can have a more enjoyable experience. If you still have questions, please call the clubhouse at (908) 754-2090.



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Sports

U-12 ARSENAL

By Mark Resende

Arsenal Suffers First Loss Of the Fall Season

On a picture perfect autumn Sunday morning, the South Plainfield Soccer Club U-12 boys team, Arsenal, traveled to Millburn to face the Cobras. It was the third straight road game to open the season for Arsenal, who won their first two games without surrendering a goal. However, on this day that streak would finally come to an end when Arsenal was handed their first loss by the score of 2-1.

Arsenal came out strong to start the game and controlled most of the play in the first half. They had many chances, but could not get the ball past the Cobra goalkeeper. Arsenal's defense, led by Mason Resende, Jared Marks, Tyler Curtis and Alec Paez, kept the ball in the offensive zone for most of the half, providing scoring opportunities for forwards Jason Cieszkiewicz, Jake Smith, Jake Hoffman, Ricky Pellegrino and Dylan O'Connor. Despite the constant pressure from Arsenal, the Cobras would strike first on a breakaway in the 31st minute, putting the ball past the diving effort of goalie Nick Plate, and take a 1-0 lead into the half.

The Cobras came out of halftime

carrying the momentum from their first half goal, but Arsenal would soon return the favor. In the 46th minute, Marks, playing forward instead of his usual fullback position, received a pass from Hoffman, streaked up the field and found the back of the net to knot the score at one goal each. The game was evenly played by both teams the rest of the way, with Arsenal midfielders Jack Cochrane, Ryan Stankan, Cristain Butrico, Caleb Kuberiet and Jason Belanger all putting in solid efforts. The winning goal for the Cobras came in the 62nd minute when they were awarded a direct free kick from just outside the penalty area, and they capitalized by quick-kicking the ball before Arsenal could get themselves set in their defensive positions. Arsenal kept the pressure on the Cobras for the remainder of the game, but came up short in the end.

Arsenal is coached by David Cieszkiewicz, Greg Hoffman and Steve Belanger. They will play their first home game of the season on Sunday, Oct. 10 at 3:30 p.m. at the PAL Memorial Field, so please come out and support the team. Go Arsenal!

SPHS FIELD HOCKEY

By Pat DeSantis



Field Hockey Corner

Now 9-2, the SPHS Girls Field Hockey Team celebrated senior night last Friday during their game against Old Bridge High School.

The night was a great success; thanks to everyone who came out and supported the team, both on the field and in the stands, and made senior night something the team will remember forever.

This past Sunday the team participated in the Susan G. Komen Walk For the Cure at Six Flags Hurricane Harbor. Together as a team the girls raised and donated money to the foundation and participated in the two and a half mile walk to show their support.

This was all followed by another great win on Monday against Me-

tuchen High School.

We look forward to continuing our season and hope to see you at our next home game.

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Check out our photo gallery on spobserver.com

Obituaries

Michael J. Hoffman, 55

Michael J. Hoffman passed away on Monday, Sept. 27 at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn.

Born in Plainfield, Michael was a lifelong resident of South Plainfield. He was a devoted husband, father and grandfather whose greatest pleasure in life was his family and friends.



Michael J. Hoffman was a successful businessman, Michael was the owner and president of Dean Equipment Furniture Co., a school furnishings company with operations in New Jersey and Tennessee.

His commitment to his work and his family combined with his generous nature and charismatic personality made him a success in business and in life. He was loved by all who knew him; personally and professionally.

For many years, Michael was active in the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club, coaching baseball when his sons were younger as well as serving in executive positions. He also enjoyed golfing and fishing.

Michael is predeceased by his parents, Robert and Anne; and by a brother, Joseph.

He leaves behind his loving wife of 36 years, Kathleen (Tamburni) Hoffman; two sons, Michael Hoffman and Robert Hoffman; and a daughter and son-in-law, Jeanette and Steven Issenman. He will be missed by two cherished grandchildren, Jackson and Camryn Issenman, who were a great source of joy to him. He also leaves behind two siblings, Joan Bennett and Ella Zanowic.

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

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Lakeview School, Cerebral Palsy Association of Middlesex County, 10 Oak Drive, Edison, N.J. 08837 would be appreciated.

Maria L. Paternostro, 71

Maria L. Paternostro died at home with her family by her side on Saturday, Oct. 2.

Born in Italy, Maria moved to the United States as a teenager in 1956. She lived in Elizabeth, Scotch Plains and Colonia before moving to Edison in 1989.

Maria spent her time caring for her family as a homemaker and working with her husband in the family business. She was a member of the Vallatese Club in Elizabeth.

She is predeceased by a brother, Vito Sepia, who died in July of 2009.

Maria leaves behind her loving hus-

band of 47 years, Rocco; two daughters and sons-in-law, Josephine Lenskold (Brian) and Paula Haborak (Thomas, Jr.), all of Martinsville; six grandchildren, Thomas, Brian, Richard, Rocco, Joseph and Michael; five siblings, Assunta Bove of Italy, Incorporata Cerullo of Garwood, Nicola Sapia of Edison, Gerry Sapia of Elizabeth and Antonette Mercante of Lake Hopatcong; and two brothers-in-law, Santo (Alphie) and Frank (Eileen) Paternostro.

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

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to Atlantic Hospice, 33 Bleeker St., Millburn, N.J. 07041 would be appreciated.

George T. Mortland, Jr., 77

George Thomas Mortland, Jr. went home to be with the Lord on Wednesday, Sept. 29.

Born in Cranford on September 17, 1933 to the late George Thomas, Sr. and Dena Mortland, he was a resident of Edison since 1967.

He attended Lehigh University and served his country in the United States Army. While stationed in Korea, he met Eleanor, who was a missionary there. They were married and later raised their four children in Edison.

A service manager for Terminex, he retired in 2006. George was a faithful member of Cedarcroft Bible Chapel for over 43 years.

He will truly be remembered by all who knew him as a man who loved the Lord with all his heart, soul, mind and strength; a man who cared for his family in the most sweet, gentle and loving way; a man who lived life with abundance. He will be greatly missed.

George leaves behind his sweetheart of 51 years, Eleanor Lunceford Mortland; four children, Dena Haney of Wilmington, N.C., George Thomas, III and wife Jaime of Hamilton, Stephen Ralph and wife Erika of Upland, Ind. and Alice Carroll and husband David of Edison. He will be missed by his special friend, Donna Beleski (who was like a daughter to him); three siblings, Lois Dagogliano of Basking Ridge, Margaret Williams and husband Ed of Watchung and James Edward and wife Betty of Bladen, Pa.; 17 grandchildren; 18 nieces and nephews and countless other friends, coworkers and church members who have had the privilege of knowing him.

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

In lieu of flowers, memorial dona-

tions may be sent to the Cedarcroft Bible Chapel Benevolent Fund, 1715 Kenyon Ave., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

Harry (Torré) C. Brown, Jr., 57

Harry (Torré) C. Brown, Jr. of South Plainfield passed away at his residence on Friday, Oct. 1 after a lengthy illness.

Born in Plainfield, Mr. Brown had resided in South Plainfield since 1993 and was a former resident of Linden and Cranford.

Mr. Brown was a carpet installer for over 20 years. He recently retired from the Carpenter's Flooring Local No. 2212 of South Amboy.

He was a U.S. Marine veteran and enjoyed fishing and riding his Harley motorcycle. Mr. Brown was an honorary member of the Cranford Elks Lodge. He was a Pop Warner football coach for the South Plainfield Eagles for nine years and was an avid sports fan of the N.Y. Giants, Knicks and Mets sports teams.

Son of the late Harry C. Brown, Sr., he is the beloved husband of 23 years to Jacqueline Brown (Pirozzoli); devoted father of Terrence "TY" Brown, Brandee Brown and Jeremy Brown, and cherished son of Muriel Yancey. Mr. Brown also enjoyed his dogs, Titan, Harley, Shadow, Chopper and the late Lookout.

Funeral services were held at South Plainfield Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the family for assistance.

Adele R. Mount, 90

Adele R. (Nardino) Mount died on Wednesday, Sept. 29 at the Clark Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

Born in the New Market section of Piscataway, Adele resided most of her life in South Plainfield. She moved to Sunrise, Fla. for 12 years and returned to South Plainfield then eventually moved to Clark.

Adele was in retail sales for the former Morris Department Store in Metuchen for more than 20 years.

She is predeceased by her husband, Raymond J. Mount and a son, Timothy.

Surviving are three daughters, Roseanne Kerek of Port Republic, Susan Smith of Manassass, Va. and Frances Mount of Ft. Myers, Fla.; a son, Daniel Mount of Old Bridge; a sister, Lillian Coddington of Auburn, Maine; five grandchildren, Meredith, Keith, Brian, Stacey and Melissa; and six great-grandchildren, Sarah, Kyle, Mia, Brian, Dana and Brittany.

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

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Candidates Debate - Oct. 21, 7 p.m. Senior Center

From the Democrats

OPINION

Let's Make South Plainfield An Affordable Place to Live

The Democratic Team of Mike English, John Sorrentino and Jeff Williams have a plan to make our town a more affordable place to live. Jeff wants to get to work on shared services initiatives. Taxes are too high in our town and Jeff has developed a comprehensive program that will immediately put money back into the pockets of residents by lowering municipal taxes.

borough entities, such as the local government and the Board of Education. There is no reason why the town government and the Board of Education have separate payroll departments. We also have two different joint insurance providers. Combining these departments will save taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars in expenses, including costs, salaries and benefits.

These efforts can be replicated in most, if not all, of our town's departments and boards. We must also implement shared services with neighboring towns, such as Piscataway, Edison or Metuchen. Our neighbors have equipment that is much needed in our town. Combining services with neighboring towns will save money for the taxpayers of South Plainfield.

By combining services the borough will have more money for other expenses and projects, allowing us to pay for things as we use them, not borrowing or bonding for funds to balance.

(Continued on page 16)

From the Republicans

OPINION

English Needs to Explain 55% Tax Hike Last Time He Was Mayor

Saying residents deserve an explanation, Anesh campaign spokesman Councilman Rob Bengivenga this week called upon Democrat mayoral candidate Michael English to explain why he raised taxes 55% in one year last time he was mayor.

"That's a huge tax hike," said Bengivenga. "Residents I've spoken to are demanding an explanation and say that English needs to be up front about why he raised taxes 55% in one year."

"Spending increased nearly a million dollars that year," Bengivenga added.

"Mr. English can't continue to ignore something that big," added GOP Vice Chairman Alex Barletta. "He needs to give us some straight talk about the 55% increase."

"Some people might consider what happened during English's term as mayor a fluke, but it's not," added Bengivenga, who pointed out that English also voted for a \$375 tax hike while on the school board.

Records show that as a Board of Education member English voted to hike taxes \$375 for the average family in 2005.

A year earlier, English also voted to raise taxes. No figures are available for English's last year on the board, because he never finished his term,

quitting in August 2005.

When asked about English's record on taxes and spending, Council President Matt Anesh, the GOP candidate for mayor, said it was "troubling." He pointed to this year's municipal tax cut as an example of the way he wants to manage the borough.

"We were able to cut municipal taxes on the average family by \$178. Spending is down too," said Anesh. "In fact, spending is lower than it was two years ago."

"Smaller, more efficient government is becoming a reality," added Councilman Ray Rusnak, who is seeking his second term on the council.

"We cut spending this year by streamlining departments and reducing the size of the borough workforce, mostly through attrition," added Councilman Tim McConville, who is also seeking reelection.

McConville said that the borough also reaped savings by bidding out contracts for recycling for the first time, by renegotiating contracts, and by refinancing debt to get a lower interest rate."

McConville also complimented Rusnak on the job he did with the defeated school board

(Continued on page 16)

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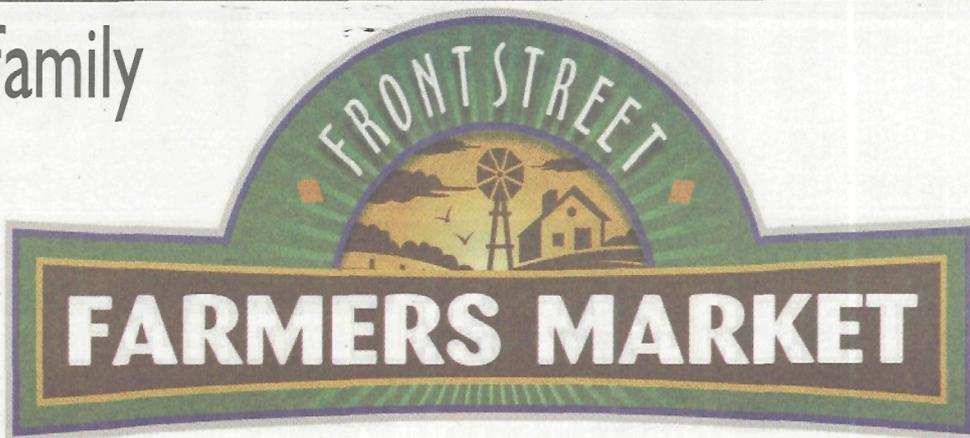
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PUBLIC NOTICES

www.njpublicnotices.com - Subscribe to receive automatic notices: sheriff sales, foreclosures, RFP bids for schools, town meetings, variances, etc.

South Plainfield Police Department Awarded \$5K County Grant

Middlesex County Prosecutor Bruce J. Kaplan and Middlesex County Freeholder Mildred S. Scott announced that \$110,000 in grants have been awarded to 21 municipal police departments in the county, including South Plainfield, and to the Rutgers University police to develop educational and prevention programs to combat bias crimes.

Each department received a \$5,000 Bias Prevention and Education Grant to help enforce bias crime laws and keep the public informed of ways to recognize and report bias incidents.

"One of the goals of the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office has always been to ensure the quality of life for all citizens of Middlesex County," Prosecutor Kaplan said. "These funds will continue that goal, by helping to promote a strong bond between the police and the community."

"This grant gives law enforcement another tool in protecting all our residents against bias crime and

in keeping our communities safe," said Freeholder Scott, chair of the County's Law and Public Safety Committee.

The grants were awarded by the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office after the police departments submitted applications detailing how they will use the funds, which will be made available from money seized by law enforcement from criminal defendants who had obtained proceeds through illegal activities, such as selling drugs.

The police departments plan to use the funds to increase police patrols of neighborhoods, religious schools and places of worship that may potentially be targeted for bias crimes through vandalism, harassment or physical assault.

Funds from the grant can only be used for costs related directly to bias prevention and education, and cannot be used to supplant existing patrols or equipment.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 1905

AN ORDINANCE RESCINDING ORDINANCE 1181 ENTITLED: AN ORDINANCE REGULATING PARKING IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY was adopted on first reading and advertised in the Observer on Friday, October 8, 2010 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Monday, October 18, 2010 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately following the 7:00pm Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, as follows:

WHEREAS, Ordinance # 1181, adopted on December 14, 1989 by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield, was enacted to prohibit commercial vehicles from parking on Leonard Street between Maple Avenue and Randolph Avenue; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the restriction set forth in Ordinance # 1181 is no longer warranted and should be lifted;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that Ordinance 1181 is hereby rescinded and the restriction lifted.

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

Joann L. Graf, RMC Municipal Clerk

\$35.12 October 8, 2010

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 1904

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE #1822 AND 1869, ESTABLISHING THE RATE OF PAYMENT FOR POLICE OFFICERS RENDERING SERVICE FOR PRIVATE OR QUASI-PUBLIC FUNCTIONS AND COMPENSATION TO POLICE OFFICERS FOR SERVICE FOR PRIVATE OR QUASI-PUBLIC FUNCTIONS was adopted on first reading and advertised in the Observer on Friday, October 8, 2010 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Monday, October 18, 2010 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately following the 7:00pm Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, as follows:

WHEREAS, Ordinance #778 adopted on July 10, 1978 by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield, also known as Section 48, Article III of the Code of the Borough of South Plainfield, provides the procedure and rate of pay for Police service for Private or Quasi-Public functions, and

WHEREAS, said ordinance was subsequently amended by Ordinance #827, adopted on September 24, 1979, Ordinance #878, adopted on April 13, 1981, Ordinance #1348, adopted on March 7, 1994, Ordinance #1886, adopted on February 23, 1995, and Ordinance #1822, adopted on May 8, 2003, and Ordinance #1869 adopted on November 29, 2009; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Laws of the State of New Jersey, the Borough may enter into an agreement whereby the off-duty assignment of police officers are arranged through a contract between the municipality and the outside person or entity.

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission wishes to engage Off-Duty members of the South Plainfield Police Department to provide coverage of the MVC Agency located at Golden Acres Shopping Center, Oak Tree Road, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 under the Commission's Law Enforcement Agency Security Enhancement Program; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that Section 48-22 of the Code of the Borough of South Plainfield shall be amended as follows:

The Motor Vehicle Commission shall engage the

\$54.80 October 8, 2010

services of the South Plainfield Police Department to provide police off duty security. The office duty work to take place at the Motor Vehicle Office located at Golden Acres Shopping Mall in the Borough of South Plainfield. The agreed upon reimbursement rate is \$42.00 per hour for each officer along with a \$23 Administrative Fee. Total annual reimbursement to be \$80,500.00. All sums shall be paid to the Treasurer of the Borough of South Plainfield and shall become part of its general funds.

All other provisions of Section 48 will remain in effect. This ordinance shall take effect after publication in accordance with the law.

Joann L. Graf, RMC Municipal Clerk

\$48.35 October 8, 2010

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANT

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION Middlesex County DOCKET NO. F-039403-10

(L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO: Tina Halstead

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED to serve upon GOLDBECK McCAFFERTY & McKEEVER, A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION, plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is Suite 5000 - Mellon Independence Center, 701 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106-1532, phone # (215) 627-1322, an answer to the Complaint, filed in a civil action, in which The Bank of New York Mellon f/k/a The Bank of New York as Trustee for the Benefit of the Certificateholders of CWABS 2005-01, Inc. is plaintiff, and Michael C. Payne and Mary Payne, h/w, et al are the defendant(s), pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, Middlesex County, and bearing Docket No. F-039403-10 within thirty-five (35) days after October 8, 2010 exclusive of such date or if published after October 8, 2010 (35) days after the actual date of such publication, exclusive of such date. If you fail to do so, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. You shall file your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hughes Justice Complex - CN 971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, in accordance with the rules of governing the courts.

This action has been instituted for the purpose of (1) foreclosing a mortgage dated January 24, 2005, made by Michael C. Payne and Mary Payne, h/w as mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., acting solely as a nominee for Countrywide Home Loans, Inc. recorded on February 23, 2005, for Middlesex County in Book 10423 Page 318 Instrument# MG 2005 002934 of Mortgages for said County, which mortgage was assigned to the plaintiff, The Bank of New York Mellon f/k/a The Bank of New York as Trustee for the Benefit of the Certificateholders of CWABS 2005-01, Inc., by Assignment dated August 9, 2010; and (2) to recover possession of, and concerns premises commonly known as F14 Lincoln Lane, Dayton, South Brunswick Twp., NJ 08810. Lot: 50 Block: 34.01.

If you are unable to obtain an attorney, you may communicate with the New Jersey State Bar Association by calling 1-732-249-5000. You may also contact the Lawyer Referral Service of the County of venue by calling 1-(732) 828-0053. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services offices of the County of venue by calling 1-(732) 249-7600.

YOU, Tina Halstead, are hereby made a party defendant to this foreclosure action because of a judgment entered by you against Michael Payne in the Superior Court of New Jersey on January 28, 1992 known as Judgment No. J-010841-1992 and Case No. FM-004500-89 to secure a debt in an amount of that varies from date to date, and for any lien, claim or interest you may have in, to or against the mortgaged premises.

Jennifer M. Perez, Clerk Superior Court of New Jersey

\$54.80 October 8, 2010

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Barclay Brand Ferdon on South Clinton Avenue goes pink for breast cancer research.

Barclay Brand Ferdon Goes "Forklift" Pink

Barclay Brand Ferdon is supporting National Breast Cancer Awareness month by raising money and awareness through the American Cancer Society's "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" walk in Woodbridge Center on Sunday, Oct. 17.

"We have pledged to match all of the donations made by our employees," said Skip Russo, president and CEO, Barclay Brand Ferdon. "I am proud of the people who work for Barclay. Although it has been a tough economy for all of us, our employees have really stepped up to make a difference in our community. We've also had a great response from our vendors in support of this effort."

The company will display a "pink" Yale forklift truck on its front lawn throughout the month of October.

Barclay Brand Ferdon is a "one source" distributor in New Jersey and New York for all warehousing equipment and support services. Barclay represents Yale® lift trucks, scissor lifts, racking systems, mezzanines, energy saving industrial lighting, automated storage and WM, safety training and accessories, rental equipment, replacement parts and total fleet maintenance. Barclay Brand Ferdon is a complete materials handling company that is focused on providing solutions for improving their customer's operation and bottom line.

From the Democrats

(Continued from p. 12)

ance our annual budgets. Relying on such practices cripples a town's credit, compounding unsuccessful and irresponsible spending practices.

We are living in dire economic times; our seniors have to make decisions such as spending money for food, or for medical bills, or the heating bills, or property taxes. All our residents see their expenses going up and up and their incomes going down and down. As elected members of

the governing body, Mike, John and I will put the needs of our residents first, working tirelessly to bring about sound financial planning to the borough in both the short and long term. We will do this by getting back to the basics of financial responsibility, coordination and design. We must begin to spend what we need, not what we want. This is Straight, Honest, Talk. If you have any comments please contact us on our website: spdems.org.

From the Republicans

(Continued from p. 12)

budget: "Ray worked with Matt Anesh, CFO Glenn Cullen, and our auditor to eliminate the school board's proposed \$100 increase. Thanks to Ray, school taxes are flat this year."

"As a parent of twin boys who go to Riley School, I was happy with the way we were able to handle the school budget," added Anesh. "Our reductions did not call for one less teacher or program, and we actually sug-

gested ways the school board could bring back teachers and programs, some of which has happened."

All three candidates agreed that there is a big difference between how they approach things and how the other party does.

"The other side over-promises and under-delivers," said Rusnak. "We take the opposite approach. Our goal is a more affordable South Plainfield, and if given the chance, we will continue to make that our priority."

In My Opinion

(Continued from page 2)

use. These trails would allow families to access the area on their own without having to worry about getting lost. In addition to this, EWA and its adjacent Triple C Ranch already offer eco-tours to anyone who is interested.

Essentially, South Plainfield is not exactly known for being environmentally sensitive or having diverse habitat. Most of the town is (over) developed with new buildings and houses being put up more and more each year. Thankfully, the Dismal Swamp is one such place that can take this little town from being a densely populated suburb to a beautiful sanctuary for wildlife.

GAURI JOSHI

Dear Editor,

We all know someone who we refer to as a "regular guy." By that I mean he doesn't have a big head and brag about himself, but he's always there when you need him. Working on the car and need a tool? He not only has one, he'll come over and help you fix it. Away on vacation and the lawn needs to be cut? You find out he cut it while you were away. Power goes out in the middle of the night and you can't figure out what's wrong? He not only comes over and fixes it, he stops at Dunkin' Donuts for coffee on the way.

John Sorrentino is a regular guy. I can't tell you how surprised I was when I found out he was running for the council in town. The Democrats picked a good one. Just look at the great job he's done with the Labor Day parade.

I guess John had something to do with the campaign slogan "Straight, Honest Talk." You'll never have to worry about that with him. I can't wait until election day to vote for John Sorrentino and Jeff Williams for council and Mike English for mayor.

BRIAN DICK

Dear Editor,

I am so glad to see that Tim McConville is running for council again. Tim's been a great councilman and has my full support.

Tim has stood up for the town in so many ways. For example, as we've seen in this paper, he's been a leader in standing up against the 700-unit apartment complex that was proposed for New Brunswick Avenue. Just imagine what would have happened to our town and our schools if that had gone through.

If that proposal surfaces again, we'll

need someone like Tim to watch out for South Plainfield. That's why it's so important to reelect him.

Tim has also been there for South Plainfield's families. He's a big supporter of the *Safe Streets, Safe Kids* program led by Matt Anesh and he's worked with his fellow council people to hold down taxes, which actually went down this year. McConville knows how in this economy families need a break.

Tim's been a superb councilman, and I urge everyone to support him on election day.

TERESA VEIT

Dear Editor,

Tough times require tough leaders. We need people who are willing

to talk straight talk with the residents and do what is necessary to get the job done. For that reason I will be voting for the Democratic Team of Mike English for mayor and Jeff Williams and John Sorrentino for council. These men are people of exceptional character and extremely hard workers. Whether it's Michael taking on the truck route issue or John and Jeff finding ways to fundraise to reduce the cost of the parade, these guys have proven their ability to identify problems, work to their resolution, and tackle issues. And they do these things while always keeping the needs of the residents in the forefront. Isn't that what we expect of our leaders? South Plainfield needs English, Williams and Sorrentino.

JOY D. WIERDO

WHAT'S GOING ON IN MY TOWN FROM A BUSY BUSY MOM *jd*

(Continued from page 4)

high school Gold Card picnic, Grant School Stokes trip buses, middle school eighth grade Washington, D.C. trip and high school senior scholarships. Without everyone's support these donations could not be possible. Please contact Marge Reedy for further information.

The Middle School PTO will begin its biggest fundraiser yet, the Yankee Candle sale. Candle orders will be in for the holidays. The \$30 activity fee for each child in seventh and eighth grade is also needed. This one-time fee for the year supports PTO-sponsored events such as the seventh grade picnic, eighth grade dinner/dance, Battle of the Books, Battle of the Teams and honor roll picnic. Without parent support, these events will no longer be possible. Please make checks payable to the Middle

School PTO. The Halloween dance originally scheduled for Friday, Oct. 29 will be moved to a later date in November. The PTO needs parent/guardian chaperones for these dances from 7 to 9 p.m. If parents do not volunteer to chaperone, the dances will be discontinued. Please step up and help out. PTO membership is \$2 per family and meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month in the school conference room at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted on the front lawn marquee. The PTO encourages all parents/guardians to become involved in the PTO meetings, events and fundraisers. SpiritWear will be in the first week of October and delivered to the students. For updated information go to spmiddleschoolpto.webs.com. Any questions, contact PTO President Debbie Boyle at (908) 803-1573.

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