

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 14, NO. 22

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60 CENTS

FEBRUARY 4, 2011



Photo courtesy of Debi Esposito

While Mother Nature provided this picturesque scene in the borough (photographed from the South Clinton Ave. extension), she wreaked havoc on the roads with ongoing winter storms that dropped significant ice and snow accumulations.

It's Snow Problem

With another round of snow this week, the Borough and Board of Education (BOE) are challenged to find ways to pay for the ever mounting cost of snow removal in this unusually brutal winter season.

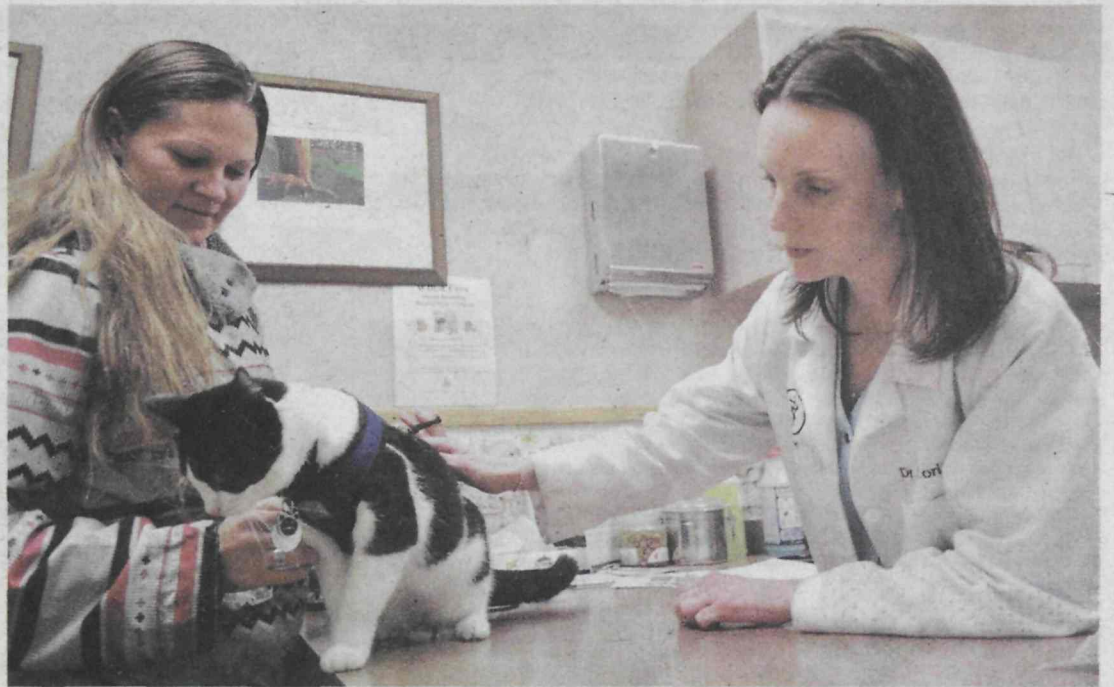
Five major winter storms, beginning with the blizzard that dumped nearly two feet of snow on December 26, have cost the borough \$224,101.27 in cleanup. CFO Glenn Cullen said that the salt alone has cost the town \$80,000—nearly the amount budgeted for salaries and supplies for snow cleanup for an entire year. "Things in the last few years have definitely changed," said Cullen.

Aside from purchasing a new back hoe last year for \$116,000, the

(Continued on page 7)



The Public Works Department has been working overtime to remove the heavy snow that continues to accumulate in the borough. During last week's storm, some plows, both borough and privately owned, had to be plowed out themselves (above). At right, Madison Henry, cousins Mary and Michael Studlack and Ryan Tritt, and their uncle, Patrick Tritt, prepare to enjoy the snow slide Madison's dad built. For story, see page 7.



Venus and her cat, Brooklyn Tux, with Plainfield Animal Hospital Veterinarian Dr. Lori Boyce at the hospital's Pet Dental Fair. For story and photos, see page 6.

Wrestling Alumni Attend 49th Anniversary Reunion

By Patricia Abbott

South Plainfield High School wrestling fans and alumni flocked to the school's gym on January 21 to attend the 49th anniversary reunion and a match between the Tigers and Old Bridge High School.

More than 800 fans of varying ages, as well as about 40 alumni, packed the gym. Alumni, both team members and coaches, included Sal Severini, Wayne Diana, Dave Butrico, Chris Depaolo, Mark Sacco, Paul Approvato, Lou Devico, Ray Jazikoff and Jim Sacco.

Alumni from the mid to late 1960s also attended. Many were from the local area; others who had moved away returned for the 49th anniversary. One alumnus came from South Carolina to participate in the reunion.

Tigers Secure 3rd Consecutive GMCT Title

South Plainfield High School Tiger Wrestling team, ranked number two in the state by *The Star-Ledger*, sent seven wrestlers to the Greater Middlesex Conference Tournament (GMCT) in Piscataway last Saturday. The team captured the GMCT team title for the eighteenth time. This is the third consecutive win for the Tiger wrestlers.

Sophomores Anthony Ashnault (112), Scott DeVecchio (135) and Corey Stasenko (140) placed first for the second time, while Tyler Hunt (130) won his first GMCT title against Iselin Kennedy's Ryan Farley.

The Tigers moved on to their next tournament against Spencerport, N.Y. last Sunday with a 4 a.m. departure for the long bus ride to Ithaca, N.Y. The Tigers fell to Spencerport, 34-26.



Members of the Ranger Family, minus Al Ranger (deceased), who founded the SPSHS Wrestling program and served as its first coach.

Tony DePaul of South Amboy was in the stands wearing a commemorative reunion t-shirt. He proudly boasted that he was a 25-year fan of the SPSHS Tigers Wrestling Team.

The evening began with a brief history of the SPSHS wrestling program, a program for which South Plainfield is well known. It began 49 years ago in 1962 with Coach Al Ranger. His family—wife, son, daughter and grand-

children—were introduced before detailing his career. Ranger built the program from the ground up with help from various assistants, in particular the dedication of Coach Tom Baker.

Few schools can boast the amazing record held by the SPSHS Wrestling Team. They had a total of 559 wins, 149 losses and 10 ties. They hold an impressive number of titles and

(Continued on page 10)



On January 25 Riley School students who sold five or more Delicious Orchard pies during the school's Thanksgiving fundraiser had the opportunity to "silly string" their principal (and good sport), Al Czech. The entire student body was invited to the all-purpose room to watch. Students cheered on the silly stringers and a good time was had by all!



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

February 7 February 7

February 22 (Tuesday) February 22 (Tuesday)

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

Feb. 8, March 8, March 22, April 12, April 26, May 10, May 24, June 14, June 28, July 12, July 26, Aug. 9, Aug. 23, Sept. 13, Sept. 27, Oct. 11, 25, Nov. 1*, Dec. 13*

zoning board of adjustment

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

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

Feb. 10, Feb. 24, March 10, March 24, April 14, April 28, May 12, May 26, June 9, June 23, July 28, Aug. 11, Aug. 25, Sept. 8, Sept. 22, Oct. 13, Oct. 27, Nov. 10*, Dec. 8*

board of education

Meets Wednesdays at Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave.

Committee of the whole meetings (begin at 6:00 p.m.)

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

Regular Public Meeting (begin at 7:30 p.m.): 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

cultural arts commission

Meets the third Tuesday of the month at the PAL at 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 15, March 15, April 19, May 17, June 21, no meeting July and Aug., Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Dec. 20

library board of trustees

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

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

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

Feb. 7*, March 8, April 12, May 10, June 14, July and August—no meetings, Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, Dec. 13

*These meeting dates will be held on the Monday prior to the regularly scheduled meeting.

taxpayers advisory group

The Taxpayers Advisory Group (TAG) meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave. at 7 p.m. Questions? 908-769-0786.

site plan sub-committee

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

Feb. 15, March 15, April 19, May 17, June 21, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Dec. 20

environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday) Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. Questions? 908-226-7621

business advisory group

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

ad hoc alternative truck route committee

Monday, February 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the Senior Center Questions? 908-226-7605

South Plainfield Observer

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How to Reach Us



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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

In My Opinion

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

To the Editor:

On behalf of Commander Jim Yednak, Chaumont Post #243 of the American Legion, we would like to thank the Ladies Auxiliary for planning and serving four breakfast buffets for the post scholarship fund.

Led by President Maryann Molino, the auxiliary, with the help of legion members, changed the format of the pancake breakfast to one that offered more variety and a shopping opportunity before the holidays.

Special thanks to the Boy Scouts for bussing tables in December and to Haisch's Bakery and the Bagel Pantry for their generous donations that helped defray our expenses.

This June the post will again award three, \$1,000 scholarships—one to a high school senior who has an affiliation with Chaumont Post #243, one to a senior at South Plainfield High School and one to a deserving high school senior who resides in South Plainfield.

If anyone missed the breakfast buffets, they will resume in October. Tax deductible donations to the scholarship fund may be made at any time to the American Legion Chaumont Post #243, 243 Oak Tree Ave., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080. We are a 403 (c17) charitable organization.

**SINCERELY,
RICHARD DOERR
VICE-COMMANDER**

Dear Editor,

It's a shame that less than a month after South Plainfield celebrated swearing in a new mayor, partisanship has reared its ugly head, and certain politicians are trying to derail his new administration. It's unfortunate, but this is exactly what's been happening.

Over the past month, Mayor Matt Anesh has tried to put together a team that he believes will lead this town into the future, one that he trusts and feels comfortable with. Every new administration should be given that opportunity.

The administration will be judged by what it accomplishes, so it has a right to put in place a team that it trusts to get the job done.

I'm sure most people would agree with this. Unfortunately, Councilwoman Chrissy Buteas and former Mayor Buttrico don't. Right from the start they have been nitpicking and attacking every move the new administration makes. They can't wait for Labor Day to start their next political campaign, and apparently have decided to run a 12-month attack strategy. This is disappointing.

What's especially troubling is the irony. The former mayor said he chose not to run again because he disliked the politics in town. Yet he's at every meeting slinging mud and leading the political charge against our new mayor. Not only is this unseemly, but it does not serve the best interests of the community.

Nor are the criticisms even valid. While they attack Republicans for not appointing or reappointing members of their party to some of the town's boards and committees, the Democrats overlook how Mayor Anesh has made more bipartisan appointments than they ever did. For example, in the past few years, Republicans appointed or reappointed more than two dozen Democrats. These include a former Democrat mayor, former Democrat council presidents, a former Democrat council candidate, and a current Democrat councilperson, just to name a few.

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.

This number of bipartisan appointments were unheard of under the last administration, yet at every meeting the former mayor, Councilwoman Buteas, and some of their followers complain about everything and anything.

A few weeks ago, Councilman McConville urged Councilwoman Buteas to learn from the example set by her fellow Democrat, Councilman Franky Salerno. While we don't always agree on the issues, Councilman Salerno is trying to work with the new administration and we're trying to work with him. I give Councilman Salerno credit. He gets it. He knows the most important thing we can do is work together for a better town. I again encourage his fellow party members to follow his lead. If they do, we'll all benefit. We are all one governing body.

COUNCILMAN ROB BENGIVENGA

Hall of Fame Applications Available Online

South Plainfield High School's Hall of Fame applications are now available online. To enter your application, please visit www.spnet.k12.nj.us and click on the high school page.

The Hall of Fame was established at SPHS to recognize outstanding graduates. Honoring these successful graduates as leaders in their fields and community provides current students with positive role models.

Candidates must have graduated from SPHS at least 15 years prior to nomination and have made significant contributions in academics, business, community participation and service to humanity.

The application deadline is Friday, April 8. For more information or if you have any questions, please call the high school at (908) 754-4620, ext. 248.

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To Promote & Protect Public Health & Welfare

MIDDLESEX COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

Fire Hydrant Safety Tips

When called to the scene of a fire, firefighters bring many specialized tools with them. During the winter months, they bring a rather ordinary, but important, tool to fire calls—a shovel. That's because very often when they arrive, they find a fire hydrant is still buried in snow.

If a fire hydrant is covered by snow, it can be difficult to find, and valuable time must be spent digging it out. It may take anywhere from four to six minutes to dig out a buried fire hydrant, whereas fire itself doubles in size every 30 seconds.

The added time it takes to gain access to a working water supply may allow a fire to grow and become even more dangerous. When you're dealing with fire, every second counts, which is why the Middlesex County Fire Marshal's Office would like to ask residents and businesses to consider clearing the snow from around any fire hydrant near their homes or businesses this winter.

Please be sure to check your local ordinances and with your municipalities as to your responsibilities regarding fire hydrants and snow removal.

If you do decide to dig out a hydrant, please exercise caution.

Clearing the snow approximately four feet around the hydrant and shoveling a path from the street up to the fire hydrant will keep it accessible. This will ensure that the hydrants are visible and will allow firefighters to quickly obtain a water supply and give them room to work around the hydrant should the need arise.

You may also consider helping a neighbor with a medical condition or a neighbor who is elderly by shoveling out a hydrant in front of their home. This act of kindness will benefit the entire community.

Clearing the snow from around a fire hydrant is a voluntary, informal act that may save lives. Although it is not necessary to notify your local fire department which hydrants you will be digging out, this voluntary act goes a long way in community safety.

On behalf of the Middlesex County Fire Marshal's Office and fire departments throughout the county, I thank you for your assistance in keeping fire hydrants clear and keeping our communities safe.

Jones Named Attorney for Bd. of Adjustment

The Board of Adjustment held its annual reorganization meeting on January 13. Board members nominated and unanimously elected the following: Gino Leonardis-chairman, David Miglis-vice chairman, Mary Beth Khidre-board secretary, Bob Jones Esq.-attorney and T & M Associates-as both engineer and planner. Jones, the former South Plainfield GOP chairman, replaces Bill Lane Esq. who became Planning Board attorney.

The 2011 Board of Adjustment members are Gino Leonardis-chairman, David Miglis-vice chairman, Cindy Eichler-Alt. 1, Mike DiMeglio-Alt. 2, Frank Furino, Maria Campagna, James Gustafson, Roy Kaplan and Derryck White.

Volunteering to serve on the Site Plan Committee are: Maria Campagna, Frank Furino, Derryck White and David Miglis (alternate).

The *Observer* and *The Home News Tribune* were named the official newspapers, and the meeting dates for 2011 were approved. (See page 2.)



Members of South Plainfield High School Peer Leaders Heros and Cool Kids program visit Grant School with their mentor and former New York Giants running back, Keith Elias. The first session in January with sixth grade classes was to discuss the importance of nutrition. They discussed the importance of eating well to maintain the growth of their bones and brain cells, and the Peer Leaders answered the students' questions. The Heros and Cool Kids will be back this month to discuss bullying. Peer Leaders advisors are Marla Vandermark, Tony Encinas, Jessica Kriskowski and Anthony Emmons.

Project Graduation Auction/Raffle Donations Needed

This year will mark South Plainfield High School PTA's 23rd year of providing graduating seniors with a project graduation celebration. The main purpose of project graduation is to provide an all night, safe, substance-free environment, where graduating seniors can celebrate together. It is a night they will remember forever; however, the cost for this event is quite substantial and is rising every year.

To help support this important event the SPHS PTA will hold its annual auction/raffle fundraiser at the high school on Saturday, March 5 from 7 to 11 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Spread the word to your family/neighbors/friends. To obtain tickets, please see below for details.

We need your help! This important event can not be a success without the help and support of the SPHS families, especially senior class families, South Plainfield community/educational organizations and local businesses. Although we have received many generous donations, we are still in need of much more if we are to make project graduation happen for the Class of

2011. Please support this worthwhile cause by making a donation. Donations can be made in the form of a gift card, a single gift item, a theme gift basket or a monetary donation.

Send donations to: South Plainfield HS, 200 Lake St., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080, Attn: SPHS PTA. Please make checks payable to: SPHS PTA.

Donations must be received ASAP in order to be used for our auction. All families, businesses and community/educational organizations will be acknowledged in our program for their contributions.

Outside business/corporate donations—Please ask the business or corporation you work for if they will make a contribution, or if you know of someone who can obtain a donation from a business or corporation, please ask them for their help.

Donation arrangements/auction volunteers—To arrange for items to be picked up directly from your home

or business, or to be an auction volunteer (set-up, ticket sales or clean-up), please call Sharon Miller at (908) 754-6461 or the high school's main office at (908) 754-4620, ext. 248.

Auction ticket sales—For ticket information, please call Tracey Hartmann at (908) 755-4349. Provide your name, phone number and the number of people you would like at your table.

SPHS parent/teacher conferences—Tickets will be on sale and donations will be accepted during parent/teacher conferences on Thursday, Feb. 17. Please visit the PTA table outside the cafeteria for tickets or to make a donation.

The Class of 2011, the SPHS PTA and SPHS sincerely appreciate your support! We can make this event a success for our graduating seniors. Together we can make a difference!

—Submitted by Sharon Miller

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 Public Notice

RETURN OF PERFORMANCE BOND

To: Stephen Santangelo for public improvements located at 3157 Clark Lane, South Plainfield, N.J. 07080, Lot 6.01, Block 222.

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 Stephen Santangelo for public improvements at 3157 Clark Lane, South Plainfield, N.J. 07080 known as Lot 6.01 in Block 222 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, February 22, 2011 in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

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events

Around Town

Blackrose to Perform February 5

Blackrose, the band, playing classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will be performing at the Italian American Club, 1001 Garibaldi Ave. on Saturday, Feb. 5 at 9 p.m. No cover charge; 50/50 raffle.

VFW Valentines Breakfast

February 6

Treat yourself to a delicious breakfast and you may be the winner of a free breakfast for two. The South Plainfield VFW Post #6763 on Front Street will hold a Valentines breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 6 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. The public is welcome.

For more information, call (908) 668-9751.

SPHS Financial Aid Workshop

February 6

Attention senior high school students and parents: Get help completing the FAFSA. There will be a Financial Aid Workshop at South Plainfield High School for parents and students on Tuesday, Feb. 8 at 6 p.m. in the SPHS Information Center.

Historical Society Monthly Meeting

February 8

The South Plainfield Historical Society will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 8 at 7 p.m. at The History Center, Roosevelt Administration Building, lower level on the Jackson Avenue side. New members are welcome to attend.

Sacred Heart Charity Basketball Game

February 10

Sacred Heart School will be hosting its annual charity basketball game to benefit The Children's Specialized Hospital of Mountainside on Thursday, Feb. 10 at 6 p.m. Sacred Heart Alumni and staff will play the Sacred Heart Hawk Teams. All profits will be donated to the hospital. \$5 admission fee for everyone.

For information, call Carl Adlassnig at (908) 757-1933.

Don't Cook Friday Spaghetti Dinner

February 11

South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203, 334 Hamilton Blvd. is holding its annual "Don't Cook Friday" spaghetti dinner on Friday, Feb. 11 from 4 to 7:30 p.m.

Purchase tickets at the door: \$8/adults, \$7/seniors and \$4/children. Take out dinners are also available.

Charity Basketball Game Fundraiser

February 12

A charity basketball game sponsored by the middle school PTO and South Plainfield PBA between the police officers and teachers will take place on Saturday, Feb. 12 at 2 p.m. in the high school gym. Part of the proceeds will be donated to resident Jerry Bartolotti who was injured in a truck accident. Ticket price is \$4. Food and drinks will be available; games will be played and prizes given during half time.

For information, call Officer Lloyd McNelly at (908) 755-0700 or PTO President Debbie Boyle at (908) 803-1573.

Food Fest/Bake Sale/ Candy Sale

February 12

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Orthodox Church, 400 Delmore Ave., will hold a food fest/bake sale/candy sale on Saturday, Feb. 12 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Ukrainian and Russian ethnic foods, homemade candy for Valentine's Day for your loved ones. Perogies will also be sold. Enter through the ramp door in the parking lot in the back of the church.

For more information, call (908) 561-6366.

Breakfast Buffet at American Legion

February 13

The American Legion Chaumont Post #243 on Oak Tree Avenue will hold an all-you-can-eat breakfast buffet on Sunday, Feb. 13 from 8 a.m. to noon. All are welcome. Adults: \$6; children \$3; under six are free. All profits go to our scholarship fund.

SPBA Meeting

February 24

The South Plainfield Business Association will hold their monthly meeting on Thursday, Feb. 25 at 8:30 a.m. at Sherban's Diner on Front Street. A light breakfast will be served. Feel free to bring your business card.

For information or to join the Business Association, log on to www.spba.biz or call (908) 668-0010.

— Out of Town —

Wine Tasting Fundraiser

February 4

Middlesex County Habitat for Humanity is sponsoring a wine tasting fundraiser at Joe Canal's, 489 Rt. 1 South in Iselin on Friday, Feb. 4 from 7 to 9 p.m. \$25 per person includes hors d'oeuvres and chocolate. Door prizes.

For more information or to RSVP, call Sandy Wilson at (732) 216-3048.

American Flyers Open House

February 5

American Flyers Flight School located at the Morristown Airport, 50 Airport Rd. will host an open house and barbecue beginning at 11:45 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 5. BBQ lunch and facility tour. Free and open to the public.

For information, call (973) 267-3223 or visit www.americanflyers.net/about/aviation_seminars.asp.

Singles Dance Party

February 5

Steppin' Out Singles will hold an upscale dance party on Saturday, Feb. 5 at 8 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza, 390 Forsgate Dr. in Monroe Township. Ages 40 and up; no jeans/t-shirts/sneakers. Admission is \$17.

For more information, call (732) 656-1801.

Chef/Food Critic to Appear at MCC

February 8

Teresa Politano, restaurant critic of the *Star Ledger* and *Inside New Jersey* magazine, will sign copies of her new book, "Celebrity Chefs of New Jersey," at Middlesex County College on Tuesday, Feb. 8.

The program will be in conjunction with a food demonstration and tasting by chocolatier Diane Pinder, a 1973 graduate of Middlesex County College, in the demonstration kitchen in Crabiel Hall. Her program, "For Chocolate Lovers Only," will run from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Cost is \$25 for the public and \$10 for students.

Woodbridge WOWs Business Mtg.

February 9

Woodbridge Widows Or Widowers will conduct a business meeting

SENIOR CENTER Calendar

Coming Up.....

Center closed on Friday, Feb. 11

MONDAYS

Silver Sneakers 8:45 am
Crocheting 9:30 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
Shopping Trip 9 am
Line Dancing 10 am
Computer...10 am, 11:30 am, 1 pm
Crocheting 1 pm
Tai Chi 2 pm

THURSDAYS

Active Seniors 8:45 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.

on Wednesday, Feb. 9 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.

Upscale Singles Dance Party

February 12

Steppin' Out Singles will hold an upscale singles dance on Saturday, Feb. 12 at 8 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza, 2055 Lincoln Hwy. in Edison. Ages 40 and up; no jeans/t-shirts/sneakers. Admission: \$17.

For more information, call (732) 656-1801.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE

January 28, 2011

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its meeting held on January 27, 2011.

A. Case # 27-10-Pit Refuel, Inc. Block 208; Lots 1 & 2; OBC-1 Zone. The applicant's request for a use variance in order to operate a snack concession was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Beth Khidre
Secretary-Board of Adjustment

\$27.56

February 4, 2011

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
NOTICE

Alcoholic Beverage Control

Take notice that application has been made to the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 to transfer Menlo Management SP L.L.C. trading as Holiday Inn for premises located at 4701 Stelton Road, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 the Plenary Retail Consumption License # 1222-33-15-006 heretofore issued to Hi-South Plainfield L.L.C. trading as Holiday Inn for premises located at 4701 Stelton Road, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

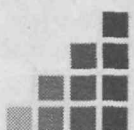
The persons who will hold an interest in this license are: Christopher Wang, Jason Cheng and Jonathan Lin at 2025 Lincoln Highway, Ste. 220, Edison, NJ 08817.

Objections, if any, should be made immediately in writing to: Joann Graf, Municipal Clerk, Borough of South Plainfield of 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Menlo Management SP L.L.C.
2025 Lincoln Hwy., Ste. 220
Edison, NJ 08817

\$77.00

January 28 & February 4, 2011



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*Must pick up by 4 pm *May not be combined with any other discounts.
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For more information call 908-753-4477

1615 Clinton Avenue, South Plainfield • 908-753-4477



Peer Leader Patrick Boyle shovels a sidewalk on Maple Avenue last week. He was called by Mayor Matt Anesh, who was contacted by the Department of Public Works for assistance in shoveling a local senior citizen's sidewalk.

Student Volunteers Assist Seniors With Snow Removal

The South Plainfield High School Peer Leaders, under the direction of Marla Vandermark, Tony Encinas, Jessica Kriskowski and Anthony Emmons, have instituted a new program where students volunteer to assist South Plainfield senior citizens shovel their sidewalks. There is a borough

ordinance which mandates that sidewalks be shoveled within 24 hours after a snow storm.

Seniors can contact Kevin Hughes, senior center director, at (908) 226-7713 to place their names on a list of those who are in need of help and have no household members to help.

Snow Storms Create Blood Emergency

New York Blood Center (NYBC) serving more than 20 million people in New York City, Long Island, the Hudson Valley and New Jersey, is following the emergency declaration of tri-state public officials with an emergency appeal for blood donors. The supply of several blood types, including O-negative ("universal donor") blood has dropped below the two-day minimum level.

Blood is traditionally in short supply during the winter months due to the holidays, travel schedules, inclement weather and illness. Approximately 25% of regional blood collection comes from high schools and colleges, and is especially vulnerable to weather-

related closures and cancellations.

To donate blood or for information on how to organize a blood drive, call 1-800-933-2566 or visit www.nybloodcenter.org.

If you cannot donate but still wish to participate in bringing crucial blood products to patients in need, please ask someone to donate for you or consider volunteering at a local drive.

Eligible donors include those at least age 16 (with parental consent), who weigh a minimum of 110 pounds, are in good health and meet all Food & Drug Administration and N.Y. or N.J. State Department of Health donor criteria. People over 75 may donate with a doctor's note.

southplainfieldpeople Milestones

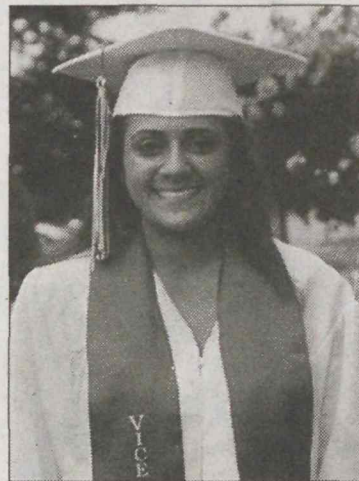
Local Students Named to Dean's List At York College of Pennsylvania

Brandon Ullom, a junior and criminal justice major, and Brittany Alvarado, a freshman and mass communications major, have been named to the dean's list for the Fall 2010 semester at York College of Pennsylvania. Both students are from South Plainfield.

To be eligible for this honor, a student must be registered for at least 12 academic credit hours and earn a semester GPA of 3.50 or higher.

Located in south central Pennsylvania, York College offers more than

50 baccalaureate majors in professional programs, the sciences and humanities to its 4,600 undergraduate students. The college also offers master's programs in business, education and nursing. A center of affordable academic excellence, York is dedicated to the intellectual, professional and social growth of its students. The college helps them develop a concrete plan to attain academic growth and career success and prepares them to be professionals in whatever career they pursue.



Brittany Alvarado

Local Students Named to Univ. of New Haven Dean's List

Jorge Alvarez and Meghan Makowski, both of South Plainfield, were named to the dean's list at the University of New Haven for the Fall 2010 semester. Full time undergraduate students must have a 3.50 or better cumulative GPA for the semester to be eligible for the dean's list.

A leader in experiential education, the University of New Haven provides its students with a valuable combination of solid liberal arts and real-world, hands-on professional training.

Founded in 1920, UNH is a private, top-tier comprehensive university with an 80-acre main campus. The university has an enrollment of more than 5,900: approximately 1,700 graduate students and more than 4,200 undergraduates, 70 percent of whom reside in university housing. The university offers more than 80 undergraduate degrees and more than 25 graduate degrees through the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Business, the Henry C. Lee College of

Criminal Justice and Forensic Sciences, the Tagliatela College of Engineering and University College. University of New Haven students study abroad through a variety of distinctive programs.

Students Named to Middlesex County College Dean's List

A total of 1,052 students from Middlesex County College were named to the dean's list for the Fall 2010 semester.

The list includes the following students from South Plainfield:

Patrick Foy, David Garatino, Timothy Gray, Scot Bishop, Jason Borys, Stacie Carrasca, Matthew Carringer, Crystal Cheung, Kevin Coffey, Christian Cole, Ray Coletta, Michael Conrad, Daniel Espin, Allen Garcia, Ashley Klimek, Alyssa Klimek, Matt Madurski, Chelsea Ng, Destiny Owen, Eigil Pantaleon, Sandra Pleeter, Kaitlyn Salvatore, Raymond Sheedy, Mark Sprenger, Geraldine Valladares and Katie Vo.

Caryn Butrico Named to Dean's List At East Carolina University

Caryn Butrico has been named to the dean's list at East Carolina University's College of Nursing for the fall semester of the 2010/2011 academic year.

The daughter of Billy and Sue Butrico, Caryn is in her junior year

majoring in nursing. She has also been a member of the ECU Field Hockey Club team for the past three years, playing starter left back. Caryn also volunteers her time tutoring at risk elementary students.

Located in Greenville, N.C., East Carolina University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award baccalaureate, masters and doctoral degrees.

Send Your Milestones

to: South Plainfield Observer,
1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
or fax (908) 668-8819
email: spobserver@comcast.net

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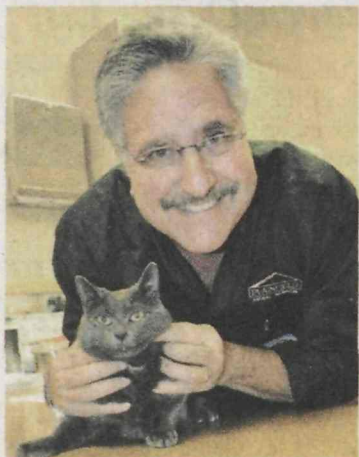
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Plainfield Animal Hospital Welcomes Pets for Annual Dental Fair



Erin Pender of South Plainfield with her dog, Molly McGhee.



Dr. Scott Linick with Grey Cat owned by Andrea Johnson of Whitehouse Station.

By Patricia Abbott

The Plainfield Animal Hospital held its annual pet dental fair on January 30 to kick off February's National Pet Dental Health Month. The successful event attracts people from all over the tri-state area. Twenty-six families, with a total of 35 pets, attended the fair.

"Of the 26 who attended, 23 were regular clients. I hope the others will start using our services and spread the word to their friends. Many of our clients come from the surrounding area, some from as far away as Pennsylvania, upstate New York and NYC," stated Plainfield Animal Hospital Director and Fellow of the Academy of Veterinary Dentistry, Dr. Scott Linick. The hospital has been holding the fair for about 10 years.

It was a busy afternoon as pets and owners came and went, keeping the staff on their toes. Furry friends and their owners mingled in the lobby, the humans talking and the pets sniffing, exploring and playing as they awaited their turn with the veterinarians.

Each visitor was greeted by a friendly staff member. Pets received free dental check examinations by staff veterinarians. Owners observed a tooth brushing demonstration and received tours of the hospital.

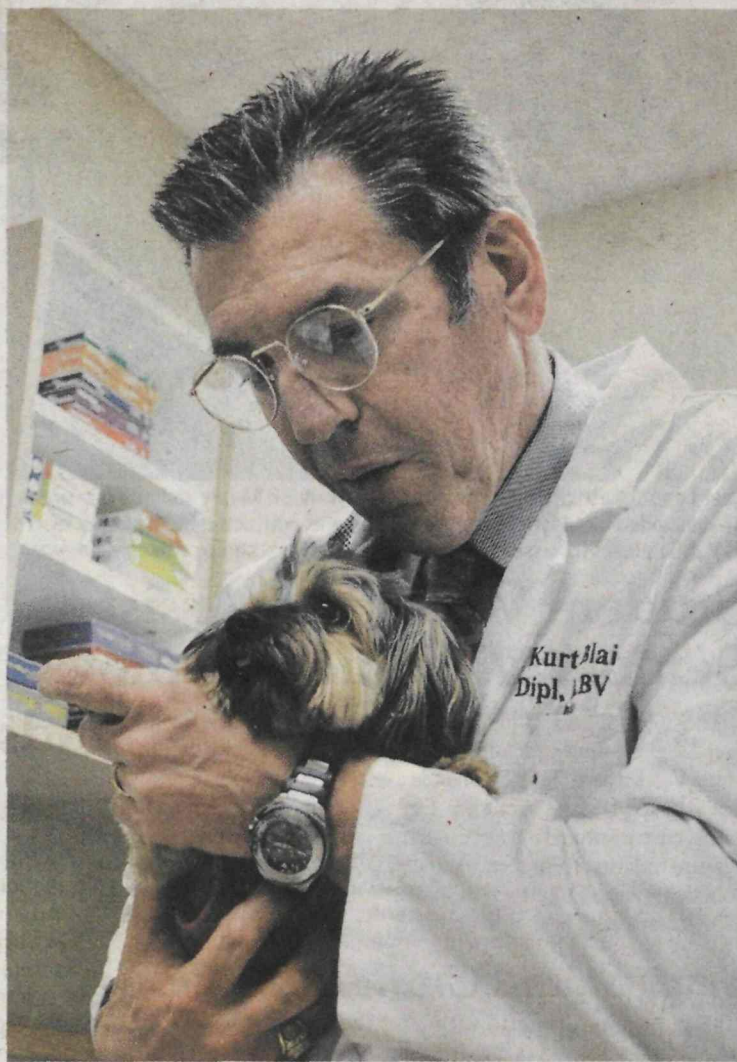
Brian Carroll, representative from Hill's Pet Food, provided demonstra-

tions and explained some of the company's products. Each pet received a goody bag with samples and literature. Dr. Linick offered a presentation on common dental problems and avenues for treatment.

Guests enjoyed refreshments, including cake, cookies, fresh fruit, coffee and cold beverages. As guests and their pets checked in they each received a ticket for one of two door prizes, baskets filled with dental products—one for dogs and one for cats. Door prize winners were Dominique Seyler of Dunellen, who won the cat basket, and Erin Pender of South Plainfield, who won the dog basket.

In conjunction with the event, the hospital kicked off the annual "guess the number of bones in a jar" contest which runs through March 31. Each \$5 tax deductible donation provides a chance to win a free dental cleaning valued up to \$400. All proceeds from the contest will be donated to the Help-A-Pet Fund, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping sick or injured pets owned by low income individuals.

"I feel that the event was a huge success. Any time we can educate the public about the importance of dental care for their pets, and do it in a fun way, we are potentially positively impacting the health and well-being of our furry friends," explained Dr. Linick.



Dr. Kurt Blaicher with Dior, whose family came from Roebling, N.J. for the annual pet dental fair.

2010-2011

JUNIOR JOURNALIST

Sarah Gwiazda Named Junior Journalist



Junior Journalist winner Sarah Gwiazda with her teacher, Cynthia Severino.

Sarah Gwiazda, Kennedy School fourth grader, is this week's winner in the Junior Journalist program. Her poem, "Teachers," has earned Sarah dinner for her family, courtesy of Hometown Heros.

There is still time to submit entries for the annual program which runs through May.

Students should submit their original written works to their teachers, Hometown Heros or to the *Observer* at 1110 Hamilton Blvd.

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

For more information, call the *Observer* at (908) 668-0010.

Teachers

By Sarah Gwiazda

Teachers are awesome.

Teachers are sweet.

Teachers are superheroes,

They make things neat.

They help kids.

They give us care.

They make us smart.

They give us their heart.

I love teachers.

They are the best.

There is no contest!

Art Exhibit on Toys at MCC

An exhibit of toys created by artists will be held at Middlesex County College February 10 through March 10. The exhibit will take place in the Studio Theatre Gallery.

A reception, open to the public, will be held on Thursday, Feb. 10 from 5 to 7 p.m.

"This is a multimedia exhibit with the common theme of toys," said Asha Ganpat, an adjunct professor of art at Middlesex and the curator of the exhibit. "Some are actual toys that can be handled, some are sculptures, some are photographs. There's even digital work that is shown on an electronic picture frame; the audience looks at the

work through 3D glasses."

Artists include Howard Apirian, Brendan Carroll, Gwen Charles, Matt Connors, Kevin Curie, Patricia Dahlman, Robert Deeds, Dan Fencelon, David Fratkin, Chris George, Brian Higbee, Peter Johnson, Rafael Laguna, Howard Lerner, Wendy Lewis, Dennis Lick, Barbara Lubliner, Cory Marc, David Meanix, Steve Pauley, Scott Pellnat, J.C. Rivera, Sheila Ross, Steve Rossi, Genevieve Santos, Jason Scala, Stan Schoenewald and Shirley Shum.

The Studio Theatre Gallery is open from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays (closed February 21 for Presidents Day).

Middlesex County College to Offer Saturday Hours on February 12

Students and future students who need enrollment services at Middlesex County College may take advantage of special hours on Saturday, Feb. 12 from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

Spring II session, a concentrated semester, begins on February 14, so students can come in February 12 and

register for a Fall II class.

Offices that will be open on February 12 include the Enrollment Center, Bursar's Office, Admissions, Financial Aid, the Registrar's Office, Student Activities, Academic Advisement and the college bookstore.

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Join Now For **ONLY**

\$29.99

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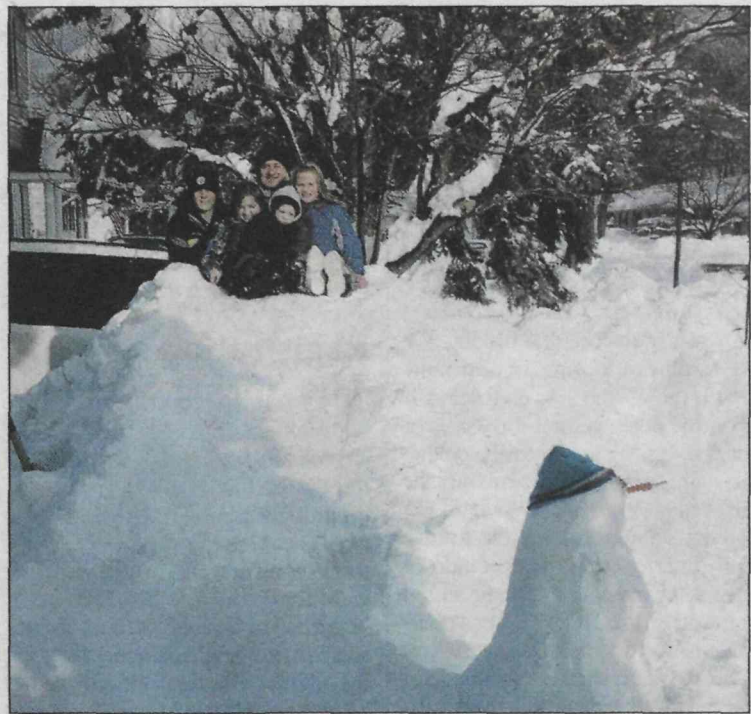
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Madison Henry and cousins Mary and Michael Studlack and Ryan Tritt with Ryan's dad, Patrick Tritt.

Built for Fun: Dad Builds Snow Slide on Morril Drive

Morril Drive resident Matthew Henry began building a "snow slide" on his front lawn for his children shortly after the blizzard of December 26 and 27. After last week's snow storm that dumped an additional accumulation of up to 19 inches, he was able to perfect the snow slide.

Starting at the top of the driveway, the slide winds its way across the front lawn, around several trees and shrubs, down the sidewalk, and ends at the bottom of the driveway.

Matthew's children, Madison and Alyssa, along with their cousins Mary

and Michael Studlack and Ryan Tritt, enjoyed a day off from school last Thursday. Instead of having to trudge up a hill to sleigh ride elsewhere in South Plainfield, the children enjoyed hours of sledding fun using swimming pool tubes to slide down the big hill on their own front lawn. Their uncles, Patrick and Michael, helped them get on the slide and supervised the long ride down.

This is the fourth year that Matthew has built the slide for his children, but it is the first time he has done so in the front yard.

It's Snow Problem

(Continued from page 1)

borough has had to rent a front end loader at a cost of \$4,000 from January 18 through February 18 to assist in removing snow from intersections, school entrances and fire hydrants. The DPW's four salt trucks have been working around the clock, especially during the evening, when they are notified by police of an area that has become hazardous. The Building Department's four wheel drive vehicles have been utilized by the police department in order to patrol during poor weather conditions. "It has been a group effort by everyone in the borough," said Cullen.

"The Department of Public Works has been taking everything Mother Nature has to throw at the borough," said Cullen. The borough will have to come up with the funds to pay for the additional cost of that wrath.

Mayor Matt Anesh commented, "The numerous and significant snow storms have blown through the normal level budgeted for snow removal



by the borough. I intend to work with the Administration and Finance Committee to seek savings from other areas of the budget to offset the nearly \$200,000 impact thus far."

"The borough is up for Mother Nature's challenges, but wouldn't mind if the groundhog doesn't see his shadow," said Cullen.

Unlike the town, the BOE budget for snow removal is zero, according to Interim Business Administrator Nicholas Puleio. The board does contract with its maintenance company, Sodexo, to perform clean up functions and owns numerous trucks to assist in the process. Puleio said that they are "absorbing any additional costs" and have looked to the DPW

Borough Snow Storms & Associated Cleanup Costs

12/26/10-12/27/10	\$81,394.94
01/11/11-01/12/11	\$43,791.05
01/18/11-01/19/11	\$ 5,405.45
01/21/11-01/22/11	\$25,659.73
01/26/11-01/27/11	\$67,850.10
Total	\$224,101.27

to assist because it has larger equipment. "We can't thank them enough," said Puleio, who says he has enjoyed working with the DPW staff.

Between December 26 and January 22, the BOE spent approximately \$3,000 in additional wages, which does not include the cost of salt or repair to vehicles. Puleio said he is awaiting figures for the January 26 and 27 storms, as well as Tuesday's and Wednesday's storms to present to the Finance and Building and Grounds committees for their assessment next week.

The inclement weather has forced the district to use all four of the snow days built into the calendar. If any further closings occur, the April 18-25 recess will be shortened according to the school calendar.

In an effort to avoid the change, the district has implemented early dismissals and delayed openings.

Seniors, Need Help Shoveling?

Seniors in need of snow shoveling should call the Senior Center at (908) 754-1047 for names of school children who can help.

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served with garlic bread

\$14.95 per person

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Sliced chipotle rub pork
loin with rice & beans, fried
plantains & quesadillas
with assorted dips

All You Can Eat

Bar Menu Specials

Order a la carte: Wings (three types), hot dogs,
sliders, chili, tacos, chips & dip

*** DRINK SPECIALS ALL NIGHT ***

Sunday, February 6 beginning at 5:30 p.m.

* Kick off time 6:30 p.m.



Kayla Smith, an avid duck lover who lives on Robert Place, enlisted the help of her friends to build a "snow duck." The duck was spray painted yellow with an orange beak. Food coloring was used to create the blue pond where the duck is sitting. Pictured (L-R) are Brianna Apponte, Matt Giordano, John Delaney and Kayla Smith.

Give Love.

Teleflora's All My Heart Bouquet

Show Cupid how it's done this Valentine's Day with romantic flowers in a sensuous red vase that includes a dazzling red heart pendant necklace. Red roses and white waxflower accented with assorted greenery are delivered in a lustrous red ceramic vase with a romantic glass heart pendant necklace.

Starting at
\$62.95
each plus
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Hershey's Hugs™ Bouquet

by Teleflora—Show your love with cheerful flowers in a charming lidded dish that looks like a Hershey's Hugs™ candy. The bouquet includes red spray roses, carnations & gypsophila accented with assorted greenery.

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Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 12 & Feb. 13 from 8:30 to 5:30.

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Corner of Durham Avenue & Helen Street

Sports

SPHS Bowling

By Ralph Fech

BOYS BOWLING

Tiger Bowlers Stun Monroe, But Fall to Powerhouse Colonia

South Plainfield	855	949	866	2,670
Monroe	790	898	949	2,637
Colonia	1,148	1,067	1,161	3,376

In a rare tri-match, the boys bowling team rolled its highest game and highest series of the season as they upset a good Monroe team but could not match up against mighty Colonia.

Sophomore Tom Riccardi took scoring honors for the Tigers with games of 263-186-189 for a 638 set. Sophomore Joe Parillo added games of 246-168-179 for a 593 set. Also chipping in were Andrew Yon 194-513 set, sophomore Jesse Masters 175-195 and sophomore Robert Benwella a 168 game.

State-ranked Colonia's 3,376 series translates to 225 per man for the 15 games they bowled. Outstanding!

GIRLS BOWLING

Nicole Disch Places 24th in GMC Individuals Championship

After her qualifying set of 485 placed her 34th in the GMC Individual Tournament, Nicole posted games of 141-221-175 for a 537 set, which moved her up 10 slots; finishing 24th in the strong field of approximately 200 GMC girl bowlers. Congratulations Nicole!

Lady Tigers Dominated by Colonia and Monroe

South Plainfield	581	678	678	1,935
Monroe	860	794	884	2,498
Colonia	856	828	861	2,543

Senior Nikki Disch led the way for the girls bowling team with a 177 high game and 453 set. Senior Stephanie Sherwood chimed in with a 159 game and a 430 set; however, it could not hold back White Division Champion Colonia and runner-up Monroe.

SOCCER

By Dawn Hutchison

Spring Ahead to Soccer Season!

And we're back! Spring soccer is just a few short weeks away and the SPSC has been busy getting our teams registered and preparing for the season with indoor leagues and practices. Hoping that Mother Nature decides to take a break soon, so we'll actually be able to see our fields.

Although we aren't out on the fields, work is always being done to get ready for the upcoming season. The club is looking forward to 13 teams competing in our league this spring, from the ages of seven through 19. We welcome back the U-8 Warriors, U-9 Sharks, U-10 Spartans, U-10 Eclipse, U-11 Wanderers, U-12 Ambush, U-12 Arsenal, U-13 Thunder, U-13 Mustangs, U-14 Strom and U-14 Strikerz, U-19 Magic and U-19 Fusion. We had a super fall season with our newly formed U-12 girls team, Ambush, winning their flight. Here's to a great spring season for all of our teams, players and coaches!

Spring canning will take place in April this year for the U-8 through U-14 teams. Dates will be announced once the season gets underway. This is one of our most profitable fundraisers and we do require all of our players in these age groups to participate.

The club would like to encourage our player parents to take an active role in the clubs function. Each month, we hold a general meeting for our coaches and membership. This is an opportunity to be an active voice in the future of the club, its growth and its success. Please come out and

be a part of the decision making. We are also always looking for help in the club as there is much to do whether it is on the fields, behind the scenes or fundraising. We are currently looking for individuals to assist us with the snackstand operation. We would like to have volunteers available to take shifts in overseeing the operation of the snackstand at our main fields and at the turf fields. This would be a chair-person position for one or several folks to share the responsibility of overseeing the daily functions each weekend. If you have the desire to help and have the time to dedicate, we would love to have you. Please email Dom Cirilli at dcirilli@cmn-adv.com with your interest.

In addition, we are looking for someone to chair our training. Last year, we instituted a training program with the New York Red Bulls. This was a very positive and successful program that we would like to continue. We are looking for an individual to work with the SPSC Board, coaches and the Red Bulls franchise to coordinate our training for the upcoming fall season. With positive feedback from all our coaches and players, we feel this is something that we would like to revisit and would hope that someone would like to take the reins and help with all the details.

We are also looking into the feasibility of a clubhouse being constructed at our Kenneth Avenue facility. The club lacks the space for meetings, registration, uniforms, equipment, etc. We have completed some preliminary research on the project and will be presenting the information at our next general meeting. We invite our members to come out and join the discussion and we encourage your input to this and all important decisions the club has to make. A vote will be held in the coming months and will

(Continued on next page)

By Gary Lampasona

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

Registration for The Spring Season

Remember, it's not too late to register. Just download the registration form from our website, www.leaguelineup.com/SPJBC, fill it out and mail it along with your check to the address on the form. Please remember that the \$20 late fee must be added to the registration costs. If your child is new to SPJBC, please include a copy of their birth certificate.

If you have any questions, contact a board member or call the club house at (908) 754-2090.

2011 Sign Sponsor: Get your message to your local market! Fill out a sign sponsor form and get your sign on a field. Go to the handouts section and download the form with the required payment.

Umpire Classes to Begin Soon: Anyone that is of middle school age and older can umpire in the spring. All first and second year umpires must take the class to be able to umpire in the spring. Parents, you can umpire also and make a few extra bucks. Classes are held on the following dates: February 15, 17, 22, 24 and March 1 at 6:30 p.m. and March 5 at 9 a.m. All classes are held in the clubhouse. Please call the clubhouse if you have any questions.

General Monthly Meeting: Our next monthly meeting will be held on Monday, Feb. 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the clubhouse. All parents that have kids playing in the 2011 season are welcome to attend. Come on out and see what is going on!

"Baseball is the only game left for people. To play basketball, you have to be 7 feet 6 inches. To play football, you have to be the same width." -Bill Veeck



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U-11 INDOOR SOCCER

By John Wizda

Beasts Tie Sayreville 4-4

The U-11 Beasts kicked off their winter season this past weekend with a 4-4 tie against Sayreville. After a 2-2 pre-season, the young Beasts were ready to show off their skills at the new Metuchen Sportsplex.

The game started fast with both sides fighting for control of the ball. Sayreville broke it open quickly within the first 10 minutes of play, scoring twice for the lead. The Beasts bounced back and stole the momentum for the middle minutes, missing several times to put the ball in. Left wing Marc Giordano got the Beasts quickly on the score board, making it 2-1. Defenseman Ian McCoid then delivered a crucial blow to Sayreville, drilling in a free kick from the sidelines past the Sayreville goalie. Mike Marrero added a big score to make it 3-2, and Brandon Wizda later found an open Marc Giordano who scored for the second time.

On defense, David and Christain Formoso had key plays. John Serro and Andrew Bisgaard both contributed in close situations to stop several threats. In net, Billy Keane added eight saves and played a strong last few minutes when Sayreville was closing in. Check out the All-Star Beasts every Sunday in Metuchen.

A special thanks to Principal Robert Diehl for allowing the team to practice every week at Roosevelt School.

Team Beasts players are John Serro, Andrew Bisgaard, Billy Keane, Brandon Wizda, David and Christian Formoso, Mike Marrero, Marc Giordano and Ian McCoid. Coaches are Terrence McCoid and John Wizda.

Frederick B. Collins, 64

Frederick B. "Freddy" Collins, known to many as Budd-E the Magician and Key-Ko the Clown, died on Friday, Jan. 21 at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born in Neptune to his late parents, Frederick "Ted" and Beulah (Moyer) Collins, Freddy was raised in Newark and lived in Piscataway since 1971.

He was honorably discharged from the United States Army Reserves and was the proud owner of Mecca Magic in Bloomfield. He belonged to the International Brotherhood of Magicians and was currently working for UPS in Bound Brook as a supervisor.

Freddy was the original founder of Clown Fest, which is held annually in Seaside Heights and Mecca Magic Clown College.

Freddy is predeceased by a brother, Jon Collins.

He leaves behind his wife, Mary Ann (Mayo) and their daughter, Jennifer Collins, and his pride and joy, a grandson, William Magrino III. He also leaves behind two sisters, Dahne Meeker and Bunnie Collins.

A memorial service was held at McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions sent to the American Cancer Society, 2600 U.S. Highway 1, North Brunswick, N.J. 08902 would be appreciated.



Frederick B. Collins

Clementina J. "Tina" (Scala) Moretti

Clementina J. "Tina" (Scala) Moretti passed away on Wednesday, Jan. 26 at the Arbor Glen Continuing Care Community in Bridgewater.

Born and raised in Westfield, Tina settled in South Plainfield with her husband in the early 1950s.

She was employed as a secretary for Merck and Company and then for an adoption agency in Plainfield. Tina was an active member of the South Plainfield Suburban Woman's Club. She also enjoyed spending time doing ceramics, knitting, and was an excellent seamstress.

Her husband, Eugene, died in 1984. She is also predeceased by a brother, Michael.

Surviving are three children, Denise Moretti and husband Jack Howarth, Guy Moretti and wife Toni and Arthur Moretti and wife Yvonne; a sister, Matilda "Tillie" Fiorino; and two brothers, Eugene and Vincent Scala.

Also surviving are five grandchildren, Nicole, Eugene, Anthony, Erin and Kyle; and a great-grandson, Blake.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the American Cancer Society, 2600 U.S. Highway #1, North Brunswick, N.J. 08902.

Esther (Greco) Dressler, 89

Esther (Greco) Dressler died peacefully on Monday, Jan. 24 at Care One at the Highlands in Edison.

Born and raised in Newark, Esther lived in Belleville before settling in Toms River.

Mrs. Dressler worked as a secretary for PSE&G in Newark for several years, and while residing in Toms River, she was a member of the Toms River Italian American Club.

She is predeceased by her husband, Edwin Dressler; her parents, Carmine and Gemma Greco; and two brothers, Frank and Alfonse Greco.

Surviving are three sons, Paul and wife Diane of Branchburg, Carmine

and wife Vera of South Plainfield and Edward and wife Maureen of Toms River; a sister, Eleanor Califri of Brick; and six grandchildren, Anne, Elizabeth, Allison, Mark, Daria and Daniel Dressler. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

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

Donations in her name can be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital, www.stjude.org.

Mary A. (Gergy) Frindt, 86

Mary A. (Gergy) Frindt died on Saturday, Jan. 29 in the Haven Hospice at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born and raised in East Brunswick, Mary resided in Newark before settling back in the East Brunswick/South River area.

She worked as a press worker for Brodsky and Sons in South River. Mary was a longtime communicant of St. Mary's RC Church in South River and she also enjoyed playing bingo and trips to Atlantic City.

She is predeceased by her husband, Joseph; three sisters, Rose Sawyer, Irene Coleman and Helen Primiano; two brothers, Alex and Zoley Gergy; and a son-in-law, Pat Orlandini.

Surviving is a daughter, Rosemary Orlandini of South Plainfield; two granddaughters, Kelly and Emily Orlandini; a sister, Elizabeth Antonelli; and several nieces and nephews.

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

Dorothy (Bilecki) Approvato, 78

Dorothy (Bilecki) Approvato passed away on Saturday, Jan. 29 at her home, surrounded by her loving family.

Born in South Plainfield, she was a lifelong resident.

She was a loving wife, mother, sis-

ter, grandmother and friend who will be sadly missed.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Clement, in 2009; her parents, Michael and Anna (Ba-Ba) Bilecki; two brothers, Michael and Stephen and a sister, Mary Ayers.

Surviving are three sons, Clement and wife Laura, Stephen and wife Teresa and David and wife Donna; three daughters, Diane Lichtenstein and husband Lee, Susan Zacek and Maryann Sonnenfeld and husband Mark; two sisters, Julie Maselli and Helen Szmereta, 12 grandchildren, Jason, Morgan, Amanda, Arielle, Ashley, Tyler, Katie, Davonna, Daria, Jordana, Alexander and Jeffrey and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at the South Plainfield Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in her name to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Ann Marie (Ruggiero) Roseo, 78

Ann Marie (Ruggiero) Roseo died on Sunday, Jan. 30 at the Emeritus Assisted Living in Hillsborough surrounded by her family.

Born on July 16, 1932 in Brooklyn, Mrs. Roseo was a longtime resident of South Plainfield.

She is predeceased by her husband, Rudolph Anthony; and by four brothers, Eugene, Teddy, Vincent and Edward Ruggiero.

Surviving are three daughters, Carol Ann Roseo of Hillsborough, Ann Marie Barone and husband Joseph, also of Hillsborough, and Nancy Roseo of Edison and a son, Eugene Roseo and wife Lisa of South Plainfield. Also surviving are six grandchildren, Emily Clare and Lucille Marie Roseo and Michael J., Kimberly, Madeline and James Rudolph Barone.

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

SOCCER

By Dawn Hutchison

Spring Ahead to Soccer Season!

(Continued from previous page) require "members in good standing" to vote. You are considered a member in good standing after attending two consecutive meetings. You must not miss two consecutive meetings after establishing your voting rights in order to maintain that right.

We have much in store for our club this season, but most importantly we look forward to a successful, rewarding and enriching playing season for our players. All we do in the SPSC comes down to the kids. Our efforts, the talents of our coaches and your encouragement are the driving force

for our kids to be successful on the field.

Not a member of the club yet? Look for our tryouts in May for the upcoming 2011/2012 Fall-Spring seasons. We are always looking for players and looking to expand our club. If you would like more information about the SPSC, please visit our website at www.soplfsoccerclub.com.

Stay warm, stay conditioned and before you know it, the snow will give way to green fields just waiting for the thrill of the game to take over.

Congratulations Sanjiv! #1 JUNIOR JOURNALIST



Debbie and Charlie Kurland of Hometown Heros deliver dinner to Junior Journalist winner Sanjiv Sewdat, pictured with his parents, Babita and Jaipersaud, and grandmother, Dorothy.

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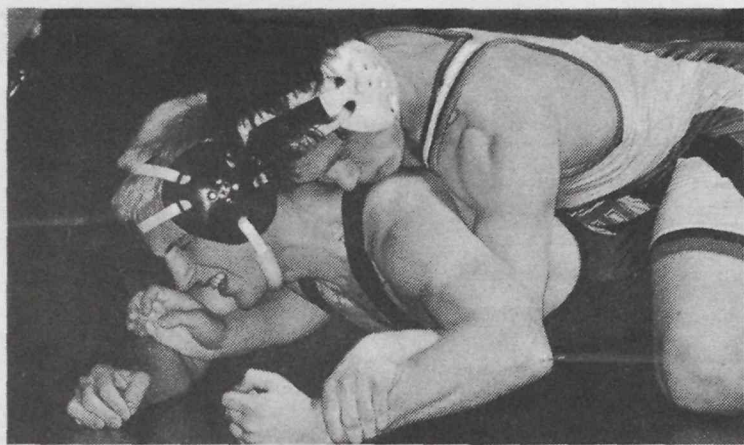
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Corey Stasenکو wrestles for South Plainfield against Old Bridge.



Wrestling Alumni Dave Butrico, Chris Depaolo, Mark Sacco, Paul Approvato, Lou Devico and Ray Jazikoff.

Candidacy Info For Board of Ed

The South Plainfield School District has information available for citizens interested in running for a vacant seat on the Board of Education. The board will have three vacancies in the April 27 annual school election. A full term on the BOE runs for three years.

Candidates must file a nominating petition with the local school board in order to get their name on the ballot for the election. The current deadline to submit the nominating petition is 4 p.m. on Tuesday, March 8.

This year the election, which is usually held the third Tuesday of April, is scheduled for Wednesday, April 27.

Prospective school board candidates can obtain a "School Board Candidate Kit" online at www.njsba.org.

The Kit includes a nominating petition and information about qualifications for candidacy.

Volunteers Needed For Litter Clean-up

Snow won't cover all that litter forever. It's time to put Volunteer Litter Clean-up Week on your calendar.

The South Plainfield Clean Communities Advisory Board will sponsor a borough-wide clean-up the last week in April. The main clean-up event will be held on Saturday morning, April 23. Volunteers will meet between 9 and 10 a.m. at the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Ave. to collect equipment and clean up assignments. Residents are welcome to organize a crew, or to come on their own. All volunteers are invited back to borough hall at noon for a free pickup picnic.

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

Wrestling Alumni Attend 49th Anniversary Reunion

(Continued from page 1)

championships, including 21 division championships, 17 conference championships and 28 district titles, 26 of them consecutively, which is a New

Jersey State record. The list doesn't stop there. They have also captured eight state sectional championships and six state group team championships. On an individual level,

the athletes can boast 186 district champions, 46 region champions, 52 state place winners and six state champions.

The successful program continued to grow and prosper, and in 1986 Coach Mike Buggy, the current athletic director, took over the wrestling program with assistant coaches Bill Pavlak and Eugene Clapsis. The program expanded and became the force that again propelled it to Middlesex County's top wrestling program.

Under the leadership of Head Coach Bill Pavlak, the team won its first sectional championship in 1997, and in 2000, its first state group title. The success continued with Head Coach Kevin McCann when the team won four group titles in 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2010. Last year they were named the number one team in New Jersey.

Over the years the program has continued to excel with five talented, dedicated head coaches—Al Ranger with a total of 166 wins, 82 losses and six ties; Tom Baker with seven wins, nine losses; Mike Buggy with 114 wins, 22 losses and one tie; Bill Pavlak with 110 wins, 14 losses and three ties, and current Head Coach Kevin McCann with 162 wins and 22 losses. Two coaches have received the honor of being named State Coach of the Year: Bill Pavlak in 2000 and Kevin McCann, in both 2005 and 2010.

Several of the state champions in attendance at the reunion were introduced—Joe Lemmo in 1965, Steve Giordano in 1989, Kevin McCann in 1991, Matt Anderson in 2000, Jimmy Conroy in 2004 and Anthony Ashnault in 2010.

After the introductions, the Pledge

of Allegiance and a display of school spirit by the cheerleaders, the competition against Old Bridge began. Fans and alumni roared as the Tigers racked up point after point. The evening ended with a Tigers win, 62-9, over Old Bridge High School.

After the match about 120 people headed to Flanagan's to celebrate both the reunion and the win.

The Ranger Family released a statement saying, "Every success has a beginning; may those who come after us not forget those before us. This was the reason for the reunion, to show all the talent and dedication of young boys, now fathers and grandfathers, who contributed enormously to what we have today. The Ranger Family is honored, and gratefully acknowledges the tribute the Wrestling Club bestowed on the founder of the wrestling program, Al Ranger. After the match our family was invited to Flanagan's for a celebration of the first reunion. What a joyous occasion to meet with and talk with past wrestlers and to hear the many wonderful stories they remembered about my husband, Al Ranger. He truly touched so many lives."

SPHS Parent/Teacher Conferences

South Plainfield High School has announced that parent/teacher conferences will be held on Thursday, Feb. 17 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The following departments will be in Cafeteria A/B: English Department, Science Department and Applied Technology Department.

The following departments will be in Cafeteria C/D: Math Department, Special Education Department, Fine

Arts Department and Business Education Department.

The following departments will be in the Information Center: Social Studies Department, World Language Department, ESL Department and Physical Education Department.

The Guidance Department and CST will be available in the hallway between the Information Center and the Main Office.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Chris Grippo

Gung hay fat choy! Thursday, Feb. 3 marked the beginning of a two week celebration in honor of the Chinese New Year. According to the Chinese zodiac this is the Year of the Golden Rabbit. The rabbit is considered a lucky sign and people born under the sign are thought to be private and introverted individuals (even though both Angelina Jolie and Drew Barrymore were born under this sign). This is considered a good year to focus on home, family, security, diplomacy and your relationship with children. To see if you were born in a rabbit year, since the Chinese zodiac consists of twelve characters, you can always count backwards to see what years were Rabbit years, 1999, 1987, 1975, etc.).

Miss Mija and Miss Linda will be doing crafts that relate to this holiday after their regular storytimes. As a reminder, storytime and crafts for ages three and over is held Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. Time for 2s and 3s is Wednesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. and there is a Books and Babies program on Friday mornings at 10:30 a.m. No registration is necessary as all programs are free. The

only request Mija and Linda have is that you arrive before the start of the program so that your child can have his/her name tag made.

With all the snow we've had, we want to remind you that you can renew materials both through Elvis at (908) 757-3280 or our website, www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us. If we are closed for any reason you can use either format to renew materials. Please be forewarned that books another patron has put a hold on, that have reached their maximum number of renewals, and interlibrary loans cannot be renewed using either of those formats. You must also renew your materials before midnight on the day on which they were due. If you renew after midnight you will be charged a late fee. Many people think that the cut-off time is when we open since we only require materials to be returned before we open. The reason we can process materials that are in our book/audio drop on a previous date is that we manually turn back the dates on our computers. If you renew an item in the morning and it is overdue you will be charged an overdue fine.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at (908) 754-7885 or visit us at 2484 Plainfield Avenue (across the parking lot from Borough Hall).

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Local Band Broadcasts Live from Times Square

By Patricia Abbott

Stelladeora, a South Plainfield based band, was featured as the headlining band on *The Real Radio Show* in Times Square on January 24. This is a major accomplishment for the fairly new band. *The Real Radio Show* broadcasts live from Times Square every Monday from 7 to 9 p.m. on 1240 WGBB AM, on the web at www.TheRealRadioShow.com and on Thursday at 11 p.m. on www.ArtistFirst.com.

The band was founded by South Plainfield residents Justina Carubia, 27, lead vocalist, and Avinash (Avi) Patel, 25, who plays rhythm guitar. They began their collaborative efforts in the summer of 2009, but didn't settle on a band name until the summer of 2010 when they needed a name because the first song they recorded, *Magnetic Poetry*, was slated to be used in the web series, *Hollywood Girl*.

Other band members include Ryan Wilson, 27, of Hillsborough on bass guitar, and several drummers, including Danny Lammi, courtesy of the South Plainfield based band, The Afterall, and Russ Ippoliti, who played in Justina's solo project band, The Day Breaks, in 2006.

The process leading to this major coup was simple; the band submitted their music via an electronic press kit through Sonicbids.com, an Internet gig booking site for independent artists. The band was notified shortly after the submission that the show was interested in having them perform. The station receives hundreds of submissions a day. Justina said, "We feel very privileged that they saw something in us that stood out from the other hundreds of submissions."



(L-R): Guitarist Avi Patel, bassist Ryan Wilson, lead vocalist Justina Carubia and drummer Russ Ippoliti.
— Photo courtesy of Thomas Campanella

Justina started playing guitar and writing music her freshman year of college, launching her solo music career which spanned from 2001 to spring of 2009. Avi began playing guitar in high school; he played in a couple of garage bands, but had no committed projects prior to joining Stelladeora. Ryan started playing bass in high school. It is important to note that all members of the band have a part in the detailed creative process of writing their own music.

Justina is excited about this new project, saying, "I was a solo artist for a really long time, and I worked really hard on music that I'm sure people enjoyed, but ultimately did not feel as passionately about it as I did. After awhile you just start to get burnt out, and I was at the end of my wits with all of that. This project has really reignited my spark for creativity and I'm so lucky to be in the company of such talented songwriters and musicians. We are making music that we are all equally as passionate about, and know it's just a matter of time before we start brainwashing the world with our awesomeness."

Avi added, "We enjoy writing music, and we love the products that our efforts are creating. The fact that all of this started out as just some fumbling around on guitar, and now people want to listen to what we have to offer, is amazing!"

Band member Ryan has high hopes for Stelladeora. "I hope that we are able to create something that changes the way people think about things, affect people positively, and inspire other people to pick up an instrument and express their own unique perspectives. I want to jumpstart people's nervous systems, one stereo speaker at a time!" he remarked.

After their live performance Justina commented, "The Real Radio Show was a lot of fun to be a part of. We feel so honored that Frankie Dee and his crew decided to give us a chance to showcase our talents in Times Square, and to anyone with AM radio or Internet. The beauty of a live broadcast is you never know who is listening."

Stelladeora is currently working to finish their three song debut EP. In addition, the band plans to complete writing enough songs for a CD they hope to release this spring.

The band would like to book more shows and start a line of merchandise on their web store. You can find news on Stelladeora at their official website, www.stelladeora.tumblr.com.

South Plainfield Had County's Best Record Controlling Taxes in 2010

South Plainfield residents saw their 2010 taxes drop more than those in any other Middlesex County municipality, according to a recently released independent property-tax study compiled by *The Star Ledger*.

South Plainfield, with a 2.3% decrease, was one of only four towns in the county to see taxes go down.

Neighboring towns fared less well.

Edison saw taxes spike 3%, while Piscataway had a 1.2% hike. Plainfield, in Union County, saw taxes rise 8.5%.

Statewide, 70 percent of towns saw property taxes increase three percent or more, and more than half of the state's municipalities raised their tax levies by over five percent. South Plainfield was one of about 60 towns where taxes stayed flat or went down.

The study looked at total tax bills, which includes municipal, school and county taxes. But when just looking at municipal taxes, the portion controlled by the council, South Plainfield residents fared even better. Statewide, municipal taxes jumped seven percent on average, but the average South Plainfield homeowner saw the municipal portion of the tax bill drop by \$178.

The South Plainfield Elks Veterans Committee is selling the Entertainment Book for \$30.



Contact Lou Peralta at (908) 756-6406.

February Holiday Schedule at Recycling Complex and Curbside Collection

The South Plainfield Recycling Center will be closed on Friday, Feb. 11 for Lincoln's birthday. The center will be open instead from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 10.

The recycling center and the yard waste site will be open as usual on Saturday, Feb. 12 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The recycling center schedule will not be affected by the Presidents' Day holiday. Regular hours at the recycling center are 12 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

The yard waste site is on its winter schedule, open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays.

Curbside recycling collection will not be affected by the holidays. Call the recycling hotline at (908) 226-7620 for updates.

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