



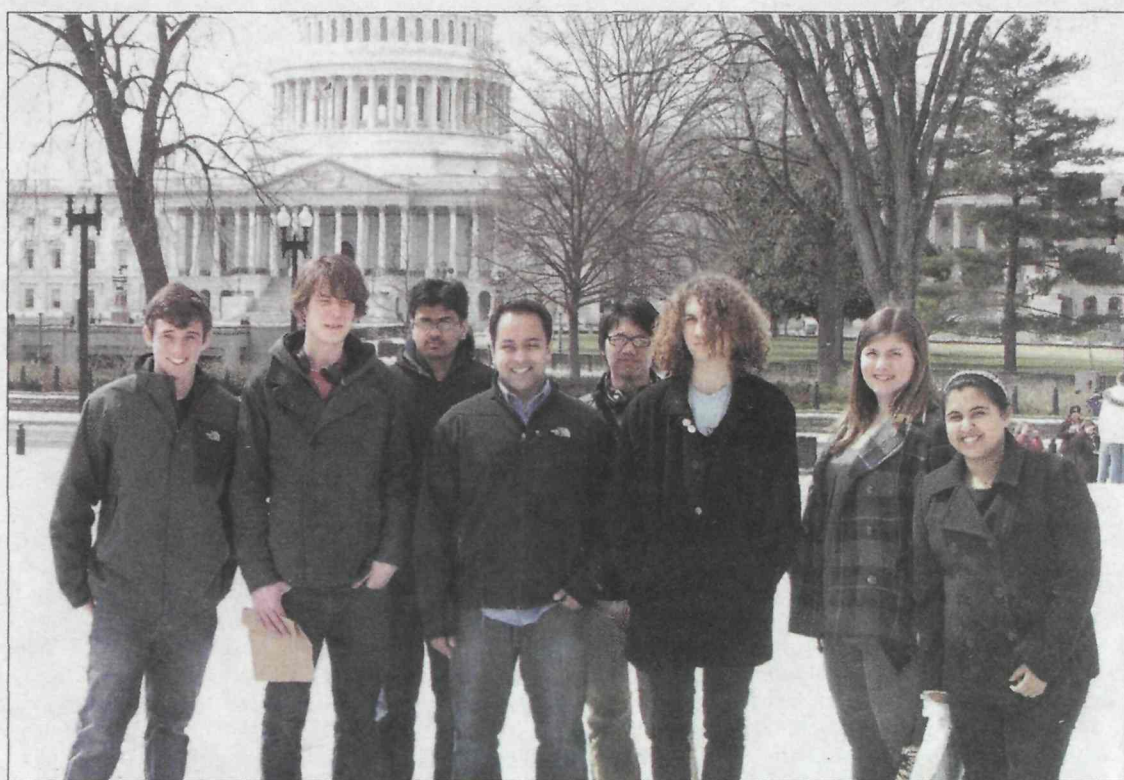
South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 14, NO. 32

Member New Jersey Press Association

60 CENTS

APRIL 15, 2011



South Plainfield High School Model United Nations Club in Washington, D.C. at the Washington Area Model United Nations Conference 2011. Pictured are Juniors Payal Sindha, Jennifer Tercek, Mike Grzenda, Albert Vill, Brian Nguyen, Devang Patel, freshman Zach Goldberg and Club Advisor, Miten Shah.

Model UN Club Heads To Nation's Capital

Seven South Plainfield Students Attend

After attending the Rutgers University Model United Nations conference this past fall, members of the South Plainfield Model United Nations (SPMUN) club embarked on their second conference to the heart of our nation's capital, Washington, D.C. There, the seven students took part in the Washington Area Model United Nations Conference 2011 organized by George Washington University.

Juniors Payal Sindha, Jennifer Tercek, Mike Grzenda, Albert Vill, Brian Nguyen, Devang Patel and freshman Zach Goldberg, along with advisor, Miten Shah, arrived bright and early on March 24.

The club prepared a month in advance by writing mini-research papers as they were representing a certain nation in the United Nations and its perspective on critical issues around the world, such as greenhouse gases, child soldiers, cyber terrorism, human trafficking, LGBT rights and genetic engineering.

During the four days and over 20 hours of debate, the delegates had to persuade other nations to be their allies and use their diplomatic skills to draft resolutions to solve the issues. In a sense, our community's high school students became world ambassadors of peace and goodwill. Freshman Zach Goldberg called the debate "intellectually stimulating" and first-timer Albert Vill said, "It was an eye opening experience. I would do

it again in a heartbeat." While all the students did an exceptional job, Albert received an honorable mention award in his committee due to his excellent diplomatic skills.

The conference itself was undoubtedly a gratifying experience; however, the city itself is what made the conference truly unforgettable. All the students had visited Washington, D.C. in eighth grade while in middle school, but it was the first time they had enough historical maturity to understand the significance that lies behind everything located within the city. Throughout the weekend, they visited the Smithsonian Museum, National Archives, National Gallery of Art, Supreme Court, Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, World War II Memorial and viewed the White House.

In front of the White House they saw a man holding a candle in one hand and a Libyan flag in the other in support of America's intervention in Libya and to represent his country before it was taken over by Gadhafi. For the students to actually meet a true revolutionary was, well... revolutionary. The club also partook in fun activities including an actual spy mission at the International Spy Museum and more. "I would strongly encourage people to join Model UN next year—take my word

(Continued on page 10)

Residents Meet the BOE Candidates

By Jane Dornick

The South Plainfield Middle School PTO sponsored the Board of Education (BOE) Meet the Candidates Night at Kennedy School last Thursday. The seven candidates—incumbents Steve Bohn, Sharon Miller and Pio Pennisi, and challengers John Farinella, Michael Gregov, Jignesh Shah and Joseph Sorrentino—answered tough questions from a crowd of approximately 55 residents.

One of the first questions asked was about the challenges the incumbents have encountered during their term. Longtime BOE member Pio Pennisi spoke about losing the three top administrators recently and how things went "downhill" and about how "picking up the pieces" is difficult.

Gregov was asked specifically about his "zero-based budget," to which he replied that it is "starting from zero and only adding on what you need

each year." "You don't need to cut teachers or programs," said Gregov. "We need to spend the money more efficiently." Farinella, an interim principal at Rahway High School, replied that "funding in the State of New Jersey is out of control" and the community should be writing to legislators in anger over the loss of state aid.

An audience member asked for ideas on how the budget might be reduced so there wouldn't be a tax increase. Shah said that the budget should be "reviewed and amended." Sorrentino, a special education teacher in Rahway, thought that elementary school Spanish should be eliminated. BOE Finance Committee Chair Bohn remarked that the board is continuing to reduce the budget and they need to identify more contracts that can result in savings.

Continued bullying in the schools and zero tolerance was a topic which Miller explained is being addressed

with teacher training and a bullying team and coordinator. Sorrentino felt that every student should be treated equally and that the policy in place should be enforced. Gregov emphatically stated he believed in zero tolerance, and Farinella claimed that "zero tolerance doesn't exist." "If there's a problem, don't turn people out," said Farinella, who believes in holding students to high expectations and providing the help and support they need to combat these issues.

Candidates Pennisi and Farinella had opposing views on the questions of salary caps for superintendents. Pennisi, superintendent of schools in Dunellen, remarked jokingly that he "still has another three years on his contract" and was "not for the cap." He felt an attractive salary will draw "more talented candidates" and compared a superintendent's salary to that of a baseball player, who earns

(Continued on page 10)



Pam Stefanek, Nancy Stillman Pender, BOE member Debbie Boyle, Darlene Pinto, essay winner Albert Vill and Councilwoman Chrissy Buteas.

Women's History Month Essay Contest Winner Recognized

Councilwoman Chrissy Buteas recognized the winner of the 2010 Women's History Month Essay Contest at the April 4 Borough Council meeting. The winner, SPSHS junior Albert Vill, received \$475 in gift cards.

A committee of fellow South Plainfield residents, Nina Rohrer, Commercial Real Estate officer, Columbia Bank; Nancy Stillman Pender, member, South Plainfield Suburban Woman's Club; Pam Stefanek, chair, South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission; Debbie Boyle, Board of Education member and Councilwoman Buteas selected the winning essay.

Donations were submitted by Buteas, Rohrer and Shannon Jeffreys of Columbia Bank in South Plainfield, Darlene Pinto of Skylands Bank in

South Plainfield, Carolyn Allen of TD Bank in South Plainfield; and Debbie Boyle of the Boyle Memorial Foundation. Special thanks to the *South Plainfield Observer* and South Plainfield School District.

"My committee and I were extremely impressed with the outstanding work of Albert. His essay was well written; it highlighted Rosa Parks' contributions to the United States, and most importantly, identified a way to carry her legacy forward," said Councilwoman Buteas. "Thank you again to all who donated their time and effort to make this essay contest a success."

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In My Opinion

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

Residents of South Plainfield,

I just wanted to say that my son, Joseph Sorrentino, is running for the Board of Education this year. I have to tell you that I am so proud of him and of the man he has become. He went through the South Plainfield public school system starting with Future Stars and graduating from South Plainfield High School. He graduated college and is now a special education teacher in the Rahway pub-

lic school district. He plans on returning to school to pursue a master's degree.

I have three children, and when my children were in the South Plainfield public school system it was great. That is one of the many reasons we moved to South Plainfield. Unfortunately today, the school system seems to be going in the wrong direction and has been for the past eight or nine years, give or take a few. It would be a great

asset to South Plainfield to be known once again as a town with a great school system. It would be nice for the children of the town to get the education they deserve.

I went to the "Meet the Candidates" night last week. I have to tell you that as I sat there and watched my son give his opening and closing statements and answer questions that were asked of him, I was very impressed. His confidence was shining through. I know he grew up to be a fine young man, caring and outgoing, even funny. He is so good with children, whether they are his little cousins, our friends' kids or the neighborhood kids, they all love him. He also volunteers with the youth of South Plainfield in different areas.

If given a chance I think he will do really well. With seven candidates running this year for the Board of Education and three seats available, we have a chance to make it better. Let's get some young, new blood in there. I would like you to join me in voting for Joseph Sorrentino on Line 5 on April 27 for a spot on the Board of Education. Please get out and vote.

**THANK YOU,
MARYANN SORRENTINO**

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank Steve Bohn, John Farinella, Michael Gregov, Sharon Miller, Pio Pennisi, Jignesh Shah and Joseph Sorrentino, who are running for the three open seats on the Board of Education, for attending the Middle School PTO sponsored Meet the Candidates last week. I would also like to thank PTO President Debbie Boyle for being the timekeeper and videotaping the meeting, Bill Cochran for doing a wonderful job as moderator and all the residents who attended the event.

It was a very informative evening and anyone who has Comcast TV should take the opportunity to watch it at home on Tuesday, April 19 and Saturday, April 23 at 9 p.m. on Channel 96. DVDs of the meeting can also be obtained by contacting me at the Observer office, (908) 668-0010.

I wish all of the candidates luck and please remember that the Board of Education budget and election vote is Wednesday, April 27.

**JANE DORNICK
MIDDLE SCHOOL PTO**

To the Editor:

When any newspaper publishes a letter stating that public school teachers spend a whopping 540 hours of instructing (180 days, three hours per day) in a classroom per school year, in the next few days the newspaper is buried with the avalanche of letters from indignant teachers claiming, without any supporting evidence, that they work days, nights and weekends to fulfill the demands of their job. Yet, when school board election times come, the overworked and underpaid teachers are all ready to sacrifice even more of their precious time to serve on a board without any direct compensation.

Examples: In the three letters so far from a Board of Education candidate, Mr. Joseph Sorrentino, a teacher in the Rahway public school system, Mr. Sorrentino wrote, "If elected, it will be my mission to reach all students on a meaningful level. I have many ideas to improve our (South Plainfield) district instructions."

I would really like to know what "to reach all students on a meaningful level" means. It seems that Mr. Sorrentino already spent too much time in N.J. public school systems, so only education industry mumbo-jumbo can be expected of him.

Mr. Sorrentino, in case you didn't notice, the average 2008-09 combined SAT score in Rahway was an atrocious 1278. In South Plainfield it was 1506. Should it not be your obligation, Mr. Sorrentino, to implement your wonderful education ideas first in the district you are working in? Please do not transfer your vast knowledge of public education to South Plainfield. We can do without it.

Another candidate with deep roots in the public education bureaucracy is John Furinella, a high school principal of an undisclosed N.J. school, who offers "responsibly-tailored solutions and a supportive sense of humor."

If the South Plainfield citizens would like to know more about the motivation of the people supposedly taking care of our children's education, just ask the wives of Mr. Bohn or Mr. Giannakis, current board members or the daughter of the ex-board member, who recently resigned after achieving his goal of securing her employment in a South Plainfield school.

BOGDAN FRYSCZYK

Dear Editor,

I'd like to comment about the letter from attorney Eric Aronowitz, who wrote last week for the Library Board of Trustees. Aronowitz is upset because the council wants to return part of a huge \$2 million surplus the library board amassed to taxpayers. I view it as a pretty simple issue: Residents were overtaxed and they deserve to get their money back.

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.

Aronowitz sees it differently. He has to understand, however, the money he is talking about does not belong to him, and it does not belong to the appointees on the Board of Trustees. Nor, for that matter, does it belong to the council.

The money belongs to the taxpayers, people who worked hard for it and were forced to pay it as part of their property taxes. Aronowitz is simply wrong when he calls the money the library board's. It belongs to the residents of South Plainfield.

Aronowitz is also incorrect when he suggests that the borough administrator ignored the law when including this money in the budget as tax relief. The borough received permission from the State Division of Local Government Services to include this money after the library board tried to do an end-run around the new state law that requires libraries to return surpluses to taxpayers.

In its zeal to prevent tax relief, it is the library board that actually failed to follow the law, which requires a three-year capital plan and other reports be submitted to the council before money can be exempted from tax relief. What's really amazing, however, is that the board is now looking to hire a firm, using our tax dollars, to prepare the plan it failed to submit. Let me see if I get this right: The library is using our tax dollars to hire people to help it stop the council from giving tax relief back to the community. Talk about out of touch.

In an economy where people are losing their jobs and homes, it is amazing how people will fight to prevent tax relief so that their pet projects can continue unaffected. Every department in the borough, with the exception of the library, has worked to cut spending and provide tax relief to residents. That the Library Board of Trustees refuses to do so and considers itself immune from the economizing that's so needed by taxpayers is disappointing at best. One can only hope that the board will reconsider its position and stop fighting against the tax relief residents so desperately need.

**VERY TRULY YOURS,
COUNCILMAN ROB BENGIVENGA**

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.

Meet the Candidates Night will be broadcast on Comcast Channel 96 on Tuesday, April 19 and Saturday, April 23 at 9 p.m.

DVDs of the meeting can also be obtained by contacting the Observer office, (908) 668-0010.

(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

May 2 May 2

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 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 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.

South Plainfield Observer

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

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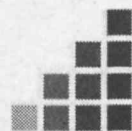
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Councilman Tim McConville and Lillian Smith help serve food.

St. Patrick's Day Irish Dinner Held at the Senior Center

By Patricia Abbott

The South Plainfield Senior Center held the annual Saint Patrick's Day Irish dinner on March 27. Whether you are Irish or not, the wearing of the green and celebrating the holiday can't come too late. The dinner, held at the senior center, was organized by the Recreation Department.

Approximately 100 attended the event, many wearing green in honor of the day. The traditional Irish dinner was catered by the Dunellen Hotel. The meal included corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, Irish soda bread, dessert and assorted beverages. Serving the buffet style meal were Senior Center Director Kevin Hughes, Councilman Tim McConville, Council President Ray Rusnak, Councilman Robert Bengivenga, Senior Center Supervisor Lillian Smith, Angelo Paradiso, Linda Fiore and Sandi Connelly. Laura DeAngelis, granddaughter of Angelo Paradiso, Sr. and daughter of Angelo Paradiso served as waitress.

Entertainment was provided by Ian Gallagher, who entertained the audience with a variety of Irish tunes, including a few audience requests. The senior center was lucky to find the real thing—Ian



Ian Gallagher

was born and raised in Arigna, Ireland and immigrated to this country in the 1960s. He still retains a wonderfully lyrical Irish accent. Ian performs extensively throughout the area.

SP Football Eagles First Golf Outing

The South Plainfield Football Eagles will hold its first golf outing and fundraiser on Monday, May 23 at Glenwood Country Club in Old Bridge. Registration starts at 10 a.m. Cost of

policereport

On April 1 Kohl's reported that a shoplifter had fled the parking lot with three pair of jeans and earrings worth \$55.

Jasmin D. Bush, 19, and Coral A. Hall, 18, both of Somerset were arrested at Kohl's for shoplifting \$141 worth of assorted items.

On April 2 Alvin Sonson, 35, of Piscataway was arrested for driving while intoxicated and careless driving.

Jason F. Barros, 23, of Roselle Park was arrested for driving while intoxicated, driving on a suspended license, reckless driving, failure to report a motor vehicle accident and leaving the scene of an accident.

A Merchants Avenue resident reported the theft of a license plate from their vehicle.

On April 3 Kwamane D. Bryant, 21, of Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, driving on a suspended license, reckless driving and failure to maintain a lane.

Elijah Beverley, 20, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, driving while intoxicated under the age of 21, reckless driving and failure to keep right.

An Oak Tree Avenue resident reported that the rear window of their vehicle had been broken out.

On April 5 Venkata N. Nalluri, 27, of Piscataway was arrested for an inoperable headlight and an outstanding warrant.

On April 6 Cheryl J. Ramie, 51, of Stone Mountain, Ga. was arrested for driving on a suspended license, speeding and two outstanding warrants.

A Piscataway resident reported the theft of an Apple Macbook laptop from their vehicle that was parked at Regal Cinema.

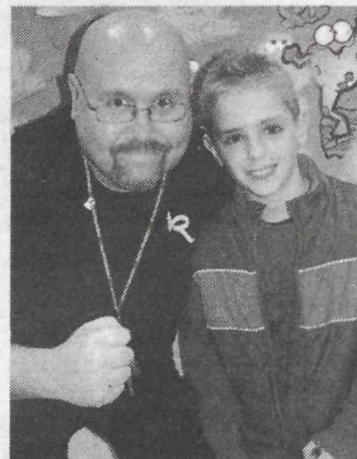
On April 7 Savill C. Griffin, 22, of Middlesex was arrested for driving while intoxicated and careless driving.

\$150 includes golf cart, lunch and dinner as well as prizes and raffles.

For sponsorship and/or participant information, call Anthony at (908) 285-0462.

JUNIOR JOURNALIST

Dylan DeLisa Named Junior Journalist



Junior Journalist winner Dylan DeLisa with teacher Mike Bertram.

Dylan DeLisa, Roosevelt School third grader, is this week's winner in the Junior Journalist program. His essay, "Life of a Lego," has earned Dylan dinner for his family, courtesy of Hometown Heros.

Dylan is the last Junior Journalist winner this school year. The contest will start up again next school year. Thanks to all who entered.

Winners and their families will receive a catered dinner from Hometown Heros and will be honored at a banquet on May 11.

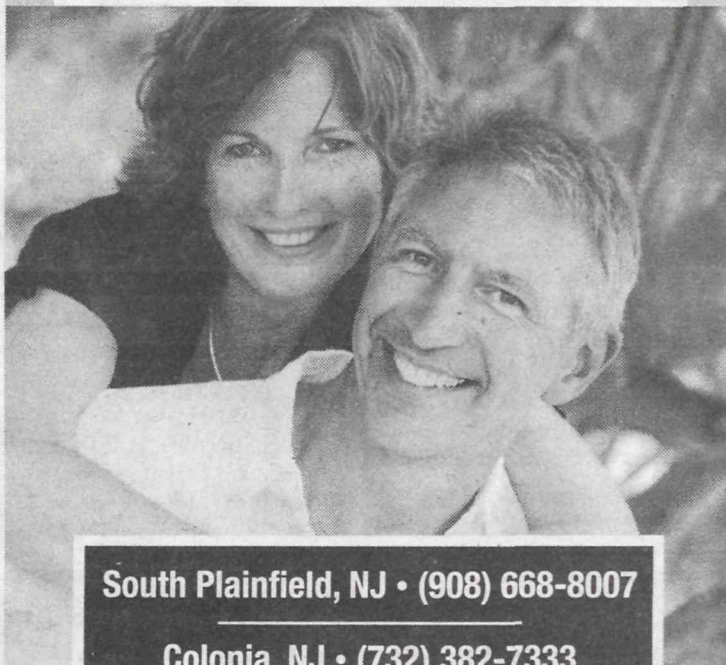
For more information, call the Observer at (908) 668-0010.

Life of a Lego

By Dylan DeLisa

Imagine you're a Lego and this scary drooling "THING" is coming at you, but you're a Lego and you can't move. "Ahh, AHH, AHH! What is that thing?" Bang you fall in fear and break apart. Wow, a dog is coming! *LiiiiCK!* Finally built, you're in this dark scary place and, "Ah.. Ah something else is touching me!" You're in a room where kids don't want you and they toss you aside. You'll end up under a couch, in the cushions, and the bottom of the toy box. Now you are in the trunk of a car. "Well, I guess I'm gonna be in here for a long time," you think. I'm sorry you have to be in there. It's not your fault you are just a Lego.

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The South Plainfield Rescue Squad will hold an Easter Flower Sale on Friday & Saturday, April 22 and 23 from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the rescue squad building, 2520 Plainfield Avenue. Come out and show your support.

events

Around Town

Sacred Heart Lenten Fish Dinners

April 15

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

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.

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.

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.

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 SPSHS 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.

Coins, Precious Metals Program at Library

April 17

The library will host a program on selling coins, paper money and precious metals on Sunday, April 17 at 2 p.m. conducted by Gregory Heim, a coin dealer and professional numismatist with over 37 years of experience, both professionally and in his spare time.

Heim will outline what to expect and how you should be treated when selling your collectibles. Heim will 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.

Business Association Monthly Meeting

April 21

The South Plainfield Business Association will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, April 21 starting at 8:30 a.m. at Sherban's Diner. All businesses are welcome to attend.

For information about the business association, call Nancy Grennier at (908) 668-0010 or visit spba.biz.

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.

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.

Fine Wine, Spirits & Craft Beer Tasting

April 29

The South Plainfield Education Foundation (S.P.E.F.) and the Oak Tree Buy Rite of South Plainfield will be hosting its third annual Fine Wine, Spirits and Craft Beer Tasting Fundraiser on Friday, April 29 at the South Plainfield Italian-American Club, 1001 Garibaldi Ave. from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Advanced tickets are \$30 each or buy four for only \$100. The night of the event tickets will be \$35.

For more information, contact Marge Reedy at (908) 561-5800, ext. 302, Carolyn Allen at (908) 561-3275, Bob Boyle at (908) 599-0699 or Debbie Boyle at (908) 803-1573.

Goodbye Reunion At Sacred Heart

April 30

Sacred Heart School alumni will hold a "Say Goodbye" reunion on Saturday, April 30 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the school; then will continue on to The Pines Manor, 2085 Rt. 27 in Edison for a reception from 7 to 11 p.m. Tickets are \$60.

Join the "Sacred Heart School mid 70s to mid 80s" group on Facebook for details and updates, or email Giannotta at shsreunion_42311@yahoo.com.

— Out of Town —

"Dress Down" Singles Dance

April 15

Steppin' Out Singles will be holding a "dress down" dance party on Friday, April 15 at 8 p.m. at the Woodbridge Hilton, 20 Wood Ave. in Iselin. Ages 40 and up. \$17 admission.

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

The Art of Filipino Palm Weaving

April 16

Palaspas: A Traditional Filipino Palm Weaving Workshop will be held on Saturday, April 16 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at East Jersey Olde Towne Village, 1050 River Rd. in Piscataway. The workshop is offered free of charge but advance registration is required.

Palaspas, which means palm weaving in the Philippine language, is a centuries old tradition practiced in preparation for Palm Sunday.

To register, call (732) 745-4489.

Easter Musical "Raise The Crown"

April 16

Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church, 888 Stuyvesant Ave. in Union will present an Easter Musical, "Raise The Crown" by the church choir on Saturday, April 16 at 7 p.m. Free admission; free will offering accepted.

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

(Closed Good Friday)
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.

Blackrose to Perform

April 16

Blackrose, the band, playing classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will be performing at Tim Kerwin's Pub, 353 Bound Brook Rd. in Middlesex on Saturday, April 16 at 10 p.m. No cover charge.

International Dinner At Willow Grove

April 16

An international dinner will be held at Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, 1961 Raritan Rd. in Scotch Plains on Saturday, April 16 from 5 to 8 p.m. featuring an array of ethnic specialties. Tickets: \$12/adults and teens; \$6/children six to 12; children under five are free. Family max: \$35.

To purchase tickets in advance, call (908) 232-5678.

Temple Sholom Open House

April 17

Temple Sholom of Fanwood/Scotch Plains will host an open house on Sunday, April 17 from 10 a.m. until noon at Union Catholic High School, 1600 Martine Ave. in Scotch Plains.

For information or to register, call (908) 889-4900 or visit www.sholomnj.org.

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- All foreign coins and paper money
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High school softball team with Coaches Don Panzarella and Joe Blondo.



Laine Harris (inset) performs the *Star Spangled Banner*.

Ponytail Softball Opening Day Marks New Season

By Jane Dornick

The Recreation Department's Ponytail Softball League held opening day ceremonies under a bright sky on April 9.

The girls marched proudly across the field and listened to Recreation Director Kevin Hughes' remarks about the highly acclaimed program and his best wishes for a successful season. Laine Harris sang the *Star Spangled Banner* and Recreation Commission President Calvin Gross gave the invocation.

Special guests at the ceremony were members of the high school varsity



Ponytail Softball Vice President Dave DeLair, President Rick McMahon, Recreation Director Kevin Hughes and softball coach Don Panzarella.



Recreation Commission President Calvin Gross

softball team and their coaches, Don Panzarella and Joe Blondo. Veterans of the Ponytail Softball organization, the girls took second place last year in the Greater Middlesex Conference White Division.

Also attending the event were Recreation Commission members Bill DeNitzio and Christine Marks, Council President Ray Rusnak and councilmembers Tim McConville, Chrissy Buteas and Rob Bengivenga.

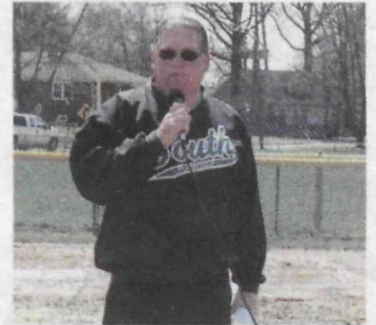
Coach Panzarella threw the first pitch of the season to player Caroline Ratti to begin the season.



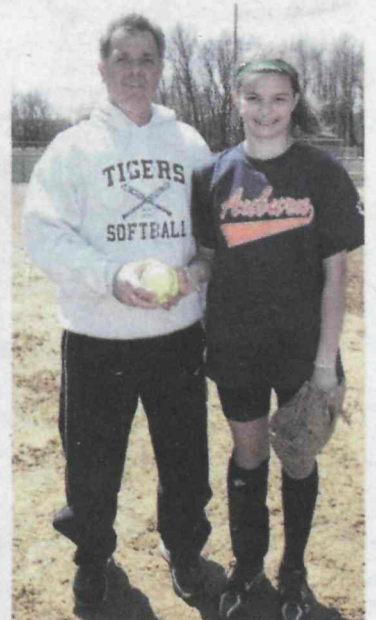
Council President Ray Rusnak



Recreation Director Kevin Hughes



Ponytail Softball President Rick McMahon



High School softball coach Don Panzarella and player Caroline Ratti

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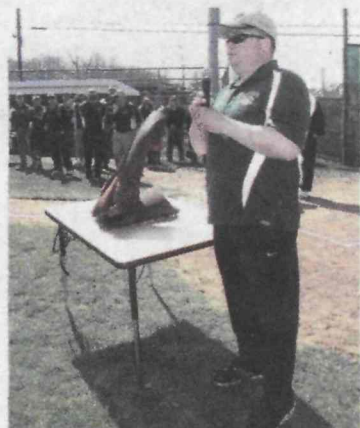


Dennis Kazimir, Frank Smith, Mike Pellegrino, Phil Aiello, Sr. and Owen Kelly

Past commissioners and award recipients



Grand Marshal Pete Magnani with Commissioner Mike Pellegrino



Ricky Donovan stands next to a piece of steel from the World Trade Center.



Commissioner Mike Pellegrino

SPJBC Holds 58th Annual Opening Day Ceremony

By Jane Dornick

It was a beautiful day for the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club's opening day parade and ceremony last Saturday. The morning began with the 29 teams walking to the beat of the high school marching band through the streets led by the fire department and rescue squad to the fields on Spicer Avenue.

Master of ceremonies was Past Commissioner and Lifetime Member Phil Aiello, Sr., who offered up a moment of silence for the men and women serving our country around the world. Doves provided by Kaila's Love Doves were released; Laine Harris sang the *Star Spangled Banner* for the crowd and Rev. Gray offered the invocation and blessing.

Club Commissioner Mike Pellegrino introduced Assistant Commissioners Wendell Born, Gary Lampasona, Dave Maszczak, Tom Scalera, Ricky Donovan, Bob Bors and Mike Rivera, along with trustees Gary Rohrer, Jim Olano, Andy Bythell and Tom Cassio.

Attending the ceremony was Mayor (and coach) Matt Anesh, Council President Ray Rusnak, Councilmembers Chrissy Buteas, Alex Barletta, Rob Bengivenga and Tim McConville, Police Chief Jim Parker and Rescue Squad Captain Ed Laferrara.

Guest speaker was Chris Fallon, graduate of Bayonne High School and St. John's University, who played minor league ball from 2001-2005 for the Kansas City Royals and the Colorado Rockies.

The Grand Marshal and Commissioner's Award was presented to

Pete Magnani, who served as both a coach and manager to his sons, Pete and Craig, in the early 1980s. He also served on the executive board as recording secretary and was in charge of the Rules and By-Laws Committee for many years and served as a snack stand captain. Magnani was instrumental in restructuring the canning fundraiser from soliciting house to house to canning in front of borough businesses. He was named a Lifetime Member in 1992. He also helped remodel the clubhouse in 1989 and assisted in scheduling umpires during tournaments.

Tom Pryor and Pat Muglia received Lifetime Member awards. Pryor was a coach and manager for many years during both the regular and all-star seasons for his sons Mike, Jeff and Tom. He was a snack stand captain and helped maintain the fields which allowed for many upgrades that continue to benefit the club today.

Muglia was a coach and manager for more than 10 years during the regular and all-star seasons for his sons Mike and Nick. He was a trustee and field captain, and he ran many of the club's raffles.

Past Assistant Commissioner Awards were given to Greg Lind and Glenn Graves.

A piece of steel from the World Trade Center was displayed with the intention of creating a future memorial on the grounds with the help of public donations.

Pete Magnani threw out the first pitch of the season to his son, Pete, as the green and white balloons were released, signifying the beginning of the new season.



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Thursday, April 21
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Forum Theatre,
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Show will feature models with hairstyles and dress representing different countries and cultures. The show will be judged by Redken professionals. Silent auction; singers and a dance team will perform. Tickets are \$10 each.

For information or to purchase tickets, call Aimee Stone, (908) 412-9600, ext. 103.

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Sports



Sophomore Quinn Cochrane is called safe at home base (above left) with the game winning run scored last Saturday against Montgomery. Tiger pitcher Ryan Hutchison (right) readies to fire off another pitch.



Winning Saturday for Tigers in Both Varsity Baseball and Softball

In a close game, the Tiger baseball team beat Montgomery, 3-2 on April 9. A sacrifice fly by Brandon Downes brought in the winning run during the fifth inning.

Today the team will play away against Perth Amboy at 3:35 p.m. The team's schedule for the upcoming week looks like this: Two away games on Saturday, April 16; the first at 11

a.m. against Freehold Township High School, then at 7 p.m. against West Deptford High School; at Westfield on Monday, April 16 at 3:45 p.m. and at Colonia on Thursday, April 21 at 10 a.m.

The Lady Tiger softball team continues to roar with a win at home on April 9 against Dunellen, 10-3. Her winning varsity debut in last week's game against Perth Amboy was just the beginning for sophomore pitcher Shannon McMahon, who now holds a 4-0 record with this win, as does the varsity softball team.

Great hitting by team members displayed the force of the Lady Tigers, including two hits each by Shannon Hughes, Gina Louise and Kathryn Podlovits. Liz Gratta hit a double with two runs batted in, as well as outstanding at bats by Jamie Quail, who hit two triples with two runs batted in.

Games planned for the softball team are as follows: at Monroe Township High School on Saturday, April 16 at 10 a.m.; at Carteret on Tuesday, April 19 at 10 a.m.; at home against Colonia on Wednesday, April 20 at 10 a.m.; and at home against Bishop Ahr on Thursday, April 21 at 3:45 p.m.

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Varsity Calendar Highlights

Friday, April 15-Thursday, April 21

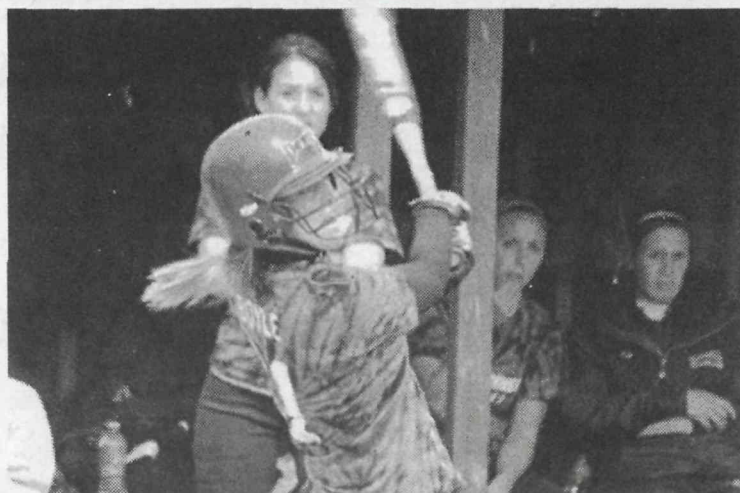
It's spring break—and spring sports for the Tigers continues. Please see story on baseball and softball for those schedules. Other events are as follows:

- **Boys Golf:** home against Edison on Thursday, April 21 at 10 a.m.
- **Girls Lacrosse:** home against J.P. Stevens on Saturday, April 16 at 10 a.m.; away against North Brunswick Township on Thursday, April 21 at 3:45 p.m.
- **Boys Tennis:** home against

Bishop Ahr on Monday, April 18 at 3:45 p.m.; away against Middlesex on Tuesday, April 19 at 10:30 a.m.; away against Perth Amboy on Wednesday, April 20 at 3:45 p.m.; away at Wardlaw-Hartridge School on Thursday, April 21 at 3:45 p.m.

• **Track:** Boys away at South Brunswick at 10 a.m.; girls at home against Bishop Ahr at 3:45 p.m., both on Thursday, April 21.

Please note: Schedules are subject to change.



Megan Boyle was named the offensive star for FDU against King's College.

Boyle Named Offensive Star

The College at Florham Devils split a Freedom Conference doubleheader with King's College last week, winning game one by a score of 6-5 before dropping the nightcap by a margin of 9-1 (5).

With the split, the Devils are now 6-10 (3-1 Freedom) while the Monarchs are 8-6 (4-2 Freedom).

In the first games, FDU got on the board with a run in the bottom of the second on a solo homerun by senior

outfielder Megan Boyle. The King's tied the game 1-1 in the top of the third, but FDU got two runs in the bottom half of the inning on a sacrifice fly from junior pitcher Megan McInaw and a wild pitch. The Devils went up 5-1 in the fourth thanks to a sacrifice fly from sophomore first baseman Elizabeth Spiller and an error by King's. FDU took a 6-1 advantage in the fifth on a solo homerun from junior third baseman Megan Golembiewski. King's got a run in the fifth and three in the sixth to cut the lead to 6-5, but FDU was able to hang on for the win.

Boyle was the offensive star for FDU, going 3-for-3 with a homerun, two runs scored and a RBI. McInaw picked up the win on the mound, tossing seven innings and allowing five runs (none earned) on nine hits while striking out eight.

By Gary Lampasona

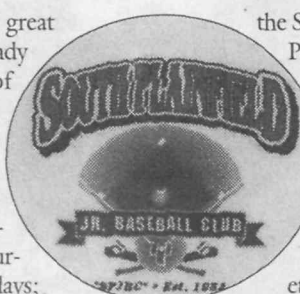
JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

Opening day was a great success and we've already gotten a full week of games in.

There's a lot of excitement at the ball fields everyday. Games start at 6 p.m. week-nights, 10 a.m. on Saturdays and noon on Sundays; come on down and feel the excitement. While you're watching, try our famous snackstand food and I guarantee you will come back—it's not just burgers and dogs!

The first booster weekend is on Friday and Saturday, April 15 and 16. Please check with your manager for your team's specified date and time.

Field duty schedule for this weekend: Saturday, April 16 at 8 a.m. for



the Small Fry B Marlins and Pony B Muckdogs; Sunday, April 17 for Small Fry A Red Sox and Small Fry B Mets. Please do not forget to sign in.

Time is running out to get your tickets for the third annual high school baseball game at TD Bank Park, sponsored by the SPJBC. It will be held on Saturday, April 23 at 4 p.m. against 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.

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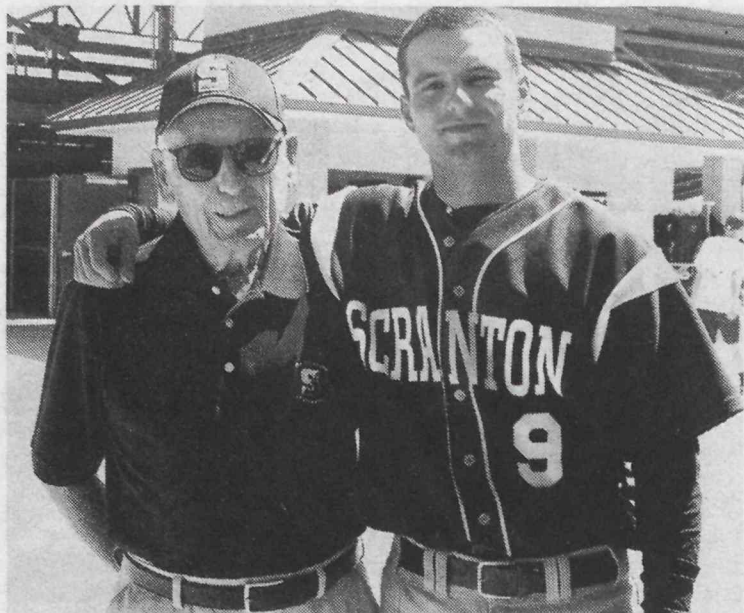
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Third Annual High School Baseball Game at TD Bank Park against JFK (Iselin)

Saturday, April 23, 2011
4:00 PM
Ticket Price: \$10 each

Please see South Plainfield High School Coaches Guida, Mosca, Batista, Darby or one of the players, for ticket purchase. Tickets are good for one (1) general admission seat and one ticket good for a future 2011 Somerset Patriots upper box reserved seating game.

Sports



Chris Stallone with his #1 fan, his 93 year-old grandfather, Ed Tomczyk, who resides in Holiday, Fla.

Stallone Named Landmark Conference Player of the Week

Chris Stallone of South Plainfield, a senior outfielder on the University of Scranton baseball team, was named the Landmark Conference Player of the Week for the period ending March 20.

In a three-game Landmark Conference series against the Merchant Marine Academy March 19-20, Stallone batted .636 (7-for-11) and stole six bases as the Royals won two games to improve to 5-2 overall and 2-1 in conference play. Scranton is off to its best start since 1990.

In a 13-4 victory in the second game of a seven-inning doubleheader on March 19, Stallone went 3-for-3 at the plate,

scored three times and stole three bases. The following day, in a 4-3 win, he had three hits, including an RBI single during a three-run rally in the fifth inning, and stole three more bases to raise his team-leading total to nine.

Stallone has hit safely in six of seven games this season and in 83 of 102 in his four-year career. He is currently batting .440, with a double, three RBI and 11 runs scored.

Career-wise, Stallone has started 101 of 102 games and is batting .411, with 22 doubles, three triples and two home runs. He also has 157 hits, 191 total bases and 72 stolen bases.

SOUTH PLAINFIELD SOCCER CLUB

By Dawn Hutchinson

Tryouts for Fall/Spring Travel Teams

The South Plainfield Soccer Club is preparing for open tryouts for the Fall 2011/Spring 2012 traveling teams. The club provides a rewarding soccer experience for kids ages 7-19*. Boys and girls are placed on age appropriate teams and provided with continuous training through comprehensive professional training and coaching from the coaching staff. The ability to compete against other towns in the area of matched skill levels gives the teams the opportunity to exercise their skills and develop even further.

For years, many clubs have had a stigma that "travel" teams are predetermined and a new member would not have the opportunity to "crack" into the established team. The South Plainfield Soccer Club recognizes that that philosophy does nothing to help the club grow, nor does it give new talent the opportunity to come out and participate in the competitive soccer venue. We have instituted a new way of bringing kids into the club and evaluating talent so that we can best give all kids that chance. With the use of professional trainers to evaluate at tryouts, we can have an unbiased review of all players on the field. Once reviewed and ranked, we can create teams from the pool of players. Provided that we have the number of kids necessary to form teams, we will form subsequent teams in the same age levels. This is exciting for the club, as we will be able to bring more teams on the club's roster, thus giving more kids the travel experience.

We hope that if your child has played

THIS WEEK'S SOCCER CLUB GAMES				
Storm	4/16/11 (Sat)	4:30 PM	Kenneth #1	
Warriors	4/16/11 (Sat)	11:00 AM	Kenneth #2	
Fusion	4/17/11 (Sun)	12:30 PM	Kenneth #1	
Magic	4/17/11 (Sun)	2:30 PM	Kenneth #1	
Spartans	4/17/11 (Sun)	2:00 PM	Kenneth #2	
Eclipse	4/17/11 (Sun)	3:30 PM	Kenneth #2	
Wanderers	4/17/11 (Sun)	1:30 PM	Memorial Field	
Mustangs	4/17/11 (Sun)	3:30 PM	Memorial Field	

Good luck to all our teams this week!

recreational soccer in the past and enjoyed playing, you would consider having him or her come out and participate in the tryouts. As we are committed to making every attempt to giving as many kids the chance to join the club, in return we ask your child's commitment to the following. Our players will receive training in the club through team practices and professional training offered weekly in the fall. The teams from ages seven-14* play both a fall and spring season. Each season consists of 10 games, five games played on the home fields and five played away. Most of the away games are within an hour's travel time and games are only played on the weekends. The U-8 (under eight years old) teams usually play on Saturdays and all other levels normally play on Sundays. There may be an occasional Friday night or Saturday game for those teams due to scheduling. The small sided teams, U-8 through U-11, are co-ed, but wherever possible, if the numbers are there we are always willing to create all girls and boys teams. We ask all players to give their commitment to the team by regularly attending practices and games and being a positive role model to others on the field and off.

As parents in the club, we ask that you volunteer your time to assist the club. We have a wonderful facility located at Kenneth Avenue, which includes two lighted fields, a snackstand and restrooms. Families are asked to take turns working a shift in the snackstand to provide fans and players with all the necessities. We also require help in maintaining the fields with an occasional field duty. In addition, we do fundraising which does include a canning weekend both in the fall and spring, and other various fun events to raise the funds to keep the club going strong.

If you think that the South Plainfield Soccer Club might be a good fit for your child, consider attending tryouts on May 9, 10, 11 and 12. For age levels, times and complete details, please go to www.soplfdsoc

cerclub.com, download the pre-registration form and mail it in by April 30. If you have questions regarding the club and would like to speak to a club representative, call (908) 755-3550; leave a clear message, with your name and number, and someone will return your call.

*Must be seven by July 31, 2011 to be eligible to play in U-8. Children born after July 31, 2004 are not eligible to play travel soccer in the league.

The SPSC scholarship application and requirements can be found on our website: www.soplfdsoccerclub.com. Deadline for submissions is May 20.

Please come out and show your support of our teams!

SPSC Travel Team Tryouts Are May 9-12

The SPSC will hold open tryouts for the U-8 through U-14 travel teams at the Kenneth Avenue Field Complex. U-8, U-9, U-10 and U-11 will be held on Monday, May 9 and Wednesday, May 11. U-12, U-13 and U-14 will be held Tuesday, May 10 and Thursday, May 12. Registration is at 5:30 p.m. and tryouts run from 6 to 8 p.m.

For more information, see the article on this page or go to the website, www.soplfdsoccerclub.com. Pre-registration forms can be found on the website, as well as FAQs.

Obituaries

Linda M. Banilis, 63

Linda M. Banilis died suddenly at her home on Monday, April 4.

Born in Elizabeth, she lived in Roselle most of her life.

She was working as a banquet server at the Hilton Garden Inn located in Raritan Center, Edison.

Linda enjoyed reading, TV, cooking, family Sunday dinners and most importantly music, especially doo-wop. She was always willing to lend a helping hand whether to a friend or a stranger and the world was a better place for her having been here. An avid animal lover, she took care of all the family pets and was always found helping stray animals. Linda loved spending time with her family and friends and will be sadly missed by all those who knew and loved her.

She is predeceased by her mother, Josephine (Mellish), who died February 11, 1980.

Linda leaves behind her father, Charles; two sisters, Connie and hus-

band Vincent Cannata of Piscataway and Karen and husband Minas Frangos of Edison.

She will be missed dearly by a niece and nephews, Joseph Frangos and wife Marie, Cristi, Nicholas and Kevin Cannata; a great-nephew, Minas Joseph Frangos; and a great-niece, Alessandra Marie Frangos, along with all of her extended family and friends.

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

James G. Schnyderite, 84

James G. Schnyderite died on Saturday, April 9 at home surrounded by his family.

Born and raised in Larksville, Pa., Mr. Schnyderite resided in Newark prior to settling in Edison.

During WWII James served with the Navy as a carpenter's mate.

He worked as a mechanic for the John P. Callaghan Company in

Harrison and was also a member of the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203.

He is predeceased by two sisters, Marie Chabala and Jean Zimmerman.

Surviving are his wife, Agnes; a daughter, Cheryl Morette and husband Fred of Port Monmouth; two sons, James and wife Karen of Plainsboro and Ronald Sr. and wife Mary Ann of South Plainfield; a brother, George and wife Marge of Keansburg; and six grandchildren, James and John Schnyderite, Ronald Schnyderite Jr., Kelly Graham, Grace May Casper and Joseph Morette. Also surviving are three great-grandchildren, Jillian Schnyderite, Peter Morette and Colin James Casper.

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



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Residents Meet BOE Candidates

(Continued from page 1)

\$1M to "hit a ball." Farinella was not in favor of the cap either and neither were in favor of tenure reform.

Sorrentino said tenure needs to be reformed. "There are teachers who sit at a desk and do nothing but count down the days," he said, and he does not agree with the superintendent salary cap. "If they do the job, they need to make the extra money," stated Sorrentino. Miller does believe in tenure, but added that the "process needs to be evaluated." Gregov, who is employed in management, is for the cap and felt that if superintendents do not agree they should "leave and they should hire new ones." He is also against tenure and is in favor of merit based pay.

When asked about bringing back the third grade band program, Farinella felt the program is important

and that there are "places to look and ways to find money" such as in the negotiation of teachers' contracts or after school programs that "may not be working." Pennisi explained that the decision to eliminate the band was a "matter of timing and scheduling" and it should be returned.

Shah, who is an eight-year resident, has one child in Grant School and another in Roosevelt. He believes in improving technology in the district as did Gregov, who is a four-year resident and has a one-year-old child.

None of the candidates favor school uniforms or pay to play athletics.

The BOE budget and election vote will take place on Wednesday, April 27. Meet the Candidates Night can be viewed on Comcast Ch. 96 on Tuesday, April 19 at 9 p.m. and Saturday, April 23 at 9 p.m.

Model UN Club Heads to D.C.

(Continued from page 1)

for it. It's awesome!" exclaimed Mike Grzenda.

Club members don't receive an academic grade for their participation but have the opportunity to experience learning outside the classroom and enhance public speaking abilities and diplomatic skills. Miten Shah stated, "To have students who participate in Model UN without any actual tangible reward is amazing—it makes me proud and glad to teach in this district with such individuals."

The SPMUN Club is not stopping at Washington, D.C. Plans are underway for a one-day conference

for members of the entire club to gain debate experience next year. Shah also succeeded in scheduling a school assembly on April 11 for the team of Invisible Children, an organization who spreads awareness and creates ways for people to help the child soldiers in Uganda. Also, a much-anticipated ping-pong tournament will be held this spring along with a trip to the United Nations Headquarters in New York on June 4. After four years, this club has come a long way and will always continue to show the excellence of South Plainfield's finest students.

—Submitted by Payal Sindha and Jennifer Tercek

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Eve Pasternak

April is National Poetry Month. It's a perfect time to express yourself in verse. But I'll stop now before this gets any worse.

Even if I can't write poetry, this is a great month to enjoy reading some poetry. Why not look up your old favorites, or perhaps discover some new ones? Page through *Americans' Favorite Poems*, edited by Robert Pinsky and Maggie Dietz, or *Master Poems of the English Language*, edited by Oscar Williams. Enjoy one of the many picture books that have rhyming texts, or try a full-length novel in verse. Young readers should take a look at *Love That Dog*, by Sharon Creech and its sequel, *Hate That Cat*, or *Brains For Lunch: A Zombie Novel in Haiku* by K.A. Holt (but adults will get a kick out of them, too). More mature readers will savor the works of Ellen Hopkins, Nikki Grimes, Ron Koertge and Ann Burg, among others. "Novels in Verse" is the search term to use in the online catalog.

There is a lot going on at the library this week!

On Sunday, April 17 at 2 p.m., South Plainfield resident Gregory Heim will speak about coins, paper money and precious metals and what to expect when selling your collectibles. An experienced coin dealer, Heim will outline what you should or should not say or do when selling material. Attendees may bring items which he will examine, if time allows. The program is presented free of charge and pre-registration is not necessary.

On Monday, April 18, children ages

six to 10 are invited to a Kidcraft program. The always popular program runs from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Space is limited, so pre-registration, along with a materials fee of \$1, is required.

Wednesday, April 20, brings Eliot the Super Magic Man! He'll be performing high energy, family-friendly, unforgettable magic at the senior center at 6:30 p.m. The fun is for children four years and older—they have to be able to sit. There is no pre-registration or fee, but families are asked to bring a new, unopened, non-perishable food item for each person attending. Donations go to the Middlesex County community food drive.

Storytimes are in full swing. There will be stories and a craft Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. for children four and older. Programs for two- and three-year-olds will be at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday and Thursday.

The library will be closed Friday, April 22, in observance of Good Friday and Sunday, April 24, for Easter. The website, www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us, with the library catalog and databases, is available 24/7. If you need to renew a book when the library is closed, you can do it on the website, or by calling ELVIS (the automated renewal system) at (908) 757-3280. Have your library card and the books handy when you call.

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Gina Nobile gives a presentation on defibrillators to Boy Scout Troop 104.

Nobile Brings Defibrillator Training to Boy Scouts

Gina Nobile, a South Plainfield resident and paramedic student at Union County College, gave a presentation on defibrillators to the Scotch Plains Boy Scout Troop 104 recently.

With the help of fellow EMT and CPR instructor Paul Arroyo from Arbor Rescue Squad, the pair taught the basics of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs). The outline included when and how to use AEDs, where they might be found, and the importance of having a defibrillator or AED available. Gina and Paul took the boys through a variety of scenarios where each individual had the oppor-

tunity to play a part of a resuscitative team. Training AEDs were introduced and used during the mock drills.

Gina is sponsored by Raritan Bay Medical Center in Perth Amboy. She also works for Raritan Bay Medical Center and serves as an EMT for the City of Perth Amboy. Paul Arroyo is a CPR and lifeguard instructor for the American Red Cross and American Heart Association.

Anyone interested in becoming CPR certified or would like more information about AEDs, they can contact Gina at nobileg@hotmail.com or Paul at pdaemt4566@hotmail.com.

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—9 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Easter celebration—10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.

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Congratulations Christopher! #1

JUNIOR JOURNALIST

Debbie and Charlie Kurland of Hometown Heros deliver dinner to Junior Journalist winner Christopher Shine pictured with his parents, Phil and Cheryl; brother, Brandon; and grandmother, Carol.

southplainfieldpeople

Milestones

Matthew Galinsky Receives Academic Award at The College of New Jersey

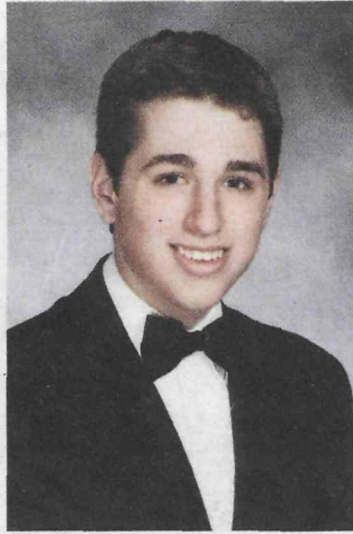
Matthew Galinsky, currently a freshman at The College of New Jersey, has been chosen to receive an academic award from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the annual department awards ceremony. Award recipients are selected by the faculty

who consider not only grades, but also the level of difficulty of courses taken and the quality of the contributions made to the department. These awards are significant honors earned by the most deserving students.

Matthew is in the TCNJ Honors Program, majoring in mathematics, and has maintained a 4.0 GPA. An awards ceremony and buffet dinner will be held on Thursday, April 28 during which Matthew will be honored by his department.

Matthew has also been invited to attend the President's Reception for Donors and Scholars on April 26 hosted by The College of New Jersey Foundation. This event celebrates private support for today's students and recognizes the sponsors and recipients of private scholarships. Matthew is one of two recipients of a TCNJ Alumni Association merit scholarship for the next three years.

A lifelong resident of South Plainfield, Matthew graduated in 2010 from St. Joseph High School in Metuchen.



Matthew Galinsky

Richie Szeliga Named Winner of Marcia Manns Scholarship

Richie Szeliga has been selected as the winner of the 2010 Marcia Manns Scholarship. Richie has been a part of The First Tee of Plainfield program since its inception. He is an excellent student with a great attitude.

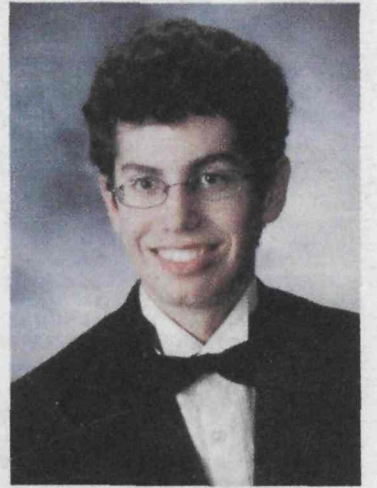
Well-liked by his teachers and his peers, Richie has earned honor roll status at South Plainfield High School. He has also earned a letter at SPSHS all four years of his high school career.

Richie was captain of the golf team

and was one of the main reasons that the Tigers had a winning record during his senior year. Mike Kavka, SPSHS golf coach, said, "Without Richie's leadership and effort, we would not have done as well. Our team will miss him."

Richie also won the 2010 Greater Middlesex County Individual Championship in a playoff.

Richie is studying civil engineering at Stevens Institute in Hoboken. He plans on competing for the golf team.



Matthew Brazza

Matthew Brazza Named to Dean's List at Rutgers

Matthew Brazza of South Plainfield was named to the dean's list at Rutgers School of Engineering for the Fall 2010 semester.

Matthew is a 2010 graduate of South Plainfield High School where he was a member of the SPSHS Marching Band.



Lyndsey Murtagh

Lyndsey Murtagh Inducted Into Honor Society

Lyndsey Murtagh has accepted membership in The National Society of Collegiate Scholars. She will be honored during an induction convocation this fall at Montclair State University.

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars is a symbol of academic achievement and is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies. It is the nation's only interdisciplinary honors organization for first and second year college students.

The South Plainfield Elks Veterans Committee is selling the Entertainment Book for \$30. Contact Lou Peralta at (908) 756-6406.

April Holiday Schedule at Recycling Complex and Curbside Collection

The Recycling Center will be closed on Friday, April 22 for the Good Friday holiday. The center will be open instead from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, April 21.

The recycling center and the yard waste site will be open as usual on Saturday, April 23 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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

The yard waste site is on its summer schedule, open 12 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays. Call the recycling hotline at (908) 226-7620 for updates.

La Hookah

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LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Gordon and Sheryl Lapp requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit 1) front porch requires a 30' front yard setback; 23.35' is proposed; 2) Add-a-level requires an 8' side yard setback; 5.7' is proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 1906 Grant Avenue, Block 23, Lot 12; Zone R-7.5 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 p.m.

\$38.50

April 15, 2011

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Ron Snyder requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the existing foundation to remain at 29' for the front porches; 30' front yard setback is required; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 116-118 Teeple Place, Block 254, Lot 20; Zone R-7.5 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 p.m.

\$38.50

April 15, 2011

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Michael S. Surowiec requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit 1) story addition requires 1) secondary front front yard setback from Willow Avenue, 40' required; 20.5' is proposed; 2) Lot coverage variance; 25% allowed; 25.1% proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 116 Ralph Avenue, Block 278, Lot 9; Zone R-7.5 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 p.m.

\$38.50

April 15, 2011