

South Plainfield Observer

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MAY 27, 2011

Board of Education Approves Council Budget Cut

By Libby Barsky

At a special meeting last Wednesday, the Board of Education voted 7-2 to approve the \$526,000 reduction of the school tax levy made by the Borough Council at their meeting the previous Monday evening.

Board Vice President Debbie Boyle and member Joseph Sorrentino voted against it while the rest of the board

said they "reluctantly" voted in favor. Boyle said, "We need to look deeper into our budget to downsize to save our educators and our children's education. The constant vote down of our budget continues to stifle our children, education and ties the hands of our teachers, aides and staff."

Sorrentino stated, "I cannot support the budget. We are losing 33½ jobs, and there is no effort to cut middle

school sports or any other programs. People's lives are more important than sports for middle school when they have Pop Warner Football, little league baseball and everything else. We're putting teachers on unemployment when there are other places we can cut the money."

Another vote was taken to finalize the 2011/2012 budget which passed 6-3. Again, Boyle and Sorrentino were

not in favor of its passage along with board member Gary Stevenson.

Board member Carol Byrne suggested that the idea of moving the school board elections to November and taking away the public's right to vote on budgets is a good idea. She said that cuts made by the council benefits them during election time and suggested that is why any reduction was made.

SPEA Vice President Diana Joffe

said, "I don't understand the priorities here. This is an outrage." In the April 27 election the school budget put forth to voters was narrowly defeated by 108 votes. "I wish the council understood or thought about 108 votes. It's tearing the school system apart." Board President Jim Gianakis, who was involved in negotiations with the council, commented,

(Continued on page 13)

Kalman Joins Nonagenarian Club



Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan presents nonagenarian Walter Kalman with a proclamation marking his ninetieth birthday. Kalman is congratulated by Metro Kopchak and Natalie Bergen.

Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan presented Walter Kalman with a proclamation from the New Jersey State Senate and Assembly in honor of his ninetieth birthday at a celebration at Walter's home on May 7.

Kalman was welcomed into the world on May 6, 1921 in New York City. He attended New York Public Schools and graduated from R.C.A. Electronics School. He worked for Emerson as a technical troubleshooter and a supervisor of audio/visual equipment for Boise in Plainfield.

He was supported during his life's journey by his beloved wife, the late Mary Rose, and by his children, Walter X. and Rosemarie Pyott. He takes great pride in his five grandchildren, Alison, Meredith, Michelle and Laquan Kalman and AC and Danny Pyott.

Kalman served with honor as a member of the United States Armed Forces during World War II. He moved from New York City in 1957 to South Plainfield where he served as committeeman for District 11.

Kalman's family and friends are especially appreciative of his valuable and irreplaceable presence in their lives and hold for him a special place in their hearts.

Those lost must never be forgotten.
As you step out your own front door, remember to **Honor the Memory** of those who gave their lives for the freedom you enjoy.

Join American Legion Post #243 and VFW Memorial Post #6763 at the annual Memorial Day ceremony on Monday, May 30. Ceremonies begin at 9 a.m. at the American Legion on Oak Tree Avenue and end at the VFW on Front Street around 10:45 a.m. The route includes a wreath laying ceremony at Veteran's Park as well as a visit to three cemeteries in South Plainfield. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion.



CAUTION
HEAVY
TRAFFIC
SPHS Track Meet

BOROUGH TRAFFIC ADVISORY

Residents are advised that they can expect heavy traffic in the borough due to SPHS Track Meets on Friday and Saturday, May 27 & 28 from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. in the area of Jost Field on Maple Avenue.



Junior Journalist Justin Jones receives the news that he is the recipient of the 2011 Ruth Kurland Memorial Award, a \$1,000 U.S. Savings Bond, courtesy of Debbie and Charlie Kurland of Hometown Heros, at the Junior Journalist banquet on May 11. See page 9 for story.

Penyak to Lead American Legion Post 243

South Plainfield resident Joe Penyak takes the helm of American Legion Chaumont Post #243 today for the sixth time. Penyak, who has been a legion member for 36 years, said, "Once our post had over 300 members. With numbers declining, my job is to maintain our programs and keep the post growing."

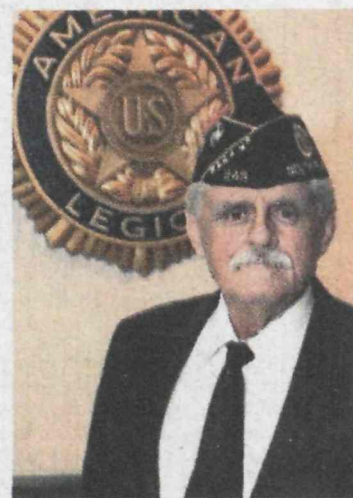
Penyak cited American Legion baseball, New Jersey Boys' State and the scholarship program as three projects Chaumont Post #243 has developed over the past five years. Penyak hopes that new membership will take on many of the national projects of the

American Legion that are not currently active in South Plainfield.

A Marine who served in Vietnam in 1969 and 1970, Penyak took part in the last major Marine Corps offensive, "Operation Dewey Canyon." The objective was to break up the Ho Chi Minh trail, a key supply route for North Vietnamese and Viet Cong forces. Penyak received three Purple Hearts during this operation. He was also awarded the Cross of Gallantry.

After his service, Penyak returned to South Plainfield where he established Penyak Roofing. He and wife Madeline have been married for 45 years. Madeline is a charter member of the American Legion Post #243 Ladies Auxiliary that was re-established at the post in 2007. The couple has two sons, Joe Jr. and David. David recently graduated from Villanova University with a master's degree. Joe Jr. works with his father at Penyak Roofing. Joe and Madeline have four grandchildren.

The American Legion Installation dinner on May 17 officially began the terms of office for the executive board,



Joe Penyak

legion officers, ladies auxiliary officers and sons of legion officers. The dinner honored scholarship winners and Boys' State candidates.

—Submitted by Richard Doerr

The special borough-wide graduation issue
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BIG
BOROUGH-WIDE GRADUATION ISSUE



FYI**Borough Council**

Council meetings air on Comcast Channel 96 Mondays at 7 p.m. BOE meetings air on Thursdays at 7 p.m.

To purchase a complete copy of a council or BOE meeting, contact the Observer. (Check Comcast community bulletin board for last minute time changes/)

council meetings**Meets twice a month on Mondays, *except where noted.****Borough Hall Council Chambers • Questions? 908-226-7605****Agenda Meeting Public Meeting****June 6 June 6****June 20 June 20**

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**

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**

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.)** June 8, July 13, Aug. 17,

Sept. 14, Oct. 12, Nov. 9, Dec. 14, Jan. 11, Feb. 8, March 14 and April 4.

Regular Public Meeting (begin at 7:30 p.m.) June 15, July 13, Aug. 17, Sept. 21, Oct. 19,

Nov. 16, Dec. 21, Jan. 18, Feb. 15, March 21 and April 11.

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.**

June 21, no meeting July and Aug.,

Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Dec. 20

library board of trustees**Meets once a month on the second Tuesday, at the library at 7 p.m.**

June 14, July 12, Aug. 9, Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, Dec. 13

recreation commission**Meets once a month on the second Tuesday of the month, except July and August****PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. Questions? 908-226-7716**

June 14, July and August—no meetings,

Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, Dec. 13

taxpayers advisory group**The Taxpayers Advisory Group (TAG) meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at****Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave. at 7 p.m. Questions? 908-769-0786.****site plans sub-committee****Meets once a month on the third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.**

June 21, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Dec. 20

environmental commission**Meets once a month (second Wednesday) Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m.****Questions? 908-226-7621****business advisory group****Meets once a month (first Wednesday) Borough Hall Council Chambers, 5 p.m.****ad hoc alternative truck route committee****To be announced. 7:30 p.m. in the Senior Center Questions? 908-226-7605****South Plainfield Observer**

The South Plainfield Observer is published weekly on Fridays by G&G Graphics Inc.

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

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

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

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

In My Opinion

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

To the Editor:

I would like to take a moment and once again thank everyone who donated both time and materials to the restoration project in our courtroom. Many thanks to Bob Longo, Cornerstone Architects; Jafco Supply, Feldman Brothers Lighting Supply, Jan Pro Floor Waxing, Mark Hollain-One Call Electric, Mike Visochi, Brian Capparelli, Robert Graf, Bill Pastor, Captain Matt Koep, Kenny Bonnano, Manny Arlequin, Dan Grubaugh, Peter Malishuk, Leo Johnson, John Orlando, D.P.W.; Councilman Alex Barletta and Council President Ray Rusnak. A special thank you goes out to Dave Miglis who initiated the entire project. Also, thanks to Glenn Cullen, administrator/CFO and John Pabst, our building inspector.

Thank you to our mayor and council who have supported this and many other projects for the betterment of our town. This is just an example of what can be accomplished when everyone works together.

**SINCERELY,
ROBERT CAPPARELLI, D.P.W.**

Dear Editor,

With Memorial Day quickly approaching as well as the recent coming together as a nation, we must remember—fly it with pride! Our flag, Stars and Stripes, Old Glory, the Red, White and Blue or the United States of America Flag—whatever name you call it by, fly it with pride!

As so many men and women sacrificed and continue to sacrifice their lives, serve and protect this country and our freedom—fly it with pride!

If you happen to drive around town, take a look at the pride and glory of this country. What do you see? Not pride or glory. It's embarrassing to see the condition that a number of our flags are in. Some of them have been in the air far too long. They have become weather-beaten, faded, ripped, torn or a combination of all. These flags have no business flying in the air and are a disgrace to their heritage. Please look up and check your flag. If it has become weathered and needs to be replaced, please take it down until you can replace it. Fly this great symbol of our country with pride!

If you need to properly dispose of an old flag, keep in mind that both the Elks Club and McCricken-Gustafson Home For Funerals have receptacles for you to drop off your old flag for a proper retirement.

'Oh, say does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?'

God Bless America!

**BERNARD PETROZIELLO
PAST COMMANDER, JJ GARDNER
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE OF NJ**

Dear Editor,

I was quite dismayed to read in the May 20 edition of the *Observer* that the positions of 22 Board of Education staff members are being cut.

Among these are Mrs. Domogala who, if you have enrolled your chil-

dren in the Future Stars Program, the SAT Prep Program or if you yourself have taken any adult school classes over the years, you are sure to know her as the friendly and helpful head of the staff there who always managed to make the scheduling of the various programs work out for all concerned.

As for the teaching professionals mentioned in the article, some of my children have had these wonderful teachers and I can't help but feel that it is our students that will be hurt by these reductions.

In Grant School, Mrs. White is a superb, versatile teacher who always managed to do all that was needed to present either mathematical concepts or scientific principles in a way that the students found very easy to understand. She is dedicated to the education not only of the students, but to their families which was evident by her mentoring in the Family Math program.

Mr. Culver, also of Grant School, taught world history beginning with early civilizations and presented this history in a very innovative and interesting way that the students could relate to.

In the Middle School, Mr. Deremiah is an enthusiastic teacher who encouraged a love of reading in his students. He was also active in after school events held by the student council such as chaperoning at student dances.

I do not know the many other professionals, but I am sure that there are similar stories that families of the students could also relate. We all know that times are tough and many things look good on paper, but there is no replacing the loss of professionals who inspire their students and instill a love of learning and lifelong curiosity in our children.

**SINCERELY,
LINDA KELLY**

Dear Editor,

I was a little dismayed by Councilman Rob Bengivenga's latest letter regarding the South Plainfield Library Board of Trustees and his comment about the Democrats on the board. I served on the Library Board for nine years. The first four years I was the mayor's representative for former Mayors Dan Gallagher and Charlie Butrico, respectively. My last five years I served as an appointed member of the Board of Trustees. My term ended in December 2010. No time during the nine years that I served on the board did either Mr. Gallagher, Mr. Butrico, or any other

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: spobservers@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.

member of the Democratic Party tell me how to vote. I voted with my own convictions for the best interests of the citizens of South Plainfield and the South Plainfield Public Library. In the nine years that I served I never missed one meeting and never once was the discussion ever centered around either political party. The trustees worked collaboratively to enhance the library's policies, procedures and efforts to secure a new library for the citizens.

When the Library Board was denied approval to move to Montrose Avenue, an ad hoc committee was formed by former Mayor Butrico of which Councilman Bengivenga was a member. It was always the intent of the Library Board to give the citizens of South Plainfield a new library. Therefore, money was moved to secure it for the building of a new library since we realized that in these economic times, the citizens could not be further taxed for a new building. This was done before the new law came into effect.

This letter is not meant to discuss whether the Library Board should give money to balance the budget. That decision is left to the State Librarian. Perhaps if the present mayor and council had approached the present Library Board some type of agreement could have been reached instead of making this situation a political football. After all, would the mayor and council have done this to the school board and demanded money without first speaking to the school board members?

Our founding fathers, namely Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin, believed in free public libraries so that the citizens would be kept informed and educated. It is what makes a democracy. While viewpoints may disagree, it is wiser to disagree than to be disagreeable. Whatever the decision may be from the State Librarian, I would hope that it assists the citizens of South Plainfield.

CHERYL NAGEL-SMILEY

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MAY CROWNING—Our Lady Of Czestochowa RC Church held its annual May Crowning in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Mother's Day. May Queen Sara Roman crowned the statue assisted by her court, Elizabeth Abate, Melissa Abate, Kimberly Ortiz and Genesis Ortiz. The blessed event was led by Rev. J. Maciej Melaniuk and Deacon Richard Kenton. The First Holy Communion Class then adorned the Blessed Mother Mary with beautiful flowers.

Volunteers are Needed for Special Olympics

Special Olympics New Jersey will conduct the annual summer games, held at The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) in Ewing Township from June 10-12. Volunteers are needed throughout the weekend, where athletes will compete in aquatics, bocce, gymnastics, powerlifting, softball, tennis and track and field.

Assignments range from bench assistants, scorekeepers and results runners to parade assistants, announcers and more. The volunteer application can be downloaded at www.sonj.org or email Sportsinfo@sonj.org for more information.

On Friday, June 10, nearly 3,000 law enforcement officers will take part in the 28th annual Torch Run, a 27-leg journey that brings awareness about the games and Special Olympics to over 300 communities throughout New Jersey.

More than 2,300 athletes from across the state will compete at the 2011 Special Olympics New Jersey Summer Games.

All events, including opening ceremonies, are free and open to the public.

CLARIFICATION

The following is a clarification in the first paragraph of the story entitled "New Vision and Mission Statement Approved by Library Board of Trustees." According to Library Board of Trustees President Eric Aronowitz, it should have said, "The funds, which the council is deeming excess, have been accumulated over the past 20 years due, in most part, to the fiscally prudent and sound management of the library. While some of the funds have resulted from donations, candy sales, fines, etc., this does not represent a major portion."



Origami paper cranes made by Kennedy School fourth graders to benefit those in need in Japan after the earthquake and tsunami.

Kennedy Students Raise Money for Earthquake Victims

In response to an email forwarded from the N.J. Department of Education Office of Technology to Laura Von Till-Smith, computer teacher at Kennedy School, the Kennedy School fourth graders reached out to help those in need in Japan after the devastating earthquake and tsunami. Using the computers in the lab, students went to the website, www.studentsrebuild.org/japan to learn more about an organization that said it would donate \$2 for every origami paper crane that was created and mailed to them by April 15.

Rising to the challenge, the Kennedy School fourth graders, along with Von Till-Smith watched a "how to" video in their computer class and followed along step-by-step on how to fold a paper crane. They became so interested in the project that they continued to make cranes during recess and at home. Finally by the

deadline, the students had 243 cranes to mail. Because of their hard work, \$486 was donated to Japan!

Former Squad Member Sentenced

Former Rescue Squad Captain Ron Sward was sentenced by Superior Court Judge Diane Pincus in New Brunswick last Friday to 10 years in prison for sexually assaulting two boys. He was ordered to serve a minimum of five years of his sentence at the State Adult Diagnostic and Treatment Center in Avenel for sex offenders before he is eligible for parole and has to register as a sex offender under Megan's Law. He will also be placed on parole supervision for life upon his release from custody.

Sward, 47, pled guilty on February 7 to aggravated sexual assault of an eight year-old boy beginning in 2001 and continued for a period of

eight years. He also pled guilty to official misconduct in the sexual assault of a 17 year-old boy on various occasions in South Plainfield and Woodbridge from January to May 2010. Authorities say he knew both of the victims.

After his arrest on June 7, 2010, Sward resigned from the squad after serving 10 years and pled guilty to official misconduct in a plea bargain agreement with Middlesex County Assistant Prosecutor Christie Bevacqua.

An investigation into the allegations had been conducted by South Plainfield Police Det. Daryl Strother and Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office Investigator Frank DiNinno.

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events

Around Town

Country Breakfast, Troop 125 Car Wash

June 5

Come have breakfast at the South Plainfield V.E.W. on Front Street on Sunday, June 5 from 8 to 11 a.m. and while you're eating breakfast have our Boy Scouts from Troop 125 wash your car from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Come and enjoy!

Community BBQ at Pilgrim Covenant

June 10

Pilgrim Covenant Church, 3121 Park Ave., will hold a community family BBQ on Friday, June 10 from 6-8 p.m., rain or shine. Bring something to BBQ for your family and a dish or dessert to share for about 6-8 people. There will be games for all ages and art activities for children 7-12.

For more information, call Dottie Harding at (908) 756-0366.

Sacred Heart 5K Run/One Mile Walk

June 11

Sacred Heart will hold the second annual 5K Run and One Mile Fun Walk on Saturday, June 11. Application fee is \$25; one mile walk is \$10 for family or individual. Free

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spobserver@comcast.net

For information on how to submit your event, visit www.spobserver.com.

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t-shirt to first 100 paid participants. Register at www.sacredheartsp.net or call Carl Adlassnig at (908) 757-1933.

Cultural Arts Presents Line Dancing

June 11

The South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission invites you to an evening of line dancing on Saturday, June 11 from 7 to 10 p.m. at the South Plainfield Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave. Instructors Wanda and Jim York will teach line dancing to all ages, all levels. Free admission. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, call (908) 754-2381 or visit www.countryline dancing.com.

Maszczyk Miracle Day Fundraiser

June 18

Open Your Heart to Children Battling Cancer Foundation, Inc. will sponsor a tricky tray auction fundraiser on Saturday, June 18 at the PAL building on Maple Avenue from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All proceeds will go to the Maszczyk Family to help with medical costs associated with the treatment of their son, Stephen Austin, who passed away in March.

For more information or to contribute, email Kristen Celentano and Shelley King at openyourheartstrickytray@gmail.com.

So. Plfd. Education Foundation Book Fair

June 18

The South Plainfield Education Foundation will hold a book fair on Saturday, June 18 at the Barnes & Noble in Menlo Park Mall and online between June 18-22 with Book Fair ID# 10489292. A flier and voucher will be available on the SPEF link on the Board of Education website: www.spboe.org. The foundation provides scholarships and incentive programs for students year round. Members and educators will receive their usual discounts and most purchases for Father's Day and the Summer Reading selections will be eligible to earn funds for the organization using the Book Fair ID number. Please show your support.

— Out of Town —

Fruhlingsfest Spring Festival in Clark

May 29

Deutscher Club of Clark, 787 Featherbed Lane, will host a Fruhlingsfest Spring Festival on Sunday, May 29 from noon to 6 p.m. Open to the public; rain or shine. Picnic tables and parking available. German American beer and food available. Donation: \$5 per person; under 12 are free.

For more information, call (732) 574-8600.

Singles Dance Party

May 29

Steppin' Out Singles is hosting an upscale singles dance party for Memorial Day on Sunday, May 29 at 8:30 p.m. at the Woodbridge Hilton, 20 Wood Ave. South in Iselin. Ages 40 and up; no jeans/t-shirts/sneakers/shorts. Admission: \$17.

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

Metuchen-Edison Women's Club Mtg.

June 1

The Metuchen-Edison Women's Club (MEWC) will be celebrating their 50th anniversary on Wednesday, June 1 at 7:30 p.m. at The Heritage House at Clara Barton in Edison. The event will be attended by the mayors from Metuchen and Edison along with representatives from the Federation of Women's Clubs. The club has supported numerous non-profit charities throughout the years.

For more information, call Karen at (732) 742-6869.

Authentic German Biergarten

June 3

Deutscher Club of Clark, 787 Featherbed Lane, will hold an authentic German Biergarten on Friday, June 3 from 5:30-11 p.m. featuring the BMW Motorcycle Club of North Jersey. Open to the public, rain or shine. Free parking, free admission. Music by the Norbert Ludewig Orchestra. German American food and beer available. No outside food or beverages permitted. No bicycles, skates, skateboards, scooters or pets permitted.

For more information, call (732) 574-8600.

National Walk for Suicide Prevention

June 4 & 5

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) will hold its Out of the Darkness Overnight Walk in New York City on Saturday and Sunday, June 4-5. The 18-mile walk from sunset to sunrise will raise money and awareness for suicide prevention.

Registration is open at www.TheOvernight.org or by calling 888-TheOvernight.

EAS Big Band Jazz

June 4

The Edison Arts Society presents the EAS Big Band Jazz Orchestra in a jazz concert on Saturday, June 4 at Metuchen High School, 400 Grove Ave. Tickets: \$20 for adults and \$15 for students.

For reservations and more information, call (732) 225-1261 or visit edisonarts.org.

Medical Qi Gong Meditation Class

June 4

Medical QiGong is a free course of meditation exercises being offered at Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, 1961 Raritan Rd., in Scotch Plains on Saturday, June 4 from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Please be on time as once the class begins we will not be able to interrupt the session. Join us and become energized from the inside out and experience a more physically and emotionally balanced self.

For more information about Willow Grove, call (908) 232-5678.

21st Higgins Classic Golf Tournament

June 6

Golfers are invited to participate in the prestigious 21st annual Higgins Classic Golf Tournament on Monday, June 6 at Fiddler's Elbow Country Club in Far Hills. The annual event benefits more than 22,000 athletes of Special Olympics New Jersey. Tickets for the evening reception are \$95. If you can't attend, you can sponsor Special Olympics athletes by making a donation to Special Olympics New Jersey.

For more information, call (609) 482-2280 or email HigginsClassic@sonj.org. For information on Special Olympics New Jersey, visit www.sonj.org.

SENIOR CENTER Calendar

MONDAYS

(Closed May 30-Memorial Day)
Silver Sneakers..... 8:45 am
Crocheting 9:30 am
Yoga 10:30 am
Art Class..... 11:30 am

TUESDAYS

Bingo 10 am-2 pm
Ladies Group 10 am

WEDNESDAYS

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

THURSDAYS

Active Seniors 8:45 am
Crafts Class..... 10 am
Computer..10 am, 11:30 am, 1:30 pm
Exercise Class..... 1:15 pm

FRIDAYS

Bingo 10 am-2 pm

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

Cape May Adventure

June 9

Metuchen Branch YMCA is sponsoring a trip to Cape May on Thursday, June 9 that will focus on the impact of World War II in the Cape May area including coastal fortifications at Cape May Point. Tea luncheon in the Carriage House. Fee: \$95 per person. Bus departs from Metuchen Municipal Pool parking lot at 8:30 a.m.

For more information and to reserve your spot, call Jean at (732) 548-2044.

Giant Yard Sale

June 11

The Ladies Auxiliary of the North Stelton Volunteer Fire Company, 70 Haines Ave. in Piscataway, will be sponsoring its annual spring yard sale on Saturday, June 11 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Raindate: June 18. Vendors wanted; spaces available for \$15 each.

For more information or to reserve a space, call Lisa at (732) 985-0282.

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To Promote & Protect Public Health & Welfare

MIDDLESEX COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

By Carol Barrett Bellante, Chair, Committee of Public Health & Education

Air Pollution Control Program

Every day we are exposed to contaminants from traffic exhaust, pesticides and chemical fumes from industrial and manufacturing facilities. If left unchecked, these pollutants could accumulate in the air to levels that could affect our well-being and lead to future health problems like cancer, asthma and other lung diseases.

To ensure that our air quality remains at healthy levels, the Middlesex County Environmental Health Division administers an air pollution program. This program follows standards that were put in place by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) and the County Environmental Health Act (CEHA) and was implemented on December 6, 1982.

One of the program's top priorities is to investigate individual complaints from residents and to prevent these

issues from negatively impacting the county's air quality. Complaints can include open burning, foul or chemical odors, smoke, idling vehicles or particulate emissions.

In order to achieve the county's ongoing goals of reducing pollutants and keeping the air safe, and to ensure compliance with standards, the air pollution program conducts daily inspections at many facilities throughout the county, including all fuel-burning equipment such as boilers, heaters and emergency generators that burn natural gas, propane, kerosene, diesel or #2 fuel oil that are fired and rated at greater than one million btu/hr, auto body shops and dry cleaning facilities.

The Middlesex County Air Pollution Program continually strives to monitor the air quality within all 25 municipalities and keep the air we breathe everyday, safe.

Shoplifting Escalates to Assault

South Plainfield Police responded to Burlington Coat Factory in Middlesex Mall on a report of a shoplifting in progress on May 18 at 5:25 p.m.

Store security reported that the suspect fled the store with three handbags valued at \$137. When police arrived on the scene, they were alerted to a vehicle exiting the parking lot onto Hadley Road. The driver of the vehicle initially refused to stop, but was pulled over on Corporate Court by Officer Kenneth Parada, who observed the stolen items in plain view in the car.

Jennifer Moyd, 25 of Plainfield was being questioned when she attempted to walk away from the officers. She physically resisted arrest and had to be subdued by Officers Lloyd McNelly and Michael Cleary. As she resisted being placed in the police car, Moyd

attempted to bite Officer McNelly.

Moyd had allegedly used her 11 year-old daughter to remove a handbag from the store. It is also alleged that she placed the handbag on the child and sent her out of the store alone. Moyd had two other juveniles with her at the time of the incident; her 10 year-old daughter and a two year-old girl. Moyd had removed the security tags on the handbags and two t-shirts, which she left behind in the store.

Moyd was charged with shoplifting, eluding a police officer, obstruction, resisting arrest, aggravated assault on a police officer and utilizing a juvenile to commit a criminal offense. She is being held on \$10,000 bail.

The juveniles were released to a family member.

Retro Fitness Edison and EFT Group Partner with Hometown Heros to Change One Man's Life

By Jean Fultz

Joey Dunham, catering manager at Hometown Heros who is also known to customers as Joey D, was already thinking about changing his life when Mitch Kurtzer, owner of Retro Fitness Edison walked in the deli. At 26 years old and weighing 385 lbs., Joey had often thought about what life would be like if he could drop 100 pounds or more. He tried to lose weight on his own several times, but never quite got the results he had hoped for. That is, until the day that Kurtzer stopped by.

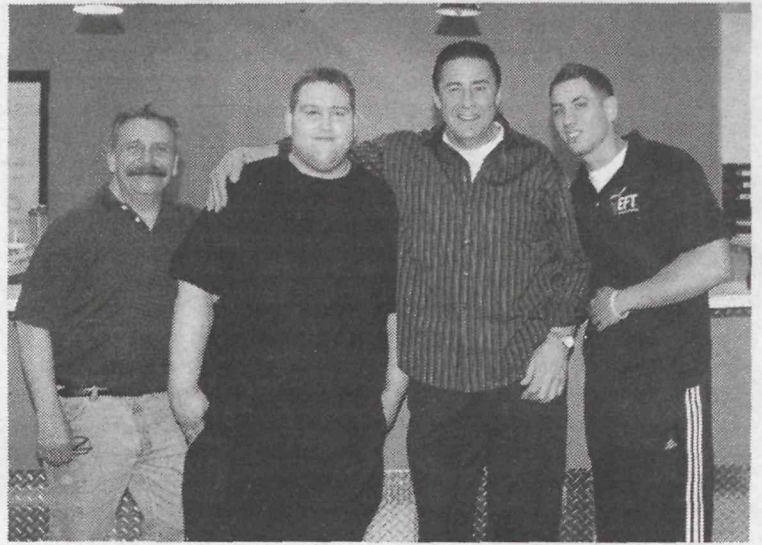
Hometown Heros owner, Charlie Kurland had sent a platter of sandwiches to the employees at Retro Fitness to welcome them to the neighborhood in March. "Now, there is a smart businessman," Kurtzer thought to himself after receiving the free lunchtime delivery. This prompted Kurtzer to make a trip to Hometown Heros to personally thank them "for the kind gesture."

Shortly afterwards, Joey approached Kurland about his desire to change his life and lose weight, and wondered if Kurtzer and Retro Fitness would be interested in some type of joint promotion.

"There's a business side and a personal side to this," said Kurtzer. "Obviously, I am more interested in the personal side, but if Joey could get down to 220 lbs., that would be great for business for us to be involved with his success."

Kurtzer subsequently offered Joey a free, one year membership and a challenge: "Workout here with our trainers, and on your own four to five days a week and show our members that it can be done; that a person can lose weight and change their life at Retro Fitness."

Kurtzer then brought in Vincent Guiliano from the EFT Group, the company that provides the gym with personal trainers. After a meeting with Joey in which personal training sessions were generously offered at a substantially reduced rate, EFT then doubled its offer to provide half price



Charlie Kurland, Joey Dunham, Mitch Kurtzer and Martin Barrios

sessions, four times a week, over the next 12 months. "We're in the business of changing lives; not many people can say or do that," said David Ragosa, owner of EFT Group.

Joey was then set up on a workout schedule, but it would be up to him to put forth the effort necessary to lose 165 lbs. It should be noted that before Joey embarked on this weight loss journey, he visited his personal physician for a complete physical and received a clean bill of health.

In conjunction with Joey's weight loss challenge from Kurtzer, Hometown Heros has designed a healthy menu in his honor to share with the community. "We want everyone to be a part of this journey to change one man's life and make Joey the biggest winner in South Plainfield," said Kurland. "You can request Hometown Heros' Healthy Menu with your next order by calling us at (908) 755-4376."

As for Joey, he has already lost more than 50 lbs. and is noticeably thinner, earning him the new nickname, "Skinny." His typical weekly workout schedule at Retro Fitness is as follows: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 5:30 p.m. with a personal trainer; Wednesdays and Saturdays are his rest days; and on Sundays he is on his own in the gym.

"It's a rewarding feeling to inspire other people to change their lives and lose weight," said Joey, a 2003 graduate of Edison High School and lifelong friend of Kurland's son, Bobby, manager of Hometown Heros. "My two trainers, Daniel Lynch and Martin Barrios, have been very influential to this process. I could not have gotten where I am now without them. They both push me to do things I never thought I was capable of doing."

The community is invited to be an active part of Joey's transformation. If you are a member of Retro Fitness and see Joey in the gym, encourage him to keep up the good work. If not, but you would like to change your life too, drop by Retro Fitness for a tour of the facility or call (732) 549-7387 for membership rates.

Donations are also being accepted at Retro Fitness and Hometown Heros to help pay for the personal training sessions. Look for the donation container at either location, or you can send a check, no matter how small, to Retro Fitness Gym, 3775 Park Ave., Edison, N.J. 08820 made payable to "Retro Fitness Biggest Winner."

"Together we will change this kid's life and that's what charity is all about," said Kurtzer.

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Sarah Adlassnig, Jillian Bengivenga and Ailyn Pilamunga.

Sacred Heart Students Win Awards In "Celebrate New Jersey" Contest

Sarah Adlassnig, Jillian Bengivenga and Ailyn Pilamunga from Mrs. Goetz's fourth grade social studies class at Sacred Heart School wrote winning essays about New Jersey and received their awards at a ceremony held recently at Raritan Valley Community College.

The awards were made possible by an organization called, "Celebrate

New Jersey." Each year, in an effort to encourage children to build pride in their state and community, they sponsor an online newspaper writing contest.

In addition, all students who participated in the contest received a free ticket to the June 15 ball game at Patriot's Stadium.

Submitted by Michele Adlassnig

Middle School Receives Recycling Bin

On May 13, the South Plainfield Middle School was the first school in Middlesex County to receive a large soda bottle-shaped recycling bin as a reward for their environmental efforts in the building.

Rich Hill, division head of Middlesex County Division of Solid Waste Management, contacted eight municipal recycling coordinators and asked that they nominate the school that had been running the best recycling program. Borough Recycling Coordinator Dr. Alice Tempel, along with the general manager of the custodial staff, felt that the middle school was "the obvious choice."

Last year the school's Environmental Club won a \$100 grant from the N.J. Department of Environmental Protection which was used to improve co-mingled recycling throughout the building. Bins for bottles and cans were placed in hallways and club members educated fellow students about good recycling habits. The club also transported the extra recyclables to the outdoor storage containers.

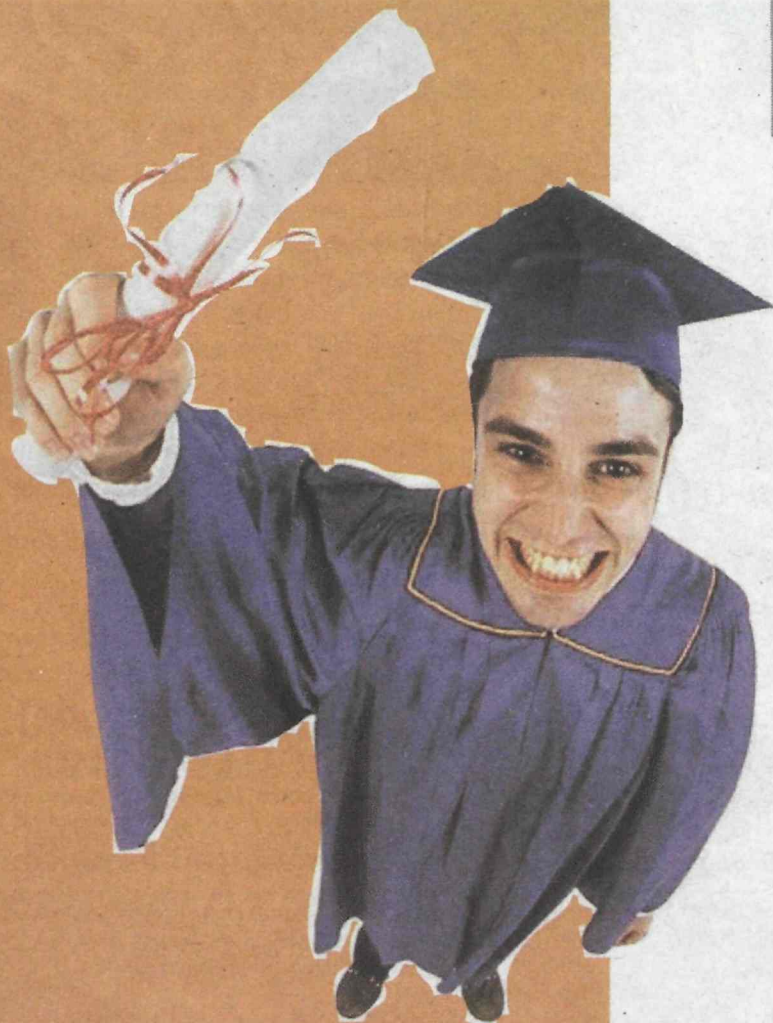


PICTURED (L-R) ARE MIDDLE SCHOOL Environmental Club Advisor JulieAnn Zoleta-Montany, Principal Kevin Hajduk, JT Colapietro, Dr. Alice Tempel, Elizah Rodriguez, Rich Hill and Division of Solid Waste Management Complaints Inspector Dave Sliker.

"I hope that the new recycling bin will encourage even more enthusiastic recycling among the students, faculty

and staff," said Dr. Tempel, who called the new bin a "visual reminder" to recycle.

If you own a business in South Plainfield then the July 1 issue of the Observer is the ideal way to promote your business and reach a wide audience. This special borough-wide graduation issue will feature a pullout section celebrating the SPHS Class of 2011, including photos of the graduates.



It's Big!

The special borough-wide graduation issue hits newsstands on July 1.
Call 908-668-0010 to reserve space or email spobserver@comcast.net.

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GIRL SCOUT TROOP 65042 from Sacred Heart School participated in the town-wide clean up by removing trash from two areas on Wooden Avenue. The girls were amazed that they collected 12 bags of trash.

Volunteers Pick Up Three Tons of Trash in April

April showers may bring May flowers, but a rainy Saturday in April is not the best time for a town-wide litter pickup. Nevertheless, a surprising number of people showed up at Borough Hall on the morning of April 23 to gather gloves, orange trash bags, reflective vests and pickup sticks for the annual Volunteer Litter Cleanup Day. More surprising yet, about 30 people actually went ahead and did their cleanups in the rain, then came back to borough hall at noon for the traditional pickup picnic. The rest of the groups took advantage of the fact that Mayor Matt Anesh had proclaimed April 23-30 as Volunteer Litter Cleanup Week to clean their assigned spots on other, drier days. Scout troops, church groups, families, students, non-profit organizations, businesses, politicians—every sector of the borough was represented. Even people from out of town joined in the cleanup effort.

Based on reports turned in so far by the volunteers, at least 118 people filled at least 117 bags with litter from 6.8 miles of road and 42 acres of open land, totaling over three tons of trash. This is fewer people and less litter collected than in most years, but given the weather, it was a strong turnout. Some volunteers commented that their spots did not seem as bad this year, so the smaller amount of litter may reflect a cleaner borough rather than just fewer people collecting.

The pickup picnic was set up in the courtroom. Mayor Anesh, members of the Environmental Commission and the Clean Communities Advisory Board served pizza, sandwiches and soda to the hungry workers. The McCrisky-Gustafson Home For Funerals donated the pizza from Bruno's Pizza Factory again this year and Charlie and Debbie Kurland of Hometown Heros provided two large plates of sandwiches. A free raffle of eco-friendly door prizes entertained

the workers, tote bags and back packs made from recycled soda bottles and clean communities program t-shirts. Everyone received flower seed disks that when soaked and planted will sprout forget-me-nots.

The piles of orange bags around town bore witness to the dedication of the volunteers as well as to the thoughtlessness of fellow citizens who left the litter for others to clean up. Pinto Brothers Disposal offered to dispose of the bagged trash free of charge.

Groups that participated in cleanup week included: Adopt-A-Spotters Stillman Photography Services, the Roseo Family and the South Plainfield Funeral Home; Girl Scout Troops 14, 42, 109, 117, 388 and 745; Boy Scout Troops 125 and 309, Cub Scout Pack 207; the Keystone Community Vocational Program, the Middlesex County Labor Assistance Program, the Knights of Columbus Squires, the Cedarcroft Bible Chapel, the Wesley Methodist Church, the South Plainfield Middle School Student Council and Peer-to-Peer group, the South Plainfield High School Student Council, members of an environmental sciences class at Rutgers University, staff from the U.S. Army Recruiting Station, the South Plainfield Republican Organization, the South Plainfield Environmental Commission, the South Plainfield Business Association, Walgreen's, Harris Steel and at least 20 unaffiliated residents who came out during a wet week in April to help keep their community a great place to live.

By Chris Grippo

The South Plainfield Public Library will be closed this Sunday and Monday, May 29 and 30, for Memorial Day. Originally begun to honor those who died in the Civil War, Memorial Day has become the time we honor all veterans. It is particularly important at this time to remember our men and women are fighting and dying in Iraq, Afghanistan, and many other places.

The library subscribes to a wide variety of databases that are accessible through our website www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us; one that has been generating interest lately is Universal Class. These are free non-credit courses for your personal enrichment covering a wide variety of topics from business to computers to cooking, gardening, parenting, etc. and organized into general categories. Furthermore, each category has many different classes organized under that heading. You will be surprised at the variety offered. All give you access to a live instructor and you have six months to finish the course. So, if you want to expand your knowledge about almost any general topic or need help preparing for a GED test or to help with homeschooling, please check out this database.

June is also Audiobook Month and it will be the perfect time to check out the selection of audio and e-books we have through Listen NJ (also accessible through our website).

Feast of St. Anthony Begins June 7

The 36th annual Feast of St. Anthony runs Tuesday through Saturday, June 7-11 on the grounds of Our Lady of Czestochowa RC Church, 909 Hamilton Blvd.

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

Advance ride tickets, valued at \$18, will be on sale for \$10. The special priced tickets can be purchased after 4:30 p.m. Masses on Saturday and the 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday Masses. Tickets will also be sold Monday, May 9, 16, 23 and 30 from 7-8 p.m., June 4 and 5 from 1-4 p.m. and on June 6 from 3-5 p.m. in the church hall.

In addition, advance ride tickets will be sold at The Bagel Pantry, 2328 Plainfield Ave.; The Corner Deli, 1200 Hamilton Blvd.; Dave's

While you're on our website you can renew your library materials. In order that you have the greatest variety of ways to renew materials. The library allows you to renew by 1) calling the library while we are open and speaking to a staff member; 2) calling Elvis at (908) 757-3280; or 3) by using our website. You just need to be aware that if you use Elvis or our website you will need your South Plainfield Library barcode handy. If you use Elvis, you will also need the materials that you are renewing for their barcodes (if you renew through the website you will see a list of what you have checked out). The library does not want to charge any overdue fines. You can now check out up to eight movies at a time. The fine for returning them late is \$2/day, so it's extremely important that you stay on top when your materials are due.

Miss Mija and Miss Linda will be having their regularly scheduled story and craft times this week. Storytime for three plus is Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. Times for 2s and 3s are Wednesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Books and Babies is Friday at 10:30 a.m. Each program lasts for about an hour and is free, plus there is no registration required.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the library at (908) 754-7885 or visit us at 2484 Plainfield Ave. (next to Borough Hall).

CancerCare Overnight Retreat

CancerCare, a national non-profit organization, will be hosting its third annual Healing Hearts Bereavement Camp weekend. This is a free retreat offered to families with children/teens who have lost a loved one to cancer. The camp will be held on Friday-Sunday, June 10 through 12 at Malibu Camp in Milford, Pa. Fun recreational activities are combined with therapeutic grief activities to provide emotional support. Some of the activities scheduled are: horseback riding, fishing, sports, camp fire and more. Registration is required. Please respond to Kristin Sorlie, LSW at 800-813-4673, ext. 6810 or email ksorlie@cancercare.org.

CancerCare provides free professional support services to anyone affected by cancer: people with cancer, caregivers, children, loved ones and the bereaved. CancerCare programs—including counseling, education, financial assistance and practical help—are provided by trained oncology social workers and are completely free of charge. Founded in 1944, CancerCare now provides individual help to more than 100,000 people last year, in addition to the more than one million people who gain information and resources from its website.

Holiday Schedule For Recycling and Curbside Collection

Curbside recycling in Section I will be done on Saturday, June 4 instead of on Monday, May 30 because of the Memorial Day holiday.

The recycling center will be open on its regular schedule during the Memorial Day weekend: open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, May 27 and Saturday, May 28 and from 12 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 31. The yard waste site will also be open as usual, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Saturday and 12 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday.

Call the recycling hotline at (908) 226-7620 for updates.

policereport

• On May 11 Latoya Lynn Martin, 29, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license and two outstanding warrants.

• On May 13 Anantkumar A. Patel, 25, of Iselin was arrested for hindering apprehension, reckless driving and driving on an expired license.

• On May 14 Sameera Katariwala, 31, of Colonia was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

• On May 16 a Highland Avenue resident reported that the bird bath in their back yard was knocked over by juveniles.

• On May 17 Derek B. Brown, 29, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license, no insurance, unclear license plates, refusal to exhibit documents and an outstanding warrant.

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Five Girl Scouts Earn Gold Award

The South Plainfield Girl Scout community held a Gold, Silver and Bronze Award ceremony at South Plainfield High School on May 14. A total of 45 girls received awards—five gold, one silver and 39 bronze.



The Gold Award is the highest achievement within the Girl Scouts of the USA. Only 5.4% of eligible Girl Scouts successfully earn the award. The award is sometimes compared to the Boy Scout Eagle Award. The successful achievement of the award demonstrates leadership and organizational skills through the development of a plan, putting it into action and successfully completing a project that benefits the community. It requires the commitment that comes from "going for the gold" and serves as a foundation for a lifetime of active citizenship.

Gold Award recipients were: Elizabeth J. Becker, Amelia Rose Lyte, Sarah A. McCarthy, Sheetal P. Sharma (Troop 65118, leaders Jane Becker, Carol McCarthy and Kathy Hoagland) and Sarah Elizabeth Hageman (Troop 65888, leader Sue Hageman).

Receiving the Silver Award was Claire Montana Hageman (Troop 65002, leader Christa Reineke).

Receiving the Bronze Award were Gracie Tingley Hageman (Troop 65780, leader Jul McCormick); Katelyn Marie Borsos, Jenna Nicole Karcher, Elizabeth Laura Catherine Lee (Troop 65699, leaders Chrissy Lee, Mary Makowski); Emily Kuchinski, Melissa Gallant, Gina Taricani, Sydney Christian, Meagan Praul, Kayla Santiago and Stephanie Heim (Troop 65091, leader Heidi Modugno); Brianna E. Atkinson, Lindsay Benko, Nubia Elizabeth Calderon, Jennifer Nicole Christilles; Marisa Nicole DeSimone, Aubrey Grace Marish, Gabrielle Anne Mine, Kaitlyn Marie Neunert, Shea Price, Hannah Marie Rhoads, Megan Russo, Alexa Ryan, Alexis Walker, Crystal Marie Woodring and Genneve Zipp (Troop 65883, leaders Madeline Christelles, Stacie Marish); Jacquelyn Michelle Battista, Megan Catherine Celentano, Asha Jendayi Deskins, Christina Elena LoBosco, Kristi Lynn Maher, Alexandria Susan Obregon, Jade Nicole Scotti, Lindsey Kathryn Soper, Courtney Camille Smith, Angel Ruth Taber Samathan Tessie Williams and Stephanie Nicole Waters (Troop 65014, leaders Amy Battista, Tricia Obregon).

The Girl Scout Gold 4Bs Challenge requires girls to assess their community and its needs and develop a vision for change. Up to 15 hours work on the 4Bs challenge may be counted toward the 65 hours for the service project.

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The 25 winners in the 2010/2011 Junior Journalist program at the May 11 banquet held in their honor. Also pictured are program sponsors Charlie and Debbie Kurland of Hometown Heros and South Plainfield Observer publisher Nancy Grennier.

Twenty-five Honored at 8th Annual Junior Journalist Banquet

Twenty-five school district students, ranging in grades one through high school, were recognized for their creative writing achievement at the eighth annual Junior Journalist banquet held on May 11 at the American Legion. To date, there have been 196 winners in the eight years of the program.

The annual banquet, sponsored by Hometown Heros and the South Plainfield Observer, was attended by representatives from the State of New Jersey, the borough council, school administrators, teachers and parents. Also attending were representatives of the South Plainfield Education Foundation, TD Bank, Columbia Bank and Party City.

State Assemblyman Patrick DiGnan presented a proclamation from the State of New Jersey and Mayor Matt Anesh presented a proclamation from the Borough Council to each winner. South Plainfield Education Foundation and Target generously donated gift certificates to each Junior Journalist. Party City decorated the hall and donated the decorations. Each Junior Journalist also received a certificate of recognition and an

engraved trophy.

Charlie and Debbie Kurland awarded Justin Jones the Ruth Kurland Memorial Award, a \$1,000 savings bond in memory of Charlie's mother. Sarah Gwiazda received a \$50 savings bond courtesy of Columbia Bank; Joseph Sacco and Christopher Shine were each awarded \$50 savings bonds courtesy of TD Bank.

The Junior Journalists were asked to read their work during the course of the evening. Special guest Roosevelt School teacher Mike Bertram recited two original—and humorous—poems to the delight of the audience. (See one of the poems at right.) Bertram, who has attended all past banquets, writes a poem every year. His influence on the children at Roosevelt is evidenced by the hundreds of entries they submit.

This year's winners were Michael Marrero, David Delice, Shea Price, Puja Vengadasalam, Allison Wagner, Anthony Barge, Samantha Williams, Deanna DeLisa, Skylar Davison, Sarahann Singh, Liesl Co, Angela Ramos, Sanjiv Sewdat, Giavanna Difrancesco, Sarah Gwiazda, Biren Patel, Kaitlyn Graziano, Sara Dabul, Justin Jones, Kimberly Sheedy, Katalina Bedoya, Joseph Sacco, Vivian Huynh, Christopher Shine and Dylan DeLisa.

The annual contest is open to K-12 students in the Borough of South Plainfield. The ninth annual Junior Journalist contest will begin this October and runs through April 2012.

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It's Dylan's. I'd recognize that unclosed lower case "a" anywhere.
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Teachers are innovative and thrifty.
I can fix broken glasses with dental floss!
Pass me a paper clip.
I will fix the zipper on your jacket, poke holes in orange glue caps, unjam the stapler and pencil sharpener, Who needs a screw driver?
I have a pocket full of paper clips.
Teachers are Superheroes that save the day!
Then ruin it with extra homework.
When students aren't around to see, teachers live like royalty in our secret teachers' room lair.
We have manicure and pedicure stations to attend to our tired hands and feet, as we watch "the news" on 65 inch plasma TVs, eating gourmet lunches by our own personal chefs,
I'll tell you this teacher life is the best. Teachers can't be beat.
And if your teacher isn't sweet... Well, they probably ran out of sprinkles by our ice cream machine.

By Mike Bertram



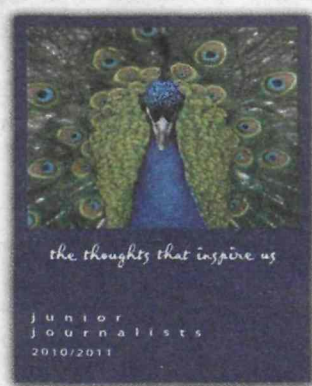
Charlie and Debbie Kurland



Mike Bertram shares his poetry.



Puja Vengadasalam reads.



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Middle School Announces Third Marking Period Honor Roll

Eighth Grade High Honor Roll

Mansi Amin, Rebecca Armand, Matthew Belanger, Taylor M. Brinks, Mark Butrico, Vincent Butrico, Carl Cirilli, Hayley Dow, Moriah Garcia, Imrin Goraya, Dominika Kapolka, Charlotte Macchia, Christopher McNeil, Marcela Naranjo, Het Patel, Kenneth Quin, Brandon Rickert, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Allison Scarinci, Leonard Scarpitto, Mary Simmonds, Gina Tartza, Kasey Walsh

Eighth Grade Honor Roll

Hannah Abrego, Katie Addario, Andrew Akpan, Mecca Ali, Philip Aquilina, Brooke Barry, Wiktor Blazewicz, Melanie Budhan, Neil Budhan, Bertha Calderon, John Calvi, Alyssa Capone, Melanie Cheng, Ben Cochrane, Hunter Czarnik, Holly DeLair, Mike Delice, Danielle DeVizio, Kyle Dickerson, CJ Dudek, Nicole Eager, Anthony Eggert, Alyssa Esposito, Morgan Evans, Zoe Falcone, Kayla Fisher, John Garcia, Rebecca George, Bryan Gillen, Cynthia Goyes, Christopher Graves, Ashley Gruver

Jordan Handwerker, Rosalind Heim, Casidhe Holoboski, Chelsea Housel, Erin Jones, Sara Kamal, Casee

Le, Paul Licato, Matthew Lind, Matthew Maher, Jordan Mandel, Michael Mandes, Gianna Marcovecchio, Christopher Marrero, Kayla Massaro, Elizabeth McCormick, Ryan McCue, Steven Merrill, Giovanna Nolan, Nina Nunez, Kelley O'Brien, Andres Ochoa, Daniel Pacheco, Deep Patel, Riya Patel, Bryan Perez Diaz, Deborah Persaud, Shaquan Phillips, Emma Piedilato, Susan Pipolo, Kara Podlovits, Julia Prokofieva

Melanie Rajpal, Caroline Ratti, Sara Reineke, Brianna Saffold, Anthony Santone, Amanda Scofi, Laynie Serro, Kelly Shea, Karishma Singh, Shannon Smith, Nicole Sottiriou, Kimberly Stanczak, Jennifer Teece, Brett Temple, Samantha Tercek, Jennifer Truong, Croidy Veliz, Laura Weinberger, Xavier Wilson, Katelyn Wolak, Oscar Zubiera

Seventh Grade High Honor Roll

Kevin Adams, Thalia Alfaresa, Jeremy Brown, Michaela Buttrick, Daniel Cherrez, Hemanth Chiluka, Tyler Curtis, Katherine Dolinski, Jamie Donato, Nicole Goitandia, Kim Lam, Christopher Maszczak, Melissa Novak, Timothy Nuber, Karan Patel, Neel Patel, Kelsy Prins, Sydney Surowiec, Miguel Velez, Vita Viran, Anna Williams

Seventh Grade Honor Roll

Melissa Abate, Lisa Affinito, Jacob Alba, Alexes Aquilina, Trevor Bali, Nicholas Battista, Yunita Behari, Nolan Berry, Michael Bhro, Stephanie Boettger, Sarah Bosse, Miranda Bourbeau, Owen Campbell, Vincent Cano, Sarah Cargill, John Carone, Lindsay Celentano, Amanda Ciardiello, Brian Csobor, Brian Cullen, Gina Cummings, Gene Decker, Kyle DelPaoli, Nicholas DiFrancesco, Amanda Duffy, Habiba Elbastawsisi, RaeAnne Englert, Hunter Estevez, Marianna Fahmy, Madison Faustini, Dianne Ferraro, Michael Freddy

Matthew Gallant, Jack Gillis, Neil Mervin Gonzalez, Robert Gwiazda, Daniel Hedden, Ailsa Hernandez, Nicole Horne, Meghan Hughes, Danielle Hurst, Kevin Jones, Krista Kaczka, Jouni Khalaf, Andrew Kopchak, Christopher Kuberiet, Tony Le, Brianna Leonard, Ethan Lyte, Marissa Mulligan, James Munoz-Morales, Naome Nabi, Rebecca Ng, Julia Nguyen, Naomi Nieves, Glenn O'Bryant, Jessica Ortiz, Jessica Panek, Taylor Parajon, Jocelyn Paredes, Dhruvkumar Patel, Ravi Patel, Ajay Persaud, Jason Petriello, Nicholas Polizzano, Michael Pratt

Kimberly Quinchia Franco, Mark Ramjatan, Samantha Ratti, Emma Regan, Mason Resende, Justin Rochotte, Maximilian Rohrer, Alyssa Russo, Nicholas Ruzicka, Alec Salvador, Brittany Santos, Nicholas Scalera, Christopher Scherer, Samantha Schulkes, Thomas Scott, Nicholas Spadavecchia, Kirsty Sperr, Joshua Stasenko, Emily Sukenik, Ellie Tom, Jack Townley, Danny Trieu, Allen Uzoma, Matthew Waters, Lea Wietykowski, Kyle Wong, Reece Young, Georgette Zegarra

Sports



South Plainfield High School seniors Carly Ashnault and Eddie Sullivan with Athletic Director Mike Buggey.

Seniors Honored at GMC Luncheon

South Plainfield High School seniors Carly Ashnault and Eddie Sullivan represented South Plainfield at the annual Greater Middlesex Conference Sportsmanship Luncheon on May 18 at the Pines Manor in Edison. Ashnault and Sullivan both received

the GMC Sportsmanship Award for their outstanding sportsmanship displayed throughout the year.

The award is presented to two athletes from each GMC school who demonstrate leadership and sportsmanship on and off the field.

U-10 SOCCER ECLIPSE

By Jenn Curtis

Eclipse Remain Undefeated with Victory Over Ridge Mavericks

The South Plainfield Soccer Club U-10 girls travel team traveled to Basking Ridge last Sunday and scored a hard fought win, 1-0.

Defense dominated the game and the girls showed off their skills by playing a multitude of positions, both offense and defense, and changing the lineup every period.

The only goal was scored by Jill Holoboski. The shutout goalie duties were shared by Kaitlyn Smith and Mackenzie O'Brien who both had brilliant saves. Eclipse improved their

record to 4-0-5.

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

The coaches are Gino Leonardis and Ken Curtis.

The girls last game of the season is Friday, June 3 at Kenneth Fields at 8 p.m. Please come out and support the girls.

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Sports

Tigers Special Athletes Compete in Carteret

The South Plainfield Tigers Special Athletes competed in the Special Olympics Regions Competition at Carteret High School on April 16. The athletes participated in various track and field events, including long jump, softball throw and sprint races. All athletes earned medals and a spot in this year's state competition to be held in June.

A special thanks to the parents and volunteers who helped make the day possible. Also, a big thank you to Kevin Hughes who provided a space

for indoor practices this year.

The 2011 Special Athletes team includes Captain Jason DeSantis, David Agnew, Kyle Both, Ryan Buckalew, Kevin Conroy, Robert Fallet, Laquan Kalman, Chris Mayorga, Dave Micalbalo, Thelma Morgan, Ryan Olson, Kobe Reid, Jason Seay, Stephanie Tercek, Emily Terhune, Alex Uba and Yuri Zakerski. The team is coached by Brittany DeNitzio, Heather Hearne, and Sharon McGrath.

Congratulations Tigers. Good luck at states!



Golf Outing Committee Extends Thanks to Golfers and Sponsors



Golf outing committee members Carolyn Allen (left) and Shannon Jefferys with Councilman Rob Bengivenga, who participated in the outing.

The South Plainfield Education Foundation and the South Plainfield Business Association held its annual golf outing on May 10. The weather couldn't have been nicer!

The golf committee members worked tirelessly to ensure the event's success: Carolyn Allen of TD Bank, Shannon Jefferys of Columbia Bank,

Robert Longo of Cornerstone Architectural Group, Tom Lanza of Lanza and Lanza and Rick McCriskin of McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals. Allen and Jefferys were able to ensure that the outing took place without a hitch.

More than 50 golfers participated—all local business people. Each golfer

received a goody bag and left with a door prize. The first place team won a foursome to Twin Brooks Country Club. The second place team won a foursome to Cranbury Golf Club and a \$50 gift certificate, both from Cranbury Golf Club, and the third place team won a foursome to the Plainfield Country Club West Nine.

First place team members were Tom Lanza, Anthony Moretti, Warren Tamoroff and Guy Moretti. The second place team was New Pak Group and the third place team was Dr. Linick and the Plainfield Animal Hospital Group.

Closest to the pin on hole #7 was Alex Barletta; closest to the pin on #16 was Tim Fech; and the longest drive on hole #18 was Mike Dixon. Each of these winners received a \$25 gift certificate to Cranbury Golf Club. The hole in one program was sponsored by John Cecchetti Insurance Agency and the hole in one for a new car was sponsored by Reydeil Volkswagen.

Sponsors for the outing were New Pak Inc., TD Bank, Hall's Warehouse, Lynn/Hudd Steel Corp., B&C Deli,

Rich's Pharmacy, Mei Haus Restaurant, 1-800 Flowers, Bagel Pantry, Mohn's Florist, Sherban's Restaurant, Flanagan's Restaurant, Cornerstone Architectural Group, Oak Tree Discount Wines and Spirits, Twin City Pharmacy, Plainfield Country Club-West Nine, Columbia Bank, Just Packaging, Central Jersey Federal Credit Union, Harris Realty, Centric Insurance Agency, Integrity Consulting, Educational Data, Lanza and Lanza, McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals, Grotto Engineering, Rita's Italian Ice, Fischer Contracting, Muglia Enterprises, Erika Lynn Foundation, Barletta Construction, Skylands Bank, DiCara and Rubino, South Plainfield Observer, Sunlight Photonics, Mayor Matt Anesh, Rob Bengivenga, Century 21 Moretti Realty, Plainfield Animal Hospital, Midco Waste Systems, Frank Mikorski, Animal House, Paradise Spa, Sportworld, Vail Industrial, Carpet Bazaar, Schenck, Price & Smith & King LLC, Tony's Pizza, Perfect Nail, Ricochet Racquet Club, Xtreme Car

Wash, Ciccio's Pizza, Puleo's, Witty's Liquors, Twin Brook Country Club, Cranbury Country Club, Safeguard Systems, Kobo, AKA Inc., John Cecchetti Insurance Company, Reydeil Volkswagen and Hometown Heros.

All of the above mentioned either played golf or provided sponsorship and/or raffle gifts for the outing.

Please patronize all of our sponsors, without whose help the outing would not have been such a success.

Proceeds from the outing will go to the Education Foundation that will continue to provide a \$1,000 scholarship each year in honor of Emil Leporino, one of the founders of both the Education Foundation and the South Plainfield Business Association.

Many thanks to all who helped to make this outing a success again this year. We are looking forward to next year's outing which will be held on May 8. Please mark your calendars for next year's outing. Also, check out our websites at www.vision2001.org and www.thespbabiz.com for all of our upcoming events.

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South Plainfield High School Honor Roll – Quarter 3

Grade 9

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Tyrone M. Hawkins-Wilburn, Sabrina M. Hemming, Lauren M. Hill, Erika J. Holtermann, Christy Itwaru, Eric S. Ivaniuc, Raymond J. Jazikoff, Jenalee R. Jenkin, Gabriella M. Jimenez, Rowena M. Kanj, Michelle A. Keane, Carly E. Kensey, Heather H. Lee, Emily J. Lubach, Collin R. Lynch, Eric J. Makowski, Justin H. Marks, Joanna M. Marston, Brian R. McCarthy, Kate M. McLaughlin, Tyler J. McVeigh, Mamta D. Mehta, Yasmeen C. Mighty, Christopher M. Miller, Melissa S. Molano, Sarah T. Mott, Marissa D. Munilall, Jacqueline E. Nazario, Chloe E. Ng, Brittney A. Papa, Harsh S. Patel,

Vinay V. Patel, Andrew A. Pawelczak, Diamond E. Pender, Carol A. Pennington, Kristy N. Percario, Heidi A. Pilla, Michael J. Polizzano, Jonathan G. Prins, Maggie A. Quintanilla, Padminie D. Rambharose, Tushar A. Ramroop, Zara B. Rizvi, Dominick J. Scalera, Bryan J. Sierra, Inan Sikel, Monica L. Spooner, Marc A. Stasio, Sabersha Syed, Kristen E. Wong, Kexin Cher Xu, David G. Zychlins

Grade 10

Philip Anarumo, Ashley M. Annetta, Charles T. Anyamene, Jordana D. Approvato, Andrew P. Atkinson, Sayyed A. Austin, Kevin P. Belanger, Robert J. Benwell, Quinn A. Bolivar, Patrick T. Boyle, Ryan J. Buckelew, Kristel Buschan, Samuel S. Butler, Christopher W. Butrico, Danielle J. Butrico, Kayla Carigma, Andrew M. Catalina, Kendall L. Christ, Jenna N. Clemente, Quinn W. Cochrane, John E. Corone, Patricia Cruz, Michael V. DelGenio, Cinthya M. Diaz, Michael A. Dolan, Alexa G. Douras, Caitlyn Driscoll, Tara A. Dunn, Richard D. Duong, Dominic Z. Eosso, Rebecca P. Eustice, Kristin E. Forbes, Matthew J. Frank, Allison N. Gorman, Nicholas G. Graves, Ryan M. Guarraci, Andrea A. Guerrero, Dustin Jones L. Guzman, Taylor G. Hagy, Troy J. Heilmann, Meghan A. Heim, Jasmin Hernandez, Alec P. Hing, Ken

N. Hing, Zoya C. Hodge, Nicholas J. Huber, Samantha J. Hunterton

Kevin J. Jakaria, Khyllah N. Jean, Christina M. Kasmer, Michelle L. Lesniak, Bianca R. Lobosco, Rian A. Lukacs, Deirdre D. Macchia, Nicholas A. Marrone, Gavy D. Marroquin, Matthew M. McCue, John R. McDonough, Maggie McLean, Rebecca M. Moskal, Nicholas J. Muglia, Amber M. Mullens, Christina A. Naphor, Devynn N. Nolan, Danielle A. Palitto, Charmi J. Patel, Brandon J. Pauls, Jeffrey M. Pellegrino, Dayana Perez Diaz, Katherine G. Pickarski, Emily A. Pitenger, Christal Ramagado, Hiren B. Rana, Emily P. Reineke, Erin L. Remsing, Jonathan M. Reyes, Andrew K. Rhoads, Thomas J. Riccardi, Karen N. Rivera, Ashley L. Robjohns, Hayley A. Robjohns, Joshua J. Rochotte, Yaritza A. Rodriguez Morel, Fernando Sanabria, Yasmin D. Santiago, Raymond Santos, Gerianne Scarpitto, KimberLee A. Serrano, Keta Shah, Brandon S. Shaw, Joshua D. Siepmann, Emily L. Skula, Angelica G. Smith, Gabrielle E. Smith, Sydney S. Smith, Joseph J. Spinella, Nicole R. Stanczak, Corey G. Stassenko, Anthony R. Torchia, Jennifer D. Tran, Jessica L. Treslar, Caroline F. Vill, Steven R. Vincent, Vera V. Viran, Wahid Walli, Chrystal E. Wedderburn, Isabel Zychlinski

Grade 11

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The volunteers who renovated the courtroom at borough hall.

Borough Hall Courtroom Gets a Facelift

Volunteers gathered in Borough Hall on May 4 to begin a much needed facelift to the municipal courtroom ceiling. The ceiling tiles were water stained and falling apart in some areas. The ceiling was an eyesore and its condition had been mentioned by some residents during a recent council meeting.

David Miglis, owner of Dave Miglis Enterprises and vice chair of the zoning board, got the idea of making the renovations. He approached Councilman Alex Barletta about replacing the tiles. He said he was willing to donate

the labor if the borough would agree to supply the materials.

Volunteers began by removing the old ceiling tiles. Before replacing them they installed energy efficient ceiling lights, modified the HVAC system, installed new drywall and wallpaper behind the dais and refinished the dais and front railing. In four days, the volunteers completed the renovations. The result is a courtroom that South Plainfield can now be proud to show off during its official meetings. There are also 96 fewer light bulbs in use in the courtroom, which will save on

energy costs.

Volunteers were Dave Miglis, Bill Pastor, Police Officer Mark Hollian-owner of One Call Electric, Manny Arlequin, John Orlando, Mike Visocchi, Leo Johnson, Brian and Bobby Capparelli, Police Captain Matt Koep, Robert Graf, Kenny Bonanno, Peter Malishuk and Ted Skwiat. Dan Grubbaugh not only installed, but also donated the wallpaper, and Bob Longo of Cornerstone Architectural Group LLC supplied the plans. Councilman Alex Barletta was on hand to coordinate the renovation.

BOE Approves Council Budget Cut

(Continued from page 1)

"They could have taken a lot more."

Kennedy School teacher Sandy Doyon said she "didn't like the tone of Monday night's meeting. They [the council] had a cavalier attitude that it's no big deal. I thank Chrissy Buteas for trying to come across with some information that would help the staff here."

When questioned about the failure of the board to adopt a budget, Business Administrator Nick Puleio said that the Department of Education Commissioner of Finance would intervene and force a resolution. The outcome, however, may not be in their best interest. He also reiterated that state law mandates the council's decision as binding; however, the suggested line item reductions they made were not.

Acting Superintendent Dr. Gary Bowen felt it necessary to make a clarification regarding the reduction in staff which was to occur whether or not the budget passed. He explained that the

Spanish program in the elementary schools will be "modified" and will not lose many teachers. In regards to the 33½ staff being cut, Bowen stated, "I've maintained all along it could be a trifle less or more. It's not a locked number." Middle school sports and fine arts programs, according to Bowen, are still under review. He said there may be some curtailment, reduction or compression and ideas are on the drawing board. "Let me make it perfectly clear; it is still a work in progress. That book is not closed," commented Bowen.

According to the council, cuts such as \$226,000 from the board's appropriations accounts for services such as cleaning, repair, maintenance and ground services; and \$100,000 from capital reserve and \$200,000 from the fund balance were recommended.

The board chose to instead cut \$136,000 from the cleaning, repair, maintenance and ground services accounts due to a \$90,000 reduction in

health benefits that came to light just prior to the meeting.

In the capital reserve account, the board maintained the previously negotiated amount of \$100,000 set aside for repair projects (that will now be delayed). The board also maintained the \$200,000 that was from the general fund balance.

Just prior to voting on the line item reductions, Finance Committee Chair Chris Hubner presented the board with a last minute reduction of \$46,000 in the general supplies account. This account encompasses all types of supplies not just classroom items. After discussion, the board voted 9-0 to reduce the supplies account therefore reducing the amount of \$200,000 that was to be taken from the fund balance.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Renata Dolinski, 3208 Beverly Rd., requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit a 3' wide by 66" long platform and stairs, requires a 30' secondary front yard setback on Beverly Rd.; 277" is proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 3208 Beverly Rd., Block 239, Lot 6; R-7.5 Zone 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, June 9, 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

May 27, 2011

Obituaries

Maria (Colantuono) Infante, 94

Maria (Colantuono) Infante passed away following a short illness on Tuesday, May 24 under hospice care in CentraState Medical Center in Freehold.

Born in Lioni Avellino, Italy, Maria came to the United States in 1972 and had resided in Plainfield, North Plainfield and South Plainfield before moving to Seaside Park and settling in Manalapan four years ago.

She had been employed as a production worker for the former Markay Bag Company in Plainfield and retired when the company closed in 1978.

She enjoyed spending time with family and watching sports, especially the New York Mets and soccer.

She is predeceased by her husband, Antonio, who died in 1999; and by three brothers, Michael, John and Angelo.

Surviving are two sons, Vincenzo and wife Pasqualina of South Plainfield and Salvatore and wife Diane of Manalapan; four grandchildren, Jennifer, Anthony, Jessica and Mario; and eight great-grandchildren, Elliot, Parker, Chloe, Bella, Johnny, Jason, Logan and Vincent.

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

Erwin A. "DJ Tikal" Soto, 45

Erwin A. "DJ Tikal" Soto of South Plainfield passed away on Monday, May 16 at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born on October 4, 1965 in Guatemala City, Guatemala to Victor and Maria (Ramirez) Soto, he lived in North Plainfield before moving to South Plainfield.

Mr. Soto was a truck driver for New England Motor Freight in Elizabeth for 15 years. He loved to DJ and enjoyed carpentry.

Mr. Soto was predeceased by his mother, Marie Soto in 2006.

He is survived by his wife, Dina Y. Soto of South Plainfield; two daughters, Evelyn V. and Cindy A. Soto of South Plainfield; his father, Victor Soto of Guatemala; three brothers, Vinicio Soto of North Plainfield and Nelson and Braulio Soto of Guatemala; and three sisters, Miriam Soto of Guatemala, Olga Soto of Ohio and Sasha Soto of Guatemala.

Funeral services were held at the South Plainfield Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, donations would be gratefully accepted by Erwin's family.



Erwin A. Soto

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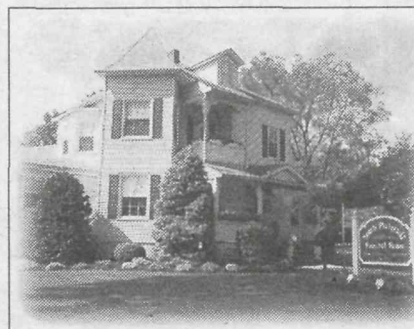
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Students Celebrate Diversity at Annual Cultural Heritage Day



By Patricia Abbott

South Plainfield High School represents a melting pot of cultures from around the world, and the annual Cultural Heritage Day is a unique opportunity for the student body to celebrate its diversity.

An annual event held for the past 20 years, Cultural Heritage Day is sponsored by the Jersey Club. The club's advisors are Fran Flannery and William Helmstetter.

Every student with a history class, which includes most of the student body, spent their history periods immersed in the festivities held in the high school gym. Teachers in costume welcomed the students as they arrived to experience a wide variety of internationally-themed entertainment, varied costumes, displays depicting life

in different countries and food. More than 80 countries were represented.

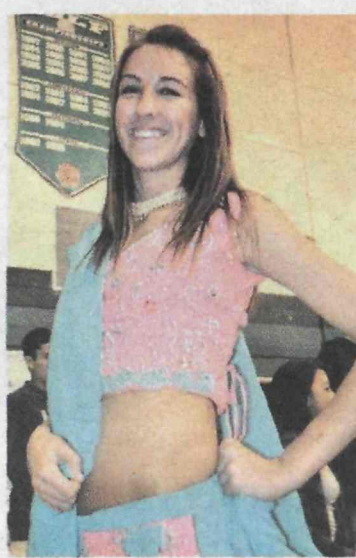
There were about 14 acts; both groups and individuals performed throughout the day. Entertainment began with deejay Greg Harvey who introduced the performing acts at each session. Performers included Funk Band, ImaginAsian, 4 on 4 (Latin dance), Lainie and Justin Harris (country music), Una Vez Mas (Latin dance), E.L.Y. Society (Hip Hop), Michael Grzenda (Irish song), Amanda Chen (Chinese ribbon dance), Swing Latino (Latin dance), Swag Nation (Rap), Dynamic Duo (Hip Hop), Masti (Guyanese/Indian dance) and Ishti (Indian Folk with Bollywood dance). Each act received enthusiastic applause from student peers.

This year the event included a

fashion show featuring both students and teachers. In addition, many students wore their national costumes to school. A multitude of family treasures and memorabilia from dozens of countries, pictures, postcards, currency, artwork, maps, costumes and flags were on display.

The highlight of the event was the amazing variety of food. Teachers and administration enjoyed the array of culinary cultural delights. American classics, such as macaroni and cheese and spaghetti to traditional favorites, lasagna and ziti, and a variety of ethnic dishes included perogies, variations on rice dishes, meatballs, pasta and potato salad, and other dishes that we tend to accept as "American." Dozens of dishes of unusual foods—ranging from meal staples and appetizers to salads and desserts—were available for students to sample.

The Jersey History Club begins the planning for the event months in advance. The club has more than 100 members; at least 80 were on hand to run the event. The majority of the work fell on those tending to



the food tables. They had the non-stop job of removing and replacing chafing dishes, keeping the food hot and fresh, and all the other details involved in keeping the food line running smoothly. There were more than 450 dishes that were all donated by the students.



NJ Transit to Replace Borough Bus Shelters

By Libby Barsky

The Borough Council voted in favor of entering into an agreement with NJ Transit for the replacement and installation of eight new bus shelters at the May 16 council meeting. The one condition in the agreement is for the borough to take possession of the shelters and maintain them.

"The borough will have to budget a small amount for potential repairs, should they arise," said Council President Ray Rusnak.

"If we said no, I presume they [NJ Transit] would not update the bus shelters," said Glenn Cullen, the borough's chief financial officer.

The bus shelters will remain in the same locations:

- 1) Oak Tree Avenue, eastbound at Case Drive;
- 2) Plainfield Avenue, northbound at Geary Drive, far side;
- 3) Plainfield Avenue, northbound at Sampton Avenue, mid-block;
- 4) Plainfield Avenue, southbound at Sampton Avenue, mid-block;
- 5) Plainfield Avenue, southbound at Lane Avenue, near side;
- 6) Maple Avenue (Rt. 602), eastbound at Cady Lane, near side;
- 7) Maple Avenue (Rt. 602), westbound at Lewis Place;
- 8) Maple Avenue (Rt. 602), westbound at Plainfield Avenue.

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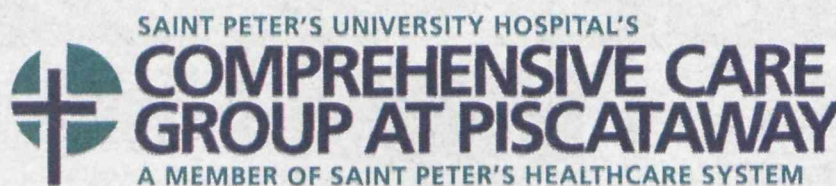
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