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# South Plainfield Observer

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APRIL 8, 2011



Former NBA player John Celestand (bottom, center) with the SPHS Peer Leadership "Heroes & Cool Kids."

## Heroes & Cool Kids Present Bullying Program

The South Plainfield High School Peer Leadership Heroes & Cool Kids spoke to Grant School sixth grade classes about bullying and sportsmanship on March 23. The Heroes & Cool Kids mentor, former L.A. Lakers basketball player John Celestand,

accompanied the peer leaders as they presented the "B's" of bullying; if you are the bully stop, if you are being bullied get help immediately and if you are a bystander then get someone to help the victim. Students were also encouraged to confide in the principal or assistant principal about bullying issues and to feel confident that they will assist them.

Heroes & Cool Kids, which began operating during the 1998/99 school year, is a nonprofit organization based in New Jersey. The program utilizes

the services of current and former professional athletes whose personal life experiences enable them to train high school student leaders. The high school students then mentor middle school aged students on important life skills including sportsmanship, conflict resolution and positive lifestyle choices highlighting drug, alcohol and tobacco prevention.

To prepare, high school students must complete three training conferences before mentoring students.

*(Continued on page 7)*



\$6,200 was raised at the charity volleyball tournament to assist The Maszczak Family, whose son, Stephen Austin, recently lost his battle with a brain tumor. See story on page 7 and related letter on page 6.

## Suspect Apprehended In Pharmacy Burglary

Local police responded to Twin City Pharmacy on Park Avenue at 11:19 p.m. on March 25 on a reported burglary. Upon their arrival, officers found the lower portion of the front door smashed. It was determined that someone had entered the pharmacy and removed a bottle of prescription pain pills. The bottle contained 500 Tylenol with codeine pills.

Earlier the same day, Yu Z. Lin, 22 of Clark, attempted to obtain Tylenol

with codeine from the pharmacy, utilizing a forged/altered prescription. The prescription was not filled and Lin left the scene.

On March 30, Lin was arrested at his home. He was charged with burglary, forgery, criminal attempt and possession of a controlled dangerous substance. Lin was positively identified as the person who attempted to pass the forged prescription and the burglary at Twin City Pharmacy.

Lin was held on \$35,000 bail.

## District to Comply with Audit of Federal Funds

The Board of Education is facing the possibility of having to return \$24,880.86 to the N.J. State Department of Education. An A2008-2009 No Child Left Behind Title I Audit conducted by the Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance in February disclosed the BOE inap-

propriately used \$24,880.86 of Title I allocations.

After accepting the corrective action plan resulting from the audit on March 16, the board voted to appeal a portion of the amount. According to Interim Board Secretary/Business Administrator Nicholas Puleio and

Interim Assistant Superintendent Dr. Frank Cocchiola, there is evidence of "adequate documentation for expenditures for purchased services totaling \$9,521."

According to Cocchiola, the district should learn in six weeks whether the appeal is accepted or denied.

## Volunteers Sought to Clean Up Litter

The South Plainfield Clean Communities Advisory Board has been contacting volunteer groups, asking for participation in Volunteer Litter Cleanup Week. This year's cleanup week will run from Saturday, April 23 through Saturday, April 30.

The big pickup day is scheduled for April 23. Volunteers will pick up equipment and assignments from the municipal building at 2480 Plainfield Ave. from 9 to 10 a.m. Roadsides, parks, streams and vacant lots will be targeted. Volunteers must provide

## Elks Name Mocharski Citizen of the Year

By Patricia Abbott

South Plainfield resident John Mocharski Sr. was honored by the Elks Central District Americanism Committee on March 27 when he was named the local Citizen of the Year by the South Plainfield Elks Lodge. The ceremony and dinner were held at the Brunswick Elks Lodge.

Eleven out of 12 lodges from the district honored those from their community who have gone above and beyond over the years. The ceremony was attended by 200 people. Reverend Charles Mingle honored everyone with the opening and closing prayers.

With strong, longtime roots to the Borough of South Plainfield, John lives next door to the house in which he grew up. He is very dedicated to the community; District Chairperson Barbara Muller, PER noted that she



John Mocharski receives a plaque from Dan Uken recognizing him as Citizen of the Year.

had a hard time tracking him down to garner the needed information. She finally caught up with him at a Boy Scout Troop 207 meeting.

*(Continued on page 6)*



(L-R) Peer Leader Chris Graves, Dominique Schoen, the top can raiser overall; Peer Leader Dominika Kapolka and Franchesca Paul, who raised the most cans for the seventh grade.

## Middle School Peer Leadership Participate in Food Drive

For the second year, the South Plainfield Middle School Peer Leadership students participated in the Middlesex County Food Organization and Outreach Distribution Services (M.C.F.O.O.D.S.) spring school food drive from February 28 to March 11. M.C.F.O.O.D.S. was created by the Board of Chosen Freeholders in 1994 to help ensure that an adequate supply of nutritious foods and necessities are readily available to Middlesex County

residents in need at all times. Their food distribution network serves over 70 local food pantries and soup kitchens throughout the county.

The math department helped out this year with teachers creating a Pi Day contest held on March 14. It was a fun competition to see which class could reach 314 cans first or collect the most cans at the end of the drive. Teachers supplied each class with cupcakes, cookies and an actual pie along with other Pi Day activities.

Pi is the symbol for the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter which is 3.1415926535... Pi Day is celebrated by math enthusiasts around the world on March 14.

Paul Rafalowski's classes won the Pi Day contest by collecting 717 cans. They will be treated to a pizza pie party given by the math department.

Volunteers are invited back to the municipal building at 12:30 p.m. for a pizza pickup picnic, complete with environmentally-friendly door prizes. Organize a crew, or come on your own.

For more, call Clean Communities Coordinator Alice Tempel at (908) 226-7621 or email atempel@south-plainfieldnj.com.

BE A VOICE FOR DARFUR...

**STOP THE GENOCIDE**

SaveDarfur.org

Bands and solo artists perform at the Rock Darfur concert to benefit "Help Darfur Now." See next week's issue for coverage.

Photos courtesy of Louis Mornille



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

April 18 ..... April 18

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**

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**

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.)

Regular Public Meeting (begin at 7:30 p.m.): April 13

## 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.

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.

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**

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.

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

To be announced. 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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**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.

### 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.

Dear Editor,

On February 25 and 26, the youth group of the First Baptist Church of South Plainfield participated in World Vision's 30-hour Famine. The teens learned firsthand what it means to go hungry for 30 hours. World Vision has raised over \$23,000 to relieve hunger and poverty worldwide including in the United States.

At the end of the 30 hours the teens enjoyed a spaghetti dinner. We would like to thank and acknowledge those businesses whose generosity made the dinner possible: Front Street Farmers Market, who provided the fresh salad and bread; Shoprite and Pepperidge Farm for the desserts.

We would also like to thank the following businesses for their continued support in our canning efforts: Quik Chek, 7/11, TD Bank, Dave's Stationary and Dunkin' Donuts.

**SINCERELY,  
KAREN FLANAGAN  
30-HOUR FAMINE COORDINATOR**

To the Editor:

With all the shootings and stabbings going around in our area, I am glad to say that there are also some good and caring people.

On March 29, I was in a hit and run accident on the corner of Park and Maple avenues. A good Samaritan whose name is Jose Estrada of North Plainfield witnessed the accident, called 911 and followed the vehicle. With his help, the police were able to catch the person who left the scene of the accident. I would also like to thank the girl from the Getty gas station who came over to see if I was okay.

Mr. Estrada, I cannot thank you enough for all you did. It was a big relief for me to know that the person who hit me was caught. Thank you again and may God bless you.

**SINCERELY,  
BEVERLY BALL**

Dear Editor,

I have subscribed to the *Observer* for years now, and while I have been known to grimace, snort and occasionally grin at some of the material you have published in the past, I don't recall ever laughing out loud as I did with the front page of the April 1 edition. Thank you!

Too bad about the train station, though...

**SUE MORRISON**

Dear Editor,

As president of the Library Board of Trustees, I feel that it is necessary to clarify some of the information which was contained in the article that appeared in the April 1 edition of the *Observer* concerning the introduction of the 2011 municipal budget. Specifically, I am referring to the \$750,000 which the borough is anticipating as surplus revenue as the "library contribution."

I had the opportunity to address the council prior to the introduction of the budget, inquiring as to what the "contribution" was. Neither myself nor any other member of the Board of Trustees was aware that we were making a "contribution" until about 10 a.m. of the morning that the budget was being introduced, and even then, through a third party. No one in the administration had the decency or the courtesy to advise the library board that the borough was taking the \$750,000. When I asked Mr. Cullen as to the authority to take the money without the consent of the library board, the article correctly reported that he responded, "It's the law."

What the article failed to indicate and what Mr. Cullen failed to address, is the statutory procedure set forth in that law. As an initial matter, the statute that was enacted last year does require that excess funds be transferred to a municipality. "Excess funds" are any funds which exceed the operating expenses of the last audited year, plus an additional 20% of those expenditures which the library board must keep as surplus. The law further provides that "funds restricted for capital projects and grants" are specifically excluded from the monies which are turned over to a municipality.

The library board, through careful budgeting and responsible spending over the past 15-20 years, has managed to save funds, the use of which has always been intended for a new building. Last July, as required by the new law, the library board designated those funds as its "Capital Reserve Fund." In December, the library board transferred \$750,000 to that fund in anticipation of the negotiations that it would be entering into with the borough for a new library and with the knowledge that the library board would have to bear a significant part of the cost of any new facility. This is, apparently, the

\$750,000 "contribution" that the borough has anticipated in the proposed 2011 budget.

The statute under which the borough has taken the \$750,000 requires a three-step process. The first step is a resolution of the library board (not the council) of its intent to transfer excess funds to the municipality. The second step requires that the library board submit this resolution and certain reports and documents to the state librarian for review and approval. Once the state librarian receives the required information and documentation, she, in conjunction with the Division of Local Government Services, has 45 days to review the information and make a determination whether to approve or deny the transfer. Depending upon the decision, either the municipality or the library board has the right to file an appeal.

None of the required steps have been taken. For the borough to anticipate the \$750,000 "contribution" at this point in time is premature at best, and political at worst. Furthermore, to not even notify the library board that it was taking this action, particularly at a time when the trustees have entered into negotiations with the borough to get a new library, has to call into question the good faith of the administration in those negotiations.

It is difficult to be a team player when one member of the team doesn't tell another member what it is doing. Despite this, the library board is committed to moving forward to bring a modern state-of-the-art library to South Plainfield.

**SINCERELY,  
ERIC M. ARONOWITZ, PRESIDENT,  
LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Dear Editor,

Reading Councilwoman Chrissy Buteas's letter last week left me wondering why she is so opposed to the council's proposed plan for tax relief.

Maybe I should start from the beginning. (Continued on page 12)



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## Suburban Woman's Club

### NEWS

The Suburban Woman's Club Board of Directors met at the home of Frieda Walker and President Lucy Hudson called on members for their reports.

Cathy Wells, chairperson of the Legislation Committee and club historian, reported that she and several members took part in the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs Passport Project entitled, "This Place Matters." Selected destinations which were important and made a difference in New Jersey history were visited and photographed. Wells also indicated that the by-law committee will be meeting to revise and update the club's by-laws.

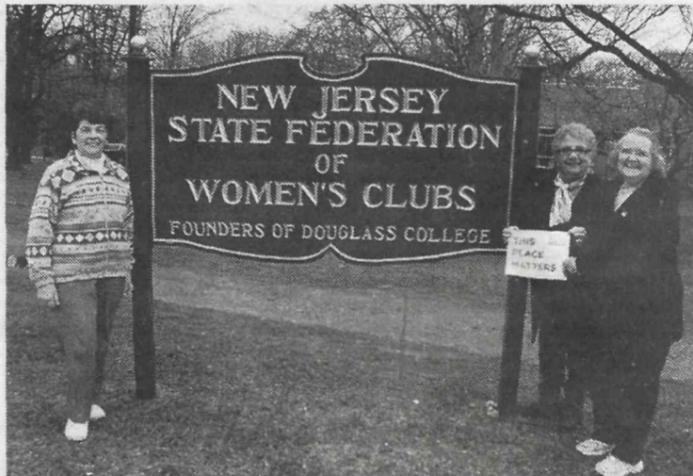
Five members will be attending the College District Spring Conference/Achievement Day to be held on Wednesday, April 27 at the Imperia in New Brunswick.

Special State Project Chairperson

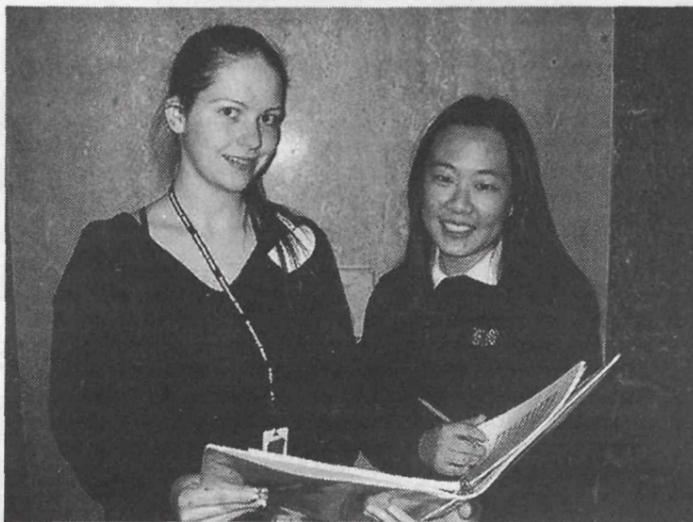
Natalie Bergen has finalized all of the arrangements for the fashion show/luncheon to be held on Sunday, April 10 at the South Plainfield Senior Center. The event will begin at 2 p.m. and attendees will enjoy a fashion show presented by Dress Barn of South Plainfield, a delicious lunch by Home-town Heroes and desserts prepared by club members. The models will be members of the club as well as some of their family members. Gift baskets, and prizes will be raffled, door prizes and a 50/50 raffle will also be available. Tickets are \$20 and may be obtained by calling (908) 755-5065.

The club meets the first Thursday of every month (except July and August) at the American Legion Hall, 243 Oak Tree Ave. at 2 p.m.

Women interested in joining the club may call (732) 549-9633 for membership information.



Suburban Woman's Club President Lucy Hudson, Federation Secretary Mary Ann Iannitto and Legislation Chairperson Cathy Wells outside the headquarters building of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs, a designated "Place That Matters."



Renee Parisi (L) and Kristen Shiu (R) review the material for *Brundibar*.

## Mt. Saint Mary Students to Perform in Children's Opera

South Plainfield residents Renee Parisi and Kristen Shiu, students at Mt. Saint Mary Academy in Watchung, have been rehearsing for the Tuesday, April 12 "Evening of Roses" production of the children's opera *Brundibar*. Kristen will play the role of the Sparrow in the production.

The Evening of Roses is the annual fundraising benefit for Seton Hall University's Sister Rose Thering Fund for Education in Jewish-Christian Studies. Conducted by New Jersey Opera artistic director Jason Tramm, directed by Daniel Neiden and orchestrated by Charles Czarniecki, *Brundibar* was written in 1938 and performed in 1943 and 1944 by the children incarcerated at the Nazi concentration camp, Theresienstadt.

At the April 12 event, held at South Orange Performing Arts Center (SOPAC), Holocaust survivor Ela Weissberger, one of the child Theresienstadt *Brundibar* performers, will be presented with the 2011 Seton Hall Humanitarian of the Year award.

The program begins at 7 p.m. Benefit ticket packages are available through the Sister Rose Thering Fund by calling (973) 761-9006; general admission tickets are available at the SOPAC Box Office, (973) 313-ARTS.

The Sister Rose Thering Fund was established to perpetuate and extend

the inter-religious education work of Sister Rose in funding graduate scholarship assistance for teachers in Jewish-Christian and Holocaust Studies, developing teaching resource materials and presenting workshops for teachers in public, private and parochial schools.

## Apply Now For Borough Internships

This summer, highly motivated high school students residing in South Plainfield may be able to participate in the borough's internship program and learn about the functions of local government.

Interested students can apply for unpaid internship opportunities designed to introduce them to the many aspects of South Plainfield's government services. Students will work various hours per day starting July 1 through August 31 with borough employees in South Plainfield's health department, clerk's office, finance department, assessing department, recreation department, senior center and building department.

Interested applicants may obtain an application from Marie Dudek, aide to the borough administrator, at mdudek@southplainfieldnj.com or (908) 226-7604. Interviews will be set up once all applications are received. The deadline is April 20.

## Volunteer Sought to Fill Vacancy on Library Board

The Borough of South Plainfield is seeking a volunteer to serve as a Library Board Trustee due to the retirement of Virginia Popik.

The Library Board meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the library. Anyone interested in applying for the position should visit the Borough of South Plainfield website at www.south

plainfieldnj.com to obtain the Application for Appointment.

Also, applications may be obtained from the Borough Clerk's office, 2480 Plainfield Ave., between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The deadline for submission of completed applications is April 15.

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# events Around Town

## Sacred Heart Lenten Fish Dinners

April 8 and 15

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 and Sacred Heart Church yearly Lenten fish dinners will be held on Friday, April 8 and 15 at Sacred Heart School in the cafeteria, 149 South Plainfield Ave. Dinner will be served from 5 to 7 p.m. Take out orders will also be available.

Menu features filet of fish (fried, broiled, parmesan), cheese ravioli, manicotti and linguini or pizza; fresh garden salad, rice pilaf, French fries or macaroni and cheese, cole slaw, coffee, tea or cold drink, plus dessert. Admission is \$9/adults, \$8/seniors and \$5/children. Pay at the door.

Stations of the Cross will be held in the church at 7 p.m.

## Plainfields UNICO Blood/Food Drive

April 9

The Plainfields' Chapter of UNICO will hold a blood and food drive on Saturday, April 9 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at South Plainfield Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave. as part of its day of service. Free refreshments.

For more information, call Rick McNally at (908) 510-0264.

## Charity Luncheon/ Fashion Show

April 10

The Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield will hold a luncheon and fashion show at the South Plainfield Senior Center. Fashions will be presented by the Dress Barn of South Plainfield from 2-6 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each. Proceeds will go to the club's Scholarship Fund and to The Wellness Community of New Jersey which is dedicated to providing emotional support, education and

hope to people with cancer. To purchase tickets, call (908) 755-5065.

## Parish Lenten Mission

April 11, 12, 13

Mark your calendars! Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish, 807 Hamilton Blvd. will hold their Parish Lenten Mission on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, April 11, 12 and 13 at 7:30 p.m. each night. Confession will be available on April 13 following the mission session. The mission leader will be Rev. James E Spera. There is no charge and all are welcome.

For more information, call the parish at (908) 756-1333.

## Historical Society Monthly Meeting

April 12

The next meeting of the South Plainfield Historical Society will be held on Tuesday, April 12 at 7 p.m. in the History Center at the Administration building, 125 Jackson Ave. Parking and entrance to the center is on Jackson Avenue. Everyone is welcome. The center is open Tuesdays from 2 to 4 p.m., or by appointment to groups. Do you know what a "pot-belly" stove is? We have one, and it has a bit of history. Learn a bit about Hadley Airport and why it was important in its time.

## Annual Easter Egg Hunt at the PAL

April 16

The South Plainfield Recreation Department will hold its annual Easter egg hunt at the PAL Memorial Field on Saturday, April 16 at 1 p.m. All residents ages one through 10 are welcome to join in the fun. Please bring a bag for the eggs and a camera to take a picture with the Easter Bunny.

Call (908) 226-7657 after 9 a.m. in case of inclement weather.

## Food Fest & Bake Sale

April 16

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Orthodox Church, 400 Delmore Ave. will be holding a food fest and bake sale on Saturday, April 16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Easter breads, loaf cakes, poppy seed rolls, cabbage and noodles, kielbasa and kraut, stuffed cabbage, pierogies, chili, Easter candy (solid bunnies and lollipops), and other home cooked goodies.

For more information, call (908) 561-6366 or email nbvocpierogi@gmail.com.

## Retro Fitness Grand Opening

April 16

Retro Fitness gym, 3775 Park Ave. in Edison will be holding its official grand opening celebration on Saturday, April 16 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at noon. Entertainment for the entire community, geared towards family fun. Nets dancers, radio station WPLJ-FM, bouncies for the kids, face painting, clowns, a DJ, free food, great prizes and vendors. All are invited.

For more information, call (732) 549-7387.

## Lions Annual Palm Sunday Breakfast

April 17

The South Plainfield Lions Club will hold their annual gourmet breakfast on Palm Sunday, April 17 in the SPHS cafeteria from 8 a.m. to noon. Menu includes pancakes, omelets to order, French toast, sausage, bacon and orange juice. Cost is \$6 per person. Come support your local Lions club. Monies raised are used by the Lions Club to assist local residents in need, Camp Marcella (camp for the blind), eye banks and seeing eye dogs.

## Wine Tasting at St. Stephen Church

May 13

St. Stephen Orthodox Church, 609 Lane Ave. will be holding a wine tasting fundraiser on Friday, May 13 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$30, or two for \$50. Beer and wine provided by Oak Tree Discount Liquor. Hors d'oeuvres and desserts will be served. Raffle and gifts.

For tickets or more information, call (908) 755-7600.

## SPJBC Evening of Wine Fundraiser

May 19

The South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club Women's Auxiliary will host "An Evening of Wine" on Thursday, May 19 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Joe Canal's on Route 1 in Woodbridge. Tickets are \$25 per person.

For more information, call Jennifer at (908) 755-8912 or email Jenn776@gmail.com.

## TSPA Fundraiser for Make-A-Wish

April 21

The Salon Professional Academy in South Plainfield will be holding World Couture Day on Thursday, April 21 from 6:30 to 10 p.m. at the Forum Theatre, 314 Main St. in Metuchen. The hair show will be judged by Redken professionals; the silent auction will benefit Make-A-Wish Foundation of New Jersey (www.nj.wish.org). Special guests include two singers and a dance team. Refreshments will be sold.

If you or your organization or business would like to help make a difference in the life of a child by donating a gift basket for the silent auction, or to purchase tickets, call Aimee Stone at (908) 412-9600, ext. 103.

## SENIOR CENTER Calendar

### Coming Up.....

#### Bally's Atlantic City April 21 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  
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  
Shopping Trip ..... 9 am  
Crafts Class ..... 10 am  
Computer ..... 10 am, 11:30 am, 1:30 pm  
Exercise Class ..... 1:15 pm

#### FRIDAYS

Bingo ..... 10 am-2 pm

Daily Activities: Morning coffee, pool, cards, board games, computer classes, exercise, art, Tai Chi, yoga and crafts. Lunch Served Monday-Friday.

Call (908) 754-1047 for more info or visit www.southplainfieldnj.com

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

## — Out of Town —

## Casino Night Fundraiser at MCC

April 8

The Middlesex County College Foundation will hold a casino night fundraiser on Friday, April 8 at The Rosewood, 2863 Woodbridge Ave. in Edison. Admission of \$75 includes \$50 in fake chips, buffet with desserts and one drink per person. Doors open 5:30 p.m.; games begin at 6 p.m.

For more information, call Venetta Ellerbe at (732) 906-2564.

## Mini Bible Conference

April 9

Jersey Shore Gospel Music Fellowship will present a mini Bible conference on Saturday, April 9 at 7 p.m. at the Francis Asbury Chapel, 70 Stockton Ave. in Ocean Grove.

For more information, call (732) 897-0800.

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# events

## Around Town

### Traditional Ukrainian Egg Decorating

April 9

Pysanky, Traditional Ukrainian Egg-Decorating Workshop with Master Artist Olga Kobryn will be held on Saturday, April 9 at East Jersey Olde Towne Village, 1050 River Rd. in Piscataway. Ages 13 and up.

Two sessions of the workshop available: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1:30-3:30 p.m. Arrive promptly.

Pre-registration required; \$15 materials fee must be paid in advance.

To make a reservation, call (732) 745-4489. Persons with hearing disabilities may dial (732) 745-3888 (TTY users only) or 711.

### Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

April 9

Grace Alliance Church presents breakfast with the Easter Bunny on Saturday, April 9 from 9-11 a.m. in the Timothy Christian School Chapel, 2008 Ethel Road in Piscataway.

Join us for a picture with the Easter Bunny, treats for the kids, a pancake breakfast for the family, all free!

For information and directions, visit [www.gracealliance.org](http://www.gracealliance.org), or call the church office at (732) 424-0404.

### Dinner Dance at Singer Hall

April 9

Plainfield Gesang-und Turn-Verein, Inc. will be holding a dinner dance on Saturday, April 9 at 6:30 p.m. at Singer Hall in the Ratskeller, 220 Somerset St. in North Plainfield. Menu is a delicious beef dinner with spaetzle and red cabbage; coffee and cake for dessert. The Norbert Ludwig Band will play for your dancing pleasure.

Tickets are \$17 for members and \$19 for non-members. Reservations required.

For reservations, call Victor at (908) 276-8572 or Joan at (908) 647-0819.

### Benefit Fashion Show

April 10

Vito Mazza Salon and Spa will host the "Be Inspired Be Beautiful" benefit fashion show on Sunday, April 10 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Renaissance Woodbridge Hotel, 515 U.S. Hwy. 1 South in Iselin. Tickets are

\$40 and includes a complimentary gift bag valued at \$50. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Live Strong program at the YMCA.

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

### A Raisin in the Sun

April 14-May 1

Crossroads Theatre, 7 Livingston Ave. in New Brunswick presents *A Raisin in the Sun* April 14 through May 1. Evening performances at 8 p.m.; matinees at 3 p.m. Tickets: \$40 previews, \$65 opening night including reception; \$50 all others.

Purchase at [www.CrossroadsTheatreCompany.org](http://www.CrossroadsTheatreCompany.org) or (732) 545-8100.

### Free Seminars by CancerCare

April 20-21

CancerCare's free educational seminars will be presented at the Mercer County Library, 333 N. Post Rd. in Princeton Junction on Wednesday and Thursday, April 20 and 21 from 7-9 p.m. Pre-registration is required.

To register, call Katelyn Foran at 800-813-4673, ext. 6812 or email [kforan@cancercares.org](mailto:kforan@cancercares.org).

## Coins, Precious Metals Program at Library

**NEW DATE** The library will host a program on selling coins, paper money and precious metals on Sunday, April 17 at 2 p.m. Please note that this date has been changed.

The program will be conducted by Gregory Heim, a coin dealer and professional numismatist with over 37 years of experience, both professionally and in his spare time. In his business, he buys and sells U.S. and for-

eign coins and paper money, as well as jewelry, precious metals and sports cards and memorabilia. A South Plainfield resident, he is also active in the American Numismatic Association, the Watchung Hills Coin Club and the South Plainfield Business Association, among other groups.

During the program, Heim will outline what to expect and how you should be treated when selling your

collectibles. He will also give advice on what and what not to do or say when selling your material. Attendees may bring in their own items for examination, as time allows. The program is being presented free; no pre-registration is required.

For more information, please call (908) 754-7885 or visit [www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us](http://www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us).

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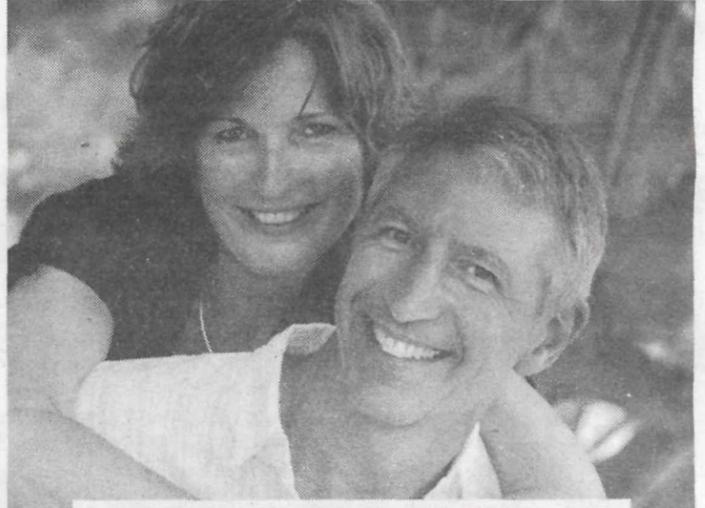
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Students in Mrs. Wilson's Roosevelt School second grade class received "Letters of Royalty." The class came up with the idea to follow the royal engagement of Prince William and Kate Middleton by keeping journals, integrating map skills, creating timelines, researching the topic and creating friendly letters. They sent their letters to the happy couple. When they arrived at school on March 10, they were surprised to receive a special package filled with individualized letters to each student and pictures of the Royal Family from Buckingham Palace. This will certainly be a year to remember for those second grade students.

From the South Plainfield Library

# Bookmarks

By Danielle Aronowitz

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. Some recent new movies that we own are: *Black Swan*, *Morning Glory*, *The Next Three Days*, *The Switch*, *Tangled*, *Fair Game*, *How Do You Know*, *Yogi Berra*, *The Tourist*, *Burlesque*, *Love and Other Drugs*, *127 Hours*, *Megamind* and *Hereafter*.

On Sunday, April 17 at 2 p.m., a program called, "Coins, Paper Money and Precious Metals" will be held at the library. This program will be conducted by South Plainfield resident Gregory Heim, an experienced coin dealer and professional numismatist who buys and sells U.S. and foreign coins and paper money, as well as jewelry, precious metals and sports cards and memorabilia. Heim will outline what to expect and how you should be treated when selling your collectibles. He will also give advice on what and what not to do or say when selling your material. Attendees may bring in their own items for examination, as time allows. Pre-registration is not required.

On Wednesday, April 20 at 6:30 p.m., Eliot the Super Magic Man will be performing a magic show at the Se-

nior Center. There is no registration required. Please bring a new, unopened, non-perishable food item. Everything collected will be donated to Middlesex County food pantries.

On Monday, April 18 at 6:30 p.m. there will be a special Kidcraft at the library. There is a \$1 materials fee and registration is required. If you have any questions, please call (908) 754-7885 and ask for Miss Linda or Miss Mija.

This is just a reminder for kids who have projects for school to do. Through our website, we provide access to numerous databases on a wide range of topics. Some of our databases include: EBSCOhost, Science Online, American History Online, The World Almanac for Kids Online and World Geography and Culture Online, among many others. These can be accessed from the library or your home by going to our website [www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us](http://www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us) and clicking on "Free Databases." Choose which one you want to use and enter your library barcode to access.

We are open seven days a week except on holidays during the school year. Our hours are as follows: Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays we are open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from 1:30 to 5 p.m.

## Last Chance to Audition for 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 those of any age to audition for the show.

Open auditions will be held this Saturday, April 9 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and on Sunday, April 10 from 3 to 6 p.m. at Fellowship Hall at Wesley Methodist Church, 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 open to everyone.

For information, contact Ken or Audrey Reisch at (908) 769-5938 or email [spcac.nj@gmail.com](mailto:spcac.nj@gmail.com). Follow the SPCAC on Facebook.



The Sacred Heart Home School Association held their annual family dance on March 19. This year the theme was "Hoedown." The evening started with dinner and then the families learned square dancing and line dancing from "Foot and Fiddle." After two hours of dancing, the evening ended with a make your own ice cream sundae bar. Over 80 people were in attendance at the event and everyone had a great night.

## Awards Presented at duCret School Of Art High School Art Show

The auditorium was packed wall to wall as 74 awards from 471 art submissions were formally presented to NJ's participating high school artists by the duCret School of Art Director, Frank Falotico last month. Submissions from participating high schools ranged from oil, pastel, acrylic, collage, pen and ink, watercolor, mixed media and charcoal to photography and digital manipulation.

duCret, NJ's oldest non-profit visual art school, has been launching talented individuals into a wide array of successful art careers for 85 years, including nationally acclaimed portrait artists, illustrators and graphic designers. The annual high school show enables gifted students seeking career opportunities in the art field to not only have their work reviewed and exhib-

ited formally, they can meet and mingle with public art supporters, students and duCret faculty at the awards presentation ceremony as well.

Each year students are notified mainly through their high school art departments and are called to submit one entry in any one of several mediums offered.

"Despite where one may live in New Jersey, location is not an issue when an artist has a dream," said Falotico.

The duCret School of Art has been a major contributor to art education in Central New Jersey since its founding in 1926. The school maintains a computer lab, library, ceramics lab, photography and fine art studios and offers fine art, illustration and computer-graphics programs, including open studios for local artists and sum-



Sofia Lizza received honorable mention at the statewide high school art show at duCret School of Art.

-Photo by duCret student Chris Peel of South Plainfield

mer workshops for adults and children. More information about the school can be found at [www.ducret.edu](http://www.ducret.edu).

## Mocharski Named Citizen of the Year

(Continued from page 1)

John was an assistant scoutmaster beginning in 2004 and became a scoutmaster in 2007. He had a key part in the 2009 celebration of the Boy Scouts of America's 100th anniversary celebration held in Spring Lake Park.

John is a graduate of South Plainfield High School's 1976 bi-centennial class and attended the original Grant Elementary School (now housing the Keystone community).

John has been married to his wife, Pam, for 27 years. They have two sons, John Jr., 22 and Michael, 18. Michael

earned his Eagle Scout award and is following in his father's footsteps serving as an assistant scoutmaster for the troop. The troop began with a small number of scouts, just six, but in the past year has expanded to 17.

John has been a volunteer firefighter, serving the community for 35 years. He served as fire chief for 3 1/2 years and has been serving as Deputy Fire Chief since 2002. He is a member of the South Plainfield Exempt Association and served as a former president and vice president. He is a trustee with the N.J. Vol. Chief Association.

He is also a member of the N.J. State Fire Chiefs and the N.J. State Fireman's Association. Both sons have followed in his footsteps and are active members of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department. John has also been a member of the borough's planning board for the past five years.

John's dedication to the borough and his accomplishments were recognized when he was named grand marshal of the South Plainfield 47th Annual Labor Day Parade in 2004.

John is one of five children; he has three sisters and one brother. He is employed with Foremost Fire Protection in South Plainfield.

Lodge Americanism Chairperson Dan Uken, PER noted that while John is quite modest, his volunteerism in town both in the fire department and his long time work with Boy Scouts make him an exemplary citizen. They wish to thank him for his commitment and citizenship and are honored to call him their Citizen of the Year.

## Register Your Kindergartener Until April 13

Kindergarten registration in the South Plainfield School District for the 2011/2012 school year will be held through April 13. Kindergarten enrollment packets are available in the enrollment office located in the Roosevelt Administration Building, 125 Jackson Avenue.

Students entering kindergarten must be five years old on or before October 1, 2011. Enrollment is by appointment only.

Please call Mary Muglia at (908) 754-4620, ext. 222 for information and to schedule an appointment.

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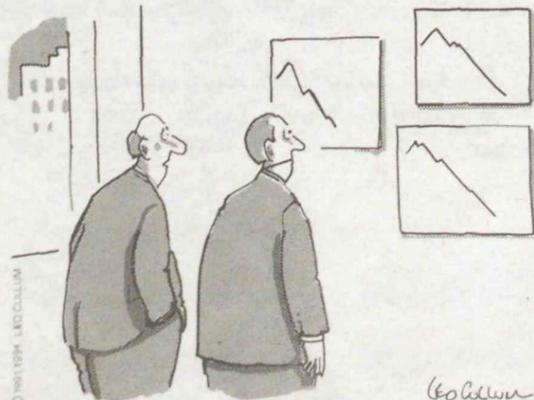


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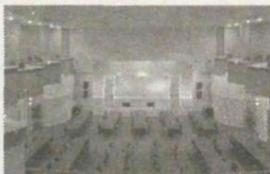


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# A Sincere "Thank You" to the Community

Submitted by Debbie Boyle

On behalf of the South Plainfield Middle School PTO and the South Plainfield PBA Local 100 President Pete Magnani and Vice President Lloyd McNelly, we would like to thank everyone who came out in support of the The Maszcak Family by participating in the volleyball tournament on March 26. We have been working on the preparation of this tournament for the past one and a half months.

Thanks to South Plainfield High School Head Volleyball Coach John Ferguson for all your help in formulating this tournament and volunteering over 10 hours of your time. We hosted 29 teams of adults and high school age participants at the high school, and 10 teams of seventh and eighth grade students at the middle school for a total of 39 teams. The tournament began at 1 p.m. at both schools and continued until 8 p.m. that evening.

I would like to acknowledge BOE President Jim Giannakis and Linda Giannakis, BOE members Steve Bohn and Christopher Hubner for participating, and Sharon Miller for help with ticket sales and collection of the 50/50 tickets. Mayor Matthew Anesh, Council President Ray Rusnak, Councilwoman Chrissy Buteas, Councilmen Robert Bengivenga, Alex Barletta and Tim McConville; SPSHS Athletic Director Mike Buggy for all your help; Mickey Wrublewski for always going above and beyond in all you do; SPSHS Vice Principal Ralph Errico for all your help and for being one of the biggest supporters of our students and their events; Middle School Principal Kevin Hajduk, not only for supporting the Middle School PTO but because you are the supreme force continually striving for higher standards of education for our middle school students; our "all about the kids" Vice Principal Tamkia Grier; our wonderful "voice of South Plainfield" Big Bill Cochrane, who is always there; Eileen Brady for manning the ticket sales and PBA 50/50; Public Relations liaison Suzanne Butrico and her family; our "Top Chef" Greg Lind for supplying and manning the PTO snack stand (profits benefit the Washington, D.C. trip); Jane Dornick for the design of the fliers and website; PTO Vice President Jen Falcone for the Facebook design and maintenance. Thank you to these PTO members for always stepping up and for being the few who are always

there for us, and Megan and Michael Boyle for clean-up. Thank you to volunteer officials Jimmy Curcio, Lou Colocchio and Tom Herzog for officiating during the entire eight hours; Teri Pileggi for posting this event on the high school marquee; Gina Severini, who mapped out the brackets for second round to the finals for the adult players; Coach Ferguson, who mapped out the second round to the finals for the high school teams; St. Joe's Volleyball Coach Arlene, for eight hours of volunteer officiating; and St. Joe's Fathers Club for the water donation. Thank you to the South Plainfield Business Association President and Observer owner, Nancy Grennier; Jane Dornick for posting and supporting this event and Pattie Abbott for taking pictures and reporting. Thank you to our wonderful "resident" photographer, Don Hunsinger of www.Elijahquest.com, who photographs sports and student events and offers these pictures for download without charge; to Bill Cochrane Jr. for managing, and to Suzanne Butrico and Bill Cochrane Jr. for helping to map out the event. I would like to thank everyone who made donations above and beyond the team donation fee: PBA Local 100-\$250; SPSHS Peer Leadership and advisors Marla Vandermark, Tony Encinas, Jessica Marconi-Krskowski, Anthony Emmons-\$1,000; Sonatore Family-\$50; Graziano Family-\$100; The Boyle Memorial Foundation-\$100; Team Bombers 1 Wendell Born and players-\$600; Kari Ann and Matt Young-\$100; Mara Levine Handmade Jewelry seller for donating 10% of sales and Gold Buyers for the offer to donate 10% of sales; the 50/50 winner who won \$216 and donated back \$176; and Dave Franchak-\$500. Thank you to Flanagan's Restaurant owners John and Christine Ziminski for donating 10% of sales from the bar area between 3 and 8 p.m. and then matching the funds for a total donation of \$300. Thank you to Sodexo, Pat Mahoney (Continued on page 14)

# Jackie Jackson Named Social Worker of the Year



Jackie Jackson will receive the award for National Social Worker of the Year this month.

dosis, multiple sclerosis and fibromyalgia, Jackson admits she's not without difficult days, but her disability propels her forward.

Jackson met President Obama at a rally prior to his election. Last July she was invited to the White House for an event commemorating the twentieth anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Since retirement is not a word in Jackson's vocabulary, she decided to pursue her education. Jackson entered Rutgers University in 1986 and earned a bachelor's degree in African studies, then completed a master's degree at the School of Social Work.

She also advocated for additional handicapped parking spaces and rest rooms and challenged elected officials to spend one day in her shoes—or wheelchair—on one of her accessibility tours. Jackson took elected officials on tours of their facilities to show them the daily obstacles faced by people with disabilities.

Even now, there is no slowing down for Jackson. She is currently pursuing a masters of divinity degree at the New Brunswick Theological Seminary. Her goal is to pursue a doctoral degree with a focus on church and community.

In five years Jackson hopes to be known as the Rev. Jackie Jackson, as she continues to empower those with disabilities to seek full inclusion in society.

Jacqueline "Jackie" Jackson will travel to Washington, D.C. this month where she'll be the first ever recipient from New Jersey to receive the award for National Social Worker of the Year from the National Association for Social Workers (NASW). The NASW's local New Jersey chapter also named Jackson as 2010 Social Worker of the Year.

Multiple Sclerosis weakened Jackson's muscles and left her unable to walk by her mid-30s. Battling sarcoi-

## Borough to Hold Budget Hearings

The Borough of South Plainfield will hold 2011 Budget Hearings at the senior center on the following dates. Department officials will be present to answer questions regarding individual departments.

April 20 - 5 p.m.

April 26 - 5 p.m.

Building Department .... John Pabst  
Fire Official ..... Joe Abbruzzese  
Environmental ..... Alice Tempel  
Fire Department .... Larry Delnegro  
Clerk ..... Joann Graf  
Court ..... Karen Costantino  
Recreation ..... Kevin Hughes  
Office on Aging ..... Kevin Hughes  
Pool ..... Kevin Hughes

Police ..... Chief Parker  
911 ..... Chief Parker  
Public Works ..... Bobby Capparelli  
Sewer Utility ..... Bobby Capparelli  
Finance ..... Glenn Cullen  
Tax Assessing ..... Glenn Cullen  
Tax Collection ..... Glenn Cullen

## Heroes & Cool Kids Program

(Continued from page 1)

These conferences are held at the Vonage (Vonage in Holmdel) and at Bergen Community College in Paramus. The program runs each school year from November until May.

Heroes & Cool Kids is currently implemented in nine counties in New Jersey. The athletes and high school students make three site visits to the

schools each year. Their goal is to promote pro-social behavior in students and to create a caring and disciplined school climate.

John Celestand attended Piscataway High School, graduated from Villanova University and played alongside Cobi Bryant and Shaquille O'Neal in the 1990s.

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Thank you to Flanagan's Restaurant owners John and Christine Ziminski for donating 10% of sales from the bar area between 3 and 8 p.m. and then matching the funds for a total donation of \$300. Thank you to Sodexo, Pat Mahoney (Continued on page 14)

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2010-2011  
**JUNIOR JOURNALIST**

## Christopher Shine Named Junior Journalist



Junior Journalist winner Christopher Shine with teacher Lori Chabrak.

Christopher Shine, Riley School fourth grader, is this week's winner in the Junior Journalist program. His story, "The Days of the Pencils," has earned Christopher dinner for his family, courtesy of Hometown Heros.

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

Winners have the opportunity to win a \$1,000 savings bond and other prizes. Winners and their families will receive a catered dinner from Hometown Heros and will be honored at a year-end banquet on May 11.

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

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### The Days of the Pencils

By Christopher Shine

To the TV show, *Spongebob Square Pants*, for giving me the idea.

#### Chapter 1

##### Number 2 Pencil

In my kindergarten year there was a pencil, a number 2 pencil. It always seemed to do something when I wasn't around. One Wednesday afternoon, bright and sunny, I brought that pencil home and stayed up from 3:00 p.m.-5:00 a.m. waiting for it to do something. I brought the number 2 pencil to school again and put it in my desk. After school that day I mumbled, "This was the most boring day of school" in a hesitant voice. I eagerly decided to stay at school to stalk on the pencil. I needed to see for myself. At about 20 minutes past 8:00 p.m. it rolled out of my desk, invited Simon the squirrel in, and turned on the music. Out of nowhere he started break dancing. Then the janitor came by in a red suit for some reason and started break dancing. I got to admit, he was pretty good. So that night forward I knew a pencil could be alive.

*Author's Note:* Four years after that crazy experience the pencil died in a car accident. The doctors couldn't glue him back together.

#### Chapter 2

##### Pencil 3

After the number 2 pencil accident, I swore never to buy a pencil like that again. But that didn't last long. I found a similar pencil on sale at Staples for \$10.00. I had to have it. The manager of Staples let it slip that the number 3

pencil could play baseball. I went home and made a mini baseball field. I put the pencil up at bat but nothing happened. So my 9:30 bedtime approached. I crawled into bed and pretended to sleep. A crack of a baseball bat woke me up. I asked the number 3 pencil what he had hit. He yelled, "Your New York Yankees souvenir ball." So I looked out of my window and saw it soaring in the sky 3 blocks down. "Wow," I answered. The next day I brought him to New York to try out for the Yankees. Once we got there the coach was pitching balls to him. Every swing of the bat was a homerun. Right away the coach said, "Your uniform will be in the locker room. Be here at 1:00 for warm-ups," he announced. The day came with the big game. Number 3 pencil was lead off batter. The first pitch of the game was a home run. So the guy on the other team got angry and threw a soda can at him. He cracked in half. "Call 911!" I seriously exclaimed. When the doctor came I asked, "Is he going to make it?" "I don't know," the doctor replied.

*Author's Note:* Luckily they could glue him back together. A year later he got the chicken pox and didn't make it.

#### Chapter 3

##### A Lonely Life

After the number 2 and 3 pencil accident, I was serious I will never get a pencil like that again. I kept on thinking I'm a horrible parent.

*Author's Note:* I probably extinct the pencil species.



Participants at the Franklin auction/raffle deposit their tickets.

## "Spring is in the Air" Was Theme for Franklin Auction

By Patricia Abbott

The Franklin School "Spring is in the Air" 2011 auction/raffle was made possible through the efforts of the members of Franklin School PTO.

The gym was decorated in spring colors with fresh flowers on each table. The more than 300 guests, armed with trays, platters, bags, boxes and coolers of food and drinks, began arriving before the 6:30 p.m. start time and headed toward the many ticket tables lining the hallway outside the gym.

A procession of participants lined the gym perimeter to peruse the prizes and decide where to place their chances.

Complimentary coffee and tea were available in the hallway. Approximately 35 Franklin School staff members were in attendance.

SPHS Peer Leadership group students Alexis Cargill, Ruchi Patel and ThiQuan Pham retrieved and delivered

the prizes to the winners.

The 50/50 raffle offered a record \$1,000 prize for the winner.

There were literally hundreds of prizes, including 43 potpourri prizes, 59 baskets, 37 cuisine and entertainment items, 51 super raffles, three grand prizes and two super grand prizes. Gift baskets were donated by the individual classes at Franklin.

Grand prizes were a \$300 Bridge-water Mall gift certificate, an Xbox Arcade system and a Great Wolf Lodge Resort two night stay with admission for four. The super grand prizes were a Vizio 42 inch LED-LCD TV and a Gateway all in one computer with 21.5 inch display.

PTO President Sue Aleksandrowicz said that guests seemed to have a good time; they enjoyed the prizes and the atmosphere.

Franklin School has been holding this annual auction for 16 years.

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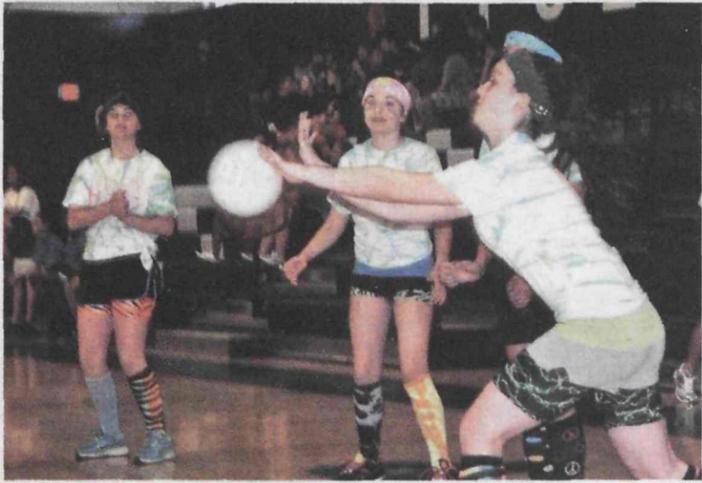
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# A Community Responds: Charity Volleyball Tournament Helps Local Family



One of the 39 participating teams in action at the charity volleyball game.

The South Plainfield community is known for responding to the call when local families or individuals face personal tragedy. The Maszczak Family, who recently lost their seven year old son Stephen Austin to a brain tumor, are grateful to the community for the overwhelming response in helping them meet some of Stephen's medical expenses. "The tournament was a work in progress before Stephen passed away," said Debbie Boyle, Middle School PTO president.

To ease The Maszczak Family's burden, Debbie Boyle, the Middle School PTO and the PBA Local 100 hosted a charity volleyball tournament on March 26. The event was held in both the high school and middle school gyms.

Games began at 1 p.m. and ran until about 8 p.m. Adults and high school students played at the high school gym and seventh and eighth grade teams played at the middle school.

Thirty-nine teams signed up to play. The entry fee for each team was \$50. Teams averaged between six and 12 players per team. In addition to the athletes, dozens of fans came out to watch the games, approximately 350 people. Officiating at the tournament were Lou Colocchio, Jim Curcio and Tom Herzog.

Additional funds were raised by vendors who donated 10% of their profits to the cause. Mara Levine had beautiful jewelry for sale; mostly handcrafted. Southern Ocean Gold Buyers of Holmdel Cash 4 Gold was also on hand.

There were three winners in the tournament, one in each category—a middle school team, a high school team and an adult team. Gift cards were awarded to each winning team.

The winner in the adult bracket was Team Mike Chmielewski, which included Mike Chmielewski, John Bracco, Jay Dhami, Doug Anderson,

Dan Sobin and Ed Gunderson. Anderson donated his gift card back to the Maszczak Family.

The winner from the high school bracket was Jager Bombers, which included Riley Hubner, Chris Hubner, Gerry Pinto, Brandon Downes, Shane O'Connor, Seth Yocum and Jeff Praul.

Middle School principal Kevin Hajduk noted that the winning team from the middle school was "Team MVP." He said, "They beat 'Team Get Some' 23-21 in the finals. In third place was 'Team Steam'. It was a great ending to a great day. Stephen was clearly looking down on us Saturday and smiling at the overwhelming support from the middle school students and parents. The students had fun and learned a valuable life lesson—about a community once again coming together for a common goal."

Barbara Pinelli, eighth grade history teacher, was the announcer for the middle school games.

The event raised \$6,200. Flanagan's Restaurant, located just blocks from the school, donated 10% of the sales from the bar area between 3 and 8 p.m. on March 26. Owners John and Christine matched that amount for a total donation of \$300.

Monetary donations to the family were also accepted, and the PBA hosted a 50/50 raffle. The winner donated most of the winnings back.

About a dozen students and alumni volunteered for the event. SPHS Peer Leaders, under the direction of advisors Marla Vandermark, Tony Encinas, Jessica Kriskowski and Anthony Emons, donated \$1,000.

The snack stand was hosted by the Middle School PTO and was manned by Greg Lind and Suzanne Butrico. Proceeds will be donated to the eighth grade trip to Washington, D.C.

Many expressed their thanks to Debbie Boyle, the Middle School PTO and PBA Local 100 for their efforts in organizing the huge event.

Please see page 6 for related story.



Kaitlyn Graziano of Peer Leaders 1 hits a return to the opposing team.



One team takes a break between games.

## Middlesex County College To Offer Saturday Hours

Students and future students who need enrollment services at Middlesex County College may take advantage of special hours on Saturday, April 9. The offices will be open from 8:30 a.m. until noon.

"This is a convenience for adult students and others who might work during the day and find it easier to take care of enrollment procedures on Saturdays," said Marla Brinson, dean of enrollment and student support services. "Students can come in and register for our summer sessions or for

fall classes."

Offices that will be open on April 9 include the enrollment center, bursar's office, admissions, financial aid, the registrar's office, the testing center, counseling and career services, student activities, academic advisement and the college bookstore.

Adult students who have dropped out of college may be eligible for the CARE program, which provides personal assistance and a bookstore voucher. CARE Coordinator Kimberlee Hooper will be available on Saturday.

## Digital Camera Workshop at Library

There will be a "hands-on" digital camera workshop at the library on Sunday, April 10 starting at 1:30 p.m.

The program will be presented by Walter Choroszewski, a well-known NJ-based photographer. He will lead this introductory, small-group workshop helping attendees understand the basics of digital camera operation. Subjects covered will include menus, camera memory and mega-

pixels, along with questions from attendees. Attendees are free to bring their own cameras. The program is being presented free of charge. Space is limited, so pre-registration is required.

The South Plainfield Library is located in the municipal complex at 2484 Plainfield Ave. For more information, call (908) 754-7885 or visit the library's website at [www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us](http://www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us).

### MEETING NOTICE

There will be a MEETING of the LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES on Tuesday, April 12 at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

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OPEN 7 DAYS

# Sports

By Gary Lampasona

## JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

Wow, it's finally here! Opening day is tomorrow, April 9.

The festivities begin at 10 a.m. with the annual parade featuring the South Plainfield High School band followed by opening ceremonies on field two. Don't miss the flight of the doves, esteemed local dignitaries and retired Major League Baseball Player, Chris Fallon. Fallon played with the Kansas City Royals and Colorado Rockies. He will be on hand to meet the kids and sign autographs.

Don't miss the excitement of the dawn of a new season. The first games will begin at noon for all age groups.

Come on down and feel the excitement.

The third annual High School Baseball Game at TD Bank Park, sponsored by the SPJBC, will be held on Saturday, April 23 at 4 p.m. versus JFK (Iselin). Tickets are \$10 each and if you buy three, you get one free. Call the clubhouse to purchase tickets, or see a board member.

"Every day is a new opportunity. You can build on yesterday's success or put its failures behind and start over again. That's the way life is, with a new game every day, and that's the way baseball is."—Bob Feller



Students and parents came out in support of members of the South Plainfield Softball Team and J.P. Stevens in Edison who played ball for a cause on March 29. Players purchased shirts for their "Think Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness" scrimmage; all monies went to support breast cancer awareness.



David Tavarez hitting the "sweet spot" on his bat. —Photo courtesy of Stasey Pace

## Thundercats Defeat Readington

The Thundercats defeated Readington 11-4 in a Diamond X 12U ball game last Sunday. Jumping out to a fast lead behind the solid pitching of Mason Resende, the visiting Thundercats scored three in the first and five in the second inning, then cruised to the final score.

Jake Hoffman led the offensive onslaught by going three for four with three RBIs and three runs scored. He also closed out the game by pitching two strong innings. Ricky Pellegrino kept his hot hitting ways by going

three for four with a double and three runs scored.

All the boys contributed on the offensive side with at least one hit apiece. A solid defensive day was led by Mike Lampasona's steady play at third base and Dillon Harris' consistency behind the plate. Nick Scalera made two fine catches in right field.

It was a team victory for all the Thundercats, including River Dress, George Pittenger, Bryan Scipio, David Tavarez and Kevin Soper.

### HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

#### Calendar Highlights

Friday, Apr. 8–Thursday, Apr. 14 (See GV Softball & BV Baseball stories for locations and times.)

All teams are varsity unless otherwise indicated.

**Boys Golf:** Today at 3:30 p.m.; Monday, April 11 at 3:30 p.m. away against Edison High School; Tuesday, April 9 at 3:30 p.m. against Old Bridge; Wednesday, April 13 at 3:45 p.m. against St. Joseph in Metuchen; Thursday, April 14 at 3:30 p.m. at home against Perth Amboy.

**Girls Lacrosse:** Saturday, April 9 at 10 a.m. away against J.P. Stevens; Thursday, April 14 at 3:45 p.m. at home versus Old Bridge high school.

**Boys Tennis:** Wednesday, April 13 at 3:45 p.m. away against New Brunswick High School.

**Track:** Tuesday, April 12. Boys Spring Track at JP Stevens/East Brunswick at 3:45 p.m. Girls Spring Track vs. JFK/Spotswood at 3:45 p.m.

### SOCCER - ECLIPSE

By Jenn Curtis

## Eclipse Improve Record with Win Against Millburn

The SPSC U-10 girls travel team traveled to Millburn and won on Sunday to improve their record to 2-0-2. Teamwork was the key together with great passing, assisting and fantastic defense. The girls all played hard and were led by Jill Holoboski's Hat Trick. Other goals were scored by Lynda Farinella with two goals, Alexis Curtis with one goal and Kathryn Delair with her first career goal. Mackenzie O'Brien, Cameron Marks and Olivia Leonardis all shared goalie duties in the shutout.

Team Eclipse consists of Mackenzie O'Brien, Gianna Sacco, Lynda Farinella, Victoria Meono, Kaitlyn Smith, Kathryn Delair, Kristen Smith, Olivia Leonardis, Cameron Marks, Gianna Sacco, Alexis Curtis, Jill Holoboski, Erika Rems and Samantha Pullen. The coaches of Eclipse are Gino Leonardis and Ken Curtis.

The girls are home this week against the Ridge Mavericks on Sunday at the Kenneth Avenue fields. Please come out and support the girls.

## Recreation Notes

### U16 Softball All-Star Tryouts

(Age 16 as of 12/31/10)

Sunday, April 10 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at Ponytail Park.

Registration starts at 2:30 p.m.

Any interested girl must come and register.

## LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1925

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SALARY ORDINANCE # 1777 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION OF VARIOUS BOROUGH EMPLOYEES AND THE METHOD OF PAYMENT OF SAID COMPENSATION was adopted on first reading and advertised in the Observer on Friday, April 8, 2011 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Monday, April 18, 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:

**WHEREAS**, the Salary Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield confirms the titles of officers and employees of the Borough and establishes their respective compensation, and the Ordinance remains in effect until amended or superseded; and **WHEREAS**, Borough Council wishes to amend Salary Ordinance #1777 to include the title of Confidential Assistant.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield as follows:

**SECTION 1.** The aforesaid Salary Ordinance is hereby amended and supplemented as follows:

**A.** The table of salaried positions in Section 1 is amended to include the position of "Confidential Assistant" with an annual salary range of \$25,000 to \$45,000.

**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

\$40.32 April 8, 2011

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BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1927

BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 3(B) OF BOND ORDINANCE NUMBERED 1919 OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY FINALLY ADOPTED MARCH 7, 2011 IN ORDER TO AMEND THE DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

### NOTICE OF PENDING BOND ORDINANCE AND SUMMARY

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the governing body of the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, on April 4, 2011. It will be further considered for final passage, after public hearing thereon, at a meeting of the governing body to be held at the Municipal Building, in the Borough on April 18, 2011 at 7:00 o'clock p.m. During the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting, copies of the full ordinance will be available at no cost and during regular business hours at the Clerk's office for the members of the general public who shall request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:

Title: "Bond Ordinance Amending Section 3(b) of Bond Ordinance Numbered 1919 of the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey Finally Adopted March 7, 2011 in Order to Amend the Description of the Project."

Purpose: Section 3(b) of Bond Ordinance numbered 1919 of the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey, finally adopted March 7, 2011, is amended to read as follows:

"(b) The acquisition of a backhoe and a ride on lawnmower, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto."

Appropriation: \$0  
Bonds/Notes Authorized: \$0  
Grant Appropriated: N/A  
Section 20 Costs: \$0  
Useful Life: N/A

This Notice is published pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:2-17

ATTEST:  
Joann Graf/Municipal Clerk

\$43.15 April 8, 2011

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1926

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #1889 ENTITLED: AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD AND THE METHOD OF PAYMENT OF SUCH COMPENSATION FOR THE YEARS 2010 and 2011 was adopted on first reading and advertised in the Observer on Friday, April 8, 2011 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Monday, April 18, 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:

**SECTION 1.** The rates of compensation for each Officer or Employee of the Borough of South Plainfield shall be on an annual basis as follows except where indicated. Such rates of pay shall become effective upon passage of this ordinance.

TITLE	2011
TAX ASSESSOR	\$58,000
CHIEF ASSISTANT ASSESSOR	\$57,000
SOCIAL SERVICE DIRECTOR	\$34,475
SENIOR ASSESSING CLERK	AFSME Contract

**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

\$37.95 April 8, 2011

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1921

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SALARY ORDINANCE # 1777 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION OF VARIOUS BOROUGH EMPLOYEES AND THE METHOD OF PAYMENT OF SAID COMPENSATION was adopted after a Public Hearing and final reading were conducted on Monday, April 4, 2011 at the Public Meeting of the Governing Body which began at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 and is being advertised in The Observer on Friday, April 8, 2011.

ATTEST:  
Joann Graf/Municipal Clerk

\$28.50 April 8, 2011

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

### LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE # 1923

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING RIPARIAN ZONES AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR REGULATION WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD was adopted after a Public Hearing and final reading were conducted on Monday, April 4, 2011 at the Public Meeting of the Governing Body which began at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 and is being advertised in The Observer on Friday, April 8, 2011.

ATTEST:  
Joann Graf/Municipal Clerk

\$28.50 April 8, 2011

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 1922

AN ORDINANCE VACATING THE BOROUGH'S AUTHORITY AND CONTROL OVER A PORTION OF DOVER PLACE IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY was adopted after a Public Hearing and final reading were conducted on Monday, April 4, 2011 at the Public Meeting of the Governing Body which began at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 and is being advertised in The Observer on Friday, April 8, 2011.

ATTEST:  
Joann Graf/Municipal Clerk

\$28.50 April 8, 2011

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

### LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Carmello Occhipinti Jr. requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit 1) a 5' fence 17' into the secondary front yard setback on Fairmount Avenue whereas 2' is permitted; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 1706 Oxford Avenue, Block 60, Lot 13.01 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, April 28, 2011 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at 7:00 p.m.

The files and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Planning/Zoning Office in Borough Hall between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 pm.

\$38.50 April 8, 2011

For statewide public notices, visit [www.publicnoticeads.com/nj/](http://www.publicnoticeads.com/nj/)

# Sports

## SOUTH PLAINFIELD SOCCER CLUB

### Scholarship Applications Available; Deadline May 20

#### THIS WEEK'S SOCCER CLUB GAMES

Warriors	4/09/11 (Sat)	11 AM	Kenneth #2
Wanderers	4/10/11 (Sun)	12:00 PM	Kenneth #1
Storm	4/10/11 (Sun)	2 PM	Kenneth #1
Spartans	4/10/11 (Sun)	1 PM	Kenneth #2
Eclipse	4/10/11 (Sun)	2:30 PM	Kenneth #2
Sharks	4/10/11 (Sun)	4 PM	Kenneth #2
Fusion	4/10/11 (Sun)	1:30 PM	Memorial Field

Good luck to all our teams this week!

Our first open house was held this weekend and was a great success. We had over 50 kids take to the fields. The kids participated in skills and drills with representatives of the N.Y. Red Bulls, Steve and Jimmy. These gentlemen kept the kids moving and motivated throughout the mornings events through games, ball handling and even taking goal shots against the parents.

The event was designed to have children in the community come out and experience what the SPSC is all about. It was a great time for all involved and we would like to extend our thanks to the club members who came out to lend a hand, the girls from team Eclipse and the players from team Storm. You all helped represent the club in a great way.

The SPSC is offering annual scholarship awards to two recipients. We will award a \$500 scholarship to each of the winners selected by the scholarship review panel. Requirements of eligibility are applicant must be a resident of South Plainfield, a senior in high school graduating in June 2011 and attending college in Fall 2011. Applicant must have played for the SPSC for a minimum of four seasons. Deadline for filing your applications is May 20, and all applications should be turned into the guidance department in a sealed envelope

marked "SPSC Scholarship" or mailed to SPSC Scholarship, P.O. Box 543, South Plainfield, N.J. 07080. No late entries will be accepted. Proof of college enrollment may be requested prior to release of scholarship funds. Forms are available in the Guidance Department at the high school or on our website, [www.soplfdsoccerclub.com](http://www.soplfdsoccerclub.com).

Canning continues throughout the month. The dates available are as follows: Saturday, April 9 and Sunday, April 10; Thursday, April 14; Thursday, April 21; Thursday, April 28; Friday, April 29; Saturday, April 30 and Sunday, May 1.

These are the only dates that we have secured for the spring canning session, so be sure to arrange your date as soon as possible to ensure you get a date and time that works for you. To schedule your date, please contact Laura Sansone at (908) 755-3626 (home) or (908) 370-8118 (cell).

Please see full details regarding canning in your emails from the club and your coaches. Remember, represent the club well during canning. We appreciate the support that the public gives us during the drive and we should be respectful of the businesses that allow us to "can" outside their establishments.

Please come out and support our teams.

## Varsity Softball Team Wins Season Opener, 6-1

By Kelly Stashko

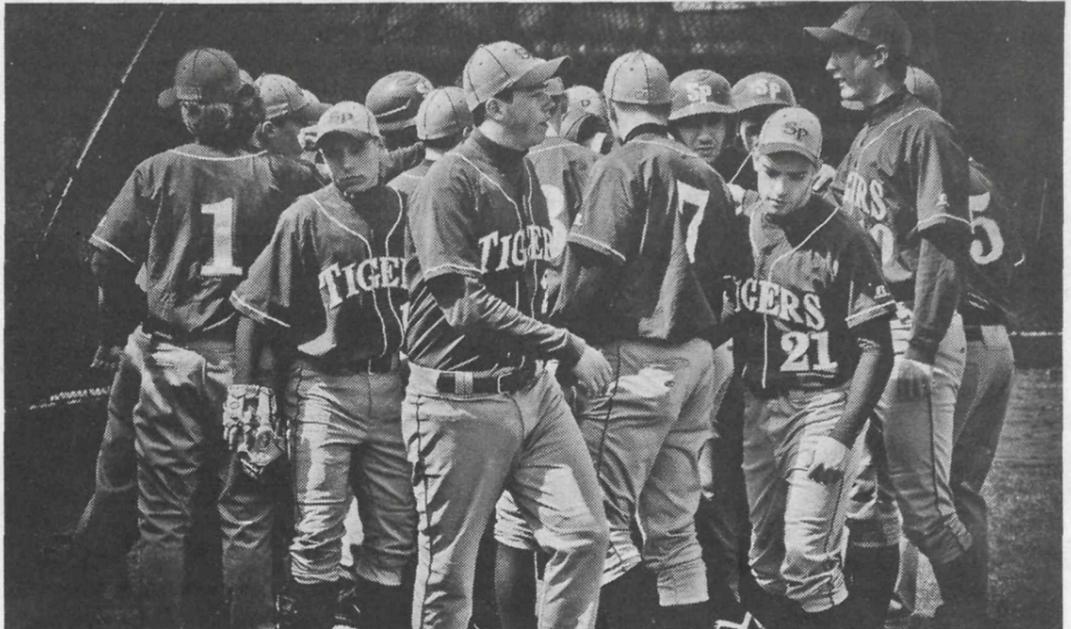
March is known for coming in like a lion. The Lady Tigers started April with a loud roar! On April 2 the varsity softball team won their season opener against Perth Amboy, 6-1. In her varsity debut, sophomore Shannon McMahon pitched a five-hitter, walking only one and striking out eight.

At their first at bat, Jessica Jazikoff tripled to right center followed by Liz Gratta's single for the Tigers first run. Tyler Stranzenbach, Kathryn Podlovits and Lauren Conrad all

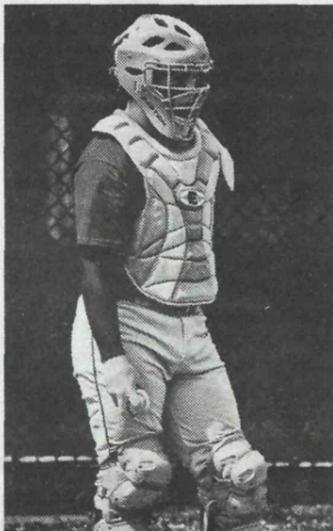
singled with RBIs.

In the fourth inning, Shannon displayed additional talent when she doubled to score two runs. Both Tyler and Kathryn finished the day with two hits each.

Today they'll be hosting a game against Cardinal McCarrick at 4 p.m. The upcoming weeks' schedule is as follows: 2:30 p.m. at home on Saturday, April 9 versus Dunellen; 3:45 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12 away versus JFK Memorial in Iselin; 3:45 p.m. at home on Thursday, April 14 versus Colonia.



South Plainfield Tigers Boys Varsity baseball team break from the huddle to begin their first game of a double-header against Woodbridge on April 2. They won the first game, 10-0. -Photos courtesy of Don Hunsinger



Junior Stephen Petriello, catcher for the Tigers in game two of a double-header played against Woodbridge.



Sophomore A.J. Celentano bunts when at bat during the Tigers game against Woodbridge.

## Varsity Baseball Team Splits Win in Double-Header

By Kelly Stashko

South Plainfield's varsity baseball team played a double-header on April 2 against Woodbridge High School. The Tigers charged the field and dominated the first game, 10-0 and played a close second game, falling to Wood-

bridge, 6-5.

In game one, Mark Tomei hit a solo home run and the rest of the team proved powerful winning in just five innings.

Brandon Downes hit a two-run single in the second game, and the team rallied with five runs in the bottom of

the seventh before falling short by one.

The upcoming schedule looks like this: 2 p.m. at home Saturday, April 9 against Montgomery Township; 3:45 p.m. home on Thursday, April 14 against Perth Amboy; Friday, April 15 at 3:45 p.m. with Perth Amboy hosting at their field.

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### LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been submitted by Texas Eastern Transmission, LP to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), Land Use Regulation Program for a Waterfront Development In-Water Individual Permit for the development described below:

APPLICANT: Texas Eastern Transmission, LP  
 APPLICANT ADDRESS: 890 Winter Street, Suite 300, Waltham, MA 02451  
 PROJECT NAME: Statewide Pipeline Maintenance Project  
 PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Maintain approximately 246.9 miles of existing multi-diameter natural gas pipeline and pipeline support facilities in Hunterdon, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset and Union Counties, New Jersey.  
 PROJECT STREET ADDRESS: N/A  
 BLOCK: N/A  
 LOT: N/A  
 REGULATED WATERS WITHIN OR ADJACENT TO THE SITE: Various  
 MUNICIPALITIES: Various  
 COUNTIES: Hunterdon, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset and Union

The rules governing the above permits and approvals are found in the NJDEP's Coastal Zone Management Rules at N.J.A.C. 7:7E and Coastal Permit Program Rules at N.J.A.C. 7:7. You may view or download these rules from the NJDEP Division of Land Use regulation website at [www.state.nj.us/dep/landuse](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/landuse), or you can find a copy of these rules in the county law library in your county courthouse.

The application can be reviewed at either the municipal clerk's office or by appointment at the Department's Trenton office during normal business hours by calling NJDEP at (609) 777-0454.

The NJDEP welcomes any comments you may have on this application. Comments should be submitted to the NJDEP in writing within 30 days after the NJDEP publishes notice of the application in the DEP Bulletin. However, written comments will continue to be accepted until the NJDEP makes a decision on the application. Comments cannot be accepted by telephone. Please submit any comments in writing along with a copy of this notice to:

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection  
 Division of Land Use Regulation  
 P.O. Box 439  
 Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Attn: Hunterdon/Middlesex/Morris/Passaic/Somerset/Union County Section Chief

A public hearing will be held only if the Department determines that, based on public comment or a review of the project, its scope and environmental impact, additional information is necessary to assist in its review or evaluate potential impacts and that this information can only be obtained by providing an opportunity for a public hearing. Individuals may request that the Department hold a public hearing on this application. Requests for a public hearing shall be made in writing to the above address within 15 days of the date of this notice and shall state the specific nature of the issues proposed to be raised at the hearing.

When the NJDEP has decided whether or not the application qualifies for approval under the above rules, NJDEP will notify the municipal clerk of the final decision on the application.

\$64.70

Congratulations Vivian! #1 JUNIOR JOURNALIST

Debbie and Charlie Kurland of Hometown Heros deliver dinner to Junior Journalist winner Vivian Huynh pictured with her father, Dung Huynh; her mother, Phuongloa Ho; and sisters, Victoria and Vanessa.

## In My Opinion

(Continued from page 2)

ginning. Last year the legislature passed a law prohibiting library boards from maintaining more than a 20% surplus. According to the law, with limited exceptions, anything above 20% should go to tax relief.

The law passed overwhelmingly and was based upon the fact that the formula that funds libraries gave them huge budget increases year after year, even while other branches of government were doing everything possible to cut costs. Based on these huge increases, many library boards amassed huge surpluses. At the same time, libraries were immune from the cost cutting that was and is affecting other parts of government.

What did this mean in South Plainfield? Taxpayers were forced to give the library board over \$1.3 million each year for the last few years (much more than was needed). In the meantime, the board amassed a surplus of about \$2 million, which is nearly twice its operating budget.

The board members call the surplus theirs. The majority of the council disagrees. It belongs to the taxpayers. In other words, residents have been overtaxed and deserve to get their money back.

Councilwoman Buteas disagrees.

She has every right to, but you have to wonder if her position is based on principle or her impulse to say "no" to everything the new council tries to do. For example, while she says the money was purportedly saved for a new library, she forgets that the money belongs to the taxpayers, not the library board members (who were never elected by the voters). This has nothing to do with a new library.

Similarly, while the councilwoman complains that part of the surplus (\$750,000) will be a one-time revenue in the budget, she never worried about one-time revenues when her party was the majority and used much more in its budgets. Her position seems to be based on pure politics.

I simply don't understand how Councilwoman Buteas can oppose giving residents much-needed tax relief.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT  
RAY RUSNAK**

Dear Editor,

The South Plainfield Board of Education has been misusing funds throughout the current school year. Our tax dollars have been paying the expensive salary of a superintendent while he is on an administrative paid leave. Jose Negron is collecting his

yearly salary of \$177,598, plus the 3-1/2% raise he refused to freeze (\$183,813). He was our superintendent since October 2007 and his contract will finally expire on June 30, 2011. Since Negron was put on administrative leave, we have had Gary Bowen, as acting superintendent, collecting \$750 per day.

Jose Negron was not an effective superintendent. He was very unprofessional and callous towards employees and board members. Negron's lack of communication with the board caused much tension between the two. The relationship finally reached its breaking point and they relieved him of his duties. I agree that Negron needed to go; however, it infuriates me that he is being paid a hefty salary for doing nothing to help the youth of South Plainfield. That money is being wasted on a man that should have never worked in our school district. The worst part about it is two current board members voted to give Negron a four-year extension last June. That did not pass, so then four board members voted to extend his contract by one year, but they needed five votes. Without Debbie Boyle voicing her opinion, we could have had Negron under contract through 2012.

An imperative task for the BOE in the upcoming months is to begin an extensive search to find a new superintendent of schools. Gary Bowen is doing a fine job as our interim superintendent; however, he has no vested interests in our community. We need to find a leader to take over that position and do everything necessary to

supervise our district. A committee needs to be formed to seek out someone that will do all the duties necessary to improve South Plainfield Public Schools. We also need to be mindful of the economy and budget problems in our district, and the new superintendent's salary has to be reasonable. We need to learn from past mistakes and have well-informed board members on this committee to make the right decisions.

When I decided to run for the South Plainfield Board of Education, I knew there would be many challenges put forth. The three candidates that win this election will be making vital decisions on upcoming budgets and overseeing the operation of all schools in the district. South Plainfield needs board members that put the students first. If elected, I will volunteer my time and will always remember that the main assignment at hand is to provide our students with a 21st century education that prepares them to be successful young adults. Also, technology in our classrooms is a must and we need to find a way to incorporate more.

With seven candidates vying for three positions, citizens of South Plainfield actually have a choice this year. On Election Day, April 27, vote Line 5 for Sorrentino and you will be making the right selection.

It is time for a change to the South Plainfield Board of Education. Thanks for your consideration.

**JOSEPH SORRENTINO  
BOE CANDIDATE**

Dear Editor,

How refreshing the letter to your

newspaper from Michael Gregov, who is a candidate in the upcoming April 27 Board of Education election. To begin with, he not only didn't speak against his competition, he didn't even mention which party he belongs to, which is really refreshing. He also didn't coddle us with flowery words of how much he likes children and what he wants to do for them. Instead, Mr. Gregov is speaking as an adult, telling us that his concern is "We The People."

I've heard that over 70% of the borough's taxes are for the Board of Education. Amazingly, we pay all our attention for elections of mayor and council and most of us ignore the Board of Education.

Mr. Gregov gives the impression that he will do his best to push for what he calls a "zero start" budget, instead of the current practice where a budget begins with the figure from the prior budget and then goes up. The zero budget would actually start at zero! From his letter I got the distinct impression that he will at least see what he might be able to do to start trimming fat and/or salaries in the administration.

I, for one, have been suggesting that one BOE be created for the county rather than each city having their own. The savings of money on that would be enormous. Mr. Gregov didn't specifically address that, but it sounds as if he's rightly concerned of fiscal things. He openly admits that he is only one person, but I feel good that at least I can feel that he will be giving it his best effort, hopefully becoming active, rather than simply sitting on the board and rubber stamping budgets.

My best of luck to him.

**KEVIN (THE ELDER) O'BRIEN**

To the Editor:

Marijuana has various effects on the psychology of the individuals who take the drug. Should marijuana be used as a medical drug, these psychological effects should be addressed. The risk of an individual first time drug usage is measurable based on behavior, surrounding environments and genetics. Risk taking behaviors, poor family relationships, stressful environments and genes all play a part in the risk of being exposed to marijuana. This information can be used to stop at risk individuals from using the drug before becoming an addict.

While the risk of a person trying the drug is correlated to personality traits, the amount of marijuana usage does not correlate to any measured behavior, gene, traits or environment, implying that addiction to marijuana is not based on a person's actions and everyone has the same risk factor for addiction. The medical implementation of this information suggests that there should be no discretion upon medical marijuana based on patient behavior.

**MICHAEL OPRYSK**

## LANDSCAPING SERVICES

Think Spring.

Look around; there are signs of spring (despite an effort by Mother Nature to hold on to winter). Now is the time to schedule spring clean up, hire your seasonal lawn maintenance company, and make plans for the new patios you've been wanting.

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# Obituaries

## Thelma "Jeannie" (Klippel) Cerkvenik, 68

Thelma "Jeannie" (Klippel) Cerkvenik passed away unexpectedly, but peacefully, at her home on March 28.

Born and raised in Staten Island, Jeannie had resided in Rahway and Pennsylvania for a short time before settling in South Plainfield in 2004.

She worked as a caretaker at the Menlo Park Veterans Memorial Home in Edison and, more recently, at Runnell's Hospital. During the late 1960s, she worked as an underwriter for the Home Insurance Co.

Jeannie was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She enjoyed being a homemaker for most of her life, cooking and baking for her family. In addition, she enjoyed spending time with her two dogs, Blu and Cortney.

She is predeceased by her dear husband, Joseph, who died in 2009.

She will be missed dearly by four children and their spouses, Joseph and Vicki, Susan and Stefan Cordes, Linda and Patrick Szary and Adam and Jocelle. Also surviving are three brothers, Denzil, Philip and Robert Klippel, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Plainfield Area Humane Society, 75 Rock Ave., Plainfield, N.J. 07060.

## Gordon Holz, 66

Gordon Holz passed away suddenly on Friday, April 1 at his home in the Poconos.

Born and raised in Plainfield, Gordon resided in South Plainfield for a number of years before settling in

Henryville, Pa. in 1992.

He was a well-known individual in the borough of South Plainfield due to his long time involvement with the First Baptist Church of South Plainfield where he has been serving as the chairperson of the board of trustees and was the superintendent of the church cemetery, Hillside Cemetery of Samptown in South Plainfield.

Gordon was a true outdoors man who was the former treasurer and is a current member of the Pocono Slatebelt Shooting Club, has been the treasurer of the Alpine Lake Association and served on the Planning Commission for Pocono Township.

His beloved wife, Judy (Munro), died in May of 2001. He is also predeceased by his parents, Edward and Melvina; and by a brother, Gregory.

Surviving are a sister and brother-in-law, Carol and Ed Moraller; two nephews and a great-niece.

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

Donations in Gordon's memory may be made to First Baptist Church, 201 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

## Leo J. "Jack" Wilson, 85

Leo J. "Jack" Wilson died peacefully surrounded by his loving family on Friday, April 1 at his daughter's residence in Brick Township.

Born and raised in Plainfield, Jack has been a resident of South Plainfield since 1993.

In 1976, Jack retired as a police captain from the Plainfield Police Department. He then worked for 10 years for AT&T in New York and New Jersey in security and also worked for Weichert Realty in Watchung as a real estate agent.

Later in life, Jack graduated from

Trenton State, presently known as The College of New Jersey.

He was a member of Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield, a lifetime member of the North Plainfield B.P.O. Elks and Italian American Club, and in his spare time, he enjoyed gardening and golfing. Jack could always be found helping his family, friends and neighbors as a handyman.

He is predeceased by his parents, Leo and Margaret (Barry); his first wife, Grace; and by three siblings, Peggy Pozalante and Jim and Frank Wilson.

Jack leaves behind his wife, Rose Marie (Santoro); two daughters, Diane Daly and husband John of Brick Township and Rosanne Bonnin and husband Michael of Mt. Bethel, Pa. He will be missed dearly by 10 grandchildren, Tara, Jackie, Christie, Freddy, Brian, KellyAnne, Eric, Julian, Rose and Ariahna; two great-grandchildren, Leo and Anthony; and by a sister, Patricia Hodgson of Forked River.

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

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Jack's name sent to Meridian

Health Foundation, Meridian Hospice, 1345 Campus Pkwy, Suite A2, Neptune, N.J. 07753-9930 would be appreciated.

## Karen S. (Moore) DePalma, 62

Karen S. (Moore) DePalma died on Saturday, April 2 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville with her family at her side after a courageous battle with cancer.

Born in Bayonne, Karen had resided for a short time in Jersey City, Fairview, Cliffside Park and Bayonne before moving to South Plainfield in 1977. She remained in the borough until 2005 when she settled in Somerset.

Karen received a bachelor of arts degree in education from Glassboro State College, currently known as Rowan University, and earned a master of arts degree in education from St. Peter's College in Jersey City. In June of 2009, Karen retired from the Piscataway Board of Education where she worked as an elementary school teacher, instructing kindergarten and second grade students at the Knollwood Elementary School.

Predeceased by her parents, Edward and Susan (Rada) Moore, she is survived by her husband of 40 years, Tony; two children, Michele Hilton

and husband Jeff and Gregg DePalma and wife Nicole; a sister, Mary Soldivieri; a brother, Edward Moore; and three beloved grandchildren, Jackson, Reid and Kayleigh.

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

## Claudine (Miho) Blutfield, 88

Claudine (Miho) Blutfield died on Saturday, April 2 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick.

Born in France, Claudine moved to the Bronx in 1946 then to South Plainfield, where she has lived since 1949.

She was an avid animal lover and was very active in the ASPCA. Claudine enjoyed gardening and knitting, and her favorite time was spent with her family during the holidays.

Claudine is predeceased by her husband, Jules Blutfield, who died on October 5, 2010.

She is survived by three children, Carole (Tom) of Ewing, Joel (Vicki) of Tucson, Ariz. and Daniel (Lourdes) of Old Bridge; five grandchildren; and two sisters, Michelle Avon and Suzanne Ferrandi, both of France.

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

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# A Sincere "Thank You" to the Community for Charity Volleyball Game

(Continued from page 7)

and custodians for donating your time during the tournament; student volunteers who helped: Carly Ashnault, Richard Rotella (both announced and mapped brackets for the entire day), Kathleen Vincent, Katie Stillo, Casey Butrico, Sarah and Samantha Hunterton, Nicole Jones, Ashley Dispenziere, Ms. Gillis, Gracie Piekarski, Nii Mills and Sandy Grasso.

Thanks to Peter Maszczak for your support during this difficult time.

The adult teams were:

**Aneshnators:** Matt Anesh, Al Czech, Lou Faustini, Brian Bythell, Lisa White,

Kristina Bernerducci, Alex Barletta, Derek White, Tim McConville, Ray Rusnak, Robert Bengivenga

**Bomber 1:** Gregg Jones, Wendell Born, Kim Born, Joe Sacco, Billy Butrico, Ed Amato, Dave Loniewski, Andrea Loniewski, Tommy Massaro

**Knights of Columbus and Big Joe:** Big Joe Scudato, Billy Butrico, Mike Butrico, Charlie Butrico, Carl Adlassnig, Bob Barone, Jaime Larsen, Al Vill, Brian Cargill, Dan Ratti, Chrissy Buteas

**Bomber 2:** Bill Shine, Cheryl Shine, Lian Marrero, John Marrero, Dave Maszczak, Karen Maszczak, Cliff Adkins, Tom Cassio, Pete Massett, Joe Wolak

**S.P. Fire Department:** Tom Bubba, Bob Barone, Kevin Bulla, Nick Smith, Matt Resende, Dom Scalera, Gilbert McKimm, Mike Mocharski

**PBA Team 1:** Pete Magnani, Lloyd McNelly, Gary Cassio, Chris Colucci, Pete Papa, Ken Parada, Brian Murtagh, Chris McKnight

**Let's Break'em Team:** Joe Sarnelle  
**Team Mike Fiore:** Michael Fiore, Rick Deandrea, Juan Aris, Peter Santos, Mike Butrico, Eric Anderson (thanks Mike for reaching out)

**Team Michael Chmielewski:** Mike Chmielewski, John Bracco, Jay Dhami, Doug Anderson, Dan Sobin, Ed Gun-

deron

**Team Sets On The Beach:** Team Captain Bonnie Donnell

**PBA TEAM 2:** Matt Koep, Tony Grasso, Mike Grasso, Dan Hoppe, Mike Hoppe, Dave Franchak, Jim McConville, Pete Leonardis

The winner of the adult team in the finals was Team Michael Chmielewski

The high school teams were:

**Boy's Tennis Team:** Jason Lui, Victor Le, Galo Cifeuentes, Kevin Jankaria, Razeno Khan, Alex Hing, Griffin Lynch, Wahid Walli, Nivandra Boodra

**Volleyball 1:** Veronica Ruiz, Jeneca Goodson, Safia EbdElhady, Asia Acevado, Nikki Disch

**Peer Leaders 1:** Kaitlyn Graziano, Danielle Schaaf, Thalia Lopez, Rachel Alexa, Joelle Butrico, Jessica Scarpitto, Beatriz Gaitan, Kim Walsh, Casey Butrico, Bridgette Kelly

**Knights of Columbus Squires:** Sam Flanagan, Adam Butrico, Brian Rusch, Paul Licato, William Walsh, Ryan Bors, James Butrico, Matt Resende

**Peer Leaders 2:** Randy Jakubik, Dylan Dorey, Connor Gillis, Patrick Boyle, Nick Graves, Matt Valencia, Nick Muglia, Ryan Billich, Joe Krawiec

**Team Felix Felicis:** Tiffany Roth, Robert Lindenthaler, Chelsea Lawlor, Daniel Didonato, Matt Ferreri, Rich Guilfoyle, Fernando Sandoval

**Peer Leaders 3:** Anglea DeSantis, Shrutii Patel, Pearl Paguntaian, Rajath Kenath, Adam Buck, Ryan Billich

**The Ugly Dolls** (little Stephen Maszczak's favorite toy): Heather Jorgensen, Jared Jorgensen, Kim Wilcox, Debbie Longo, Vincent Padula, D.J. Roth, Jennifer Stoekel, Sharon Padula

**Team Insanity, Volleyball 2:** Alexis Cargill, Alyssa-Ragno, Yensyn Toro, Allison Yuschik, Kristel Buschan, Emily Pittenger

**Laxx Bros:** Patrick Boyle, Joe Pellegrino, Tyler Calderone, Nick Graves, Anthony Ashnault, Anthony Torchia

**Softball 1:** Jess Jazikoff, Shannon Hughes, Shannon McMahon, Lauren Conrad, Tyler Stransenback, Katherine

Podlevits, Becky Eustice, Emily Skulla

**Softball 2:** Daisy Casto, Jackie Davorak, Gina Louise, Allie Ratti, Kelly and Kate McLaughlin, Maggie Valentino

**Softball 3:** Nicole Miller, Kaitlyn Hughes, Annie Pezzola, Danielle Pisano, Courtney Ross, Coach Leary, Courtney Allaco, Rose Bach, Jess Bishop, Haley Hlavka

**Waluigi and The Toads:** Patrick Boyle, Chris Butrico, Jesse Deffler, AJ Celentano, Quinn Cochrane, Taylor Born, Sal Esposito, Jeff Pellegrino (thanks to Mrs. Esposito for the shirts)

**Jager Bombers:** Riley Hubner, Gerald Pinto, Jeff Praul, Shane O'Connor, Brandon Downes, Christopher Hubner, Seth Yocum

**Team Intensity:** Malina Montadi, Amanda Driscoll, Mike Polizano, Shawn Palathinkhal, Inon Sikel, Scott Quiroga

**Average Joes:** Captain Rusty Teller, Ramsey Abdacjibar, Sam Butler, Bobby Aimone, Tommy Olah, Dan Such

**St. Joe's:** Thomas Burrell, Cameron Cornell, John Fares, Andrew Goyer, Kilian Gundry, Christopher Habijan, Matthew Kachersky, John Koualski, Matthew Lolarga, Tyler Piruk, Sean Quigley, Tyler Uekar, Carl Wickman, George Witterman, Manager Danver Quintin and Coach Arlene Jaronczyk

The winner of the high school bracket was Team Jager Bombers.

Winners of the adult and high school brackets received gift cards. Winner of middle school bracket will receive a pizza party.

The 10 teams at the middle school were managed by Principal Hajduk. Thanks to eighth grade history teacher Barbara Pinelli for announcing. The winning team was Team MVP. They beat Get Some, 23-21. In third place was Team Steam. Thanks to Joanne Plate, Dorothea Bohn, Debbie Czech and Andrea Gustafson for all your help.

The overwhelming response from all the participants enabled us to donate \$6,200 to The Maszczak Family in the name of Stephen Austin, for medical bill support. Once again, "When the going gets tough, South Plainfield gets going."

## SPHS Second Quarter Honor Roll

### Grade 10

Alyssa K. Adamson, Zulma M. Alvarado, Ashley M. Annetta, Charles T. Anyamene, Jordana D. Approvato, Sayyed A. Austin, Kevin P. Belanger, Nicole A. Benwell, Robert J. Benwell, Navindra Boodhoo, Patrick T. Boyle, Ryan J. Buckelew, Kristel Buschan, Christopher W. Butrico, Danielle J. Butrico, Kayla Carigma, Ashley N. Carrion, Andrew M. Catalina, Kendall L. Christ, Jenna N. Clemente, Quinn W. Cochrane, John E. Cotone, Joshua L. Coupe, Patricia Cruz, Michael V. DelGenio, Cinthya M. Diaz, Jabsy M. Diaz, John D. DiDolce, Michael A. Dolan, Alexa G. Douras, Caitlyn Driscoll, Tara A. Dunn,

Catherine M. Emery, Dominic Z. Eosso, Rebecca P. Eustice, Kristin E. Forbes, Matthew J. Frank, Cassidy L. Gillis, Justin S. Glover, Allison N. Gorman, Nicholas G. Graves, Ryan M. Guarracci, Andrea A. Guerrero, Dustin Jones L. Guzman, Taylor G. Hagy, Troy J. Heilmann, Meghan A. Heim, Jasmin Hernandez, Alec P. Hing, Zoya C. Hodge, Samantha J. Hunterton, Khyllah N. Jean, Christina M. Kasmer, Jason P. Lai, Michelle L. Lesniak, Bianca R. Lobosco, Brian J. Lopez, Rian A. Lukacs, Deirdre D. Macchia, Marah Angelica O Magpile, Victoria R. Maino, Nicholas A. Marrone, Gavy D. Marroquin, Jesse P. Masters, Matthew M. McCue, John R. McDonough, Maggie McLean, Rebecca M. Moskal, Nicholas J. Muglia, Amber M. Mullens, Crystal M. Myles

Christina A. Naphor, Devynn N. Nolan,

Danielle A. Palitto, Brandon J. Pauls, Katherine G. Piekarski, Emily A. Pittenger, Christal Ramagado, Hiren B. Rana, Whitney R. Randolph, Alison D. Ratti, Emily P. Reineke, Jonathan M. Reyes, Andrew K. Rhoads, Tania Rincon, Aaron M. Ritchie, Karen N. Rivera, Ashley L. Robjohns, Hayley A. Robjohns, Joshua J. Rochotte, Yaritza Rodriguez Morel, Fernando Sanabria, Niari N. Santiago, Yasmin D. Santiago, Raymond Santos, Gerianne Scarpitto, KimberLee A. Serrano, Brandon S. Shaw, Joshua D. Siepmann, Emily L. Skula, Angelica G. Smith, Gabrielle E. Smith, Sydney S. Smith, Joseph J. Spinella, Nicole R. Stanczak, Corey G. Stasenko, Anthony R. Torchia, Jennifer D. Tran, Caroline F. Vill, Steven R. Vincent, Vera V. Viran, Chrystal E. Wedderburn

### Grade 9

Sara Abdeljaber, Bryant Acosta, Lucio R. Avelar, Rose J. Bach, Josselin A. Barahona, Kevin I. Basantes-Llerena, Cameron L. Bashner, Claudia R. Bashner, Colin J. Berry, Jessica A. Bishop, James J. Boettcher, Jamie A. Bohn, Alexandra Bosse, Nora K. Bruno, Kristiana Buschan, Adam J. Butrico, Lukas Cabanas, Kristen E. Calderoni, Renee M. Callanan, Breanna M. Calvin, Stanira R. Calvin, Danielle V. Caruso, Daisy J. Castro, Pamela Chacon Castro, Valentina Chacon Castro, Kimberly Corsino, Crystal Custodio, Adam M. Daubert, Cody Decker, John Gilbert F. Delacruz, Joseph Demico, Taylor M. Donato

Kaitlyn C. Faustini, Sean P. Flanagan, Christopher W. Fowles, Andrew C. Franco, Marques C. Franco, Antonio J. Garcia, Daniela M. Garrido, Zachary A. Goldberg-Mota, Jonathan M. Grenier, Christian Brent Guzman, Tyrone M. Hawkins-Wilburn, Sabrina M. Hemming, Lauren M. Hill, Erika J. Holtermann, Christy Itwaru, Eric S. Ivaniuc, Veronika R. Jastrzbski, Raymond J. Jazikoff, Jenalee R. Jenkin, Rowena M. Kanj, Michelle A. Keane, Carly E. Kensey, Thoa H. Le, Heather H. Lee, Emily J. Lubach, Collin R. Lynch, Eric J. Makowski, Joanna M. Marston, Brian R. McCarthy, Kate M. McLaughlin, Tyler J. McVeigh, Mamta D. Mehta, Yasmeen C. Mighty, Christopher M. Miller, Melissa S. Molano, Marissa D. Munillal, Jayla I. Murcelo

Jacqueline E. Nazario, Chloe E. Ng, Steven W. Oehler, Kayla C. O'Neal, Halmar R. Orellana Castro, Brittnay A. Papa, Harsh S. Patel, Ishti K. Patel, Vinay V. Patel, Diamond E. Pender, Carol A. Pennington, Kristy N. Percario, Annemarie K. Pezzolla, Jessica M. Pietschker, Heidi A. Pilla, Michael J. Polizzano, Jonathan G. Prins, Maggie A. Quintanilla, Padminie D. Rambharose, Tushar A. Ramroop, Matthew M. Resende, Dominick J. Scalera, Shannon Sheedy, Bryan J. Sierra, Inan Sikel, Monica L. Spooner, Emma E. Sprigle, Marc A. Stasio, Sabersah Syed, Olivia K. Tarnawska, Ashley Valencia, Joseph C. Waldrop, Kristen E. Wong, Kexin Cher Xu, David G. Zychlinski

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### Dinner Supports Scholarship Fund

By Patricia Abbott

St. Stephen's Church on Park Avenue held their annual spaghetti dinner on March 11. The meal offered unlimited traditional fixings of a pasta dinner: choice of pasta with vodka or marinara sauce, bread, salad, meatballs, beverages and desserts, which were donated by congregation members.

Despite the rainy weather, the event attracted a crowd of about 100.

The dinner was organized and run by the Social Services Committee: Dale Morin, Frank Gianneschi, Cathy Newman, Lou Hasbrouck, Linda Hansen and Nancy Moore. The cooking was done by Morin and Gianneschi and the sauce was made by Newman.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the church's scholarship fund.



Skylar Cochrane, age 8, finds plenty of room for dessert.

The church's Oktoberfest, a German dinner, is held in October. Proceeds from this dinner will benefit various organizations, including Lutheran World Hunger, FISH and others.

### police report

• On March 18 Jonathan David Good, 26, of Tamiment, Pa. was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant.

• On March 20 Lubert C. Nicholson, 48, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, refusal to submit to breath testing, reckless driving and failure to stop.

• On March 26 Ciccio's Pizza on Maple Avenue reported the theft of a tip jar from the counter.

• A Front Street resident reported the theft of a handbag from a vehicle.

• On March 31 Ricardo J. Cantos, 28, of Perth Amboy was arrested for maintenance of lamps, driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant.

### Holy Week At Wesley

Saturday, April 16—Prayer Vigil and Stations of the Cross in the Sanctuary, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday, April 17, Palm Sunday—Celebrate the King, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. breakfast at Fellowship Hall; Youth Spiritual Development Event, 6 p.m.

Maundy Thursday—Commemoration of the institution of Holy Eucharist, 7:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Good Friday—Meditations on the seven verses of the cross, 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunrise Service—Spring Lake Park, 6:30 a.m. Rain site: Wesley, 7 a.m.

Contemporary Service—Easter celebration 9 a.m. and at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.



Grant Elementary School students participate in the St. Joseph's High School in Metuchen fifth annual chess tournament on April 2. Pictured (L-R): Steven Nguyen, Henrique Percira, teacher John Orfan, Andrew Bisguard and Kevin Yang. The students played chess with other students from around the county in grades five through eight.

### WHAT'S GOING ON IN MY TOWN

FROM A BUSY BUSY MOM *jd*

All elementary schools (K-4) will have early dismissal on Wednesday, April 13 and Thursday, April 14 for parent/teacher conferences.

Marking period ends today; spring recess begins Monday, April 18 and ends April 25.

School board elections and school budget vote will be held on Wednesday, April 27. Polls are open from 2 to 9 p.m. Report cards are available on MMS. Take Your Child to Work Day is Thursday, April 28.

Roosevelt School fourth grade orientation at Grant School is Tuesday, April 12 from 9 to 10 a.m. The PTO egg hunt is Friday, April 15.

Riley School author visit is on Tuesday, April 12.

Grant School play is Wednesday, April 13 and Thursday, April 14 and the Heroes & Cool Kids program is Wednesday, April 27.

Middle School PTO used clothing drive is Saturday, April 9 at the Ferraro truck in the driveway entrance. The PTO will hold a blood drive in honor of Jerry Bartolotti on Tuesday, April 12 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the high school gym (open to all).

The PTO book fair is Tuesday, April 12 through Thursday, April 14. The PTO meeting has been changed to Tuesday, April 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Picture day was April 1 and packages for purchase will be sent home shortly.

The high school musical, *Footloose*, runs Friday, April 8 and Saturday, April 9 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 10 at 2 p.m.; tickets are \$8 for students and seniors; \$10 for adults.

Cultural Heritage Day is Thursday, April 14. Career Day is Thursday, April 28. Tiger 12 is Saturday, April 30 at Jost Field.

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