Happy Mother's Day!

WTH PLAMFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY South Plainfield

VOL. 14, NO. 35

THE OBSERVER

Member New Jersey Press Association

60 CENTS

MAY 6, 2011

High Speed Crash Destroys Home; Two Injured

Omar Jobe, 28 of Plainfield struck the front of a house at 407 Maple Avenue on Tuesday morning. Jobe was driving a 1994 Ford Econoline Van owned by Lighthouse Catering, 230 Johnston Ave. in Plainfield, where he

is employed. Witnesses reported that the van was being operated recklessly, passing several vehicles at a high rate of speed. Jobe struck the rear of a 2007 Infiniti, operated by Ermina Lirio of Rahway. The van struck the front

driver's side against the home.

The home was occupied at the time by Susan Weiseman, 57 and her son Christopher, 21 who were not injured. The home sustained major structural

of the house and came to rest on its damage and an order to vacate was issued by the South Plainfield Building Department. Housing for the Weisemans was being provided by the South Plainfield Social Services Department.

stuck by a NJ Transit Bus Stop sign taken down in the crash. That vehicle was owned by Howard Evert, 85, A third vehicle, a 2009 Ford Explor-

(Continued on page 9)

er parked in the driveway of 411 Maple

Ave., was also damaged when it was



PSE&G work to shut off the gas to a Maple Avenue home after a van traveling at a high rate of speed crashed into the home and damaged the gas line.

Senior Center, Municipal **Pool to See Improvements**

By Libby Barsky

Seniors and visitors who use the auditorium at the Senior Center have often complained that it was a bit chilly, but alterations scheduled to take place in July should make

walls to be insulated, sheetrocked and painted. The ceiling will also be insulated, and blinds will be installed on the windows.

At Monday night's Bor-



The ladies at Southside Salon on South Clinton Avenue dress to celebrate the Royal Wedding. Pictured (L-R) are Barbara Denaia, Chris Martz, Rachele Starr, Michele Lombardi, Katy Bencivenga and client Mark Hampton, who was a good sport and also donned a hat for the photo.

the room more comfortable. ough Council meeting, the Plans call for the cinder block council passed a resolution approving \$16,220 from the 2011 Community Development Block Grant for the project. The council also approved the bid from Tri Form Construction of Metuchen for the senior center alterations at a cost of \$11,900, painting the walls at a cost of \$3,375 and installing window blinds at a cost of \$995.

Borough youngsters will also see improvements in the area surrounding the community pool. The council authorized the purchase and installation of playground equipment. The cost will be \$33,500, of which \$22,500 will come from the Recreation Trust Fund and the remainder from the Capital Pool account.









John Sorrentino

Voters Say No to BOE Budget Miller, Sorrentino, Farinella Elected

Board of Education budget by 108 votes last Wednesday. The final vote was 1,020 to 912. If approved, property taxes would have increased by approximately \$135 on the average home assessed at \$123,000. Of the 13,712 eligible voters, 1,932

cast votes (14%). Seven candidates vied for a three year term. The top vote or leave it alone. At Monday's getter was incumbent Sharon meeting, the council hired the

jected the proposed 2011/12 followed by Joe Sorrentino, 765 and John Farinella, 730. Incumbents Steven Bohn received 715 votes; Pio Pennisi received 624. First time candidates Jignesh Shah and Michael Gregov received 525 and 492 votes, respectively.

The borough council will now have the option to make spending cuts to the budget

South Plainfield voters re- Miller, who received 906 votes, firm of Suplee Clooney to provide accounting and professional services to the mayor and council regarding the school budget at a cost of \$7,000. No date has been set for the council to discuss what, if any, cuts they will propose. Any cuts proposed by the council can either be approved by the BOE, or if they disagree, they can appeal to the state.

This will be the second, three-(Continued on page 8)

In My Opinion

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

Dear Editor,

After reading Councilman Bengivenga's letter in the April 29 Observer (which was in response to my April 22 letter), my first inclination was to respond in kind. However, after further thought, it appeared to me that a response would not serve to further the discussion on the issue of whether or not the use of a \$750,000 "contribution" by the library to balance the 2011 Municipal Budget was proper.

We are a nation of laws and the action of the administration in taking the \$750,000 was done pursuant to a law enacted in 2010. The action of the Library Board of Trustees in designating funds, built up over 20 years through frugal and prudent fiscal policies, to be used for a new library, was also done pursuant to that same statute. From the numerous letters and newspaper articles that have appeared in recent weeks, it is obvious that the Library Board and the administration interpret the statute differently. The statute sets forth a process for determining whose interpretation is, in fact, the correct one.

Rather than increasing the rhetoric, which serves no useful purpose, it is time to take a step back and let the statutory process (including any appeals of an unfavorable decision by either side) run its course. Council-

council

June 6 .

zoning

Nov. 10*, Dec. 8*

Agenda Meeting

planningboard

Want to stay informed about the business of your Council and BOE?

..... Public Meeting

... June 6

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.

May 26, June 9, June 23, July 28, Aug. 11, Aug. 25, Sept. 8, Sept. 22, Oct. 13, Oct. 27,

South Plainfield

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

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

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

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

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*

Council days at 7 p.m.

contact the Observer.

Meets twice a month on Mondays, *except where noted.

Borough Hall Council Chambers • Questions? 908-226-7605

Borough Council meetings air on Comcast Channel 96 Mondays at 7 p.m. BOE meetings air on Thurs-

To purchase a complete copy of a council or BOE meeting,

man Bengivenga and I worked closely on former Mayor Butrico's ad hoc committee which came up with a proposal for a new library. I would be more than happy to sit down with Councilman Bengivenga, one-onone, to discuss any matter related to the library.

ERIC M. ARONOWITZ, PRESIDENT LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Residents of South Plainfield,

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus recently completed their annual coat and blanket drive from September until April. Clothing bins were located at Our Lady of Czestochowa and Sacred Heart churches, as well as at the Knights Hall. Over the duration of the drive 498 coats were collected along with 77 blankets, 624 miscellaneous items (gloves, scarves and clothing) and 35 toys that were generously donated.

The Knights would like to thank all of the residents who donated items; everything collected was given to FISH who donate these items to the homeless and less fortunate.

The Knights would also like to thank Father Majiec and Father John for allowing the Knights to have bins at their churches as well as the Piersanti Family (Karen, Michael and Allyson) and Greg and Betty Gaydos for the

great job in running this fundraiser. THANK YOU,

JOE SCRUDATO, GRAND KNIGHT

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter to thank my fellow community members for the opportunity to serve as a member of the South Plainfield Board of Education. I believe that our South Plainfield Public Schools are the most valuable resource in our community and I will seek to maintain and strengthen the many opportunities that the South Plainfield Public Schools offer to our students. I believe that each child in the South Plainfield Public Schools can be successful if he/she is inspired, challenged and supported by caring and competent members of our school community and community

I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Board of Education, with the administration, faculty and staff of our district, and with our community stakeholders.

In closing I, again, thank you for the opportunity to serve in this important role as we cooperatively support and celebrate the individual successes and opportunities for all of our students, teachers, administrators, parents and community members.

SINCERELY. JOHN T. FARINELLA, JR., J.D.

Dear Editor,

I would like to start by saying thank

you to my family, friends and all members of our wonderful community. I appreciate all of the support I have received on my path to the Board of Education. Throughout this election process, many issues were discussed concerning our public schools. Once sworn into the South Plainfield Board of Education, I will attend to these vital issues immediately. Everyone should know that a good quality education for all of our students is a main goal of mine.

Last week, I had the pleasure of visiting every school in our district. I took some time to go introduce myself to the administration and staff members at the high school, middle school and all of the elementary schools. This was such an awesome experience. Principals, teachers, secretaries and custodians were so welcoming towards me. I

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had the chance to involve myself in Career Day at the high school. After that, I toured the other schools and observed the youth of our community engaged in well prepared lessons and participating in a variety of learning environments. The excellent behavior of our students really impressed

I consider myself lucky to have this great opportunity because it will allow me to give something back to South Plainfield. Our excellent school system got me ready to be a successful young adult and I want to ensure that all of our students have the same preparation. I look forward to working for the betterment of South Plainfield Public Schools. Thanks again for all of the help and support I have received. Finally, I have a special thank you to Mrs. Doyan's first grade class. During my visit at Kennedy School, I was invited to read the class a story. They were a magnificent group and I

am excited for my next visit. THANKS AGAIN, **JOSEPH SORRENTINO**

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the South Plainfield Business Association, I would like to thank the volunteers who participated in last week's Career Day held at South Plainfield High School. The panel included Ardis DeCamp, Ralph Errico, Dawn Farinella, Gregory Heim, James Kenny, Bob Longo, Frank Mikorski, Dr. Tania Otero, John Sickles, Joyce Signorile, David Spatz, Joe Sorrentino and Debbie Boyle.

I would also like to thank Guidance Counselor Elaine Gallo, who did a terrific job of preparing the students and setting up the high school auditorium. Also, a special thank you to Trudy at Haisch's Bakery for donat-

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.

ing the delicious pastries.

Because of Career Day, high school juniors learned a lot about choosing a career as well as the education and experience needed.

Again, thanks to everyone who participated in Career Day; without you this day would not have been a

NANCY GRENNIER, PRESIDENT SP BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Dear Editor,

I just wanted to take a minute to thank acting Superintendent Bowen for his assistance in getting our fence at Riley School fixed! After speaking with him on a Friday afternoon about the safety factor of our broken fence, the next Monday it was fixed! This fence has been a problem for more than two years! Our children can now play safely without having to trip over rusted pieces of fencing. Your prompt attention to this matter was very much appreciated.

KIMBERLY ANESH

Dear Editor,

As a past president of the South Plainfield Historical Society, I would like to know if anyone can fill in the (Continued on page 9)



8:00 PM So. Plainfield High School

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

We encourage the submission of stories and photos. To get an article published: Type (double spaced) the article and mail, email or fax. Include name, address and telephone number. *Deadline for submission is Monday, 5 p.m.* LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Submit letters to the editor by mail, email or fax. Letters should not exceed 200 words. We reserve the right to

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

edit for clarity or length. Letters must include name and phone number, for verification

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

policereport

- On April 14 Dublin Services Inc. on Kennedy Road reported the theft of emergency strobe lights from four of their trucks
- · On April 15 Charles Romaniak, 55, of Manalapan was arrested for driving while intoxicated, refusal to submit to breath testing, improper parking and careless driving.
- On April 16 William T. Heyward was arrested for possession of an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle and an outstanding warrant.
- · A Hancock Street resident reported the theft of their Blackberry phone while entertaining a group of friends at their residence.
- · A Manning Avenue resident reported the theft of their wallet from their unlocked vehicle.
- · On April 19 a Wadsworth Avenue resident reported the theft of a Mio GPS from their unlocked vehicle.
- On April 20 Franklin School reported that a window had been bro-

ken on the north side of the building.

- · Lukoil on Stelton Road reported that a short, heavy set black female had opened the cash register and fled with approximately \$150 in cash.
- · On April 21 Jeanett M. Natal, 35, of Plainfield was arrested for a fraudulent inspection sticker and two outstanding warrants.
- On April 23 Djello K. Lumor, 19, of Piscataway was arrested at Macy's for shoplifting a Ralph Lauren shirt worth \$98.
- · On April 24 a Kaine Avenue resident reported the theft of their cell phone from their vehicle that was left running outside their home.
- A Rush Street resident reported the theft of an air conditioner com-
- · On April 26 Justin C. Curry, 21, of North Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant.



Roosevelt School students blow bubbles in an attempt to break a Guinness world record.

Students Blow Bubbles for Autism Awareness

By Jane Dornick

Students at Roosevelt Elementary School participated in the Families for Autistic Children Education & Support (FACES) eighth annual Blow Bubbles for Autism Awareness. The organization was attempting to break the Guinness Book of World Records for the most people blowing bubbles simultaneously across the country at 10 a.m. on April 15 for one minute. Last year the event went international.

Many schools have also been collecting monetary donations since FACES inception at Ventnor Elementary School eight years ago. Students in South Jersey schools raised over \$3,000 with dress-down days, selling awareness "puzzle" pins, carnivals, walk-a-thons and pretzel sales. Last

year's donations helped children and families with autism to attend special training for autism, to educate teachers and families on autism and to offer children the chance to play at special events just for them.

April is Autism Awareness Month. Bubbles are symbols of joy, hope and laughter. Spreading autism awareness in the form of glycerin bubbles across the sky are messages of hope to families dealing with autism.

201104 0031



The 36th annual Feast of St. Anfrom 3-5 p.m. in the church hall. In addition, advance ride tickets thony runs Tuesday through Saturday, June 7-11 on the grounds of will be sold at The Bagel Pantry, 2328 Our Lady of Czestochowa RC Plainfield Ave.; The Corner Deli, Church, 909 Hamilton Blvd. The feast features rides, licensed tionary, Sampton Ave.; The Front

Feast of St. Anthony Begins June 7

games, homemade Polish, Italian and Caribbean foods, hot dogs, hamburgers, french fries, pizza frite, zeppoli, hot roast beef sandwiches, homemade mozzarella and much more.

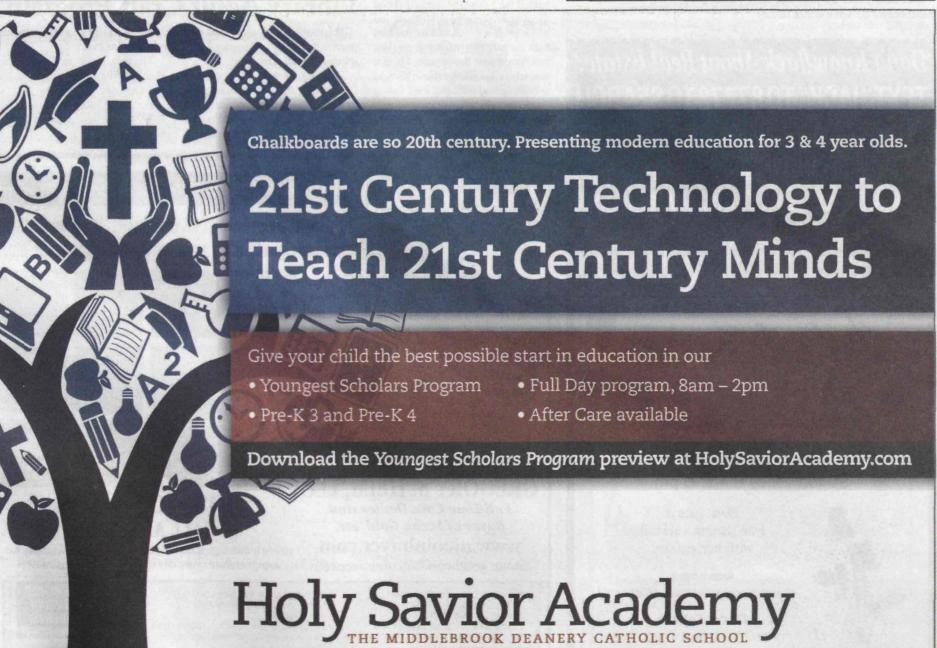
will be on sale for \$10. The special specially priced rides and food. priced tickets can be purchased after 4:30 p.m. Masses on Saturday and the party, call (908) 753-5970. 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday Masses. Tickets will also be sold Monday, May open on Tuesday, June 7 through 9, 16, 23 and 30 from 7-8 p.m., June Friday, June 10 from 6-11 p.m., and 4 and 5 from 1-4 p.m. and on June 6 on Saturday, June 11 from 1-11 p.m.

1200 Hamilton Blvd.; Dave's Sta-Street Farmer's Market, 214 Front St.; and Oak Tree Liquors, 902 Oak

Birthday parties of at least six or more are also welcome to celebrate Advance ride tickets, valued at \$18, at the feast on Saturday, June 11 with

For information on scheduling a

The Feast of St. Anthony will be



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For information, to register or to sign up for a tour visit HolySaviorAcademy.com.



Performer Dave Street with students (L-R) Anushka Jariwala, Angela Ramos, Kourtney Scipio and Gregory Algarin.

Street Teaches Students To Slam Dunk the Junk

By Jane Dornick

Environmentalist, teacher, motivational speaker and author Dave Street presented the "Let's Slam Dunk the Junk" assembly to students at Roosevelt Elementary School on April 11.

In 2009, the New Jersey Clean Communities Council asked its environmental assembly presenters to incorporate the "Slam Dunk the Junk" theme into their presentations. Street, a borough resident, met the challenge by writing a new book, Let's Slam Dunk the Junk, with artist David Cutting, and an original song as well.

In his presentation, Street shows students that by "slam-dunking the junk" they can prevent litter, increase recycling and reusing, learn about the human impact on storm water and help save animals.

Let's Slam Dunk the Junk can be purchased for \$2 and contains education pages on litter prevention, recycling and reusing, and activity pages including a crossword puzzle reinforcing the message. Contact Dave directly at godave908@yahoo.com for further information or to place an order.

This is Street's second book. His first book, How the Land of Litter Became the Kingdom of Clean, is about dragons that recycle and knights that litter until they work together as a team to keep the kingdom clean.

Street has been presenting programs at schools and events for over 15 years. He is a former teacher, comedian and actor with a master's degree in education from Rutgers University and has been honored by the New Jersey State Senate for his work. He has also performed on Broadway and national TV and has been the emcee of EcoFest, New York City's environmental festival, for the past few years.

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Catering On and Off Premises

Library Sponsors Digital Photography Workshop

By Patricia Abbott

The South Plainfield Public Library hosted "Digital Photo I-Getting to Know Your Digital Camera," a unique workshop presented by well known New Jersey photographer Walter Choroszewski.

Using an overhead PowerPoint display, Choroszewski took the audience on a journey across the timeline of photography from its early days. He spoke about Frenchman Louis Daguerre, the inventor of the first practical process of photography. In 1829 Daguerre formed a partnership with Joseph Nicephore Niepce to improve the process Niepce had developed. In time they introduced the daguerreotype process to the public on August 19, 1839.

Choroszewski's expert knowledge and witty delivery kept the audience's attention. He fast forwarded, touching on 50 years of breakthroughs and advancements in film and cameras until 1889 when George Eastman invented film that could be rolled, making the mass-produced box camera a reality. Eastman Kodak became a wellknown name in years to come.

The program included explanations of film speeds, shutter openings, lenses, lighting, print sizes, camera settings and much more. After setting the scene, he entered the age of digital photography.

Most of those attending brought their cameras, and the questions were fast and furious. Choroszewski answered each and every question in detail. He explained various camera settings and offered advice on what type of camera to buy and where, based on the individual's needs.

Judy England-McCarthy, who attended the workshop, said, "I found the presentation both informative and hands on. I hope the library has him back for part two-what you do once you have taken the picture. He is a man who is knowledgeable in his field of expertise and willing to share it with others in a friendly, yet professional, manner. Perhaps some handouts could be made available since so much use-



Grace Kadingo and photographer Walter Choroszewski discuss Grace's camera.

ful information was conveyed. For myself, I would suggest coming with pen and paper just in case, so you don't miss a thing."

Walter Choroszewski made his presence known in New Jersey in 1980 when he was commissioned by a book publisher to do a photo essay on New Jersey. New Jersey, A Scenic Discovery was published in 1981. His photography was the inspiration for the New Jersey State Tourism campaign, "New Jersey and You...Perfect Together!" He and his wife reside in Somerset.

Library Adult Craft Program

There will be an adult craft program at the library on Monday, May 9 starting at 6:15 p.m.

The program will be led by Nancy Leary. She'll show participants how to make a marbleized silk scarf. This program is for adults only. Space is limited, so pre-registration is required.

There is a \$10 materials fee, payable upon registration.

The library is located in the South Plainfield Municipal Complex at 2484 Plainfield Ave.

For more information, call (908) 754-7885 or visit www.southplain



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Around Town

County American Legion Convention

American Legion members from throughout Middlesex County will convene at Post 243, 243 Oak Tree Ave. on Saturday, May 7 at 9 a.m. to elect officers for the 2011-2012 year and present county Americanism awards to area students. Outgoing County Commander Jim Muller, of Clara Barton Post 324, Edison will preside and give the oath of office to incoming Commander Ron Davie of Iselin Post 471. All Middlesex County American Legion members are en-

Elks Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast May 8

couraged to attend.

The South Plainfield Elks, 1254 New Market Ave., will host a Mother's Day pancake breakfast on Sunday, May 8 from 8 a.m. until noon. The menu will feature pancakes, eggs made to order, French toast, bacon, sausage, home fries, toast, juice and coffee. Cost is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors, \$4 for children ages three to 12 and free for ages two and under. A flower will be given to all mothers in attendance.

For more information, call (908) 668-9750.

Historical Society Monthly Meeting

The South Plainfield Historical Society will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 10 at 7 p.m. at the History Center, Roosevelt Administration Building, lower level on the Jackson Avenue side. Everyone is welcome. Come and learn something new about your town. This area was settled beginning in the 1660s by people seeking religious freedom.

SP Ed. Foundation, SPBA Golf Outing

The South Plainfield Education Foundation and the South Plainfield Business Association will hold its annual golf outing on Tuesday, May 10 at the Cranbury Golf Club in West Windsor. Entry fee is \$150.

To sign up, call Carolyn Allen at (908) 561-3275, Shannon Jefferys (908) 757-1055 or log on to golf@SPBA.biz or vision2001.org.

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.

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Comedy Night at Sacred Heart School

Sacred Heart School, located on South Plainfield Avenue, will hold a comedy night on Saturday, May 14 from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Tickets are \$30 and include buffet dinner and show.

For tickets, call (732) 406-9728.

Pack 207 Holding **Blood Drive**

May 18

Boy Scout Pack 207 will hold a blood drive on Wednesday, May 18 from 2 to 8 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Hamilton Blvd.

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.

Fire Department Comedy Night

May 21

The South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department is sponsoring "Comedy Night" on Saturday, May 21 at 8 p.m. in the SPHS auditorium. All tickets are \$16 and will be sold at the door. Professional comics featuring Mike Morse, as heard on XM every Sunday, Jim Dailakis and James Oakes.

Business Association Monthly Meeting

May 26

The South Plainfield Business Association will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, May 26 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.

Sacred Heart 5K Run & One Mile Fun Walk

June 11

Sacred Heart will hold the second annual 5K Run and One Mile Fun Walk on Saturday, June 11. Application fee is \$20 if paid before May 1; \$25 after that date; one mile walk is \$10 for family or individual. Free t-shirt to first 100 paid participants.

Register at www.sacredheartsp.net or call Carl Adlassnig at (908) 757-1933.

— Out of Town

Fish or Chicken and Chips Dinner

May 6

Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church, Stuyvesant Avenue and Chestnut Street in Union, will hold a fish or chicken and chips dinner on Friday, May 6 from 5 to 7 p.m. Cole slaw, homemade desserts, coffee, tea and juice. Eat in or take out. Adults \$13; children under 12, \$7. Reservations are suggested.

For reservations or more information, call (908) 688-3164.

Blackrose to Perform May 7

Blackrose, the band, playing classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will be performing at the Stagehouse Tavern, 366 Park Ave. in Scotch Plains on Saturday, May 7 at 10 p.m. No cover charge.

Motorcycle Run for Eric LeGrand

A motorcycle run will be held as a fundraiser on Saturday, May 7 for Eric LeGrand, the Rutgers football player who was paralyzed from the neck down during a game in October 2010. The motorcycle run will be held around the Central New Jersey area. The cost is \$25 for riders and \$15 for passengers and includes food, live music and a police escort.

For more information, please call (732) 754-4433, email eeismont@ comcast.net or visit www.ericle grandpatriotsaintfoundation.com.

Medical Qi Gong **Meditation Class**

May 7

Medical Qi Gong, a course of meditation exercises, is being offered at Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, 1961 Raritan Road in Scotch Plains on Saturday, May 7 from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

For more information, call (908) 232-5678 or email info@willow grovechurch.org.

Free Music Program

A special musical program will be presented, honoring Learning for Life's fortieth year of cultural programs in the Plainfield area, on Monday, May 9 at 12:45 p.m. It is free of charge and all are welcome.

The Learning for Life program is held in the facilities of the United Presbyterian Church, 525 Front St. in Plainfield. Use the office entrance, last door to the left when facing the church complex from the rear parking lot.

Annual Gourmet Food & Wine Tasting

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Monmouth and Middlesex counties will hold its 12th annual Gourmet Food and Wine Tasting at Holly Hill Estate in Locust on Monday, May 9 from 6 to 9:30 p.m. Tour the designer show house and spectacular grounds overlooking the Navesink River from 6 to 7 p.m., followed by a food and wine tasting in the adjacent café tent. Space is limited! Tickets are \$100 each and only 300 tickets will be sold.

For more information, call (732) 544-2224 or visit www.bbbsmmc.org.

SENIOR CENTER Calendar

Bally's - Thursday, May 19

MONDAYS

Silver Sneakers 8:45 am Crocheting 9:30 am

TUESDAYS

Bingo 10 am-2 pm Ladies Group 10 am

WEDNESDAYS

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

Active Seniors 8:45 am

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.

Art Show and Auction May 14

Temple Sholom of Fanwood/ Scotch Plains will host its bi-annual art show and live auction on Saturday, May 14 at Temple Sholom, located at the Fanwood Presbyterian Church, 74 South Martine Ave. Previews at 7 p.m.; auction at 8 p.m. Admission is \$10.

To order tickets, call (908) 889-



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Rev. John Paul Alvarado, Pastor

Mass Schedule:

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

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

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

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

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Sports

SOUTH PLAINFIELD SOCCER CLUB

By Dawn Hutchison

Soccer Club Offering Two Scholarships

The spring season is winding down with just a few games left in the season, but there is still so much happening within the club. Here's a quick rundown of what's happening over the next few weeks.

Field duty-this Saturday, May 7 from 8-11 a.m. Please come down to lend a hand with the fields and facilities. There is much to do and help is always needed. Remember to sign in, as this will work towards satisfying your work bond.

Candy sale-ends this weekend. Please be sure to turn in the money collected to your coaches no later than May 8. This also includes any buyout money for those who elected to do so.

Tryouts-for the Fall 2011/Spring 2012 season will take place May 9-12. Tryouts are open to all players interested in the U-8 through U-14 age groups. Tryouts for the U-8, U-9 and U-10 age groups will be Monday and Wednesday, May 9 and 11, and the U-11, U-12, U-13 and U-14 age groups will be held on Tuesday and Thursday, May 10 and 12. For age

South Plainfield Eagles Football

and 2010 Big East Football Federa-

tion Champions, the Middlesex Vi-

kings, in connection with Coach

McGuane, varsity coach of the

South Plainfield High School Ti-

Eagles to Hold Football Clinic

THIS WE	EK'S SO	CCER CL	UB GAMES

Fusion	5/07/11	(Sat) 12:30 PM Kenneth #1
		(Sat) 11:00 AM Kenneth #2
Magic	5/08/11	(Sun) 12:30 PM Kenneth #1
Sharks	5/08/11	(Sun) 2:30 PM Kenneth #2
Thunder	5/08/11	(Sun) 1:30 PM Memorial
Mustangs	5/08/11	(Sun) 3:30 PM Memorial

Good luck to all our teams this week!

requirements and additional information, visit our website, www.soplfdsoc cerclub.com. Pre-registration forms can also be downloaded from this site. If you have questions, call (908) 755-3550 and leave a clear message with your name, and number and a club representative will return your call.

Clothing drive-Sunday, May 15, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Penske truck at the Kenneth Avenue fields. The drive will collect wearable used clothing, handbags, shoes, belts, baby accessories, backpacks, briefcases, blankets, gloves, ties, hats, tablecloths, curtains, bed sheets, towels, pillows, quilts, comforters, hard toys, soft toys, children's activity

gers, are hosting a football clinic for

children age seven to 14 on Satur-

day, May 7 and 14 in the evening at

the Eagles Field. Call Bob Ginda,

Eagles Football commissioner, at

(908) 294-1422 for details.

sets, stuffed animals, Beanie babies, action figures, dolls, cars, trucks and airplanes. Hard toys must fit in a 24" x 24" box. Sorry, no books, CDs or VCR tapes.

Please place your donations in a large heavy garbage bag and place in the Penske truck. This is a great time to clean out the closets, help others and help the club raise fundseverybody wins! Someone will be available to help you load your bags into the collection truck.

The SPSC Scholarship is again being offered to two individuals chosen from applications submitted. Each winner will receive a \$500 scholarship. The SPSC Scholarship application and requirements can be found on our website, www.soplfdsoccer club.com. Scholarship forms are also available in the SPHS Guidance Office. Deadline for submissions is Friday, May 20.

It's not too late to catch a great game. Home games for this weekend are listed above.

Pornovets Memorial Golf League



By Bob Nilan

Twin City Pharmacy knew it wasn't going to be easy to repeat as league champions. Alfie's Boys showed how really tough it's going to be by whipping the defending champions on opening night, 14-6. Led by Bill Mann who shot a nifty 36 and by Mike Gokey who pitched in with a 38, Alfie's Boys made a bold statement that they plan to go all the way

One problem for Alfie's Boys was that their leading candidate for Playerof-the-Year honors, Irish Danny Griffin, started off like he was contending for the Hands of Stone Award. Griffin put his approach shot on the second hole on the back of the green and then proceeded to turn a potential birdie into a double-bogey by four-putting. He then went on to three-putt the third, and, for good measure, three putted again on the easy fourth hole for a total of 10 putts in three holes.

On the fifth hole, Griffin, like a stern father, rebuked his putter and said if it didn't learn to behave itself, it would sleep in the woods. The flat blade obviously listened, and Griffin came in with five straight pars and managed to contribute a 39 to the team victory.

Guy Severini of Twin City had the low-round of the night, a 2 over 35, and Jay Coppola shot a 39 in a losing effort.

The golfers on Oak Tree Dental are dedicating this season to their late, beloved captain, Jim Pornovets, Sr., and got off to a fine start by thumping KC's Korner, 15-5. Marty "Mr. Amazing" Van De Vaarst, who hasn't picked up a club in months, took all of two practice swings then ripped his tee shot down the middle of the first hole on his way to an amazing 40 to earn medalist honors for his team.

Dan Conti posted the best score for KC's Korner, a 41, while the rest of his teammates are still working on their winter rust.

A new team in the league with the unusual name of Dirty Harry & Friends made an auspicious debut by edging out Witty's Liquors, 11-9. Eddie Rodriguez earned medalist honors for Dirty Harry's with his 43, while Bob Chase shot a 39 for Witty's.

Over in the National Division, the Italian-American Club got off to an excellent start by crushing Sport & Social, 16-4. Lou Colicettio registered a 43 for the victors, and Dennis Bibby was low-man for Sport & Social with his 42 in a high-scoring match.

Chris Dillon was in top form, fortunately, for Unique Sports Accessories as they gained a close win over South Plainfield Funeral Home, 12-8. Dillon put together a fine round of 36 and got plenty of help from Ted Stanik, who shot a 37. Bob Kosovan's 41 earned the medal for South Plainfield Funeral Home.

Jeff "Bam Bam" Orth of 2 Buds, 2 Dubes has had to carry his team captain, Dale "The Needler" Dube many times in the past and had to do it again on opening night. Orth shot a 39 to spark his team to a impressive 14-6 triumph over McCriskin's Home For Funerals. Steve Schock was the lowman for McCriskin's with his 40 while the rest of his team, including Mark "M. Steady" Chichvar, apparently have still not found their A games.

Dale Dube was so disgruntled over his ugly round that featured no pars, six bogeys, two doubles, and a triple that he stalked off the ninth green and hurled his clubs in the dumpster by the cart corral. Jeff Orth and Don Hall maintained their cool and retrieved the clubs and tried to calm their captain down by assuring him it wasn't the clubs' fault. They then threw Dube in the dumpster!

Low scores for the night: Guy Severini, 35; Chris Dillon, 36; Bill Mann, 36; Ted Stanik, 37; Mike Gokey, 38; Bob Chase, 39; Jay Coppola, 39; Danny Griffin, 39; Jeff Orth, 39

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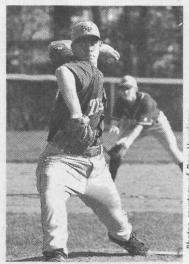
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Sports



Chris Hansen and Ryan Marcoux face the next batter during the home game win against Somerville, 8-4.



Senior Nick Ross throws the ball to first base for an out in their baseball game against Somerville April 26.

Tigers Baseball Defeats Iselin, Win Last Four Games

At the GMC Autism Awareness Day game played on April 30 in North Brunswick, South Plainfield defeated Iselin, 16-12. Power hitters were Mark Tomei, who hit a two run homer in the second inning, followed by Quinn Cochrane, A.J. Celentano and Ryan Marcoux, who each batted run-scoring singles in the fifth inning. Earning the victory was Nick DeMarco with three innings of relief pitching.

Prior to winning Saturday's game, the Tigers also won their three previous games, beating Somerville (8-4) and two games against Colonia (6-4 and 10-5). The South Plainfield varsity baseball record as of May 3 stands

Cheer on the Tigers as they play Saturday, May 7 at 2 p.m. away against St. Joseph; Monday, May 9 at 3:45 p.m. at home against Old Bridge; Tuesday, May 10 at 4 p.m. away against John F. Kennedy and Thursday, May 12 at 3:45 away against Carteret.

Lady Tigers Beats New Brunswick

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Varsity Calendar Highlights

Friday, May 6-Thursday, May 12

against Piscataway.

For the second time this season, the Tigers beat North Brunswick, this time at home, on April 30. Behind through the end of the third inning, Jamie Quail scored to tie the game in the fourth inning. South Plainfield won the game in the fifth inning, 2-1

The Lady Tigers won their last two games, shutting out both Scotch

Support the Tigers as they take

to the court, track, field or green. See

both stories for the baseball and soft-

ball games above. Here's what else is

happening in SPHS sports during

· Golf-3:15 p.m. Friday, May 6

away vs. South Brunswick; 3:30

p.m. Monday, May 9 away against

East Brunswick; 3:30 p.m. Tuesday,

May 10 away against Perth Amboy; 3:45 p.m. Wednesday, May 11 away

the upcoming week:

Plains (6-0) and Perth Amboy (14-0). As of May 4, their record is 11-2-0.

Watch the Lady Tigers at play next week on Monday, May 9 at 4 p.m. at home against Old Bridge; Tuesday, May 10 at 3:45 p.m. at home against Carteret; and Thursday, May 12 at 3:45 p.m. away against Bishop Ahr.

· Tennis-3:45 p.m. Friday, May

· Lacrosse: Tuesday, May 10 at

· Boys and Girls Track: 1:30

p.m. Saturday, May 7 at home against

Peddie; 3:45 p.m. Tuesday, May 10

boys at home against Sayreville, while

girls play away against Woodbridge.

3:45 p.m. away against Old Bridge.

6 at home against John F. Kennedy.

By Gary Lampasona

JUNIOR BASEBALL **CLUB NOTES**

Rain, sun, rain, sun... sun, yes... that's what we We're hoping the weather starts cooperating more.



League directors are trying their best to get some of the rainout games made up. Managers will notify their teams of game details.

The high school game against JFK Iselin at Somerset Patriots Stadium has been rescheduled for Tuesday, May 10 at 6:30 p.m. There is still time to buy tickets. The price is \$10 each and if you buy three, you get the fourth one free. Come on out and support our Tiger team. Ticket price includes admission to the game and a voucher for another ticket to a Somerset Patriots game on May 11 or May 12. Please see a board member to purchase tickets or call the clubhouse at (908) 754-2090.

All Star Sunday is scheduled for May 15. Managers will be notifying their selections during the next week. The South Plainfield Elks are sponsoring a home run derby on that day. All players are eligible to take a swing. It will be held on Field #4 before, during and after the All Star games. Winners will advance to a regional competition.

All this information and more can be found on our website at www. leaguelineup.com/spjbc.

"I think about baseball when I wake up in the morning. I think about it all day and I dream about it at night. The only time I don't think about it is when Pm playing it."-Carl Yastrzemski

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Elks and SPJBC Team Up For Batter Up Contest

The South Plainfield Elks, in conjunction with the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club, will be holding the Elk's Batter Up Contest on Sunday, May 15. The contest is open to boys and girls ages five-15 who will compete in five age groups.

Boys will hit baseballs and girls will hit softballs. Both will be pitched to by pitching machines and will have 10 attempts to hit a pitch. Registration will be open from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. only. Contestant's age is based on their age as of April 30, 2011 (Little League/Ripken age). Proof of age is required.

First place winners in each boys and

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girls age group will go on to compete in the district contest on July 9 in Metuchen. District winners will compete in the regional contest on August 6 in Jamesburg and regional winners will compete in the state finals on August 20 in Howell.

For more information, call Sharon Reuter at (908) 791-1214 or Gary Rohrer at (908) 380-3346.

Booster Club Holding Meeting

The South Plainfield High School Athletic Booster Club will be holding its next meeting on Tuesday, May 17 at 7 p.m. in the SPHS cafeteria.



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Voters Say No to Budget

(Continued from page 1) year term for Sharon Miller. In her first term, she chaired the Public Relations and Policy committees and served on the Finance, Personnel, Shared Services, Curriculum, Technology and Student Activities committees.

New board member John Sorrentino, a lifelong resident, has been a special education teacher in the Rahway Public School district for the past two years and also teachers summer school.

John Farinella, a lifelong resident and graduate of SPHS, is currently employed by the Rahway Board of Education as vice principal of guidance and interim principal of the high school. He is also the owner of Farinella and Farinella, LLC, a South Plainfield law office which is managed by his law partner and wife, Dawn.

The new board was sworn in at the Board of Education reorganization meeting on Wednesday evening (after press time).

SPHS Baseball Game Postponed

The SPHS baseball game vs. JFK originally scheduled for Saturday, April 23 has been rescheduled for Tuesday, May 10 at 6:30 p.m. All tickets purchased in advance will be accepted for the rescheduled game.

For ticket information, please see SPHS Coaches Guida, Mosca, Batista and Darby or any of the SPHS baseball team players.

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Mayor Matt Anesh (right) and a group of borough officials brave the weather on April 23 to clean up Hamilton Boulevard near Home Depot. Joining Anesh are (L-R) Councilman Tim McConville, Zoning Board Member Derryck White, Planning Board Member Dick Frank, Councilman Alex Barletta and Council President Ray Rusnak. Some volunteers postponed their planned clean up until last Saturday due to the inclement weather. The Observer will publish the total amount of trash cleaned up when the tally is completed.

Two Missionaries to Speak at **Hydewood Park Baptist Church**

Missionaries Bob and Sylvia Lloyd will be speaking at Hydewood Park Baptist Church on Wednesday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m. Bob and Sylvia served with CAM International in Panama for their first four years in the mission field. They spent the next 17 years at Puebla Bible Seminary in Mexico in teaching and administration. From

there they served 10 years in the editorial department of CAM's publishing house. After retiring from the field, Bob served as editor-in-chief for CAM's Spanish language website.

The Lloyds will be speaking in the church's chapel. Spanish language translation will be available. Everyone is invited to attend; no pre-registration is required. Free parking is available at the church.

Hydewood Park Baptist Church is located at 100 Norwood Ave. in North Plainfield. For more information, please call the church at (908) 754-6363 or visit the church's website at www.hydewood.org.

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

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From the South Plainfield Library

By Danielle Aronowitz

Greetings from the library.

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 new movies that we own are: The Dilemma, The Green Hornet, Country Strong, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1, Little Fockers, The Chronicles of Narnia: Voyage of the Dawn Treader, The King's Speech, Rabbit Hole, Gulliver's Travels, Black Swan, Tangled and Fair Game.

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We also have MP3 books on CD patrons can borrow. The MP3 disc contains the entire book on one or two CDs as opposed to a regular book on CD which can contain seven or

LEGAL NOTICE

more CDs. These discs can be played in compatible cars, CD and DVD players, computers and can be transferred to your MP3 player or iPod as well. Most new cars since 2006 are equipped with players that are MP3 compatible, so come in and check one out and see if it works for you. We have numerous bestsellers available in

On Monday, May 23 there will be a Kidcraft at 6:30 p.m. at the library. Kids will be decorating a wooden birdhouse. Registration is required and there is a \$1 fee for the materials. There is a limit of 36 children and spots fill up quickly, so if you would like to register your child, come to the library and sign them up.

We will be following our regular schedule for the children's programs. The Storytime program for ages two and three is held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 10:30. Storytime for ages four and up is held Wednesday night at 6:30, and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. The Babytime program for ages up to two years is held Friday morning at 10:30. These programs do not require registration. Please try to get to the storytime programs on time because it can get very disruptive for Miss Linda and Miss Mija and the children if people come in the middle of the program.

For more information, call (908) 754-7885 and ask for Miss Linda or Miss Mija.

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



Contact Lou Peralta at (908) 756-6406.

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SERVICE CHANGES & UPGRADES

CERTAIN LANDS OR PORTIONS THEREOF FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF NEW BRUNSWICK

AVENUE IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY was adopted on first reading and advertised in the Observer on Friday, May 6, 2011 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Monday, May 18, 2011 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately following the 7:00 pm Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 as follows:

WHEREAS, New Brunswick Avenue between West 7th Street and Lakeview Avenue is currently in need of improvement: and

WHEREAS, the improvement of the foregoing roadway is in the best interests of the residents of the Borough of South Plainfield; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the improvement of the roadway to acquire fee simple or easeme interests in portions of certain properties within that

BE IT THEREFORE ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, as

Section A. As part of the improvements to New Brunswick Avenue between West 7th Street and Lakeview Avenue, it is necessary to acquire fee simple or easement interests in a portion of the following properties set forth on Schedule "A" attached hereto.

Section B. The Borough Council has determined that the acquisition of the fee simple or easement interests in the properties designated in Section A is necessary for the safety of the public and conforms to

Section C. The Special Counsel and such other appropriate officials as necessary be and hereby are authorized to acquire said land interests either by negotiation or by instituting action by exercising its right of eminent domain (condem-

Section D. Special Counsel for said acquisition, by negotiation or condemnation, shall commence and complete proceedings as expeditiously as possible and Special Counsel, shall receive reasonable compensation for his services

Section F. The Special Counsel and other appropriate officials be and are hereby authorized to hire and employ such appraisers, consultants and experts as may be appropriate to effectuate such acquisitions, whether by negotiation or eminent domain proceedings, and to

pay said consultants and experts a reasonable fee for their service

This Ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after the first publication thereof, by summary, after final passage in the manner provided by law

Schedule "A" Joann Graf,

Block	Lot	Block	Lot	
141	3.02	6	13	
144	15	144	12.02	N
144	14.01	142	1	
135	27	142	2	
136	17	1	3	
135	1-	149	25	
7	51.08	141	1	
144	12.04	143	4	
6	1	141	2	ı
7	51.01	143	3	
136	16	1	2	
144	12.01	144	16	
136	15	7	50	
141	3	1	1	
144	19	1		

May 6, 2011

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

April 29, 2011

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its' meeting held on April 28, 2011.

- Case # 5-10-Randazzo Paving, Inc. Block 308: Lot 26; M-3 Zone. 2611 South Clinton Avenue. The applicant's request for preliminary and final site plan approval w/ (1) bulk variance for a side yard setback was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary condition
- Case #1-11-Sanjay Patel. Block 298; Lot 4; M-3 Zone. 2100 South Clinton Avenue. The applicant's request for a use variance for an auto repair facility was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions

Respectfully Submitted. Mary Beth Khidre Secretary-Board of Adjustment

May 6, 2011

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE ORDINANCE No. 1928

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$36,000.00 FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD COMMUNITY POOL LOCATED WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD. COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY was adopted after a Public Hearing and final reading were conducted on Monday, May 2, 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, May 6, 2011.

Joann L. Graf, RMC, Municipal Clerk

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1929

A BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDI-NANCES NUMBERED 1815 AND 1816, BOTH AMENDED BY BOND ORDINANCE NUMBERED 1827, OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAIN-FIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, BOTH FINALLY ADOPTED APRIL 7, 2008 AND AMENDED JULY 21, 2008, IN ORDER TO AMEND THE DESCRIPTIONS TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL PROJECTS was adopted after a Public Hearing and al reading were conducted on Monday, May 2, 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, May 6, 2011.

Joann L. Graf, RMC, Municipal Clerk

\$30,40

May 6, 2011

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1930

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1653 REGULATING PARKING, STOPPING, STANDING OF ANY MOTOR VEHICLE ON A PORTION OF ROOSEVELT AVENUE IN THE ROR-OUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY was adopted after a Public Hearing and final reading were conducted on Monday, May 2, 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, May 6, 2011.

Joann L. Graf, RMC,

Municipal Clerk \$28.98

May 6, 2011



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In My Opinion

(Continued from page 2) like to know if anyone can fill in the history of the Kentile Company. I know it opened around 1955 and the employees worked three shifts. It

shut down all of a sudden.

Send any information to kintut@ verizon.net or to the South Plainfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 11, South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST, **BILL TUTHILL**

Dear Editor,

While reading Bill McCarthy's letter in last week's Observer, some thoughts came to mind: sadly misinformed or ignorance. I've used the above to describe Mr. McCarthy's rambling letter which contained very little factual information.

Here are the facts. The tax increase for the school budget as presented would be \$135 on a home assessed at \$123,000 for a calendar year. I questioned what the tax increase is on a fiscal year since the BOE operates under a fiscal year budget. The answer is \$185 on a home assessed at \$123,000. That is \$50 more coming out of your pocket. Nowhere did anyone ever cite three different tax increases of \$130, \$50 or \$4.

I don't find my questioning of the method of calculation of the tax increase to be "semantics." Mr. McCarthy gives the impression that \$50 is not important one way or another yet seems to contradict himself by stating that the seniors are struggling financially.

The second allegation states that the BOE is currently paying three different individuals for the superintendents position as well as giving large increases to Dr. Rosado as he packed

his suitcase and further alleges that he still has months to go on his contract.

Again, here are the facts. Dr. Rosado was not given any large increase when leaving. His contract expired in 2007 and he retired at the conclusion of his contract. At this time the BOE is paying two superintendents, Mr. Negron until June 30, 2011 (which is required by law and will cease on that date), and Dr. Bowen as the interim. I am not aware of any illegal activities you mention as the cause for Mr. Negron's removal and one cannot simply be fired under the current system as you so think.

Lastly, you question my involvement in these "costly, foolish decisions" and "charades." Quite frankly, I havn't a clue to what you are referring to. I left the BOE at the end of my term in 2008. I was a sitting member of the BOE when Dr. Rosado retired and Mr. Negron was hired. I can't give you a reason why the relationship between this current BOE and Mr. Negron did not work out as I was not a part of the decision making process since my term ended three years ago. As far as the charades, I have not been party to any as you mention. While serving on the BOE I believe I went above and beyond providing the public with as much information as possible as well as trying to generate more community involvement. At the end of the day, I am comfortable with my efforts while a member of the BOE.

In closing, I suggest Mr. McCarthy that you leave your recliner from which you sling your distorted mud pies and attend the community meetings so that at the very least, you can hear exactly what's being said.

JEFF SEIDER



The children and families of Future Stars held a walk-a-thon and raised over \$2,000 to help the family of one of their fallen stars, Steven Maszczak.

Kennedy Kindergarten "Get Acquainted" Program

It's time to register incoming kindergarten students for the "Get Acquainted" Program at Kennedy School. If your child will be attending Kennedy School in September 2011, you may sign up for the program in the school's main office. Please stop by between the hours of 9-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. to complete the registration form. Remember, this is not kindergarten registration, it's an optional program offered by the Kennedy School PTSO.

The purpose of the Get Acquainted Program is to help your child become familiar with the school. Our hope is to ease some of the anxieties your child may have about coming to school in September. The program includes a visit with the principal, school nurse, other members of the faculty and staff, a mini bus ride and lots of fun!

This program will include two class meetings. You may choose either morning or afternoon sessions as follows:

Wednesday, May 26 and Wednesday, June 2, 9-10:30 a.m. or 12:30-2 p.m. Thursday, May 27 and Thursday,

June 3, 9-10:30 a.m. or 12:30-2 p.m. Parents must assume responsibility for bringing children to school and

picking them up at the end of class. If you have any questions, please call Kennedy School at (908) 754-4620, ext. 330. Registration forms must be returned to Kennedy School's main office by May 14.

High Speed Crash Destroys Home; Two Injured

(Continued from page 1) of South Plainfield.

Jobe, who was unresponsive when olice arrived, was airlifted to Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick. He was discharged several hours later. Lirio was transported to John F. Kennedy Medical Center in Edison, treated for minor injuries and released. A third injury was reported by passing motorist Emily Morette of Edison, who was struck by flying glass and debris. She declined medical attention.

Jobe was extricated from the van by the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire

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Department and treated by paramedics from Muhlenberg Hospital Mercy 6 and personnel from Somerset Medical Center EMS

Jobe is being charged with reckless driving and driving with a suspended license. The investigation is continuing and additional charges may be filed.

Witnesses are asked to call Lt. Kevin Murtagh at (908) 226-7679 or Officer Peter Magnani at (908) 226-7678.

LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the South Plainfield Office on Aging, has made application to NJ Transit for one Minivan to assist in providing transportation to senior citizens and/or people with disabilities in Middlesex County, New Jersey. This project will be partially funded with FTA 5310 funds under a grant submitted to the Federal Transit Administration

Any interested party who has a significant social, economic or environmental interest is invited to provide comments within 30 days to:

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Joann L. Graf, Municipal Clerk



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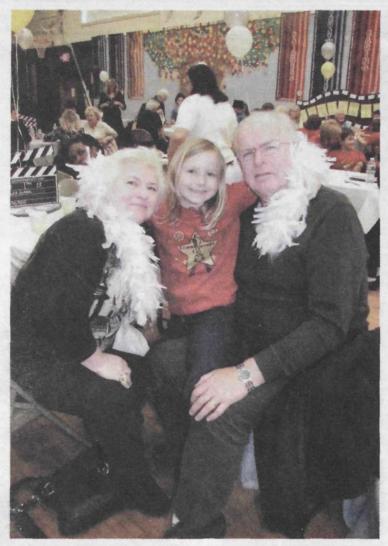
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Hollywood Movies the Theme For Annual Grandparents Day

By Jane Dornick

Kennedy Elementary School third graders celebrated their annual PTSOsponsored Grandparents Day on April 14 with a movie theme.

Grandparents and special guests were served a light breakfast and visited the children's classrooms and

met their teachers. Photos of everyone were taken to remember the once in a

Lunch for the crowd was provided by Russo's Continental Catering and afterward the class sang heartfelt songs they learned in honor of the special people in their lives.





SCHOOLBOARD Briefs

• Franklin Elementary students gave a presentation on poetry, bullying and handmade hats at the Board of Education meeting held April 13.

 Marie Benak, High School Guidance, received a tenure certificate.

· Accepted a report on the completion of the school bus emergency evacuation drill.

· Approved the operation of the Adult School Summer Fun Preschool Program; the first readings of the affirmative action program for employment and contract practices; school district goals and objectives; program for school and classroom practices.

 Approved policies for: academic standards, assessment and accountability; bilingual and ESL education; IEP compliance, highly qualified and appropriately certified staff; in-service training-regulation; statewide and district-wide assessment programs; length of school day and academic year regulations; certification of tenure regulation; eligibility of resident/nonresident pupils; use of electronic communications and recording devices; political contributions; contributions to BOE members and contract awards; emergency and non-fire evacuation plan; bomb threats; lockdown procedures; active shooter and bonding policy.

Accept retirement of SPHS industrial arts teacher Daniel Radakovich; resignation of Grant School language arts literacy NJ ASK prep instructor Allison Schneider; appointed Laura Wilson Grant School language arts literacy NJ ASK prep instructor; approved leave of absence adjustment for Loretta Tansey; appointed Brian Rosenberge and Alicia Torchia Grant School long term substitute teachers; George Moutafis, substitute home instructor; Maureen Barnett, Grant School newspaper advisor and school literary magazine; and Joel Cortese as

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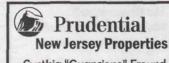
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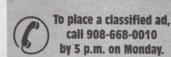


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Larry Roibal: Drawing on Observations (and on the Observer)

By Jean Fultz

South Plainfield resident Larry Roibal is no stranger to recognition amongst his peers. Over the course of his career as an artist and illustrator, he has been honored with numerous awards and recognitions, most recently by New Jersey Monthly, Creative Quarterly and Communication Arts magazines. He was also recognized several years ago by Romance Writers of America for best cover art on a long contemporary novel.

Roibal studied at Parsons School of Design in New York City and Paris, France. In 1982, he received a bachelor of fine arts degree and embarked on a 30 year journey as a freelance illustrator, creating more than 1,000 book covers for publishers including Silhouette, Harlequin, Pocket, Berkeley and Avon books. His passion for learning has led him to continue his studies at The Art Students League,

The School of Visual Arts and duCret School of Art in Plainfield.

Roibal is a member of the Society of Illustrators, and one of his works depicting the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks was selected to hang in the lobby of the United Nations, one of just 40 such pieces chosen.

As the Internet and digital worlds have evolved, so has Roibal's artwork. While most of his commercial illustrations are created digitally, Roibal still "doodles" on sketch pads and sometimes on napkins, but mostly on newspapers at his kitchen table in the morning before he starts his day.

"Drawing on newsprint is something that I've been doing for years," Roibal said. "The newspaper brings new fodder for me to sketch each day."

In 2008, when redesigning his website that features his portfolios, Roibal decided to add a blog. Being an artist and not necessarily a writer, he wasn't sure what he would have to say

that might interest visitors, so he decided to post his daily doodles along with short perspectives on the news of

On March 19 of 2008 Roibal's first blog post appeared, accompanied by a sketch of Barack Obama superimposed on the New York Times and the following observation: "Yesterday I took a break from my work to watch Senator Obama deliver a speech about race relations in America. Sometimes we can recognize a transformative moment in history as it's happening, i.e., man steps on the moon, Kennedy is shot, a plane crashes into the World Trade Center. No matter what follows, you know the world will never be the same."

Roibal was subsequently contacted by the Obama campaign and asked to create a poster as part of a grassroots movement of artists to help support then-presidential candidate Obama. In 2009 Roibal's poster was recognized in Uptown Magazine after Scott Thomas, the designer responsible for the look of the Obama campaign, included Roibal's drawing in the book, Designing Obama, A Chronicle of Art and Design from the 2008 Presidential Campaign.

In March, New Jersey Monthly

highlighted Roibal's blog, Draw-Democrats Buteas and Salerno ing on Observa- Pledge "No Tax Increase Next Year" O best in New Jersey as chosen by its readers.

For Roibal, it's about more than just doodling. "As I sketch what's going on in the news, I can't help but be affected by the events of the day" he said.

Along with his sketches, he posts links to relief organizations related to the news, most recently posting a link to the Red Cross to assist victims of the Japan earthquake and tsunami.

In 2008 a knock on his door gave Roibal the perfect opportunity to "take his sketches local" by utilizing the Observer. "[Then-councilmen] Ray Petronko and Joe Scrudato knocked on my door," said Roibal. "I get two papers delivered to my front door every day, but how often do the

newsmakers come knocking?" He seized the opportunity and asked if they would pose for a picture so he could sketch their portraits to post on his blog.

Roibal has also utilized the Observer to sketch daughter, Alyssa, 21, a junior at Rutgers University majoring in journalism and media studies, when she graduated in 2008 from

South Plainfield High School.

Among Roibal's other sketches are his son Andrew, 23, a graduate mathematics student at Rowan University, who also plays guitar in a band and has performed at the Stone Pony in Asbury Park. His wife of 25 years, Donna, appears on Roibal's blog on their wedding anniversary.

These sketches, and more, can be viewed on Roibal's website, roibal.net/

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Pasqualina (Tibaldi) Catalano, 80

Pasqualina (Tibaldi) Catalano died on Tuesday, April 26 at Raritan Bay Medical Center in Old Bridge

Born in Plainfield, she lived in New Brunswick for most of her life, Spotswood for 23 years and has been a resident of Old Bridge since 2006.

Pasqualina graduated from Plainfield High School in 1949. She enjoyed reading, sewing and crocheting. She worked as a supervisor in the Micro Film Department for the Greater N.Y. Area Insurance Company in East Brunswick.

She is predeceased by her husband, Frank Catalano, Jr., who died March 23, 2006; and by a brother, Daniel.

Pasqualina leaves behind two children, Linda Catalano of Old Bridge and Robert Catalano of Linden; three grandchildren, Robert, Bobbie and

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Toni; and two siblings, Diana and husband Tony Cotone of South Plainfield and Achille "Artie" and wife Elsie Tibaldi of Florida.

Obituaries

Funeral services were held at Mc-Criskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

Gertrude (Koestner) Kmosko, 88

Gertrude (Koestner) Kmosko died on Saturday, April 30 at Haven Hospice located within JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born in Piscataway, Gertrude was raised in South Plainfield and lived in Edison before settling back to South

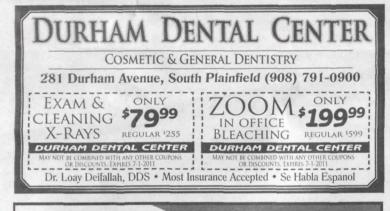
Plainfield in 1979.

She was an assistant postmaster with the U.S. Postal Service at the South Plainfield branch and was a member of St. Stephen Lutheran Church in South Plainfield.

She is predeceased by a brother, Henry Koestner.

Gertrude is survived by her husband, James; two sons, Kenneth and wife Pamela of Keller, Texas and Gary and wife Carolyn of Hillsborough; a sister, Elsie Ohl and a brother, Charles Koestner, both of South Plainfield; and by three grandsons, Jeffrey, Alexander and

Funeral services were held at Mc-Criskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.



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