

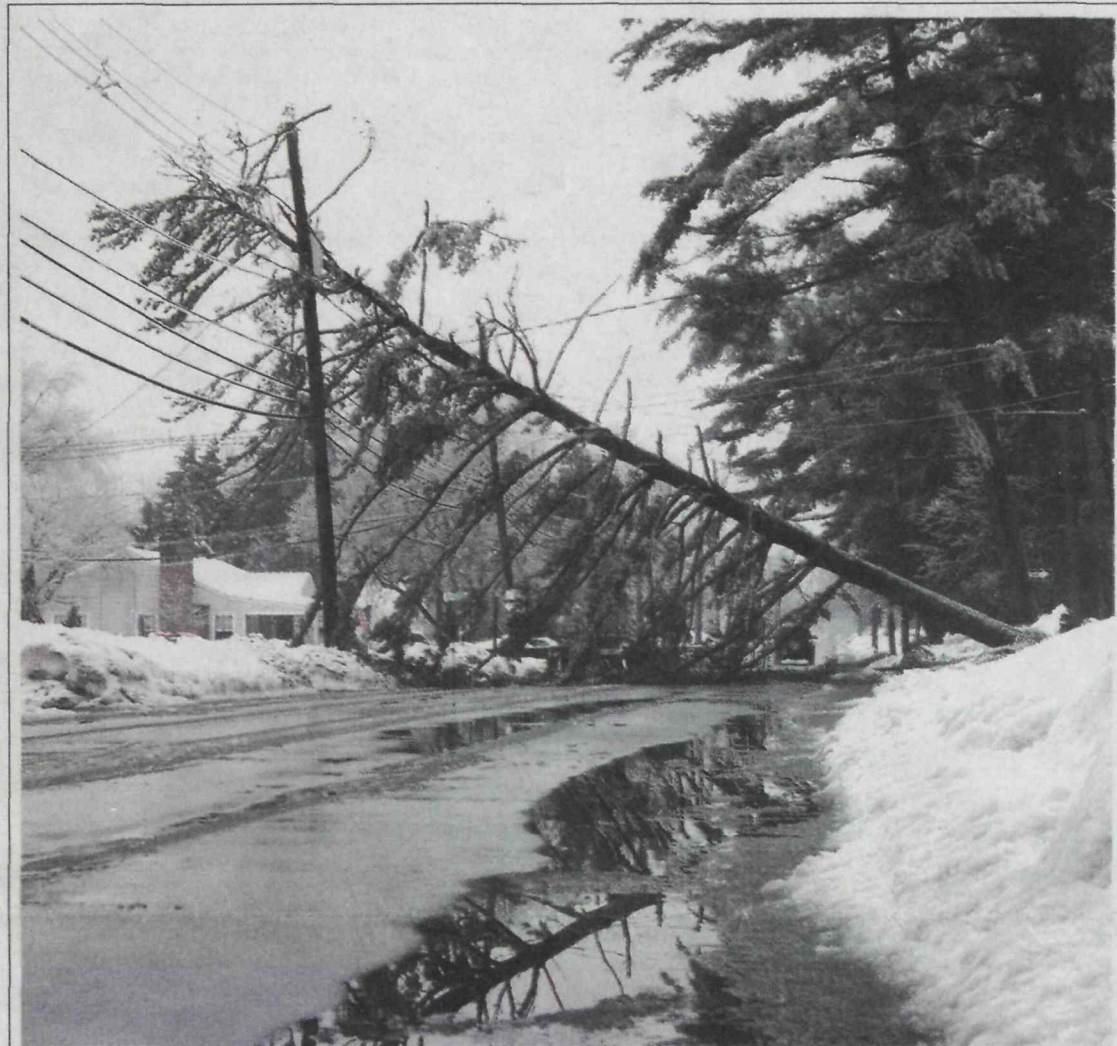
South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 14, NO. 23

Member New Jersey Press Association

60 CENTS

FEBRUARY 11, 2011



A fallen pine tree on Park Avenue during the ice storm on February 2 caused power outages in the area.
—Photo courtesy of Louis Mornille

Essay Contest Celebrates Women's History Month

Women's History Month, celebrated annually in the United States, is a month long celebration of women's contributions to culture, history and society. Councilwoman Chrissy Buteas is asking students to help celebrate women's history and advancement in the United States of America.

As a woman who is passionate about public service and engaging women in civic life, Buteas will

again be sponsoring a project which celebrates the life of one of our country's greatest advocates of civil rights. Contest participants are invited to take advantage of this opportunity to examine the life of Rosa Parks, learn about the ideals that fueled her passion and explore avenues for continuing her legacy.

Parks, who worked as a field hand, took care of her younger brother,

cleaned classrooms for tuition in her childhood, worked as a seamstress, office clerk and domestic as an adult. She became involved in civil rights activity as well, serving as secretary of the Montgomery, Ala., NAACP chapter.

On December 1, 1955, when Parks was riding a bus home from her job, the bus filled up, and she was

(Continued on page 6)



Scouts in attendance at Monday night's council meeting to accept a proclamation from Mayor Matt Anesh are Pack 207 Cubmaster Tom Berry with scouts Jason DelPaoli, Vincent Lorenzo, Joe Cassio, Jacob Arntz, Giovanni Dente and Nicholas Alvear; Pack 224 Cubmaster Don Ardito with scouts Sean McConville, Cole Peterson, Jared DeGraw, Ryan Berardi, Tyler Berardi, Walter LaDelle and Alex Ardito; Boy Scout Troop 207 Scoutmaster John Mocharski with scouts Scott O'Brien, Charles La Della, Ryan Drummoore and Ronald Soder; South Plainfield Scouting Commissioner Tony Sarao and Cubmaster Pack 324 Jake Strassburger.

Proclamation Hails Scouting Anniversary Week

Four Boy Scout troops were represented at Monday evening's Borough Council meeting when Mayor Matt Anesh issued a proclamation in recognition of Scouting Anniversary Week, which falls on

February 6 through 12.

The proclamation reads:

"WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America provides a program for young people that builds character, trains them in the responsibilities of

participating citizenship, and develops personal fitness; and

WHEREAS, the success of Scouting for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Explorers and Venturing depends on the

(Continued on page 6)



SPHS Swim Team member Ali Huber took third and fifth place, respectively, in the 50m and 100m freestyle at the GMC Swimming Championship on February 5 at Rutgers University Pool. Gracie Piekarski placed fifth in the 500m freestyle and Maggie Valentino placed seventh in the 200m individual medley. Participating teams in the meet were Bishop Ahr, Colonia, Dunellen, East Brunswick, Edison, Highland Park, JFK, JP Stevens, Metuchen, Mother Seton, North Brunswick, Old Bridge, Perth Amboy, Piscataway, Sayreville, South Brunswick, St. Joseph, Wardlaw Hartridge and Woodbridge. Coach Stacey Closterman and the swim team are now in their fourth year of competition.

Fatality in Auto Accident

Collision Claims Life of Dunellen Woman

Barbara O'Neill, 88, of Dunellen, was fatally injured in a motor vehicle crash that occurred at the intersection of South Clinton and St. Nicholas avenues.

O'Neill was the front seat passenger in a 2003 Toyota Corolla, owned and operated by Barbara Dalto, 77, of Piscataway. Dalto was traveling southbound on South Clinton Ave.

and made a left turn in front of a northbound vehicle. The vehicle, a 2001 Ford Econoline van, was operated by Michael Litwinski, 27, of Monroe Twp. The vehicle is owned and operated by Cheworth & Son, Inc. of Kendall Park.

O'Neill was treated at the scene by

(Continued on page 7)



Sisters Allison Schwarz, 6, and Carley Schwarz, 3, work on their Valentines with their mother, Liz Schwarz.

Kids Get Creative and Pour Out Their Hearts for Veterans

By Patricia Abbott

More than 40 children gathered at South Plainfield Library along with parents and siblings on January 31 to enjoy an evening filled with construction paper, cutouts, glue, glitter, and all the other necessary materials to make cards—specifically Valentine cards.

The 60 plus works of art created by the children were Valentines destined for some very special people at the Veterans Memorial Home in Edison.

Many of the parents joined in the fun and made cards as well. Several children went all out, like Allison and Carley Schwarz, who made eight cards with the help of their mother, Liz, not including the cards they placed in the box for the veterans.

Madison and Evalyn Szelanczi made cards for their grandmother and grandfather after depositing their cards for the veterans in the box.

Miss Linda and Miss Mija were busy handing out supplies from a long table, cutting lace, admiring all the artwork and accepting hugs from their young friends.

The program first began in 2000 and is a favorite for children and parents alike. Valentines for Vets is part of the National Salute Program.

For more information, visit www.volunteer.va.gov/NationalSaluteVeteranPatients.asp.



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 22 (Tuesday) February 22 (Tuesday)

March 7 March 7

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

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. 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.)

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.

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

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

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

In My Opinion

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

To the Editor:

As a resident of South Plainfield, I have great concerns about the Ad Hoc Truck Committee. Both my husband and I have attended the committee meetings since it was formed.

When the committee was formed it was a non-political committee. Since its inception it has made great progress towards choosing a route the truck route should take and now the application is almost ready to submit to the state.

During the process there were interviews with several engineering firms to determine who had the best qualifications for the job and Remington-Vernick & Associates was chosen. They have done a great deal of research and have accumulated information for the paperwork needed to submit the application to the state. As of January 2, the new council replaced Remington-Vernick with the firm of T&M Engineering. T&M must now study, not just review, all of the reports and studies which have been done by the original engineer. I would like to know the cost to the borough for the process to study all of the papers and reports.

I feel that, at this time, the committee's composition is no longer non-political. I think that the newest members should be brought "up to date" so they are aware of all that has transpired to date and why certain decisions were made so future meetings will not need to be used to explain to the new members why the plans are the way they are. Perhaps, they also need

to study the reports.

At the last meeting, Paul Kavka was elected to chair the ad hoc committee. Paul has been a part of this group since the onset. He was involved with the initial engineering work for the Hollywood Avenue truck route work prior to hiring a new engineering firm. He has been working well with Remington-Vernick and attended many meetings with state officials. I feel he is the most qualified of the current members to head this committee as well as Debbie Boyle, who was chosen as co-chair. I encourage this committee to continue to move ahead before more time is lost. This project is good for the entire Borough of South Plainfield as well as residents of surrounding communities who use our roadways for their commute.

**SINCERELY,
DEBBY BERGEN**

Thanks, South Plainfield!

"The little store with everything"—a term used by many South Plainfield residents, Vail Hardware, has closed its doors after almost 100 years in operation. My family, The Denkers, have owned and operated Vail for close to six decades.

As we expanded our store to 3606 Kennedy Rd., the decision to close 189 Front St. was a very difficult one, but one that we had to do. This is why we'd like to thank the residents of South Plainfield for their support, and most of all the wonderful memories.

How can we express our gratitude for supporting our family store, Vail

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.

Hardware, for the past six decades? There were so many kind people that entered that hallowed store—if only those walls could talk! We were able to engage a wonderful relationship with many families. We got to see your children escalate within the ranks of grammar school, high school and of course, college. We even saw our paper boy blossom into a successful career. Fishing and hunting licenses were purchased there. We even rented ice skates when Spring Lake allowed skating. I can remember being scolded by my grandfather for playing with the shotgun shells and 22 bullets—oh well! I forgot to mention that our store was the original post office!

I could honestly go on forever, but I can only hope that I brought a smile to your face. Thanks again for being kind to my family. I'd like to invite you to stop by and say hello at our new location.

**GRATEFULLY,
JIM DENKER**

Submissions for duCret's Annual High School Art Contest Being Accepted

If you're in high school and you have always had a dream of being an artist, duCret School of Art is hosting its 32nd annual statewide High School Art Show and artistically inclined students can now submit one piece of artwork to the school for the show.

duCret, NJ's oldest non-profit visual art school, has been launching talented individuals into successful art careers for 85 years. Last year's show received a record number of submissions with over 538 entries submitted from not only local towns such as Watchung, New Providence, Bernardsville, South Plainfield and Summit, but also from Bayonne, Randolph and Bergenfield. Over 90 prizes were awarded in 17 different categories at that show.

With a challenged economy and soaring college tuitions, specialized schools such as duCret have noticed a sudden increase in enrollment, as more and more individuals are seeking career avenues indicative of the old days—where person-to-person relations with clients create long lasting bonds that enable people to help one another through hard times. duCret School of

Art, located in Plainfield, has an 85-year history of launching the career paths of nationally acclaimed portrait artists, illustrators and graphic designers, some who are now affiliated with the nation's most prestigious advertising agencies. Until recently, only those in artistic communities knew of its existence and who of public note had come through its doors.

Columbiettes' Cookbook on Sale Now

The South Plainfield Columbiettes' cookbook is completed and ready for sale. Cookbooks are \$12 each, or \$11 each for two or more. Proceeds go towards the group's charities, including a local soup kitchen.

To obtain a copy, call Kathy at (908) 756-3772 or Nancy at (908) 561-5917. Requests can be emailed to kathy1130@gmail.com. Copies of the book are also available at the Sacred Heart Parish Center during regular business hours.

South Plainfield Observer

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How to Reach Us



1110 Hamilton Boulevard, Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080

Ph: 908-668-0010 • Fax: 908-668-8819

Email: spobserver@comcast.net

www.spobserver.com

EDITORIAL
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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.

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JUNIOR JOURNALIST
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There are still 11 winners yet to be named in this year's Junior Journalist Program. If you are selected as a winner, your family will receive a catered dinner courtesy of Hometown Heros and you will be in the running for a \$1,000 savings bond. Your winning entry will appear in the Observer and you (and your family) will be honored at a year end banquet in May. What are you waiting for? Tell your teachers that you want your poems, short stories, essays, etc. entered in the contest, or bring your entries to the Observer at 1110 Hamilton Blvd. or to Hometown Heros at 340 Hamilton Blvd.



Patricia A. Luddy and Natalie C. Bergen

Suburban Woman's Club

NEWS

The regular meeting of the Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield was held at the American Legion hall. Club President Lucy Hudson called the meeting to order and Special State Project Chairperson Natalie C. Bergen introduced the afternoon's speaker, Patricia A. Luddy, development and community outreach director of The Wellness Community of Central New Jersey, an affiliate of the Cancer Support Community.

Luddy described the programs that are given at The Wellness Community in Bedminster, bringing support, education and hope to people with cancer and their loved ones. The program staff, made up of licensed professionals, works closely with doctors and hospitals to provide the best programs and services to support the needs of those who are affected by cancer. Workshops, classes and stress reduction are among the many pro-

grams offered at the facility. The club's members will be working to raise funds to provide the Bedminster facility with a decorative water fountain to be placed in its meditation garden.

The meeting proceeded after the program and Hudson called on chairpersons to give their reports. Volunteers were solicited to be on the nominating committee and upcoming College District meetings were discussed. Public Issues Day will be held on Monday, March 21 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Monroe honoring "Women in the Military." The Arts Performing Festival will be held on Thursday, March 24 at the Flemington Woman's Club.

Women are invited to join the club and those interested may contact Grace Bertucci, membership chairman, at (732) 549-9633.

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 gradu-

ates 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.

South Plainfield Democrats Elect New Chairman

The South Plainfield Democratic Organization unanimously supported former Mayor Charles Butrico as the successor to outgoing Chair Dan Gallagher. Addressing the crowd, Butrico stressed the importance of reforming local government to ensure transparency and accountability, and reiterated the Democratic Party's commitment to fiscal responsibility through pay-as-you-go governance.

"I am proud to be a citizen of South Plainfield and the leader of this organization," said Butrico. "Over the last decade, Democrats in South Plainfield have kept property taxes down, paved hundreds of miles of roads, improved our parks and recreation facilities, preserved over a hundred acres of open space, led the way for a new public library, performed a comprehensive energy audit, initiated an internship program for our high school students, kept the alternate truck route alive, and stopped tractor trailers from barreling down our residential roads. While I am proud of all that we have accomplished, we still have a lot of work to do. The Democratic Party in South Plainfield has consistently taken the lead on new and innovative ideas and we have worked hard to improve our community. I want that trend to continue."

"Charlie is hands down the best choice to lead this organization," said

former mayor and party chairman Dan Gallagher. "He has the institutional history, the knowledge, experience, and most important, the heart, to face the challenges that lie ahead as we fight to keep South Plainfield a great place to live and raise our families."

"I have had the great honor of serving with Mayor Butrico," said Councilwoman Chrissy Butcas, "and there is no doubt in my mind that he has the best interests of this community at heart. Love of his hometown has been the driving force behind Charlie's commitment to South Plainfield, and though he is serving in a different capacity, his dedication remains unchanged."

Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan commented on the selection by noting, "Charlie is the perfect person to lead the South Plainfield Democratic Organization. He has the understanding that comes with a decade of service, and the strength and commitment to the ideals of democracy. He is the standard bearer for integrity, dedication and effectiveness in leadership."

In closing, Butrico commented, "As we kick off 2011, I am energized about the possibilities that lie ahead. We have an exciting year in front of us and I look forward to restoring an open and transparent governing body in South Plainfield."

Ex-Rescue Squad Worker Admits Sex Assaults

Middlesex County Prosecutor Bruce J. Kaplan announced that a former South Plainfield Rescue Squad worker pleaded guilty on Monday to charges of sexually assaulting two males in separate incidents.

Ronald Sward, 47, pleaded guilty to aggravated sexual assault and official misconduct, admitting he sexually assaulted a juvenile.

Sward also admitted sexually assaulting a 17-year-old male on various occasions in South Plainfield and Woodbridge between January and May 2010.

Sward pleaded guilty under an agreement reached with Middlesex County Deputy First Assistant Prosecutor Christie L. Bevacqua. In exchange, the defendant will be sentenced to a 10-year prison term and must serve five years before he can be

eligible for parole.

He is scheduled to be sentenced by Superior Court Judge Diane Pincus at the Middlesex County Courthouse in New Brunswick on May 20.

Sward was arrested on June 7, 2010, and was charged following an investigation by Detective Daryl Strother of the South Plainfield Police Department and Investigator Frank DiNinno of the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office.

Sward, who knew both of his victims, resigned on June 7, 2010 from his post as the deputy chief of the rescue squad.



NASW-NJ member Jackie Jackson was selected the NASW National Social Worker of the Year. Jackson was nominated by the NJ Chapter which honored her as New Jersey's Social Worker of the Year in 2010. She will travel to Washington, D.C. in April to receive this prestigious award.

Auditions for Community Talent Showcase

The South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission (SPCAC) will present its third annual Talent Showcase on Sunday, May 1 at 2 p.m. and they are inviting residents of all ages to audition for the show.

Open auditions will be held on Saturday, April 9 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and again on Sunday, April 10 from 3 to 6 p.m. at Fellowship Hall at Wesley Methodist Church, located at 1500 Plainfield Ave.

All ages and types of acts are welcome to try out, so come and share your unique talent with the community. Bring your own instruments or items you will need for the audition.

The talent showcase is only open to residents of South Plainfield.

For more information, contact Ken or Audrey Reich at (908) 769-5938 or email spcac.nj@gmail.com. You can also follow the SPCAC on Facebook.

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



Contact Lou Peralta at (908) 756-6406.

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events

Around Town

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 drink will be available; games will be played and prizes given during half time.

For more 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.

Daisy Activity Day

February 12

South Plainfield Girl Scouts Kindergarten Daisy Activity Day will be held on Saturday, Feb. 12 from 1-2 p.m. All kindergarten girls are invited.

If you are interested, please call Michelle Biggs at (908) 754-5791.

Showboat Atlantic City Bus Trip

February 19

The American Legion Chaumont Post #243 is sponsoring a trip to the

Showboat Casino in Atlantic City on Saturday, Feb. 19. Bus leaves at 10 a.m. sharp. Enjoy the car show, antique show, gambling and shopping. Tickets are \$30 per person, with \$30 returned in vouchers.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call (908) 668-9414.

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 cards.

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

Beef N Beer Night At the Elks Club

February 25

The South Plainfield Elks will be hosting a "Beef N Beer" night on Friday, Feb. 25 from 6 to 9 p.m. Hot roast beef sandwiches will be served with your choice of sauteed onions and/or mushrooms and homemade salads. Hot sandwich and beer is \$10; sandwich only is \$6.

All proceeds will benefit the Special Children's Committee which assists our special needs children and defrays the cost of sending campers to Elks Camp Moore. Come on down and enjoy a hot sandwich and help a child.

Free Safety Seminar for Women

February 27

Tiger Schulmann's Mixed Martial Arts, 4957 Stelton Road in Hadley

Center will be conducting a free safety seminar for women on Sunday, Feb. 27. Open to women and girls age 13 and up. Under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Space is limited and reservations are required.

To make a reservation, call (908) 561-2401.

Boy Scout Troop 309 Clothing Drive

March 5

Boy Scout Troop 309 will be holding a clothing drive at Wesley Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave. from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Wearable clothing, shoes, accessories, linens, stuffed animals, hard toys such as trucks, action figures and small and medium bikes will be collected and donated.

Can't get out? Call Nancy for a pick up at (908) 917-4700.

Project Graduation Auction/Raffle

March 5

The South Plainfield High School PTA will be hosting its annual auction/raffle on Saturday, March 5 from 6 to 11 p.m. in the SPHS gym. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$12 each. Profits benefit Project Graduation for the Class of 2011. Please call as soon as possible for information regarding tickets and to reserve your table.

To purchase tickets, call Tracey Hartmann at (908) 755-4349.

For more information or to make a donation, please call Sharon Miller at (908) 754-6461. This is a great event for a very worthwhile cause and your support is greatly appreciated. Together we can make a difference.

SENIOR CENTER Calendar

Coming Up.....

Center closed on Friday, Feb. 11
2011 membership fee due now.

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.

Elks Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

March 12

The South Plainfield Elks Veterans Committee is sponsoring its annual all-you-can-eat corned beef and cabbage dinner at the club on New Market Avenue on Saturday, March 12 from 4:30 to 9 p.m. Adults \$12; children \$5. Includes soda and dessert; cash bar.

Any questions, contact Lou Peralta at (908) 756-6406.

SPHS Class of 1995 15 Yr. Reunion

April 2, 2011

The South Plainfield High School Class of 1995 is planning a 15 year reunion for Saturday, April 2. It will be held at Maggiano's Bridgewater

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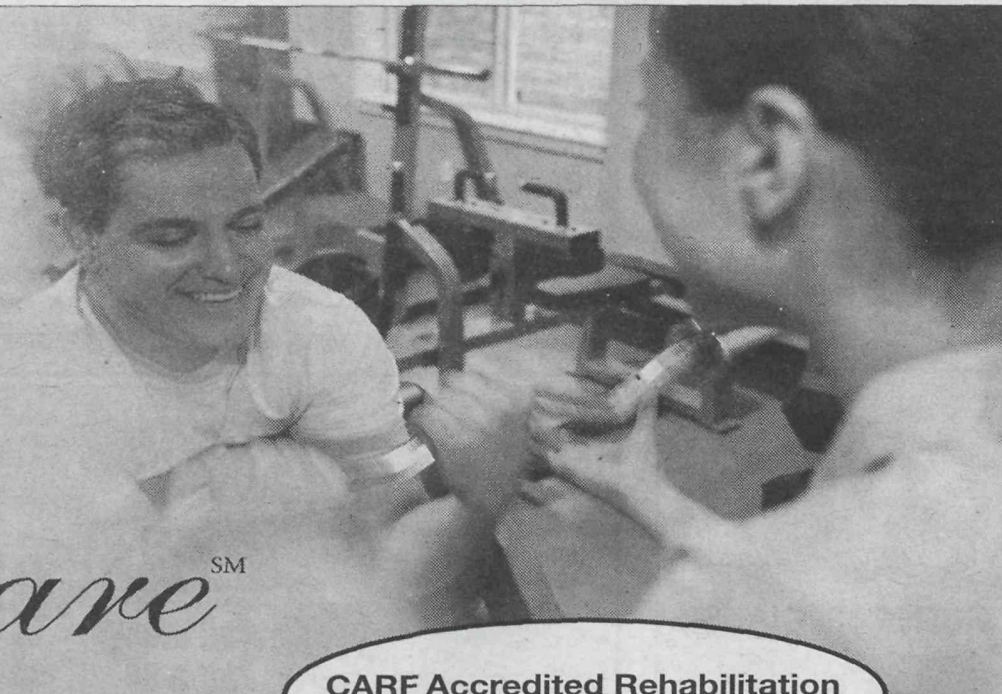
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events

Around Town

from 7 to 11 p.m. Ticket price is \$85 per person.

For more information, email sphs classof1995@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page: SPHS class of 1995.

— Out of Town —

Middlesex East WOWs Valentine Dance

February 11

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

For more information, call (732) 969-2228 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.

Plainfield Symphony Annual Fundraiser

February 12

The Plainfield Symphony will present an unusually exciting dinner-theatre fundraiser, "duCabaret" on Saturday, Feb. 12 at the duCret School of Art, 1030 Central Ave. in Plainfield. Tickets: \$75; reserved seating. Open bar begins at 7 p.m.; dinner show starts at 8 p.m. Silent auction, raffle and a silent duCret Faculty Art Show featuring duCret artists.

To reserve seating, call (908) 561-5140 or email info@plainfieldsymphony.org.

Lil Big Band Concert Church Fundraiser

February 13

St. Francis Episcopal Church, 400 New Market Rd. in Dunellen will hold a fundraiser, "Lil Big Band Concert" on Sunday, Feb. 13 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and include refreshments.

For tickets, call (732) 968-6784.

Annual Meeting Of Fish, Inc.

February 14

The annual meeting of Fish, Inc., Dunellen Area will be held on Monday, Feb. 14 at 7:30 p.m. (inclement weather date: March 14) at The First Presbyterian Church, 218 Dunellen Ave. in Dunellen. Light refreshments will be served. Open meeting for all volunteers, donors and others who

have interest in Fish, Inc. The public is encouraged to attend.

Fish, Inc. is an all volunteer, non-profit organization which helps needy people in Dunellen and surrounding areas with food, clothing, blankets, etc.

For more information, visit www.fishdunellenarea.org or call (732) 356-0081.

An Evening with Billie Holiday

February 17-27

The final performance of jazz vocalist Billie Holiday as envisioned by playwright Reenie Upchurch is captured in this powerful musical drama at the Crossroads Theatre, 7 Livingston Ave. in New Brunswick.

Performances are evenings at 8 p.m.; matinees at 3 p.m. on Feb. 20, 26 and 27. Opening night, Saturday, Feb. 19 at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$40-50; \$65 for opening night includes reception.

Purchase tickets online at www.CrossroadsTheatreCompany.org or by calling (732) 545-8100.

Center for Hope Hospice Ball

February 19

Center For Hope Hospice & Palliative Care will host its 28th annual charity ball on Saturday, Feb. 19 at 6:30 p.m. at The Grand Summit Hotel, 570 Springfield Ave. in Summit. Tickets are \$100 per person.

Center For Hope Hospice's mission is to provide terminally ill patients, their families and loved ones with the natural, humane care known as hospice without concern for race, ethnicity, religious affiliation or ability to pay.

To order tickets or for more information, please call Barbara Witt at (908) 288-9112.

Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield, NJ

Rev. John Paul
Alvarado, Pastor

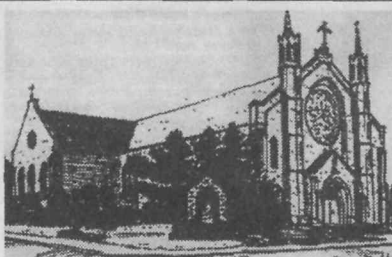
Mass Schedule:

Saturday Mass 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00, 11:30 a.m.

Daily 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday
7:00 p.m. Monday (Church), Thursday (Parish Center Chapel)

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

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



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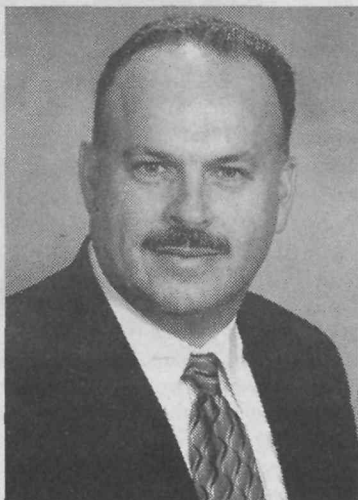
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southplainfieldpeople Milestones

Charles L. Decker Jr. Joins RE/MAX Competitive Edge, So. Plainfield Office



Charles L. Decker Jr.

Charles L. Decker Jr. (Charlie) has joined the RE/MAX Competitive Edge's South Plainfield office as the newest member of this dynamic sales team. Decker is a lifelong, active resident of South Plainfield and brings to the office many years of experience in real estate. He was formerly with Prudential New Jersey Properties in Middletown and Martinsville and Century 21 Moretti Realty in South Plainfield, specializing in residential sales, new construction, rentals and

commercial sales and leasing.

"I am proud to be a part of the South Plainfield RE/MAX office and Jack Pedersen's team," said Decker. "Connecting with RE/MAX will be a significant benefit to my clients, because it has the most powerful and efficient referral system in the business. There are nearly 100,000 RE/MAX affiliates in more than 80 countries, meaning that when I list a property here in South Plainfield it is exposed to a huge audience. And the technology tools that RE/MAX has to offer can help my clients get the best possible price for their home in the least amount of time."

Decker said another advantage offered by the company is RE/MAX Mainstreet, an extranet that allows its agents to share referrals, marketing techniques and the latest information about technology, advertising and similar topics. "Ongoing education is a strong priority at RE/MAX," said Decker. "No other real estate organization has a higher percentage of affiliates with advanced, professional designations."

RE/MAX Competitive Edge is located at 32 South Plainfield Ave. Decker may be reached at (908) 755-0200 or via email to Deckerjrc@comcast.net.



Jaime Giannakis

Giannakis Named To Dean's List at Rider University

Jaime Giannakis was named to the dean's list at Rider University's School of Education for the Fall 2010 semester.

To qualify a student must earn a GPA of 3.25 or higher. Jaime earned a 3.82 GPA as a second year undergraduate student with a dual major in elementary education and psychology with a minor in special education.

Jaime is an active member of the Big Brother/Big Sister Program and a sister of the Zeta Tau Alpha Chapter dedicated to the fight against breast cancer.

Send Your Milestones

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Essay Contest Celebrates Women's History Month

(Continued from page 1)
expected to relinquish her seat for a white man. She refused, and was arrested for violating Alabama's segregation laws. The black community mobilized a boycott of the bus system which lasted for 381 days and resulted in the ending of segregation on Montgomery's buses. The boycott also brought national attention to the civil rights cause and to a young minister, the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Parks continued her commitment to civil rights until her death, willingly serving as a symbol of the civil rights

struggle. She died on October 24, 2005 at her Detroit home of natural causes. She was 92.

Participants are asked to discuss a specific event or accomplishment of Parks' life that is significant to them. If you had the opportunity to create a project to continue Parks' legacy here in South Plainfield, tell what the project would be and how it would be implemented. The length of the essay should be 500-750 words.

South Plainfield residents in grades 9-12 are eligible to enter. Deadline to submit the essay is March 11.

Grand prize is a \$250 American Express gift card, a copy of *Past and Promise, Lives of New Jersey Women* and recognition in the *South Plainfield Observer*. The winner will be chosen on or before March 19 by a committee consisting of Debbie Boyle, Nina Rohrer, Nancy Stillman Pender, Pamela Stefanek and Chrissy Buteas.

Submit your essay to: Councilwoman Chrissy Buteas, Borough of South Plainfield, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080 or chrissybuteas@comcast.net. Please include your name, address, grade, phone number and email address.

policereport

• On January 29 Alvan Lugo, 36, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license, prohibited left turn and two outstanding warrants.

• A Piscataway resident reported the key hole of their vehicle was pried open and two cell phones taken while parked at LA Fitness on New World Way.

• On February 2 Brian David Patrusevich, 26, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, reckless driving, speeding and maintenance of lamps.



A brand new, state-of-the-art Retro Fitness gym in Edison opened on February 1. Tour the facility and find out about special membership offers. The gym is open seven days a week, and is located on the former LA Dreyfus property at 3775 Park Avenue in Edison. Pictured are co-owners Ari Forman (L) and Mitchell Kurtzer (R) with Tom DeFelic, manager of Retro Fitness Edison.

PTA Seeking Auction/Raffle Donations

This year marks the South Plainfield High School PTA's 23rd year of providing our graduating seniors with a Project Graduation celebration. To help support this important event the SPHS PTA is sponsoring its annual auction/raffle fundraiser on Saturday, March 5 from 7 to 11 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.) at the high school. To obtain tickets, see below for details.

It is not too late to donate! Together we can make this event a success for our graduating seniors with the help and support of SPHS families, especially senior class families, the South Plainfield community/educational organizations and local businesses. Please support this worthwhile cause by making a donation. Donations can be in the form of a gift card, a single gift item, a theme gift basket or it can be a monetary donation.

Monetary donations can be mailed to: South Plainfield High School, 200 Lake St., South Plainfield, Attn: SPHS PTA. Make checks payable to: SPHS PTA.

Donations—Must be received ASAP in order to be used for our auction. Donations are needed if we are to make Project Graduation happen for the SPHS Class of 2011. All families, businesses and community/educational organizations will be acknowledged for their generous contributions in our program.

Outside Business/Corporate Donations—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 their help.

Telethon Donations—If you are a SPHS family and have already pledged a donation through our recent telethon, please send in your donations by February 24.

Donations, Auction Volunteers—To arrange for items to be picked up directly from your home or business, or to be an auction volunteer (set up 12 noon to 3 p.m., ticket sales throughout the evening, clean-up 11 p.m. to midnight) or a driver to help move auction prizes from homes where they are stored to the high school at 11:30 a.m., contact the high school's main office (908) 754-4620, ext. 248 or Sharon Miller at (908) 754-6461.

Auction Ticket Sales—For ticket information, contact Tracey Hartmann at (908) 755-4349 and provide her with your name, phone number and the number of people you would like at your table.

Solicitation Volunteers—Thank you all for your help. Please submit all solicitation sheets, as well as any donations you have received from local businesses, to Mary Cargill no later than February 17.

SPHS Parent/Teacher Conference—February 17 at 6:30 p.m. Tickets will be on sale and donations will be accepted. Please visit the PTA table outside of the cafeteria.

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

—Submitted By Sharon Miller

Proclamation Hails Scouting Anniversary

(Continued from page 1)

dedication of our community organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Patriots' Path Council of the Boy Scouts of America and its corps of dedicated volunteer leaders are providing necessary support to the leaders in the 6,023 Cub Scout Packs, Boy Scout Troops, Explorer Posts and Venture Crews and 19,796 boys and young men and women; and

WHEREAS, as Scouting enters its 101st year, the Patriots' Path Council continues to demonstrate that helping youth is a key to building a more conscientious, responsible, and pro-

ductive leaders of tomorrow; and

WHEREAS, South Plainfield is represented by three Cub Scout Packs, 207, 224, and 324 and four Boy Scout Troops, 124, 125, 207 and 309,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Matthew P. Anesh, Mayor of the Borough of South Plainfield, am proud to recognize our local Scouting organizations by proclaiming February 6-12, 2011 as Scouting Anniversary Week, and encourage our citizens to join with me in expressing appreciation to our community organizations and their volunteer Scouting leaders for bringing this value-based program to our young people.

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MCC Offering 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, 8:30 a.m. to noon.

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

2010-2011

JUNIOR JOURNALIST

Biren Patel Named Junior Journalist



Junior Journalist winner Biren Patel with teacher Susan Fenning.

Biren Patel, Roosevelt School fourth grader, is this week's winner in the Junior Journalist program. His poem, "Spring Break," has earned Biren dinner for his 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 teachers, Hometown Heros or 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.

Spring Break

By Biren Patel

It is morning
I closed the curtain and turn on my Wii.
I smell the nice sweet smell of electric.
I call my friend...
Ring Ring Ring
I wonder how to get the turbo boost 3
He lied to me
LIAR!
GREAT!
What to do now?
Bored
Boring
Bored out of my mind
I jumped outside
I caught the bird's attention as he pooped on me.
Guess I can't go straight to the kickball field now.

Sacred Heart Performs "A Night on Broadway"

The Sacred Heart Music Ministry performed "A Night on Broadway" on January 30 featuring the music from many beloved musicals, including *Beauty and the Beast*, *Annie*, *The Wizard of Oz* and *The Sound of Music*. Over 400 people braved the winter weather to attend the free concert and they were treated to two hours of wonderful music.

Included in the Sacred Heart Music Ministry is an adult choir, a children's choir, a youth handbell choir and an adult handbell choir under the direction of Daniel Mahoney, accompanied by Jack Bender.

The audience was awed by the talents of many local vocalists including Lawrence Budden, Julie DeFilippo, Candice Helfand, Matthew Knickman and Nicole Scavone. In addition, the audience was treated to the talents of two young vocalists, Faith Dodge, 8, who sang *Part of Your World* and Jillian Bengivenga, 10, who sang *Tomorrow*. The concert also featured the talents of the Sacred Heart adult and youth handbell choirs who performed *If I Were a Rich Man* and a medley from *Annie*.

The concert ended with a tribute to *The Sound of Music* featuring two pieces that are often not performed, *The Preludium* and *The Wedding Procession*, which was played on the organ by Bill Berg.

The adult and children's handbell choir performed *Edelweiss*, and the children's choir ended their portion of the concert with *So Long, Farewell*. The adult choir highlighted the musical with a medley from the show.

The audience gave the performers a standing ovation and the adult choir took the stage for an encore performance of *You'll Never Walk Alone* from *Carousel* with soloist Julie DeFilippo.



The Sacred Heart Children's Choir (above) and the Children's Handbell Choir (below) perform at "A Night on Broadway." —Photos courtesy of Mark Rosal



Fatality in Auto Accident

(Continued from page 1)

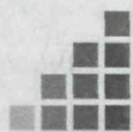
emergency personnel from Somerset Medical Center and paramedics from Mercy 6 from Muhlenberg Hospital. O'Neill was transported to Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick where she was pronounced dead.

Both Dalto and Litwinski were transported to Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital for treatment of minor injuries.

The investigation is ongoing and any witnesses are asked to contact Lt. Kevin Murtagh at (908) 226-7679 or Officer Peter Magnani at (908) 226-7678.

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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Sports

ABCCL Players Looking for Host Family Hospitality

The Atlantic Baseball Confederation Collegiate League (ABCCL) needs your help to get the 2011 season off to a great start. We are currently seeking host families in Middlesex, Mercer, Morris, Monmouth and Ocean counties to house some of our out-of-state college players who will be competing at the Jersey Shore this summer.

The ABCCL, now going into its eleventh season, is in the process of filing for official non-profit status, and the league exists solely to benefit college student-athletes by maximizing their playing opportunities. Several

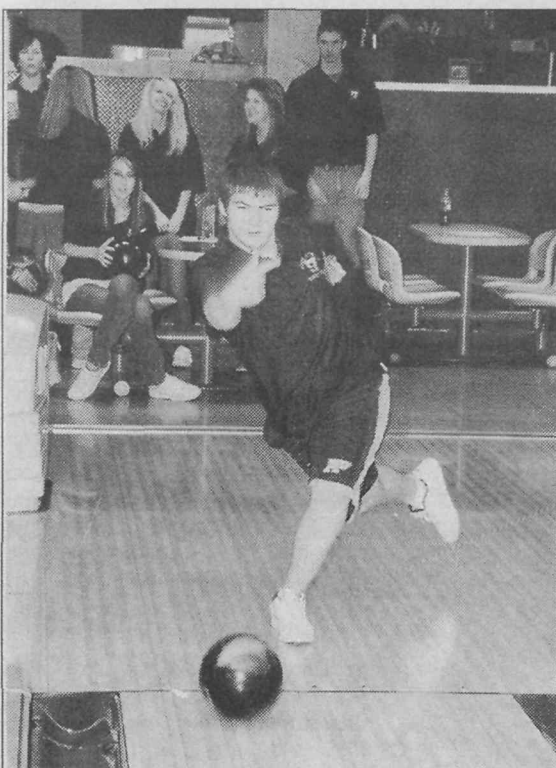
of our players are not from New Jersey and need a place to stay this summer. These players all come highly recommended by their coaches as "good kids" who don't drink or smoke, and having one in your home this summer could be a wonderful experience.

The players are more than willing to help out around the house, doing odd jobs like cutting lawns or cleaning pools, and are especially great as role models to younger children, as they'd be happy to train and teach the game to the kids.

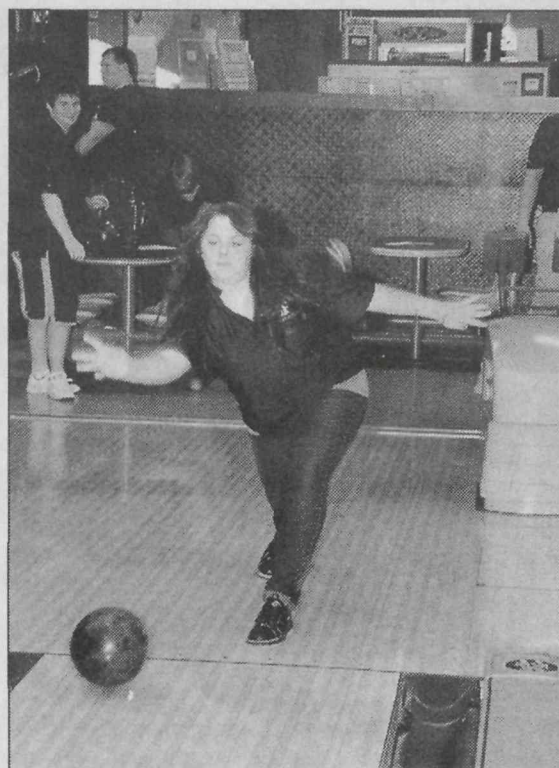
The expectations of a host family are
(Continued on next page)

SPHS Bowling

By Ralph Fech



Sophomore Joe Parillo



Co-Capt. Senior Stephanie Sherwood

BOYS BOWLING

REGULAR SEASON

Tiger Bowlers Jolt New Brunswick

South Plainfield 861-857-800-2,518
New Brunswick 771-750-776-2,297

The boys bowling team upset a strong New Brunswick team as a quartet of Tiger sophomores led the way. Tom Riccardi led the scoring parade with 200-193 and 550 set, followed by Joe Parillo's 202-521 set, Robert Benwell's 175-490 set and Jesse Masters' 170-489. Also chipping in were Andrew Yon 170-455 and Ryan Riccardi 169-451 set for a solid team effort.

GMC PLAYOFFS

Tigers Eliminated by Red-Hot New Brunswick

(19) South Plainfield 749-796
(14) New Brunswick 936-931

What a difference a day makes. After upsetting the Zebras the day before, the Tigers could not find the pocket and the boys bowling team was bumped out of the GMC Playoffs by a hot-shooting New Brunswick team. Sophomore Tom Riccardi led the Tigers with a 190 game as the young Tigers suffered a meltdown with a lackluster performance.

If you love sports and you like to write,
we need you. Email the editor at
spobserver@comcast.net

GIRLS BOWLING

GMC PLAYOFFS

Ladies Knock Off JF Kennedy But Fall to Cardinal McCarrick

(14) South Plainfield 699-647
(3) Cardinal McCarrick 862-807

Third seeded and state finalist Cardinal McCarrick was too much for the Lady Tigers as the Eagles swept both games and advanced to the semi-finals of the GMC Team Championship.

Stephanie Sherwood's 166 high game led SPHS. Nikki Disch added games of 155-145 while teammate Rebecca Moskal added 146 and 145.

(14) South Plainfield 755-686
(19) JF Kennedy 709-622

Senior Stephanie Sherwood's 202 high game and Rebecca Moskal's 160-152 effort led the girls bowling team into the next round of the GMC playoffs.

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Sports

REC WRESTLING

By Joe Sacco

Rec Wrestlers on a Roll

The South Plainfield Recreation Wrestling Team continued its winning ways with recent wins over Central Jersey rival Franklin and Mid Jersey opponents South Brunswick and South River. Led by sixth graders Jake Giordano, Jacob Panton, Jake Hoffman, Joe Penyak, Kyle Bythell, Ryan Marston and Ben Lundy, the Central Jersey League team improved to 12-0 with wins over Franklin 47-23, Union 91-6, New Providence 89-12 and Roselle Park 83-9.

Against a tough Franklin team, the Tigers fell behind early 11-0 before getting big pins from David Loniewski and Joe Heilmann to put the team out front 12-11. The young Tigers then went on a roll scoring four consecutive decisions from Joe Sacco, Alex Amato, Jake Giordano, Jacob Panton and a pin from Jake Hoffman to make the score 31-11. Sealing the victory for the Tigers was Ryan Marston with a pin and Joe Penyak, Ben

Lundy and Zack DelVecchio with decisions.

The Mid Jersey team improved to 9-3 with a 36-34 win over South Brunswick and a 31-25 win over South River. Leading the way with two pins was Connor Adams, followed by Kyle Davisson with a technical fall and a pin. Both Sebastian Santos and Michael Marrero added pins and a decision. Also picking up wins for the Tigers were Jack Campagna, Tommy Fierro, Justin Bell and Darius Mullens.

In state qualifier action, the young Tigers had plenty to celebrate. Joe Heilmann, Zach DelVecchio and Ryan Walsh led the way with first place finishes. Joe Sacco and Jordan Handwerker won the silver for second place, with Jake DelVecchio and Alex Amato placing third for their tickets to the state tournament.

Good luck in states, boys!

Players Looking for Host Family

(Continued from previous page)

to provide housing for the player, and though not required, invitations to family meals are always welcome. Players will miss several meals a week due to practice and their four weekly games, and many of them also have summer jobs. They either have their own cars or are on a carpool schedule and have their own transportation to and from games and work. A weekly stipend may also be available to help ease the cost of housing a player.

These players are just college kids

with a dream and love of the game looking to enjoy a summer of baseball on the Jersey Shore. We understand that it's a tough economy and money is tight almost everywhere, but housing a player is a truly rewarding experience that you won't regret. If you, or someone you know is interested or would like more information, please don't hesitate to call Monique Koehler, ABCCL president, at (732) 671-4370 or email monique@abcccl.com.

Charity Basketball Fundraiser

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. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to resident Jerry Bartolotti who was injured in a truck accident.

Ticket price is \$4. Food and drink will be available; games and prizes during half time. For more information, call Officer Lloyd McNelly at (908) 755-0700 or PTO President Debbie Boyle at (908) 803-1573.

In Memoriam
Dec. 10, 1965 - Feb. 7, 2010

Robert S. Robjohns

A year ago you left us and we still can't believe you're gone. Our hearts still ache, the tears still fall, it doesn't matter where or when. The last few months of your life was such a struggle to overcome the illness within. The memories of who you were will never be forgotten. Stay snuggled in the arms of your grandmothers for we know they are taking care of you. Embrace God for He saw fit to ease your pain and suffering.

We love you Robert. Rest in Peace.
Mom, Dad, Douglas, Hayley and Ashley

Congratulations Sarah! #1

JUNIOR JOURNALIST



Debbie and Charlie Kurland of Hometown Heros deliver dinner to Junior Journalist winner Sarah Gwiazda, pictured with her parents, Susan and Glenn; brother, Bobby; grandparents, Mary Ann Gwiazda and Jules Rydarowski; cousin, Aidan; and dog, Chip.

By Gary Lampasona

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

Umpire Classes

Start This Week

If you registered for umpire classes, please make sure you attend each class.

They begin this week and will be 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 be on time. Call the clubhouse if you have any questions.

2011 Sign Sponsor—There is still time to get your business message in front of hundreds of your customers. Fill out a sign sponsor form and get your sign on a field. Go to the handouts section and download the form, mail in with the required payment.

Registration For The Spring Season—Rosters are filling up, and time is running out to register for the spring season. It's not too late; 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.

Managers' Meetings—All managers will be contacted soon. If you are selected to manage, the meeting dates are as follows: Small Fry C is Monday, Feb. 21; Small Fry B is Tuesday, Feb. 22; and Small Fry A is Wednesday, Feb. 23. All meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. in the clubhouse.

This week's baseball definition: "Can of Corn" which means a lazy fly ball to the outfield.

"Finding good players is easy. Getting them to play as a team is another story."—Casey Stengel

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Obituaries

Sebastian P. D'Adezzio, 95

Sebastian P. D'Adezzio died on Wednesday, Feb. 2 at St. Ann's Home for the Aged in Jersey City.

Born and raised in Newark, he resided in Jersey City most of his life before settling in South Plainfield in 1986.

Mr. D'Adezzio was employed by Western Electric in Kearney as a painter for 25 years before his retirement in June of 1980. He is a veteran of the United States Navy and he was also a member of the Pioneers of America.

He is predeceased by his wife, Grace; and by three brothers, Anthony, Denner and Frank D'Adezzio.

He is survived by two daughters, Judith Ciandella and husband Gerard and Philomena D'Adezzio, both of South Plainfield; three sons, Gennaro and wife Geraldine and Canio, both of South Plainfield and Michael D'Adezzio of Old Bridge; and by a sister, Anne Mariano of Florham Park.

Also surviving are five grandchildren, Lauren, Kristen and Matthew Ciandella, Jennifer Gil and Therese D'Adezzio and a great-granddaughter, Juliet Rose Gil.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the St. Ann's Home for the Aged, 198 Old Bergen Rd., Jersey City, N.J. 07305.

Patsy Risoli, 80

Patsy Risoli died on Wednesday, Feb. 2 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville after recently falling ill.

Born in South Plainfield, Patsy was a lifelong resident.

A laborer by trade, he worked with his brothers who owned and operated Ribro Builders of South Plainfield for many years.

He could often be found at the

Dunkin' Donuts on Maple and Lakeview avenues enjoying the afternoon and evening hours with his brother and friends.

He is predeceased by two brothers, Nick, who died in 2002, and Al, who died in 2005.

Surviving are a brother, Anthony and wife Elvira Risoli of South Plainfield; three nephews, Jim, Tom and Ron; and by two nieces, Rosemarie and Linda.

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

Marie A. (Rafferty) Gonzalez, 79

Marie A. (Rafferty) Gonzalez died on Sunday, Feb. 6 at The Pavilions at Forrestal located in Princeton.

Born and raised in Middletown, Conn., Marie lived in Meriden, Conn., New York City and Middlesex before moving to South Plainfield in 1974.

She spent her time caring for her family as a homemaker and could be found with her husband at his business, Joanne's Kitchens in South Plainfield.

Marie was a member of Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield.

She enjoyed bowling and loved children, especially her granddaughter, Ellie Marie.

She was predeceased by her husband, Cruz, who died January 15, 2010 and by her siblings.

Marie leaves behind a son, Ricky and wife Maureen of North Carolina; a granddaughter, Ellie Marie Gonzalez; a niece, Linette Gonzalez of Andover; and many nieces and nephews.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations sent to the Multiple Myeloma Opportunities for Research and Education, P.O. Box 20067, Columbus, Ohio 43220 would be appreciated.

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Daniel M. Erickson, Dir. • N.J. Lic. No. 4798

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 1914

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD AND THE METHOD OF PAYMENT OF SUCH COMPENSATION FOR THE PERIOD OF JAN. 1, 2011 THROUGH DEC. 31, 2014 was adopted on first reading and advertised in the Observer on Friday, February 11, 2011 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Tuesday, February 22, 2011 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately following the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 as follows.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY THAT:

SECTION 1.

The rates of compensation for each employee of the Borough of South Plainfield shall be on an annual basis as follows except where indicated. Such rates of pay shall be effective January 1st of the years shown

| Class | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| PBA 100 | 1.75% | 1.90% | 1.90% | 1.90% |
| Class A Officer | 98,363 | 100,232 | 102,137 | 104,077 |
| Class B Officer | 95,839 | 97,660 | 99,515 | 101,406 |
| Class C Officer | 87,704 | 89,370 | 91,068 | 92,799 |
| Class D Officer | 79,562 | 81,074 | 82,614 | 84,184 |
| Class E Officer | 69,919 | 71,247 | 72,601 | 73,981 |
| Class F Officer | 63,232 | 64,433 | 65,658 | 66,905 |
| Class G Officer | 59,900 | 61,039 | 62,198 | 63,380 |
| Class H Officer | 49,900 | 50,849 | 51,815 | 52,799 |
| Academy Officer | 38,900 | 39,640 | 40,393 | 41,160 |

SECTION 2. INCONSISTENCY - All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of the inconsistency.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Ordinance shall become effective and operative ten days after publication thereof after final passage.

ATTEST:

Joann Graf/Municipal Clerk

\$54.00

February 11, 2011

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 1916

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SURPLUS MUNICIPAL PROPERTY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13 was adopted on first reading and advertised in the Observer on Friday, February 11, 2011 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Tuesday, February 22, 2011 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately following the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 as follows:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY THAT:

WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield in the County of Middlesex is the owner of the property identified as Block 401, Lot 4, located with the Borough of South Plainfield (hereinafter referred to as the "Property");

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield has determined that said Property is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council determined it to be in the public interest to sell said Property to the contiguous property owner or owners in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Mayor and Borough Council declare the Property to be surplus and not needed for public use;

2. The Property may be sold to the contiguous property owner or owners by private sale for a price to be determined by the Borough Appraiser, Russell K. Sterling;

3. The Mayor, Borough Clerk, Borough Attorney or such other Borough officials as the law may provide, are hereby authorized to prepare and execute such documents as may be required to close and transfer title of the Property to the contiguous owner or owners;

4. The Property may be sold or leased subject to all existing encumbrances, liens, zoning regulations, easements, other restrictions, and such facts as an accurate survey would reveal and any present or future assessments for the construction of improvements benefiting said Property;

5. If any article, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this ordinance and they shall remain in full force and effect;

6. In the event of any inconsistencies between the provisions of this Ordinance and any prior ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield, the provisions hereof shall be determined to govern. All other parts, portions and provisions of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of South Plainfield are hereby ratified and confirmed, except where inconsistent with the terms hereof.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication according to law.

ATTEST:

Joann Graf/Municipal Clerk

\$51.18

February 11, 2011

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 1917

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$6,750.00 FROM THE RESERVE FOR DPW EQUIPMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF VEHICLE DIAGNOSTICS EQUIPMENT FOR DPW IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY was adopted on first reading and advertised in the Observer on Friday, February 11, 2011 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Tuesday, February 22, 2011 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately following the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 as follows:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD AS FOLLOWS:

Section I) \$6,750.00 is hereby appropriated from the Reserve for DPW equipment for the following purpose in and by the Borough of South Plainfield

1. Purchase of Regisys Vehicle Diagnostics Equipment for the Dept. of Public Works

Section II) The Borough of South Plainfield hereby certifies that it has adopted a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The temporary capital budget of the Borough is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance. To the extent that the purpose authorized herein is inconsistent with the temporary capital budget, a revised temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Section III) This ordinance shall take effect after final adoption and publication and otherwise as provided by law.

ATTEST:

Joann Graf/Municipal Clerk

\$36.53

February 11, 2011

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 1917

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SURPLUS MUNICIPAL PROPERTY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13 was adopted on first reading and advertised in the Observer on Friday, February 11, 2011 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Tuesday, February 22, 2011 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:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY THAT:

WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield in the County of Middlesex is the owner of a right of way between Lots 19 and 25 in Block 284, located with the Borough of South Plainfield (hereinafter referred to as the "Property");

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield has determined that said Property is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council determined it to be in the public interest to sell said Property to the contiguous property owner or owners in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Mayor and Borough Council declare the Property to be surplus and not needed for public use;

2. The Property may be sold to the contiguous property owner or owners by private sale for Ten Thousand Two Hundred Fifty and no/100 Dollars (\$10,250.00), in accordance with an appraisal performed by Russell K. Sterling on January 31, 2011;

3. The Mayor, Borough Clerk, Borough Attorney or such other Borough officials as the law may provide, are hereby authorized to prepare and execute such documents as may be required to close and transfer title of the Property to the contiguous owner or owners;

4. The Property may be sold or leased subject to all existing encumbrances, liens, zoning regulations, easements, other restrictions, and such facts as an accurate survey would reveal and any present or future assessments for the construction of improvements benefiting said Property;

5. If any article, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this ordinance and they shall remain in full force and effect;

6. In the event of any inconsistencies between the provisions of this Ordinance and any prior ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield, the provisions hereof shall be determined to govern. All other parts, portions and provisions of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of South Plainfield are hereby ratified and confirmed, except where inconsistent with the terms hereof.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication according to law.

ATTEST:

Joann Graf/Municipal Clerk

\$51.65

February 11, 2011

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Danielle Aronowitz

That chill in the air means winter is still here. What better way to stay warm than to curl up on the couch with a good book or a good movie from the library? And we have something for everyone.

Our new circulation system will allow you to be notified through email that your holds are available, when items are overdue, and will 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, you need to see the circulation desk and provide us with your email address.

We 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. Also, between the hours of 2:30 and 6 p.m., people who are 17 and younger must have their library card with a photo either on their card or other photo ID with them before entering the library. Parents must come in with their children if they wish to put a photo on the child's library card. Children under 14 who wish to use the Internet must have a parent or guardian who will stay with them while they are on a computer. Non-residents now have to pay \$2/hr (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. Access will not be permitted without a reservation and reservations cannot be made over the phone.

We have an ongoing book sale where books are \$1 a bag with a wide variety of kids and adult books to choose from. We also have VHS tapes, DVDs, CDs, Books on CD and cassette tapes. These are not \$1 a bag. Prices range from \$.50 to \$1 each. Come on in and see if there is anything you like. To make room for the 2011 issues, we have removed a majority of our 2009 magazines and they are free for anyone who wants them. Just come in and look through the baskets to see what is available. This is an ongoing process, so not all of the magazines will be out right away.

For all those who love to listen to audio books in their car or on their iPod or MP3 player, or read e-books on their new e-reader, we are a part of ListenNJ which provides free access to two kinds of downloadable books. Some downloads are available for iPods and Macintosh computers—when you access the title, it will indicate if it is iPod compatible. E-books are digital books read on either a computer screen or on a portable reader. Library patrons should connect via the link "Free Audio Book Downloads" on our home page, www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us, choose the ListenNJ link you want, and go to either the home page or directly to the e-book collection. You may then log in with your valid South Plainfield Library card to download desired titles. Please note that your account must be in good standing for this service to work. The ListenNJ website provides help and a list of compatible devices.

The library now has access to Job & Career Accelerator which combines everything you need for a successful job search into one easy-to-use online application. Interactive wizards guide patrons through each step of the search process in a personalized manner, from recommending occupations to fetching up-to-the-minute job postings based on each user's career preferences. It is also fully integrated with the LearningExpress Library platform, allowing it to provide users with recommended skills improvement courses and occupational practice tests that are based on an individual's work

preferences and goals.

With Job & Career Accelerator, users can: explore detailed information on over 1,000 different occupations; match interests and skills with the career that's best for you; search over five million up-to-the-minute local and national job postings; create professional resumes and cover letters; practice and master interviewing skills; get invaluable tips and advice every step of the way—from your initial search to accepting an offer; and conveniently organize and track your job-search progress all in one place. This is a free service that can be used in the library or at home, but people who want to use it must have a valid library card. The site provides a tutorial for first time users to help them understand how to use the site. Users can go to our homepage and click on the Job and Career Accelerator link. We also have numerous other job related resources on our website.

Why pay for movie rentals? Come to the library where renting movies is free! We have a great selection from hot new releases to television shows to classics.

The Presley & Melody concert, an interactive family music program featuring Presley & Melody, has been rescheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 16 at 6:30 p.m. This concert will provide nonstop dancing and upbeat children's music. It will be held at the Senior Center and is free; no registration required. In lieu of an admission charge, please bring a new, unopened non-perishable food item for the local food bank. All ages are welcome.

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.

See you next week!

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.

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Kindergartners Michael Green, Asees Kang, Matthew Kuzma and Alisabel Pontevedra accompany the songs from Africa that they learned.

Roosevelt Holds 15th Annual Multicultural Day

By Jane Dornick

Roosevelt Elementary School held their 15th annual Multicultural Celebration on January 28. Students spent time studying about countries around the world and learned songs that represent them. They dressed in their own native costumes and performed selections for family members and guests taught by music teacher Sharon Perez.

Principal Robert Diehl opened the program and art teacher and event chairwoman Glenda Posey spoke about how hard the children worked preparing for the presentation. English as a Second Language teacher Mariela Hidalgo had the students greet the audience in the various languages they had learned.

Bridget Simpson performed an Irish "reel" dance. The kindergartners sang the African songs, *Funga Alafia* and *Gogo*. Instrumentalists were Michael Green, Asees Kang, Matthew Kuzma and Alisabel Pontevedra. First grade students sang *G Day* and *Click Go the Shears* from Australia, with instrumental accompaniments by Acasia Barbaza, Abhishek Borad, Kathryn Lenau, Animesh Borad, Katie Ziga, Jack Campagna, Alisha Chaudhuri, Kayla Smith and Alex Uba.

The continent of Asia was the theme for second grade students who sang *Jasmine Flower Song* and *Chichipapa*. Olivia Santos played the singing bowl. The fourth grade Language Arts Music Program (LAMP) students performed *America, My Homeland* and *Isle of Hope, Isle of Tears* from North America and *Azinga Za* from South America. LAMP third graders sang *Ton Mou-*



Roosevelt student, Khushi Shah, and her father, Jignesh Shah (left), and teacher, Julie Anderson.

lin and *Bella Bimba* from Europe and "Songs of Peace and Unity" selections *Amigos*, *Treasure Chests*, *Colors of the Wind* and *We All Sing With the*

Same Voice. The morning concluded with the entire student body singing *We Are Roosevelt's Children*.

So. Plfd. Democrats Seek Candidates

The South Plainfield Democratic Organization is seeking prospective candidates to fill three council seats for this year's election.

Democratic Chairman Charles Butrico stated, "I, along with the Democratic Committee, am very excited about this year's election. We are looking for positive, energetic candidates who have an interest in improving the quality of life for all of our residents."

Prospective candidates should forward their resume and a short letter expressing their interest to Charles Butrico by February 28 by contacting him via email at cbutrico@yahoo.com.

The candidates will be interviewed by the Democratic Municipal Committee in March.

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