

South Plainfield OBSERVER

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60 CENTS

OCTOBER 21, 2011

Meet Council Candidates October 26



Election Day
is Nov. 8.

The *Observer* and the South Plainfield Business Association are co-sponsoring a Meet the Candidates Night on Wednesday, Oct. 26 at 7 p.m. at the Senior Center. The moderator for the evening will be Mary Lea Schmidt from the League of Women Voters. There are six candidates for Borough Council vying for three available council seats, two for three-year terms and one for a one-year term. Republican candidates are Councilman Alex Barletta, Derryck White and Dick Frank. Democratic candidates are Councilwoman Chrissy

Buteas, John Sorrentino and Paul McCullen. Councilman Barletta was appointed to the council last January to fill Matt Anesh's term when he became mayor. Barletta, White, Buteas and Sorrentino are running for the two three-year terms, and Dick Frank and Paul McCullen are running to fill the one-year unexpired term. Questions for candidates may be submitted by members of the audience that evening. Anyone wishing to submit a question ahead of time should email questions to the *Observer* at spobserver@comcast.net. The candidates will not be privy to any questions prior to

the debate; it will be the moderator's decision as to which questions will be asked and in what order. The debate will begin with the candidates' opening statements which will be determined by a coin toss. Candidates will then alternate answering questions, and time for rebuttal will be allowed. This will be the only opportunity prior to Election Day that both parties will meet face to face to debate the issues and set the record straight on their positions. The public is invited to attend and encouraged to submit questions.



Mayor Matt Anesh presents a proclamation to Women Aware members Marge Ackerman and Sandy Severini.

Italians Protected and Saved Jews During WWII

By Libby Barsky

At a lecture sponsored by the Plainfields Chapter of UNICO on October 7, Elizabeth Bettina spoke to South Plainfield High School students about the untold story of how Italy protected and saved 80% of its Jewish population during WWII at a time when other countries were sending their Jewish populations to death camps like Auschwitz and Dauchau. In Poland, three million—or 90% of the 3,300,000 pre-war Jewish population—were killed.

Juniors and seniors taking history classes made up the majority of the audience that also included Interim Assistant Superintendent Dr. Frank Cocchiola, Board of Education Vice President Debbie Boyle, Renato Biribin, UNICO National past president; Robert Bengivenga, Sr., National District X Governor; and John DeAndrea, UNICO president.

Bettina herself admitted she was unaware of the incredible efforts made in Italy to help Jews. She and her grandmother spent childhood summers visiting with her great-grandparents in the small town of Campagna, Italy, but neither ever heard any stories about Jews living in their small town. She knew very little about WWII, except that her uncle had been a German prisoner of war and her great-grandfather and others hid Jews from the Germans.

"A picture changed my life," said Bettina, as the picture flashed on the auditorium screen in the high school. The picture is in her book, *It Happened in Italy: Untold Stories of How The People of Italy Defied the Horrors of the Holocaust*.

Bettina saw the photo and won-



Renato Biribin, Debbie Boyle, Dr. Frank Cocchiola, Elizabeth Bettina, Fran Flannery, Robert Bengivenga, Sr., John DeAndrea and James Pedersen.

dered, "What was a rabbi doing on the steps of the church where my parents were married when everyone in town was Catholic?"

The picture showed Orthodox Rabbi David Wachsbarger of Fiume standing next to Father Vescovo Giuseppe Maria Palatucci and Police

Officer DePaoli on the steps of the Church of San Bartolomeo (not far from her grandparents' home).

Not seen in the photo is the convent adjacent to the church where 272 Jewish men were interned in September 1940. In June of 1940 Mussolini was an ally of Germany, and Italy began

arresting Jews in Italy. Foreign Jews were sent to Italian concentration camps, such as the one in Campagna. Many of the internees came to Italy before the war to escape from the German Nuremberg Laws passed in 1938 limiting Jewish rights and means of employment. Before its alliance with Germany, Italy offered visas freely to those fleeing Germany.

In contrast to the German camps where inmates—if they survived the death showers—had hard physical work details, uniforms, a number tattooed on their arm, crowded sleeping conditions and little food, the Italian camps at Campagna were humane.

"The Italian camps were nothing like German camps. In comparison, it was like going to a hotel. There was no forced labor. We could do whatever we

(Continued on page 9)

Mayor Proclaims October Domestic Violence Awareness Month

At Monday's Borough Council meeting Mayor Matt Anesh presented a proclamation to Women Aware members Marge Ackerman and Sandy Severini designating October Domestic Violence Awareness Month. He applauded the efforts of Women Aware and the coalition of organizations that recognize the compassion and dedication of the volunteers and professionals who directly confront and increase public understanding of this important problem.

The mayor's proclamation urged all citizens to support the efforts of Women Aware and help raise community consciousness to demonstrate solidarity with survivors and to show that victims have not been forgotten.

PSE&G Expanding Operations

Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) has announced that it will expand operations at its facility at 4000 Hadley Rd. bringing additional jobs to South Plainfield.

The Delivery Projects & Construction (DP&C) group of PSE&G, which manages large transmission capital projects, requires additional space for approximately 380 employees and contractors. This group's work is vital to PSE&G's long term commitment to electric reliability performance.

"We looked at several locations within our service territory," said PSE&G Vice President Kim Hanemann, "and based on our existing presence in the Borough of South Plainfield, we decided this was the best option. We've chosen to grow at South Plainfield."

Mayor Matt Anesh, Council President Ray Rusnak and Economic Development Chairman Councilman Alex Barletta have been working with PSE&G officials for several months and look forward to the utility's greater presence in South Plainfield. "It's part of an ongoing effort to work with the business community to bring business to town," said Anesh.

Gymnastics Team Wins GMC Division Title

South Plainfield High School girls gymnastics team won the GMC Division Title for the first time in many years. Accompanied by talented new freshmen, the girls also hit individual and team high scores.

The team began the season with a record breaking meet at the Hillsborough Raiders Invitational and went on to break that record later in the season. The girls received a score of 111.025 against the previous state champions, Bishop Ahr, earning a new school record.

Alexis Alba, a senior captain, broke her own all-around record with a 37.675. She also beat her own bar record with a 9.8 and tied her beam record with a 9.55. She still holds the vault record as well.

Gina Longo, also a senior captain, is having a tremendous season hitting her beam high of 9.375. Gina is consistently growing and is excited about the GMCs.

Carly Kensey, who was out most of last year with a wrist injury, has come back with full force. She is contributing on bars, putting up a 9.3 as well as raising the difficulty on her beam routine.

Up and coming freshmen Nicole Sottirou has made a mark for herself as well as being a huge contribution



SPHS Girls Gymnastics Team, winners of the GMC Division Title.

to the team. She has put up big all-around scores, over 37s, and has hit beam and floor scores of 9.475. All of Nicole's scores have counted towards the team score and her bars have been a big asset as well.

Danielle Devizio is consistent on floor and vaulting, hitting more than nines and has continued to improve throughout the season. The coaches have high hopes for Danielle.

Gianna Marchovechhio is a beautiful gymnast who adds a touch of grace to the team and is just wonderful to watch. Kayla Massaro, another

freshmen, is the team's rock on beam and is proving herself at each meet. She is dedicated and always willing to do what it takes to get the job done.

Additionally, Marcella Fazzolari, another senior captain, as well as Malina Mohtdi, Brianna Ross, Paula Lasota, Ashley Franchek and Katelyn Woiak have all made contributions to the team's undefeated season.

The girls look great and hope to finish the season with big scores at the GMC Sectionals and States.

Submitted by Meredith Garofalo

The SPBA-sponsored Taste of South Plainfield raises \$3,000 for high school scholarships. See page 6.



Great Taste!

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

FYI

Borough Council & BOE

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
November 7	November 7
November 21	November 21

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
Oct. 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
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.)
Nov. 9, Dec. 14, Jan. 11, Feb. 8, March 14 and April 4.
Regular Public Meeting (begin at 7:30 p.m.)
Nov. 16, Dec. 21, Jan. 18, Feb. 15, March 21, April 11.*

BOE curriculum/technology/student activities

Meets once a month at 4:30 p.m. in 2nd floor conference room,
Roosevelt Administration Building on Jackson Ave.
Monday, Nov. 21, Monday, Dec. 19

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.
Nov. 15, Dec. 20

library board of trustees

Meets once a month on the second Tuesday, at the library at 7 p.m.
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
Nov. 8, Dec. 13

taxpayers advisory group

The Taxpayers Advisory Group (TAG) meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at
Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave. at 7 p.m. Questions? 908-769-0786.

site plan sub-committee

Meets once a month on the third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.
Nov. 15, Dec. 20

environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday) Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m.
Questions? 908-226-7621

business advisory group

Meets once a month (first Wednesday) Borough Hall Council Chambers, 5 p.m.

ad hoc alternative truck route committee

To be announced. 7:30 p.m. in the Senior Center Questions? 908-226-7605

South Plainfield Observer

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

We encourage the submission of stories and photos. To have 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 story idea, contact the editor 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:

Recently, an article was written condemning the SPEA for our role in "firing" old coaches. This allegation is inaccurate. First, the SPEA cannot fire anybody—only the BOE can; that is the law. Second, no coach has tenure or a lifetime right to his or her position. Every season, that coach has to apply or reapply. It is the decision of the athletic director to recommend a candidate for the upcoming season. The BOE must vote to support or deny the recommendation.

Additionally, there is contract language and statute that affects who gets hired: For many years, those factors have been ignored: Title 18A and the Teacher's Collective Bargaining Agreement say that a qualified teacher in this district shall be given first chance to coach a sport. For many years, well qualified, active staff members, younger and "older," have had to step aside. Now, our own qualified staff members have a chance to coach our students.

DIANA JOFFE
SPEA PRESIDENT

Dear Editor,

I am excited to see my neighbor, technical collaborator and friend, Paul McCullen, running for town council this fall. Here is a guy that not only cares about where he lives but really gets to know the issues at hand and how they affect the community.

He is always there to give a hand when he can, and has been instrumental in trying to mitigate the flooding and water-logging which occurs in our subdivision and the adjacent area of Walnut Street Park. From helping me and my neighbors with issues in our own yards to assisting me in removing debris from the Walnut Street Park stream, Paul is there for us.

If he is so committed just in our neck-of-the-woods, imagine what he'll do for our town?

Paul commits to getting to know about issues, like the flooding in our area impacted by invasive Japanese knotweed in the flood plain to poor soil absorptivity which impacts flooding severity, and works vigorously to develop solutions to them. He's a bright, modest and hard-working guy who has the leadership skills which seem to be lacking from so many nowadays.

This fall I hope you get to meet Paul. You won't be disappointed in what he has to talk about. He knows our problems ahead and is not only thinking about today but is committed to our future too. I'll be voting Democratic this November; how about you neighbor?

LARRY MURRELL

Dear Editor,

South Plainfield has the opportunity to elect a one-in-a-million person to the Borough Council in a couple weeks, and that person is Derryck White.

Derryck's not your ordinary person running for political office. He's more like your favorite neighbor, always there to help. For example, he's on the CERT team, a group that volunteers to help the town out in emergencies, like the hurricane and flooding that happened in September.

I got to know Derryck through his children. He's one of the parents who's always there, whether it be for coaching (he coaches recreation soccer and basketball) or through the PTA, where he serves as a school board liaison and chairs the father/daughter dance.

What most impresses me about Derryck is his sincerity. He's not running for office to start a career in politics or see how many times he can get his picture in the paper. He's there to help people and do what's best for the town.

If you meet Derryck, I know you will agree with me. He'd be an asset on our council. Please join me in supporting him!

SINCERELY,
JOHN PADOVANO

Dear Editor,

As a business owner on McKinley Street, I am disappointed that so much fuss is being made about the paving of this road. It seems to be more about politics than common sense. I say that because if you know anything about the situation here you'd immediately see that paving the road was not just warranted but necessary.

Before being paved, the road was so cratered that my suppliers were threatening to stop deliveries to my business. People would get flat tires and broken rims from driving down the street, and the road was unsafe. For those who don't know, it's a heavily traveled road, especially with the traffic heading to Restaurant Depot. I have to say, I was so disgusted by the condition of the road that I was seriously considering moving my business out of town. That's how bad it was.

I don't want to get involved in politics. I'm a businessman. As one, I can say that McKinley was a potential

Submit Your Letters to the Editor

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liability to the town and that it needed to be paved before someone got hurt and before someone who was injured sued the town for tens or even hundreds of thousands of dollars. I, for one, am happy that the town is finally addressing these types of problems and making smart business decisions.

MICHAEL E. IARRAPINO, PRES.
EDISON HEATING & COOLING LLC

Dear Editor,

Nothing is more important to me than the education and protection of my children. In these difficult economic times, it's necessary to tighten our belts; however, we cannot sacrifice our future. I am happy to say that we have an advocate in the New Jersey Assembly who has a proven record of improving the lives of children. Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan wrote the law that protects our young athletes and cheerleaders from concussions and heart disease. He has also sponsored legislation which requires that residents must vote to approve charter schools before they are permitted to operate.

As chairperson of the Education Committee, Assemblyman Diegnan has fought to secure adequate state funding for all levels of public education in our state. He saved the STARS scholarship program, which gives our brightest high school graduates the opportunity to

(Continued on page 8)

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FROM THE SENIOR FORUM

By Richard Petrone, Secretary

On March 10, the school district provided a budget for the year 2011/2012. They reported the following:

1. An increase in state aid of \$938,912 over the prior school budget year.
2. An increase in federal aid of \$356,586 over the prior year.
3. A projected increase in property taxes of \$1,227,179.

After the budget report was issued the school district received additional revenues as follows:

1. Additional state aid in the amount of \$1,120,805.
2. Approximately \$1,200,000 reimbursement from the state School Construction Agency for the completed Capital Reserve Projects.
3. The projected increases in the healthcare premium were reduced.
4. Employees now contribute 1.5% of salary towards healthcare cost.
5. There were a number of retirements which provided a breakage in salary dollars.

Since more revenues were received, the school board and superintendent didn't direct these monies to be applied for property tax reduction. Instead they have increased staffing with consultants and interim positions. Most are populated by retired individuals receiving pensions and most interim positions are paid \$600 per diem.

What did you get? A school property tax increase averaging \$111.93 for the average assessment of \$123,500. Obviously, if you have an assessment that is higher than the average, then your school tax will be higher. This is regrettable particularly for those on fixed incomes, unemployed and those in private sector who are concerned about their job security.

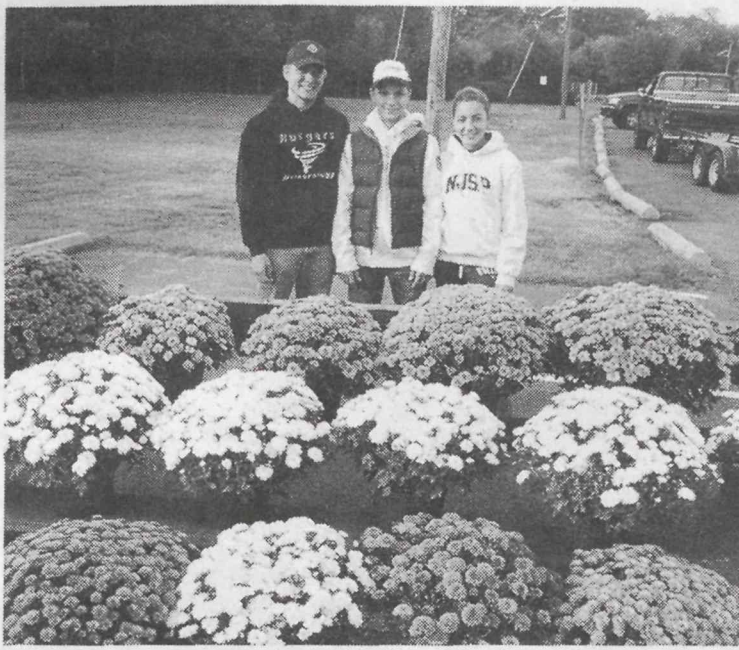
Knights Mum Sale Raises Funds for Charity

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 have been hard at work with one of the biggest fundraisers of the year. Over the course of four weekends in September and October, the Knights have been at the South Plainfield Rescue Squad building selling mums. This fundraiser was started eight years ago by Gerry and Vinny Butrico.

This year, \$2,673 was raised which will go to the Knights General Charity Fund. One of the Knights of Columbus's principles is charity; this general charity fund is used to support local residents who have charitable needs. In the four weeks of selling mums, 464 small mums and 66 large mums were sold. That is an amazing 530 mums sold in just four weekends.

The Knights would like to thank all of the residents who bought mums and for spreading the word to other residents about this fundraiser.

The Knights would also like to thank Jim Gustafson and Ricky McCrisky from McCrisky-Gustafson Home For Funerals for purchasing many small mums that were put out in front of the funeral home, as well as all of the local businesses that also bought large mums: Dan Ratti of Oak Tree Liquors, Carl Adlassnig of R&C Auto Body, Bob Longo, Mr. Subs,



Drive chairman Gerry Butrico and helpers Christina and Charlie Butrico.

Sherban's Diner, KC's Korner, Peter Pan Pharmacy, Witty's Liquors, Mike Buteas Construction, Bagel Pantry, Frank Licato DDS, Lehigh Utility, Bob Stillo, Andy Pinto, Ed Santora, the South Plainfield Observer, Pizza Stop, Tom Lanza, Twin City Pharmacy, Sal's Liquors, Paulo's Bar and Restaurant, TD Bank, Columbia Bank, Ciccio's

Pizza and Moretti Realty.

The Knights would also like to thank the South Plainfield Rescue Squad for use of their parking lot to sell the mums.

The Knights could not have succeeded this year without the help of the following volunteers who spent many hours selling the mums: Steve Belanger, Joe Belinski, Theresa Belinski, Joe Wilkowski, Norm Chicarella, Joe Rea, Deacon Wayne Otlowski, Christina Butrico, Gerry Butrico, Cassie D'Urso, Charlie Butrico, Past Grand Knight Bill Butrico, Brian Cargill, Kevin Keane, Roberto Morales and Grand Knight Joe Scudato.

The following Squires also helped out: Christian Butrico, Adam Butrico and Charlie Butrico.

Almost Famous Players Host Haunted Yard

Almost Famous Players will host a haunted yard full of Halloween scenes starting on Sunday, Oct. 23, at 2 Page Court, South Plainfield (off New Brunswick Avenue near 7th Street). Actors will be on hand on certain days to be determined; for more specific days, email angelonly@aol.com or call (908) 346-2290.

The yard has plenty to offer, and when actors are on hand we assure you a scare or three or four. Donations

gratefully accepted. Call if you plan to bring a crowd when actors are on hand. While the yard show is always available, the actors' dates are limited. All proceeds go towards next year's Haunted Woods. Check out the Bride of Frankenstein, asylum babies, picnic lunch, haunted cemetery and more. See you soon, screams expected!

POLICE REPORT

- On Oct. 7 Ferdard Briggs, 31, of Willingboro was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.
- On Oct. 8 a Jacobus Street resident reported that the side window of their home had been opened and two bedrooms had been ransacked. Gold necklaces worth \$300 were taken.
- On Oct. 9 Reina L. Alvarado, 29, of Dunellen was arrested at Macy's for shoplifting \$162 worth of clothing.
- On Oct. 10 a Brennan Court resident reported the theft of their wallet from a zipped sweater pocket while working out at LA Fitness.
- Lukeoil on Durham Avenue reported the theft of \$102 worth of gas by a customer who drove away without paying.
- On Oct. 11 Anthony Joseph Elkins, 23, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license, no insurance and an outstanding warrant.
- Carlton L. Hemmings, 25, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license and two outstanding warrants.
- Daniel J. Hartrum, 20, of South River was arrested for failure to exhibit a driver's license and an outstanding warrant.
- Two Coppola Drive residents reported that the windows of their vehicles had been smashed. A purse had been taken from one of the vehicles.

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

Contact

**Lou Peralta at
(908) 756-6406.**

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My top dollar offer is made up front! All transactions are strictly confidential and performed in a professional, straightforward manner. I have over 33 years of experience buying and selling collectibles. I am a member of the South Plainfield Business Association, and my family has been residents of South Plainfield for almost 10 years.

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• 1965-1970 United States 40% silver half dollars
• 1958 and before cents (aka "wheaties" and Indian Head cents)
• All U.S. paper currency (e.g. Silver certificates, gold certificates & Red Seal \$2 bills)
• All foreign coins and paper money

• Gold, Platinum, Palladium & Silver Bullion
• Sterling silver (forks, knives, spoons, trays, etc.) as long as it is marked "sterling" or "0.925."
• United States & Foreign Proof Sets, Mint Sets, and Commemorative sets (government and non-government issued)
• Quality, Vintage Sportscards (generally 1975 and before) & selected sports memorabilia

You will always receive a base quote on all of the items that I buy (i.e. \$25 & up).

LIFE MEMBER: American Numismatic Association, Garden State Numismatic Association, Watchung Hills Coin Club (original member), MEMBER: Early American Coppers Club, Numismatic Literary Guild, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, NJ Numismatic Society

events

Around Town

Send Your Community Events to:
spobserver@comcast.net

Oktoberfest at St. Stephen's Church

October 22

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, 3145 Park Ave., will hold the 14th annual Oktoberfest German dinner on Saturday, Oct. 22 from 5 to 7 p.m. All-you-can eat menu includes pork roast and gravy (hot dogs will be available for children), sauerkraut, red cabbage, green beans, applesauce, mashed potatoes, rolls, beverages and desserts. Cost: \$11/adults; \$8/seniors; \$5/children ages five to 12; under five are free. Take out dinners are also available. Proceeds go to charity. For more information, call the church office at (908) 757-4474.

Columbiettes Fall Fashion Show

October 22

South Plainfield Columbiettes will hold their annual charity fall fashion show, luncheon and tea on Saturday, Oct. 22 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 3334 Hamilton Blvd. Doors open at 11 a.m. Sandwiches, teas and desserts will be served. Cost is \$10. Fashions provided by Dress Barn of South Plainfield. Columbiettes will model. For reservations, call Kathy at (908) 756-3772 or Nancy at (908) 561-5917.

City Winds Trio at Sacred Heart

October 23

The City Winds Trio will be performing at Sacred Heart Church on Sunday, Oct. 23 at 3 p.m. City Winds Trio includes Crispian Fordham on flute, Meredyth Coleman on oboe and Jack Bender on piano. They will perform chamber works by Dring, Ibert, Telemann, Mocheles, ending with William Tell. A free will offering will be taken at the door.

Country Breakfast at American Legion

October 23

The Ladies Auxiliary of American Legion Post #243, located on Oak Tree Avenue, will hold a country breakfast and craft show on Sunday, Oct. 23 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. All-you-can-eat buffet includes pancakes, French toast, ham, bacon, muffins and more. Cost: \$6/adults; \$3/children under 12.

Trip to Germanfest

October 27

The senior center is sponsoring an all day bus trip to Germanfest at Erhart's Waterfront Resort in Hawley, Pa. on Saturday, Oct. 27. Bus leaves at 8 a.m. and returns about 5 p.m. Cost of \$60 includes transportation.

Tickets are still available.

Call the senior center for full itinerary at (908) 754-1047.

Trunk R Treat at JFK

October 27

All elementary and younger residents are invited to attend the Trunk R Treat held at JFK Elementary School on Thursday, Oct. 27 from 6 to 7 p.m. (Raindate is Friday, Oct. 28). This is a safe way for kids to trick or treat in costume in the school parking lot. Enjoy music and fun at our first Halloween Hop inside from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Admission to both events is \$10 per family and includes two free raffles, light refreshments and candy.

Grant School Vendors Night

November 4

The 2012 Grant Stokes Committee is sponsoring a vendor night at Grant School on Friday, Nov. 4 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

If interested in sponsoring a table, contact Kim Van Herk at (201) 935-6855 or email vanherk@verizon.net.

"Bullied" Documentary At Sacred Heart Church

November 6

Sacred Heart RC Church will host a documentary screening and discussion on the film "Bullied" on Sunday, Nov. 6 at 3 p.m. in the church. The film tells the story of a young man who took a stand against the bullying he experienced through elementary and high school. All are welcome to attend.

For more information, call Sr. Kathleen at (908) 756-0633, ext 142 or visit www.tolerance.org/bullied.

Sons of the Legion Oldies' Dance

November 12

The Sons of the American Legion

are hosting an oldies dance on Saturday, Nov. 12 at 8 p.m. at Chaumont Post #243, Oak Tree Avenue. \$15 per person includes beer, wine, soda and snacks. DJ "Stick Shift Eddie" will provide the 50s and 60s music for dancing. Open to the public.

Nativity of Blessed Virgin Food Festival

November 19

A food festival will be held at the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Orthodox Church, 400 Delmore Ave. on Saturday, Nov. 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. featuring homemade stuffed cabbage, pierogies, soups and cakes. Cash or check only.

For more information, call (908) 561-6366.

— Out of Town —

Blood Drive

October 22

Deutscher Club of Clark, 787 Featherbed Lane is sponsoring a blood drive on Saturday, Oct. 22 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Each donor will receive a \$10 food coupon redeemable at any ShopRite. Continental breakfast or light lunch (bratwurst, potato salad, sauerkraut) available to all donors. All donors must present signed or picture ID.

Haunting Music Program at Holy Cross

October 22

Music at Holy Cross Church, located at 41 Mercer Ave. in North Plainfield, presents a Halloween program on Saturday, Oct. 22 at 7:30 p.m. featuring organist Robert Church of Washington, D.C. Hear haunting music as well as vocalists selections from *The Phantom of the Opera*. Free will offering at the door.

For more information, call (908) 757-8615.

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COMEDIAN DAVE REILLY

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SPHS Football Team Fundraiser
On
Saturday October 29, 2011

Location:
South Plainfield Senior Center
90 Maple Avenue

\$30 advance ticket purchases

Doors open at 7pm-
Show starts at 8pm

For more information
please contact Alicia at
908-769-1379

SENIOR CENTER Calendar

GERMANFEST

October 27, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.-\$60

HUNTERDON HILLS

December 8, 4:30-9:30 p.m.-\$60

MONDAYS

Active Seniors 8:30 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 9 am
Line Dancing..... 10 am
Computer..10 am, 11:30 am, 1 pm
Crocheting 1 pm
Tai Chi..... 2 pm

THURSDAYS

Active Seniors 9:30 am
Crafts Class 10 am
Computer..10, 11:30 am, 1:30 pm
Exercise Class..... 1:15 pm

FRIDAYS

Bingo..... 10 am-2 pm

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

Looking for members 55 or older to join our Billiards Club. Ladies are welcome.

If you enjoy shooting pool, stop in the senior center to sign up. It's fun and FREE!

Daily Activities: Morning coffee, pool, cards, board games, art, yoga and crafts.

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.

Mr. Ray's Halloween Happening!

October 29

Mr. Ray returns to the Forum Theater stage with his not so spooky, Halloween show on Saturday, Oct. 29 at 11:30 a.m. The Forum Theatre Arts Center is located at 314 Main St. in Metuchen. General admission is \$14. Tickets are on sale at www.forumtheatrearts.org.

Blackrose to Perform

October 29

Blackrose, a band performing classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will perform at the Cambridge Inn, 19 Summer Hill Rd. in Spotswood on Saturday, Oct. 29 at 10 p.m. No cover.

Fall Fundraising Dinner at St. Francis

November 5

St. Francis Episcopal Church, 400 New Market Rd., in Dunellen, will hold its annual fall fundraising dinner on Saturday, Nov. 5. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; dinner at 6 p.m. Cost: \$20/adults; \$10/children under 12.

For more information, call (732) 968-6781 or (732) 752-5608.

Depression/Bipolar Support Meeting

November 9

The Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance will feature Jill Brown on Wednesday, Nov. 9 at 7:45 p.m. at the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship, 21 Normandy Heights Rd. The public is invited.

For further information, call (973) 994-1143.

Authentic Christkindlmarket

November 13

Deutscher Club of Clark, 787 Featherbed Ln. is holding an authentic Christkindlmarket (Christmas market) on Sunday, Nov. 13 from noon to 5 p.m. Imported German gifts. Dinners available.

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



Xeriscaping Saves Water Resources

by Jonathan Walezak
South Plainfield Sustainable Jersey
Green Team

Last year's drought is just a memory in light of the generous amount of rainfall the last few months have brought. Is it a trend, or is Mother Nature just toying with us?

Given the unpredictability of rainfall, water conservation should always be considered in the daily lives of residents and businesses who consume water. We may tend to think of water conservation solely through the installation of water-efficient equipment, such as low-flow toilets, low-flow shower heads and water-efficient washing machines. Water conservation is important outdoors, too. Xeriscaping should be considered to save water and help mitigate the effects of drought while maintaining lush lawns and bountiful gardens.

Xeriscaping is a "hydro-conscious" design approach aimed at creating regionally appropriate landscapes and conserving water through plant selection and arrangement. The concept was first coined by the Denver Colorado Water Department in 1981 to offset the growing demand for thirstily-exotic (and costly) landscapes. The word "xeriscape" is derived from the Greek "xeros," meaning dry, and "scape," a kind of view or scene.

Principles include:

Design—Site analysis and proper planning establish the framework for a sustainable landscape. Exposure, topography, soil conditions and requirements should all be examined before determining the best place for a group of plants.

Plant Selection—Choosing the right plant for the right area is fundamental. Arrange masses according to their light, water and soil requirements. Plants requiring more water should be situated nearest the source, while those requiring less can be further away.

Soil—A high quality planting medium is crucial for establishing a healthy xeriscape. Nutrient-rich soil that retains the right amount of water encourages strong root development and lessens the need for supplemental irrigation.

Mulch—Aside from its aesthetic qualities, mulch has a number of benefits. Mulch retains moisture, moderates soil temperature, slows erosion and suppresses weed growth.

Aerating and replenishing beds each year encourages decomposition - further improving soil conditions.

Turf—The selective use of turf is encouraged in xeriscaping. A well-maintained turf area generally requires a great deal of water, fertilizer and maintenance. Choosing the proper location and appropriate grass seed is important. Hardy groundcovers are a good alternative for turf areas.

Watering—Smart irrigation is the best solution when supplemental watering is inevitable. Efficient drip systems concentrate water in areas with little to no waste. Plant requirements vary depending on site conditions and should be arranged accordingly.

Maintenance—Like their traditional counterparts, xeriscapes require a bit of maintenance. Pruning, mulching, mowing and deadheading all promote the rejuvenation of a healthy landscape.

Suggested plants include:

Trees—Pine, Red Cedar, Oak, Hackberry, Box Elder, Honey Locust, Black Locust, Sassafras, Hawthorne, Black

(Continued on page 9)



Glowpak, Corp. CEO Harold Martin, Sr. (center with scissors) celebrates the opening of a new facility in South Plainfield along with family, local officials and employees.

Glowpak Corp. Holds Grand Opening

Glowpak Corp., a full service manufacturer of industrial and custom garbage bags, film and liners for restaurants, hotels, hospitals and consumer markets celebrated the grand opening of its new 80,000 square foot manufacturing facility and corporate headquarters on October 7.

CEO Harold Martin, Sr. started Glowpak 40 years ago in Newark. The decision was made last December to relocate to South Plainfield and most of their employees agreed to move with

the company. Martin explained that Glowpak is a family run business saying that all of his six children are involved in the company.

Attending the event were Congressman Leonard Lance, State Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan, Mayor Matt Anesh, Councilwoman Chrissy Buteas and Councilman Alex Barletta.

In partnership with Rutgers University, Glowpak decided to go with renewable energy as a part of its sustainability efforts. They are proud of

the fact that they are the first plastic bag manufacturer in the Northeast that depends on renewable energy in its production. The company invested millions of dollars in its energy infrastructure by installing solar panels. They generate almost 70 percent of their own electricity and have been able to reduce about 5,000 tons of carbon dioxide that would have released into the atmosphere.

Glowpak plans to double its manufacturing capabilities in 2012.

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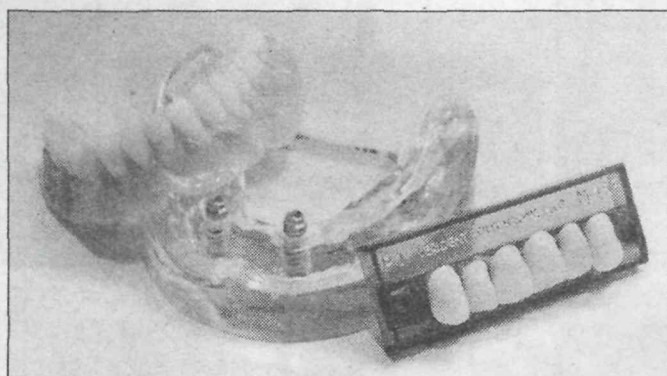
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LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
Public Notice
RETURN OF PERFORMANCE BOND

To Joseph Glowacki for public improvements at 1021 Loraine Avenue, South Plainfield, Lot 6.02, Block 362.

A public meeting has been scheduled by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield to hear objections, if any, to the release of a Performance Bond posted by Joseph Glowacki for public improvements at 1021 Loraine Avenue, South Plainfield, Lot 6.01 in Block 362 listed on the official tax maps of the Borough of South Plainfield. Said public hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 7, 2011 in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

Joseph Glowacki
1021 Loraine Avenue
South Plainfield, N.J. 07080

\$38.50

October 21, 2011

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE

October 12, 2011—Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Planning Board at its meeting held on October 11, 2011.

- Case # 737/Site/V—Glopak Corporation, Block 254; Lot 2.01; M-3 Zone; 132 Case Drive. The applicant's request for preliminary and final site plan approval, waivers and bulk variances was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.
- Case # 739/Site/V—Air Liquide America Specialty Gases, LLC, Block 449; Lots 15 & 16; M-3 Zone; 2330 Hamilton Blvd. The applicant's request for preliminary and final site plan approval, waivers and subdivision approval was hereby GRANTED subject to additional voluntary conditions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Beth Khidre
Recording Secretary-Planning Board

\$29.45

October 21, 2011



Photos courtesy of Tom Stillman

Taste of South Plainfield Premier Event Draws Crowd of More Than 150

Residents had a very good reason to eat out on October 7 when the South Plainfield Business Association (SPBA) hosted the first-ever Taste of South Plainfield. The inaugural event was held to raise money for scholarships for high school seniors.

Sixteen local restaurants, KC's Korner, Ciccio's, Mei Haus, Paulo's Barbecue Restaurant, Baja Fresh Mexican Grill, Haisch's Bakery, Subway on Plainfield Ave., Harvest Market, Corner Deli, Rita's Italian Ice, Dolce Cafe, Hometown Heros, Quiznos, Sherban's Diner, Bagel Pantry and Sonia's Home Kitchen Catering,



showcased their specialty foods for the more than 150 guests who attended the event.

Oak Tree Discount Wine and Liquors presented a tasting of wine, beer and spirits.

All of the proceeds from the event will go to scholarships for South Plainfield High School graduating seniors.

The SPBA would like to thank all the vendors who donated their food and time for this good cause and all the people who attended the event.

The event raised \$3,000 for college scholarships.

First annual Taste of South Plainfield provides scholarships to college-bound high school seniors.

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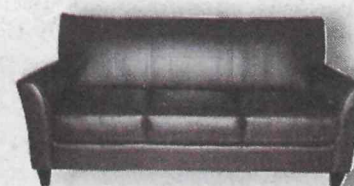


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Troop 125 Takes Third Place in Fall Camporee



to win a new troop lantern.

Later on that evening, Troop 125 led a flag retirement ceremony honoring the VFW Post #6763 that sponsors the troop by retiring an old flag that was on the flag pole in front of the building. Everyone who came out and braved dampness on Friday night and the winds on Saturday had a fantastic time and the boys left the camporee even more excited with that lantern.

Jim Donelson, troop scoutmaster, extends thanks to all who came out and helped the troop for the weekend, as well as the scouts who worked hard this past month in preparation for this event!

Anyone who would like to check out the troop is encouraged to come to one of our meetings on Monday nights from 7:30-8:45 p.m. at VFW Post #6763, 155 Front St.



Boy Scout Troop 125 participated in a multiple district fall camporee at Round Valley on October 14-16 competing in knots and lashings skills. The troop placed third overall out of 31 troops in the useful camp gadget competition, building a bulletin board for their meal plans and useful information. Troop 125 has also placed first overall once again out of 31 troops in the cleanest campsite award

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Fresh Ham • Chopped Steak
Jr. Prime Rib • Jr. NY Strip Steak
BBQ Spare Ribs
2 Broiled Pork Chops, Plain or Murphy

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Fried Shrimp in the Basket • Broiled Scrod
Broiled Tilapia • Broiled Filet of Sole
Seafood Fra Diavolo w/Scallops, Shrimp,
Mussels & Clams

Italian
Chicken Parmigiana • Veal Parmigiana
Eggplant Parmigiana • Stuffed Shells
Cheese or Meat Ravioli

(908) 755-7427
sherbandsdiner.com

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Just a quick update from the still-dry-docked South Plainfield Library.

Repair work on the building is continuing. The damaged sheetrock has been replaced and painted by locally-based Miglis General Contracting, Inc. The next major phase of the work is the new carpeting. At the last Board of Trustees meeting, Amboy Floors, Inc. was hired to do the work and the order for the carpeting has been placed. Once it arrives and is put in, we'll work on some final bits of cleaning, followed by getting our stuff out of storage. At present, we still can't say for certain when we'll reopen, but we promise that it'll be as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, we're not entirely shut down. Our website is still up, giving you access to our various databases. We're also keeping track of reserved books and Inter-Library Loan books, and we're making sure they get to the patrons who ordered them right away. Our book and video drops are open, and they are cleaned out on a daily

basis. In addition, given the inconvenience both staff and patrons have gone through, we're not charging fines for overdue books. Be advised, though, that this applies only to fines incurred during the time we've been closed. (We're not *that* forgiving.)

Finally, we really appreciate the good wishes we've received from our patrons. Staff members have actually been stopped on the street by people wishing us well and urging us to reopen as soon as we can (like in the next six hours or so). Well, we're chomping at the bit to get up and running, too. We're working on it and we'll let you know when the grand re-opening is scheduled. Until then, if you'd like more information, you can check our website at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us or our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/southplainfieldlibrary. You can also call us at (908) 754-7885; staff members are available Monday-Saturday from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

That's about all for now. We'll pass along more news as it develops. Stay tuned.

Have Some Halloween Fun... Trunk R Treat

Kennedy School PTSO invite any resident interested in decorating a car for the annual Trunk R Treat on Thursday, Oct. 27 (rain date October 28) to contact Tree Olano at (908) 400-9232. We need your help to make the event a success. Car decorating begins at 5:15 p.m. Event runs

6 to 7 p.m. Candy will be supplied by the JFK PTSO. Admission is \$5 per family. Halloween Hop follows. Admission to the dance is free when you decorate your car and you will get two free raffle tickets and light refreshments. Prizes to be awarded for best trunks.

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2/3 lb. Ham Cappy +
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We accept Food Stamps.
Prices in this ad are valid
October 19-26, 2011.
While supplies last

White Nectarines	99¢ lb.
Fresh Iceberg Lettuce	99¢ lb.
Fresh Tomatoes	99¢ lb.
Red or Green Peppers	\$1.39 lb.
Sunkist Oranges	4 for \$1.00
X-Large Sunkist Oranges 40ct.	
.....	5 for \$4.00 or \$1.00 ea.
Russet Potatoes 5 lb. bag	\$1.99
Fresh Large Lemons	4 for \$1.00
Golden Pineapples	\$2.99 ea.
Cantaloupes	2 for \$4.00
All Pears	\$1.49 lb.
All Apples	\$1.39 lb.

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FALL INTO FITNESS

In My Opinion

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

(Continued from page 2)

obtain a college degree at our state colleges and universities. Our terrific Future Stars program in South Plainfield was saved because Assemblyman Diegnan wrote the law to allow it to operate with a small tuition from parents.

November 8 is Election Day. For all of us whose children are the most important things in our lives, please vote for Democrat Patrick Diegnan and his wonderful runningmates, Senator Barbara Buono and Assemblyman Peter Barnes.

**SINCERELY,
BALVANT PATEL**

Dear Editor,

It seems that whenever I pick up a newspaper or listen to the news on the radio, our hometown assemblyman, Patrick Diegnan, is always being quoted. Whether it's writing the first in the nation law that protects student athletes and cheerleaders from concussions, or alerting schools of the danger to students suffering from enlarged heart disease or fighting the proposed closure of Hagedorn where our most vulnerable senior citizens receive needed psychiatric care, or taking on the powerful interests who are mismanaging our only statewide television station, NJN, Assemblyman Diegnan always does the right thing for the citizens of New Jersey.

In a few weeks we will be voting on the entire state legislature. Regardless of your political leanings you must admit that Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan has earned our trust. Don't take this election for granted. Mark your calendar. Tuesday, Nov. 8 vote for the Democrats running for state office—our outstanding State Senator Barbara Buono, the respected leader, Assemblyman Peter Barnes, and our favorite son, Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan.

RAYJEAN BUTTIGLIERI

Dear Residents,

A couple of weeks ago I wrote to introduce myself as a candidate to the council. So often it is hard for us to gauge a person from letters, responses, heresy, or that quick talk at the doorstep where I ask for your endorsement; but next week you have a chance to change that. I invite you to attend the Council Candidates Debate on Wednesday, Oct. 26 at 7 p.m. at the Senior Center.

It is important that we all become engaged in the political process. So much of what happens to us hinges on those we vote for every November. What is special about local elections is that someone actually comes out to meet and talk with you, something I have found humbling, especially in our current times. The diverse needs of our citizens can make one stymied as to how to help. Personally I'm up to the challenges that await us.

This year our local Democrats have decided to tackle some of the most obvious problems facing our town. It is why I asked to run as a candidate. We can continue to be dragged into the past or we can look towards the future with bipartisan results. There is a reason our town motto is: Family, Vision, Industry.

**PAUL MCCULLEN,
BOROUGH COUNCIL CANDIDATE**

Dear Editor,

I'm sure it will come as no surprise, but I'd like to officially announce my endorsement of Councilman Alex Barletta, Derryck White and Dick Frank.

I need Alex, Derryck and Dick on the council if we are to keep things going in a positive direction. South Plainfield is on the right track. We ranked first in the county last year for controlling taxes, and in fact, ranked 13th out of the 566 towns in New Jersey.

We also did well on the jobs front. Out of the 25 towns in Middlesex County, South Plainfield ranked fourth

best, with only 6.4% unemployment. This year is looking even better. Several large businesses we've been working with have announced they'll be expanding operations in town and bringing with them several hundred jobs.

Without Alex, Derryck and Dick, we won't be able to continue this progress. The Democrats have proven not to be team players. In fact, they have done their best to obstruct anything good and refuse to work in a bipartisan manner.

When I was in the minority on the council I disagreed with certain decisions and expressed my opinion, but I also made sure the town came first, not partisan politics. Not to be harsh, but Councilwoman Buteas puts partisanship and her political career first.

Alex Barletta, Derryck White and Dick Frank approach things differently. They put South Plainfield first. They're in touch with the community, coaching sport teams, being part of the American Legion, and helping out during emergencies. They are committed to our town and its residents. Please join me in supporting them on Election Day. South Plainfield will be well served with them on the council.

**SINCERELY,
MAYOR MATT ANESH**

Dear Editor,

As someone who closely follows the political process I am turned off by what has become the norm—negative campaigns. I am therefore proud that my friend, Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan and his runningmate, Peter Barnes, are once again running an above board, issue-oriented campaign.

It should be obvious that Patrick and Pete are involved in public service for all the right reasons. They care about education, health care for children, protecting the environment and veteran's services among other issues. Democrats and Republicans alike, for what they

have accomplished on behalf of the residents of our state, respect both of them. I noticed that the few letters, which have been sent into the paper on behalf of their opponents, have been negative in tone. I know that party loyalty is important but for this election I think the local Republican Party should join with the overwhelming majority of South Plainfield residents and support the outstanding team of Patrick Diegnan and Peter Barnes for reelection to the state assembly.

FRANK FURINO

Dear Editor,

I would like to offer some facts about the so called McKinley Road issue that the Democrats have sought to raise concern about.

First, the road was put on the need to do list in 2009 by the Democratic Party. And recently we received an email from a concerned business owner who stated one of his employees was nearly killed on the road due to its deplorable condition.

Second, McKinley was paved in direct connection with another project that was being completed. Once that project was done and came in under budget, logic would tell most of us that it would make sense to take care of McKinley while all the equipment was available. In essence, paving three roads for the price of two. After hearing the opinion of the borough engineer, the borough CFO, head of Department of Public Works and the contractor, the possibility of completing one more project both expeditiously and at no extra cost to the taxpayers made good economic sense.

Third, the Democrats have tried to get the residents to believe that this was done because of "who I think I am," and that I stated "it was well within my powers," which I never did. Then, they claimed that I "hurled unfounded accusations" at them, which is totally false.

This just proves to me that they'll say anything to try and discredit anyone.

Fourth, these are the same Democrats who never issued a concern when a former mayor issued a hold-harmless agreement without authority at the amount of upwards to \$300,000 of your taxpayer money. Nor did they have any concern when the previous mayor recommended a change order without council consent at the cost of \$40,000 of your taxpayer money, but yet when we have the opportunity to save our residents \$20,000, they make the statement, "This leads to corruption and uncontrolled spending at the expense of borough residents." They can't be serious!

There's a line from a song that says, "The more I know, the less I understand." It seems to fit this situation perfectly.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT
RAY RUSNAK**

Dear Editor,

I am excited about this year's Democratic ticket here in South Plainfield. These are people who get the issues and aren't afraid to come up with solutions. Taxes are up under Republican rule, services are being cut, and we now borrow for what should be an easy investment. Republicans blame others for their woes and try to take from other revenue sources without any concern or understanding of what that will mean for tomorrow.

I know the Democrats understand our problems right now and will keep spending in line. I also know they will work hard to keep South Plainfield a great place to live by working hard to bring back business, have us work towards going "green," and working on a vision for the future.

I'll be voting for Buteas, Sorrentino and McCullen this November.

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Italians Saved Jews in WWII

(Continued from page 1)

wanted during the day, as long as we obeyed the simple rule of being present for roll call in the morning when the doors to the camp were opened and in the evening when the doors to the camp were closed. In order to pass time, we played cards, took walks around the little village, read books or played soccer at a field just outside town. We even had our own orchestra and performed for the local residents. Italy also had a policy of transporting brothers, wives and mothers to be together at the same camp," commented former Campagna internee Walter Wolff, who is quoted in Bettina's book.

Giavanni Palatucci, nephew of Bishop Giessepe Maria Palatucci, was chief of the foreigner's office who falsified documents and visas deporting foreigners to the Campagna camp. Bettina calls him the Italian Schindler who saved more lives (5,000) than Schindler. He never delivered the list to the Germans, destroying many papers. After Mussolini was ousted in July 1943, Italy joined the allies on September 8, 1943 when parts of Italy were under German occupation with German soldiers searching for Jews. Giovanni Palatucci was arrested on September 13, 1944 and sent to Dachau where he died February 10, 1945, two and a half months before Dachau was liberated in April. He was honored in Yad Vashem Israel's

Holocaust Memorial and the Catholic Church beatified him in 2005.

From the time Bettina discovered this unknown history of Campagna, she has been seeking out those internees and their children who lived in Campagna during the war and has been bringing them back to Italy to see their history again. The Campagna Convent is now a museum as a thank you to the families who helped them survive. If they hadn't survived, they would not have lived to eventually have families of their own.

"If you are not indifferent, things can be different," Bettina told the audience. Since viewing the picture of the Rabbi she has not been indifferent and has made a huge difference in the lives of the survivors she has found on Palatucci's list. She filmed them and made arrangements to have these survivors return to Italy three times so they could thank the people and the government for the treatment they received. While in Italy they were invited to visit the Vatican and on the third trip, an audience with the Pope as described in Bettina's book.

Bettina is in the process of making a documentary using the tapings of the survivors documenting the words of survivors and their remembrances of Campagna's internee treatment to show the goodness of ordinary Catholics in Italy who defied Germany and Hitler's



(Continued from page 3)

Cherry, Crabapples, Cucumber Magnolia, Sycamore, American Smoke Tree, Yellowwood;

Shrubs—Bayberry, Sweetfern, Witch-hazel, Junipers, Beach Plum, Sand Cherry, varieties Sumacs, Bottle-Brush Bucky), Virginia and Carolina Rose, Fothergilla), Leucothoe, Mountain Laurel, Blackhaw, Nannyberry;

Perennials—Ornamental grasses, herbs (numerous varieties), Beard

Tongue, Meadow Sage, Black-Eyed Susans, Phlox, New England Asters, Columbine, Sunflower, Blanket Flowers, Coral Bells, Twinleaf, Butterfly Flower, Bee Balm, False Indigo, Gayfeather, Purple Coneflower, Stokes Aster, Tickseed, Yucca), Stonecrop;

Groundcovers—Red Root, New Jersey Tea, Coralberry 'Hancock', St. John's Wort, Bearberry), Fragrant Sumac 'Grow-Low', Low Blueberry, Box Huckleberry.

Happy Anniversary in Heaven

It broke our hearts to lose you
But you did not go alone
For part of us went with you
The day the dear Lord called you home.
You left us precious memories
Your love is still our guide
And though we cannot see you
You're always at our side.
Our family chain is broken
And nothing seems the same
But as the dear Lord calls us one by one
The chain will link again.

S Sadly Missed By
Daughters Debra, Patricia, Christina;
Son Paul; Son-in-law Noray;
Grandchildren Andrew, Brandon,
Christopher, Matthew, Danielle and Kimberly

Janice & Emil Leporino
October 21, 1961

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What inspires you?

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Obituaries

Elaine T. Hudzik, 10/4/41-10/11/11

If you lived in our community and travel along Park or Woodland avenues, chances are you've passed our neighborhood. How would you remember? Most definitely by the sight of the unusually large group of friends gathered in a circle of chairs beneath a stately old maple tree on the front lawn of Frank and Elaine Hudzik's property. This ritual of gathering in a circle started a decade ago whether for idle chatter, to celebrate birthdays or anniversaries, pot luck dinners, holiday celebrations; you name it, we had a party for it! At the center of the circle was our matriarch Elaine Hudzik.

Laine, as she preferred to be called, was blessed to have her own family including her faithful husband Frank, and devoted daughter Sharon and son Maxmilian; however, she opened her heart and arms to all of those blessed to live in the special neighborhood. She was a source of support, guidance and comfort that only a mother could provide. Laine was a parental figure and cherished friend to Lisa, Mike, Doreen, Eugene, Sandy, Joe, Ivy, Rich, Mary and Dave. She embraced the love of all nine neighborhood children: Kayla, Christa, Julianna, Joey, Samantha, Katie, Sarah, Holly and Katherine, allowing her to be their grandmother right next door.

She was the force that joined the neighborhood together fostering a sense of security shared amongst the families. She was the prayer warrior of the neighborhood—one you could go to with a prayer request and she would pray. She attended Terrill Road Bible Chapel in Fanwood where she worshipped since she was a child.

Laine loved to travel—yearly trips to Bermuda, Jamaica and other sunny destinations. On Wednesday night, this family gathered in celebration of the life of this wife, mother, grandmother, friend and matriarch. This bittersweet passing has broken our hearts but we all find peace in knowing that she is

with the Lord.

Our ritual of gathering under the protection of "Laine's Tree" is far from over. One chair will remain empty, but her presence will be forever felt in our hearts.

Eugene L. Manney, 86

Eugene L. Manney passed away on Tuesday, Oct. 11 at Atlantic City Medical Center.

Born and raised in Donny Brook, N.D., Gene entered the United States Army, serving his country proudly during WWII as a TEC5 and had served during the battle of Peleliu, Anawangin and Leyte in the Philippine Islands prior to his honorable discharge in 1946.

Upon his discharge, Gene resided in Astoria, Queens before settling in South Plainfield where he had resided for most of his life. He later resided in Bridgewater before settling between Port St. Lucie, Fla. and Cape May.

Gene worked initially for the former Art Color in Dunellen and later at the *Star Ledger* and *Courier News* as a pressman before retiring from NJ Turnpike Authority in Newark where he worked with the line stripping department.

He was a life member of both the South Plainfield Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Post #6763 and the American Legion Chaumont Post #243. Most importantly, Gene enjoyed his summers at the Seashore Campsite in Cape May with his grandchildren and spending time with his friends at the Savannah Club in Port St. Lucie.

His first wife, Grace, died in 1992. His second wife, Caroline Krajewski Manney, is also predeceased.

Surviving are three children and their spouses, Linda and Harold Fremau of Naples, Fla., Debra and Jack Russell of Washington and Robert and Karen Manney of Freehold; seven grandchildren, Kristin Miller, Jake, Brittany and Erica Russell and Robert II, Joseph and Stephen Manney, and one great-grandson, Jace Miller.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory have been requested to Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, Kan. 66675-8517, www.woundedwarriorproject.org/donate.aspx.

Richard E. Nolty, Sr.

Richard E. Nolty, Sr. died on Sunday, Oct. 16 at his residence.

Richard was born in Somerville and raised in Bound Brook. He married Carol (Conroy) on January 16, 1959 and has been a resident of South Plainfield since.

He worked throughout his life as a bartender, working at the Grotto Bar in Kenilworth. He enjoyed horse racing and loved sports, especially the NY Mets, Jets and Rangers.

He is predeceased by three brothers and one sister.

Richard is survived by his wife, Carol; five sons, Daniel, Michael and Ricky and wife Elizabeth, all of South Plainfield, Pete of Piscataway and David of Philadelphia, Pa.; and two grandchildren, Patrick and Caitlin.

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

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Emil R. Leporino

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to
Oct. 10, 2002

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But you did not go alone
For part of us went with you
The day the dear Lord called you home.
You left us precious memories
Your love is still our guide
And though we cannot see you
You're always at our side.
Our family chain is broken
And nothing seems the same
But as the dear Lord calls us one by one
The chain will link again.

S Sadly Missed By:
Daughters: Debra, Patricia, Christina; Son: Paul; Son-in-law Noray; Grandchildren: Andrew, Brandon, Christopher, Matthew, Danielle, Kimberly

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Sports



Cheer Squads Soar High at MVC Competition

All four of the South Plainfield Eagles Pop Warner Cheer Squads attended the Mountain Valley Conference (MVC) Cheer Competition at Bridgewater-Raritan Middle School on October 15.

Starting the day off for South Plainfield in the first session of the day was the Junior Midget (JM) squad consisting of girls in grades six, seven and eight. Rocking the mat from beginning to end, the squad took first place in the

Large Novice Division (LND) with its high energy routine consisting of both dance and cheer.

Next up for South Plainfield during the second session was the Junior Pee Wee (JPW) squad, who also took first place in the LND. For many of these girls in grades four and five, this was their first time performing at a competition level and they truly shined.

Closing out the day with the exhibition session, both the Mitey Mite and Flag Squads took the mat. The Mitey Mites, consisting of girls in grades second and third, along with the Flag Squad, which consists of girls ages five through seven, performed two outstanding routines. For many of these girls, this was their first time performing in front of such a large crowd and they did an amazing job.

Please join us in wishing the girls good luck as they move on to their next competition. Both Flag and Mitey Mites will be performing at the Voorhees Cheer Competition on Saturday, Oct. 22 and JPW and JM will be competing at the state qualifiers in Trenton on Sunday, Oct. 30. Go Eagles!

By Gary Lampasona

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB Spring 2012 Registration

Please be reminded that registration for the Spring 2012 season will be held at the clubhouse on Friday, Oct. 21 from 6 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 22, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Children seven to 18 years old can sign up to play next season. Your child must turn seven years old before May 1, 2012 to be eligible to play. If your child is a first time player, please bring their birth certificate.

If you are interested in managing or coaching, please sign up at the time when you register your child. If you

or your child are interested in becoming an umpire, the sign up sheet for classes will be available. Umpires must be 13 years old or older. Early registration fees are \$110 for a single child, \$160 for two children and \$210 for three children.

If you prefer, you can also download the forms directly from our website, www.leagulineup.com/spjbc and mail them to the address on the form. We look forward to seeing you.



SP SKI CLUB

Submitted by Chris Hubner

Excitement and energy were abundant this past Tuesday as over 40 students attended the SP Ski Club's organizational meeting. Club co-founder, Paul Baldasare addressed the 100 plus students



covering over a mile of terrain, back to Vernon. This will greatly enhance the entire mountain experience," Paul said.

The club takes four Friday after school trips to "The Creek" and still has

some availability. Anyone in grades six through eight interested in joining for loads of winter fun, or people wishing to purchase discounted season passes, should contact Rob Breslau at (908) 553-3009.

Please visit our website for more information: www.spskiclub.webs.com. Think snow!

U-14 SOCCER

Submitted By Jenn Curtis

Thunder Defeats Greater Flemington

The SPSC Boys U-14 Team Thunder defeated their flight leader in a well played game on Sunday, 2-1. Greater Flemington started the day as the Flight Leader but ended the day with a defeat thanks to a hard fighting Team Thunder. Thunder looked dominating on both sides of the ball and held on for their victory.

Both of Thunder's goals were scored by John Pareja who was supported offensively by Richard Marcovecchio, Joe Mcgeehan, Chris Kuberiet and

Jack Townley. Midfield was led by Nick Battista, Gavin Castro, Tyler Curtis and Christian Gonzalez. The Thunder defense helped Goalie Kyle Delpaoli allow only one late goal. Thunder defense consisted of Nolan Berry, Matthew Celentano, Nick Gavilanes, James Piedalato and Jonathan Veras.

The boys are coached by Phil Battista, Joe Mcgeehan and Carlos Gonzalez and their next game is away in South Brunswick. The boys record improves to 2-1-2.

U-13 SOCCER

Submitted By Mark Resende

Arsenal Rebound With 2-0 Victory

The South Plainfield Soccer Club's Boys U-13 Team Arsenal traveled to Piscataway on October 16 and squared off against the Pythons. The week before, Arsenal lost a hard-fought 1-0 contest at home against the Somerset Hills Rockets, so they were looking to bounce back. The boys responded in a big way with a dominating 2-0 victory.

Arsenal opened the scoring in the 18th minute of the first half when defender Alec Paez sent the ball up the left wing to Jason Belanger. Jason's first shot was blocked by a Python defender, but the ball came right back to him. Jason then lifted the ball over everyone, including the Python goalie, and landed it right in the net for the 1-0 lead.

Wallace Truesdale, one of the newcomers to the team this season, notched his first goal as a member of Arsenal in the 30th minute when he pounced on a loose ball in front of the net. Jason Cieszkiewicz sent a cross into the penalty area from the left side that the Python goalie could not handle, and Wallace took advantage to give his team a 2-0 lead right before

half-time.

The second half saw head coach David Cieszkiewicz move some players around into different positions to give the kids a different perspective of the game, but the outcome was never really in doubt. Midway through the second half the Pythons had a good scoring chance, but Arsenal goalie Nick Plate made a tremendous save while diving to his left to preserve the shutout win. Arsenal's record on the season is now even at 2-2-0.

A total team effort went into this victory. William Arias, Caleb Kuberiet, Jared Marks, Dylan O'Connor, Ricky Pellegrino, Mason Resende, Elijah Robinson, Edwin Rivas and Kevin Solano all contributed and played very well. Jake Hoffman missed his second straight game due to injury, but hopes to be back on the field soon. Arsenal's assistant coaches are Greg Hoffman and Steve Belanger.

Arsenal's next game will be played at the club's home complex on Kenneth Avenue on Sunday, Oct. 23 at 12 p.m. Please come out and support the team and the club.

Go Arsenal!

South Plainfield Recreation Wrestling Sign-Ups

The South Plainfield Recreation Department will be holding wrestling sign ups on Saturday, Oct. 22 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the PAL Building on Maple Avenue.

Registration is open to all South

Plainfield children ages five to 11 (as of October 1, 2011).

Registration is \$40. Birth certificate and proof of residency is required for first time registrants. Practice begins on Monday, Nov. 14.

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sports

Football Eagles Week Seven Highlights



The football players of the Eagles have complimented the huge success the cheerleaders had at the Mountain Valley Conference competition with their own successes this past Sunday against the Del Val Dogs. The Eagles along with the Dogs, hosted the Challenger game where four challenged children were accompanied by four players from the Eagles and Dogs. The South Plainfield Eagles want to commend the Del Val Dogs for supporting their challenger team and making significant contributions to the well being of those kids. It was an absolute pleasure to host a very gracious and collegiate opposing team. Here are the game highlights:

Flag Team—There are almost 50 kids playing on the flag teams. They are all trying their best. Here are just a few of the countless plays made: Steven Twist passing to Ashton Donovan for a touchdown, Benjamin Connolly 40 yard touchdown run; Matthew Ciullo ran 40 yards for a touchdown; and

Michael Mendez for many flag pulls.

Mitey Mite—Although there are no official records tabulated at this first stage of tackle football, the Mitey Mite team unofficially has a 5-1 record. They won big against Del Val and here are the highlights: First and foremost, the entire offensive line helped win the game in a very big way; Sam Nieves made many key tackles and two extra point runs; taking advantage of great blocking, tenacious Demarcus Shephard stole the offensive show with three touchdown runs; Xavier Santos opened several holes for Demarcus with effective downfield blocking as well as making significant carries and tackles; Danny Smith prevented a touchdown by outrunning the ball carrier and dropping him; speedy Jalen Russell had several successful carries; Robbie Ginda made several contributions as a quarterback as well as successful carries; Jordan Hamburg made key tackles and opened holes; Brandon Cangialosi also opened up holes for Demarcus

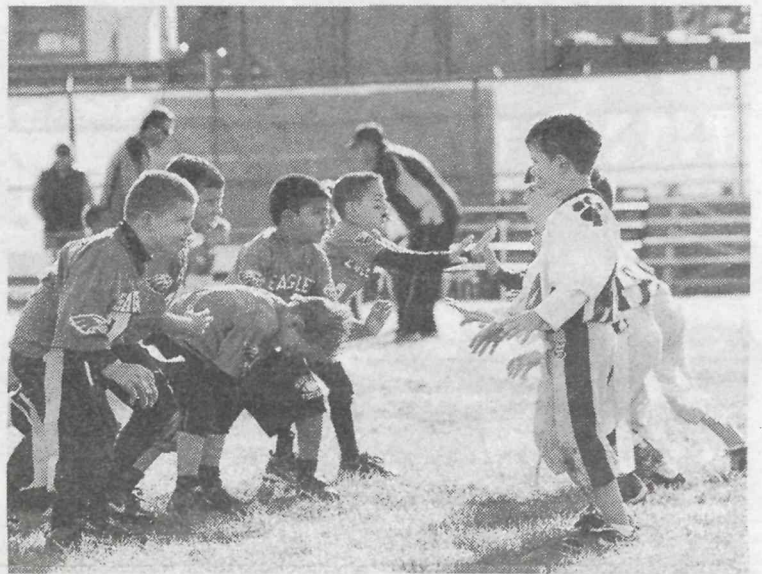
along with some tackles.

Junior Pee Wee—The boys had a tough loss on Sunday, but only by one touchdown. Coming off a major victory the week before, they were pumped to play and did their absolute best. Here are the highlights: Jalil Palms returned from an injury and made several successful runs and tackles; quarterback Conner Adams made many contributions with multiple carries, catches, tackles, first downs and a major touchdown; similarly, Mr. Persistent, Charles Lovett, made many carries, tackles, first down passes and ran in an extra point; Xavier's older brother, Sebastian Santos, caught an interception and made several successful runs; many tackles and runs were made by Jake Elsmann; Josiah Harvey had several crushing tackles; Brenden Hedden made many key tackles and Brandon O'Leary contributed with key tackles.

Submitted by Anthony Cangialosi,
SP Eagles President



The Eagles mascot rallies the cheerleaders, players and young fans.



Eagles Flag Team offense ready to take on opponents.

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OPINION

South Plainfield Democrats



Making the Most Of Our Resources

Ask South Plainfield residents what the best part of South Plainfield is and they'll tell you it's the turf field behind the Police Athletic League Recreation Center, the workout room, the multipurpose room, the lights that were installed or enhanced at the little league complex, the Pop Warner Football complex, the Ponytail Softball complex, the soccer complex, and the list goes on. These things provide affordable recreation for our families and give our kids a safe place to play ball closer to home. Better yet, all of these improvements were done with money from the open space funds provided by the county—not on the backs of South Plainfield's residents.

But more recently, South Plainfield has seen a dip in outside resources—and it's not because resources are lacking, but because our Republican-controlled council is not bringing home what's ours.

Over the last two years under Republican control, the town has not received a dime for such purposes. The fund is paid for through a county-wide tax, but Republicans have failed to work with the county to bring back what's ours for much needed improvements in South Plainfield.

"When we talk to people door to door and at various events throughout town, people constantly remind me that our fields are in need of repair or that our senior center needs updating," said Democratic Council Candidate John Sorrentino.

"It's not for lack of pride in our town that people are concerned, but that we have sat by and watched our facilities languish in a state of disrepair."

Middlesex County works closely with municipalities to provide resources for things such as open space and road repair, but the Republican-controlled council readily admits they haven't asked for anything from the county.

"There's a simple solution here—if you don't ask, you don't get," said Councilwoman Chrissy Buteas.

"There are many things we can improve in South Plainfield where we don't bear the entire costs. It's a matter of maximizing our resources through the county, state and even federal levels," said Democratic Council Candidate Paul McCullen.

South Plainfield pays enough in taxes—it's time to get our fair share from the resources out there. Maximizing our resources to improve South Plainfield. Now that's a better solution for a brighter future. That's Councilwoman Chrissy Buteas, John Sorrentino and Paul McCullen.

Want more better solutions for a brighter future? Vote Democratic, Line B on Tuesday, Nov. 8.

The opinions expressed here are those of the organizations submitting the articles.

They do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the publisher, nor do we attest to their accuracy.

OPINION

South Plainfield Republicans



Buteas Needs to Explain \$404 Tax Hike

In 2009 when Democrats controlled the council, taxes shot up \$404. After promising "no tax increase" during her campaign in 2008, Councilwoman

Christine Buteas voted for that increase. She also voted against the 2010 tax cut. This week, Buteas is being called upon to explain these votes.

"Buteas voted to raise taxes \$404 in 2009, yet voted against the 2010 tax cut," said Derryck White, who is a first-time candidate for council. "It's fair to ask why. Most people would have done the opposite."

Councilman Alex Barletta, also a candidate, described the vote against the 2010 tax cut as troubling. "The statistics show that we were one of the few towns in the state to cut taxes in 2010. Who votes against a tax cut?"

Barletta was referring to an independent media study of property taxes published in February. It showed that South Plainfield had the 13th best record on taxes in New Jersey for 2010.

According to the survey, South Plainfield came in thirteenth out of 566 towns. In fact, only 48 towns in the state lowered taxes, and

South Plainfield was one of them. Buteas and the Democrats voted against this.

"The survey was based on the entire bill," explained Barletta. "We would have done even better if it weren't for the county part of the bill, which went up \$85. Middlesex County is controlled by Democrats."

Most of the 2010 tax cut remains intact this year. "Even after a slight increase this year, the municipal part of the tax bill is still \$138 lower than in 2009 when Buteas and the Democrats were in control," said Dick Frank, who is seeking a one-year Council term.

"The Democrats had their chance to show what they could do, and the results were unacceptable," explained White, referring to the \$404 increase in 2009. "Our team has shown we can do better."

Frank summed up his team's position this way: "Under Mayor Anesh's team, spending is down the second year in a row, and the part of the tax bill controlled by the council is lower than in 2009 when the Democrats ran things. Other towns aren't seeing these results. If elected, we want to work together with residents to continue this progress. It's about getting the job done."

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