

South Plainfield OBSERVER

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60 CENTS

NOVEMBER 11, 2011

Republicans Sweep Council Seats

Thirty-three percent of South Plainfield's 13,699 eligible voters went to the polls on Tuesday and all three Republican candidates who ran for Borough Council were elected.

Alex Barletta received the higher number of votes (2,420) to earn a three-year council

seat. Newcomer Derryck White garnered the second highest number of votes (2,374). With 2,349 votes, newcomer Richard Frank will fill the unexpired one-year term.

Incumbent Chrissy Buteas, who has been a council member for three years, was the highest Democratic vote getter with 2,062 votes.

Paul McCullen received 2,023 in his first election bid. Joseph Sorrentino, running to fill the one-year unexpired term left vacant by Matt Anesh, received 1,948 votes.

The results of Tuesday's election show the voters in South Plainfield split their vote between both parties, re-electing incumbent Democrats to state government, electing a Democrat and a Republican freeholder in

(Continued on page 12)



Derryck White, Dick Frank and Alex Barletta



Veterans Angelo De Andrea, Raymond Costa and Anthony Zelek attend Roosevelt School Veterans Day program.

Veterans Honored in Patriotic Songs

By Libby Barsky

Roosevelt School students in the first and second grades joined together on Monday to perform a musical program of patriotic songs to honor local veterans in observance of Veteran's Day. The program was held twice, once in the morning for the student body and in the evening for parents.

Roosevelt School's four first grade classes taught by teachers Julie Anderson, Elizabeth Lepri, Laura Mottley and Michele Santelli and four second grade classes taught by Shannon Boyles, Samantha Nicolay, Allison Riccardo and Maureen Wilson presented the musical program arranged

and directed by music teacher Sharon Perez. The first graders were in place in front of the stage and the second graders were above them on the stage. The audience was composed of third and fourth grade students and visitors, including Interim Superintendent of Schools Dr. Gary Bowen and Board of Education Vice President Debbie Boyle.

Seated at the front of the room were three veterans who were welcomed and introduced to the students by Principal Robert Diehl.

Angelo De Andrea is an Air Force veteran who had once worked as a custodian in Roosevelt School before it became the Administration Build-

ing as well as in the new Roosevelt School. Anthony Zelek is a former Marine whose two grandsons, Bobby and Anthony White, attend Roosevelt School. Raymond Costa, who also served in the Marines, is VFW Post #6763 commander. They were warmly applauded by the students.

Newly elected members of the Roosevelt School Student Council introduced each song with a capsule history of its period or composer.

(Continued on page 2)

Wood Shop Fire Forces High School Evacuation

Firefighters from the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department and Plainfield Fire Department responded to a fire at South Plainfield High School at 9:13 a.m. on Monday.

A small fire was located in the dust collecting unit in the wood shop. The fire created a heavy smoke condition in the industrial arts classrooms.

Students were safely evacuated from the building during the incident and returned to the building after approximately one hour. Classes resumed in all areas of the building except the industrial arts classrooms. There were no reported injuries.

The cause of the fire was determined to be a mechanical failure in the dust collection system.



South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department and Plainfield Fire Department respond to a fire at the high school on Monday. -Photo courtesy of Louis Mormile

Report Shows School Violence/Vandalism on the Rise

Since 2002, the Superintendent of Schools has been required to inform the public by way of an annual report on the number of incidents relating to violence and vandalism in the schools.

During the October Board of Education meeting Interim Superintendent of School Dr. Gary Bowen reported that there were 37 incidents of violence and vandalism in the 2010/2011 school year compared to 18 incidents during the 2009/2010 school year.

There were 14 incidents of violence at the high school (defined as students pushing each other or fighting), three weapons incidents and six incidents of substance abuse.

There were no incidents of violence at the middle school, but there was one weapons and one substance abuse incident.

There was one incident of violence at Grant School and one substance abuse incident. At Roosevelt School there was one incident of violence and one incident of weapons abuse.

The 2010/2011 report also included eight incidents of vandalism, with five incurring a total cost of \$384.99 to the Board of Education compared

to \$450 for repairs for six vandalism incidents during 2009/2010. This year repairs were made on broken windows at Franklin School and the administration building, and a door at Grant School required repair. No cost was listed for repairing carving on a desk and a bus at the middle school.

No incidents of violence, vandalism or substance abuse were reported at Riley or Kennedy Elementary Schools.

This year as part of the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act legislation, school districts in New Jersey must file a monthly report on harassment, intimidation and bullying compiled from all the district's schools. For the month of September there were 13 incidents involving five schools, including one incident of intimidation resulting in a four day out of school suspension at the high school. The other incidents were handled with methods of counseling, mediation, detention and in school detention.

One Injury at G&W Lab Fire

A fire was reported at G&W Laboratories, 111 Coolidge St. at approximately 1:16 p.m. last Friday. Responding police officers found heavy smoke in the lab area.

The South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department responded and located a fire in the lab area of the building. One employee was reported missing, but was located about 10 minutes later in an area near the laboratory. All other employees were safely evacuated to an adjacent building on the G&W Laboratories site.

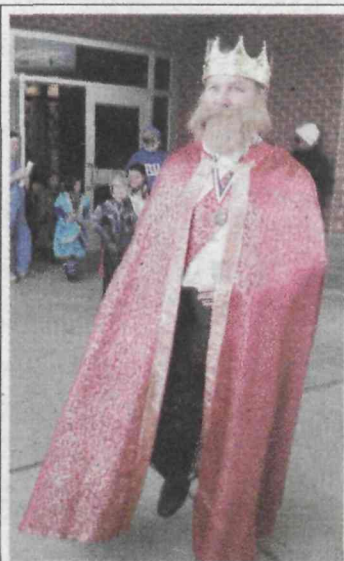
One employee, a 65-year-old

female, suffered minor burns to her head and was transported by Somerset Medical Center EMS to JFK Medical Center in Edison for treatment.

The fire was the result of a lab process involving several chemicals.

Firefighters from Plainfield, New Market, North Stelton and Metuchen Fire Departments responded. The Middlesex County Hazmat unit also assisted.

Smoke and water damage was contained to the laboratory area and employees were permitted to reenter the building at approximately 3:30 p.m.



KING FOR A DAY- Roosevelt Elementary School Principal Robert Diehl gets in the spirit of Halloween. See pages 6,7 and 12 for more Halloween photos.



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 November 21
Public Meeting 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 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

Special Meeting—November 22, 7 p.m. Council Chambers
Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month, *except where noted.
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. Questions? 908-226-7641
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
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.)
Dec. 14, Jan. 11, Feb. 8, March 14 and April 4.
Regular Public Meeting (begin at 7:30 p.m.) except where noted*
*Nov. 16 meeting time changed to 8 p.m.; 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.
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
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.
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.

Dear Editor,

I was one of the many families that were without electric power due to the unscheduled snowstorm on October 29. Unfortunately, while most of the surrounding areas were having their electric power restored in a short period of time, our "dead end street" was still without power for many days.

I didn't have too much luck with PSE&G as our neighborhood was considered a low priority. Finally, feeling desperate and frustrated, I called Mayor Anesh on November 1. He returned my call very promptly that night and reassured me he would investigate the situation. The next day he called me with a follow-up that he did contact PSE&G, and our power would be restored soon.

Mayor Anesh and his assistant, Anne Daley, were on top of the matter and maintained constant communication with me. Then on November 3, he let me know that PSE&G's trucks would be arriving that afternoon. He made it his business to drive by my neighborhood to check out the status of restoration. Then he called to tell me my power was back. It is a great feeling to know that our mayor and his assistant were so supportive in a time of need.

I just wanted to express my gratitude and sincere appreciation to Mayor Anesh and Anne Daley. Without their involvement, I may still have been sitting in the dark today!

CAROL CHRISTATOS

Dear Editor,

This letter is sort of a notification to the parents of school children here in South Plainfield. After I received a notice from Prestige Photos that photos will be taken at school, I sent a letter to the Board of Education asking if they could check out some other photographers for a better deal.

I didn't get a reply.

With a daughter and a son going to the high school, we are only interested in having 1-8x10, 2-5x7 and 3-3x5 for each child. The rest get recycled. In order to get what we wanted, we paid a total of \$76 for the two sets and this is what we got:

Daughter: 1-8x10 was ok; 2-5x7 were ok; 3-3x5 were 2 1/2 x 3 1/2; 16-2x3 were 1-7/8 x 2 1/2.

Son: 1-8x10 none; 2-5x7 were 3 1/2 x 4-7/8; 3-3x5 were 2 1/2 x 3 1/2; 16-2x3 were 1-7/8 x 2 1/2.

I called Prestige about the 8x10 and was told they would call back within 24 hours. As with the BOE, no reply.

I now ask the parents to check their photo sizes to make sure you got what you paid for. If not, how do you stand?

I would like to see another company for next year, one that can give a small package.

TED ZYCHLINSKI

To the Editor:

Two weeks ago the South Plainfield Observer carried my letter describing machinations which took place when a number of long-serving sport coaches were dismissed. That was the subject of my letter.

To my surprise, Mr. Sorrentino, a

teacher in Rahway, South Plainfield Board of Education and NJEA member, felt offended to the degree of needing to write a long and winding, off-subject letter in which he psychoanalyzed the reason for my "personal vendetta against certain board members."

Mr. Sorrentino, my interest in failing American public education comes from the following facts.

1) The average SAT score for the last three years are: USA 1510, NJ 1506, South Plainfield 1465, Rahway 1301. The New Jersey average is lower than the USA average contrary to NJEA claims that New Jersey is a leader in American education.

2) In international comparison of 29 developed countries, American students occupy the bottom third ranking in reading, scientific and mathematics literacy (in 2007 test of arithmetic the US ranked 24th of 29 countries).

3) One third of college freshmen need remedial tutoring in reading, English or math that they should have learned in school.

4) Open admission colleges (for

Submit Your Letters to the Editor

Send your letters to South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or fax to 908-668-8819, or via email: spobserver@comcast.net. **Deadline is Monday, 5 p.m.** Letters must be accompanied by a name and telephone number for verification. Limit letters to no more than 200 words. We reserve the right to refuse a letter, to edit for clarity or length, and to limit the number of letters submitted on the same subject. Submission is not a guarantee of publication. We do not accept anonymous letters. Letters are strictly opinion.

example, Middlesex County College) require incoming freshmen to pass "demanding" tests in reading, writing and comprehension.

5) Any employer can attest to the fact that a large percentage of high school graduates cannot fill out job applications without numerous misspellings. Adding and multiplying numbers is quite often beyond their capabilities.

I do not know if the above Mr. Sorrentino would understand.

If not, I am willing to, as I quote his psychoanalyzing letter, "stop hiding behind my keyboard" and explain it to Mr. Sorrentino.

BOGDAN FRYSCZYK

Veterans Honored in Song

(Continued from page 1)

Starting the program with all standing to recite the *Pledge of Allegiance*, the students began with familiar patriotic songs, including *My Country 'Tis of Thee*, *America the Beautiful*, *When Johnny Comes Marching Home Again*, and *Over There*, and continuing with the songs long associated with each division of the Armed Forces. For the Army's ground forces they performed *The Caissons Keep Rolling Along* and *Anchors Aweigh*; and other songs were performed for the

Navy, the Air Force, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines.

During the performance of *The Marine Hymn*, all three veterans stood at attention.

The first and second graders recited from memory the poem, *Veterans Day*, by Kate Englehardt Clark. They then sang a new patriotic song, *Thank You Soldiers* written by Michael and Angela Souders for school children in Colonial Heights, Va.

The program ended with a spirited performance of *God Bless America*.



Happy Holidays!

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Senator Goes "Back to School" to Teach Kids About Government

By Libby Barsky

Grant School Principal Ellen Decker-Lorys introduced State Senator Barbara Buono to the entire student body on October 24, after which the senator spoke during Legislators Back to School Day.

"This is a national program when legislators come to your school to talk to you about the real purpose of our form of government and what representative democracy really is. In a democracy it is only as vibrant and strong as the people who are involved," Buono said, emphasizing the importance of voting. "You have to know that your vote counts. Many think it doesn't."

As an illustration of the importance of voting, Buono discussed the fact that young people age 18, 19 and 20 did not have the right to vote before 1971 when the voting age was 21.

"How did they get the right to vote? Through organizing to amend the constitution to change the law," she said.

Senator Buono urged the students to become engaged in the government process and become part of a group of people who will come together to change a policy that is important to them, like the student council.

Senator Buono, who worked as an attorney while raising four children, spoke of how she started in politics by joining the Cultural Arts Committee in Metuchen, then being asked to run for a council seat. After losing the election, she ran again the following year.

"I ran again as a lesson for my children and I won," she said.

She then ran for state office as a member of the general assembly and served in that capacity from 1994 to 2001. From 2002 to the present she has been a member of the senate, and its majority leader since 2010.

As a mother of four children, one of the first bills she introduced sought to check the criminal backgrounds of childcare workers.

In 1999, after the massacre at Columbine High School in Colorado that left 12 students and one teacher dead, and 21 students injured, then Assemblywoman Buono wondered, "Why isn't anyone talking about why this happened?" Her response was to help author anti-bullying legislation that was adopted in 2002.

"One thing I learned was to compromise. When I ran for office I never believed that compromise is such a large part of what I do. If you think you have the best idea, someone else has a bet-

ter one, or they have a way to change your idea to make it better," she said.

Although the anti-bullying law was in place in 2002 it wasn't being implemented in many school districts.

"We passed the law for schools to have a process in place to let students know what was not acceptable behavior. It was to create an atmosphere of mutual respect and have kids come to school ready to learn. Unfortunately some schools didn't take it seriously and we formed a task force with experts and they came up with recommendations to change the law to make it work better," Buono said.

The recently enacted Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act now includes the provisions to train all staff about bullying and for all school districts to report monthly on harassment, intimidation and bullying violations and the action taken for each.

The purpose of the bill is to promote a foundation of mutual respect which is lifelong.

"You need to show respect for one another so that when you get in an argument you don't call names, point, ridicule the other," Buono said. "A real leader brings people to the table, no matter how you feel about an issue you still don't ridicule. You sit down and discuss it."

Medicare Presentation at the Senior Center

Interested in learning more about the 2012 Medicare changes? A free seminar will be held on Monday, Nov. 21 at 10 a.m. at the South Plainfield Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave.

Conducted by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services and the Middlesex County Office of Aging

and Disabled Service's State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), seniors are invited to come and learn about Medicare changes, enrollment period and Part D update. After the seminar, SHIP counselors are available to assist with questions. Individual counseling sessions will be held from

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

To make an appointment, call (908) 754-1047.



Holy Savior Academy students check out the selection at the school's book fair.

Holy Savior Academy Holds New School's First Book Fair

Those who may think that today's kids don't read, have no interest in reading or are too distracted by other media to spend much time reading would have to revise their thinking if they had seen the excitement among the students at the first Holy Savior Academy Book Fair last week. Young children burdened by armloads of new books were the norm rather than the exception.

Books about *Star Wars*, scary stories in time for Halloween, books about the sinking of the Titanic, even cookbooks for kids were all present and eagerly grabbed up by kids who knew what

they wanted. Fiction and nonfiction books gave students the opportunity to pursue their interests.

The book fair, coordinated by Holy Savior Librarian Colleen Head, was dazzling in its display of books.

"We have everything here," Head said. "If a student has a particular interest, it's highly likely we have a book on that subject."

Holy Savior Academy's principal, Melinda Hanlon, watching excited children leaving the library with their new purchases said, "Instilling a love of reading is our job here."

Adopt a Family For the Holidays

South Plainfield Social Services Department is conducting the annual holiday food and gift project. This program seeks individuals, groups and organizations to adopt needy families in our community and provide them with food and/or gifts for the holiday season.

If you don't have time to shop or on a limited budget, you can still help by providing a gift certificate to a local merchant or grocery store. By participating in this program, your holiday season will be more meaningful and make life easier for our less fortunate families.

We are accepting donations of turkeys on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 17 and 18. Feel free to drop off your turkey as close to this date as possible.

To adopt a family or for more information on the program, call Marge Ackerman, director of social services for the Borough of South Plainfield, at (908) 226-7625.

Sacred Heart Church to Hold Christmas Concert

Sacred Heart Church is once again presenting the annual Christmas concert featuring The Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea with the Reverend Alphonse Stephenson conducting. The concert will be held on Sunday, Nov. 27 in the church beginning at 3 p.m. Tickets in advance are \$25, \$20 for seniors and \$10 for students 17 and younger.

Tickets can be purchased by calling the Parish Center at (908) 756-0633, ext. 110 or 111, or Sandy Romasz at

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Sunday 9:00, 11:30 a.m.
Daily 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday
7:00 p.m. Monday (Church), Thursday (Parish Center Chapel)

Holy Days 6:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m.
Sacrament of Reconciliation—Saturday 10-11:30 a.m. and at other times by appointment

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SENIOR CENTER Calendar

HUNTERDON HILLS

December 8, 4:30-9:30 p.m. - \$80

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!

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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.

events Around Town

Sons of the Legion Oldies' Dance

November 12

The Sons of the American Legion are hosting an oldies dance on Saturday, Nov. 12 from 7 to 11 p.m. at Chaumont Post #243 on Oak Tree Avenue. \$15 per person includes beer, wine, soda and snacks. DJ "Stick Shift Eddie" will provide 50s and 60s music for dancing. Open to the public.

Knights of Columbus Annual Trivia Night

November 12

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 annual trivia night will be held on Saturday, Nov. 12 at the South Plainfield Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. First question at 7:02 p.m. sharp! Gather your table of party friends and join the fun. Entertaining categories-something for everyone. Complementary soda,

popcorn and pretzels. Cash prize for first place. Door prizes. Bring your favorite snacks to share at your table and your personal table decorations. Table of eight only \$160.

For reservations, call Joe Scrudato at (908) 406-5920.

Proceeds to benefit the Middlesex County Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Twilight Saga Book Reading

November 12

South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission is calling all Twilight fans to participate in the "Book Reading of the Twilight Saga Series" on Saturday, Nov. 12 from 7-10 p.m. at the South Plainfield Rescue Squad, 2520 Plainfield Ave. Doors open at 7 p.m.; light refreshments will be served.

The evening will be interactive and entertaining; we invite everyone to come in costume as your favorite character to make the readings more interesting while acting out parts of each book with other Twilight fans.

All attendees will be registered for a chance to receive a ticket to a private screening of *Twilight: Breaking Dawn* on Tuesday, Nov. 22 hosted by the commission; so join us for the fun!

For more information, visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/South-Plainfield-Cultural-Arts-Commission. "Like" us and we will register you for a chance to attend the private screening. Admission is free; room capacity is limited.

Parking for this event is behind the library and rescue squad. Enter from the side door closest to the library; look for signs.

For information, call (908) 754-2381 or email spcac.nj@gmail.com.

Business Association Monthly Meeting

November 17

The South Plainfield Business Association will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, Nov. 17 at 8:30 a.m. at Sherban's Diner. All businesses are welcome to attend. Donations of non-perishable food for Shirley

Thompson's Christmas dinner will be collected.

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

Holiday Boutique And Tea Room

November 19

Come and get your holiday shopping started early on Saturday, Nov. 19, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Wesley United Methodist Church's Holiday Boutique and Tea Room. Knitted and crocheted scarves, blankets and sweaters, handpainted tiles and furniture, original paintings, handcrafted jewelry, stationery and cards, novelty items and Christmas wreaths. Discovery Toys, Dove Chocolate at Home, Longaberger, Partylite, Scentsy and Tupperware.

The Tea Room will offer home-made baked items along with delicious luncheon offerings.

Wesley Church is located at 1500 Plainfield Ave.

Wrestling Club Fundraising Dinner

November 19

South Plainfield Wrestling Club will host the third annual Tiger Take-down Buffet on Saturday, Nov. 19 at the Polish Home on New Market Avenue.

Proceeds will benefit the SPHS wrestling team's trip to the Virginia Duals. Tickets are \$20 and will be sold at the door. Cash bar. Gamin' Ride Truck for the kids. We will also be drawing the winning ticket for our Super 50/50.

For more information, call Pam Heilmann at (908) 294-6009.

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.

Chinese Auction & Family Fun Day

November 26

The Time2Shine Foundation, a non-profit organization formed in 2011 in memory of South Plainfield resident Mike Fry, will hold a Chinese auction and family fun day at the PAL Building on Maple Avenue from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$5 for adults; children are free. Photos with Santa, face painting, food, door prizes and Chinese auction featuring prizes such

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Public Notice

NOTICE OF PERSON TO PERSON TRANSFER

Take notice that application has been made to the Borough of South Plainfield, Municipal Clerk's office located at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, N.J. to transfer to Menlo Management SP LLC, trading as Holiday Inn-South Plainfield for premises located at 4701 Stelton Road, South Plainfield the Plenary Retail #1222-36-015-006, heretofore issued to South Plainfield Lodging Realty, LLC, trading as Holiday Inn-South Plainfield for premises located at 4701 Stelton Road, South Plainfield, N.J. The persons who will hold an interest in this license are: Jason (Chi-Cheng) Cheng residing at 1 Hayduk Drive, Edison, N.J. 08820 and Jonathan P. Lin residing at 19 Primrose Lane, Piscataway, N.J. 08854.

Objections, if any, should be made immediately in writing to: Joann Graf, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of South Plainfield, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

Jonathan P. Lin
19 Primrose Lane
Piscataway, N.J. 08854
\$38.50

November 11, 2011

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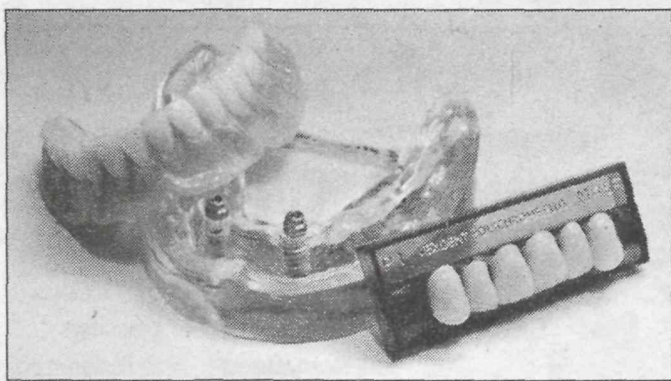
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events

Around Town

as theme baskets, gift cards, a TV, airline tickets and more.

Funds raised will go to young students interested in continuing their education in the arts and sports. Additionally, we will look to assist sports programs for children where those programs are supported by donations.

For information or to make a donation, call Rosemary (908) 816-0901 or Angela (908) 400-7259.

Country Breakfast And Crafts

November 27 **DATE CHANGE**

The South Plainfield American Legion Post #243 on 243 Oak Tree Ave. will be hosting a country breakfast with craft show on Sunday, Nov. 27 from 8 a.m. to noon. Menu consists of pancakes, French toast, ham, bacon, eggs, breakfast quiches, muffins, bagels, fruit and more. \$6 a person and \$3 for children under 12.

Quality crafters who are interested in selling items can call (718) 619-2751 for more information.

St. Peter by the Sea Concert

November 27

Sacred Heart Church presents the annual Christmas concert featuring The Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea with the Reverend Alphonse Stephenson conducting on Sunday, Nov. 27 at 3 p.m. Tickets in advance are \$25, \$20 for seniors and \$10 for students 17 and younger.

Tickets can be purchased by calling the Parish Center at (908) 756-0633, ext. 110 or 111 or Sandy Romasz at (908) 444-8554.

Tickets, available at the door, will be \$30, \$25 for seniors and \$15 for students 17 and younger.

Send Your Community Events to: spobserver@comcast.net

— Out of Town —

Middlesex East WOWs Open Dance

November 11

Middlesex East Widows Or Widowers, Carteret Chapter, will hold an open dance on Friday, Nov. 11 from 7:30-11:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, 1155 Roosevelt Ave. in Carteret. Refreshments will be served, everyone welcome. Admission: \$10 members; \$12 guests.

For more information, call (732) 969-2228 or (908) 757-0515.

Crescent Avenue Church Concert

November 12

"With Elegance and Joy," a program of sacred choral music by J.S. Bach and Mozart, will be presented on Saturday, Nov. 12 at 8 p.m. in the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church, W. 7th Street and Watchung Avenue in Plainfield. Tickets will be sold at the door; \$20 adults; \$15 for seniors; and \$5 for students.

For information, call (908) 756-2468.

Holiday Bazaar

November 12

Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church, 888 Stuyvesant Ave. and West Chestnut St. in Union will be holding a holiday bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Hand-crafted gifts, holiday decorations, homemade cakes and goodies, jewelry, snack bar open throughout the day. Table rentals: \$35/8 ft. table, gym; \$25/6 ft. table, rumpus room.

For table rental reservation, call (908) 245-0562.

Upscale Singles Dance Party

November 12

Steppin' Out Singles will hold

an upscale singles dance party on Saturday, Nov. 12 at 8 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.

Christkindlmarket (Christmas Market)

November 20

Deutscher Club of Clark, 787 Featherbed Lane will hold an authentic Christkindlmarket (Christmas market) on Sunday, Nov. 20 from noon to 5 p.m. Indoors and outdoors; imported German linens and gifts, handmade items, jewelry, baskets, stollen, candies, cookies, Gluhwein, German atmosphere, dinners available.

For information, call (732) 574-8600.

Pre-Thanksgiving Singles Dance Party

November 23

Steppin' Out Singles is hosting a pre-Thanksgiving upscale singles dance party on Wednesday, Nov. 23 at 8 p.m. at the Woodbridge Hilton Grand Ballroom, 20 Wood Ave. South in Iselin. Ages 40 and up; no jeans/t-shirts/sneakers/shorts. Admission: \$17.

For information, call (732) 656-1801.

Trip to The Miracle Of Christmas

November 29

St. Luke's Leisure Club in North Plainfield will be sponsoring a trip to Lancaster, Pa. on Tuesday, Nov. 29 to see Sight and Sound, "The Miracle of Christmas." The cost for the show, lunch, bus and all taxes and tips will be \$98 per person.

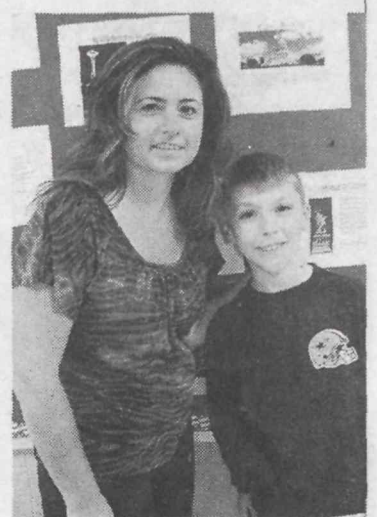
For more information, call Marilyn Mayer at (908) 757-5074 or email goggi5@aol.com.

Kyle Griswold Named Junior Journalist

Kyle Griswold, a third grader at Franklin School, is this week's winner in the Junior Journalist program. His essay, "Veterans Day," has earned Kyle dinner for his family, courtesy of Hometown Heros.

The program, which encourages students to express themselves through creative writing, is a joint cooperation between Hometown Heros and the South Plainfield Observer. Students should submit their original works to their teachers, the Observer or to Hometown Heros. Winners are selected weekly; students and their works are published in the Observer. Hometown Heros makes arrangements to deliver dinner for the winner's entire family.

At the end of the school year in May, Hometown Heros and the Observer hosts a banquet celebrating all of the weekly winners and their families. A \$1,000 U.S. Savings Bond is awarded to one student by Hometown Heros; additional U.S. Savings



Junior Journalist winner Kyle Griswold with teacher Lara Kensey.

Bonds are also awarded. Students are recognized by the mayor and the state assembly as well.

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

Veterans Day

By Kyle Griswold

Veterans Day is when people remember the people who fought in the wars to keep our country safe. Veterans Day was first called "Armistice Day" after World War I in 1919. In 1954, Armistice Day was changed to Veterans Day. On Veterans Day, we honor those who died and survived.

Veterans Day is important to America because that's when we honor the people who served in the military. The military protects our country and protects our freedom. Veterans Day is also important be-

cause we honor the veterans for being brave and making sacrifices for our country. Some of the sacrifices are getting hurt, being away from family, and worst of all getting killed. If it wasn't for the military, we wouldn't have the freedoms we have today.

My dad is a veteran of the United States Navy. He was a gunner's mate on the U.S.S. Detroit. My dad served in the Persian Gulf which borders Iraq and Iran. I think my dad and all veterans should be honored on Veterans Day because they protected our country. My dad is my hero.

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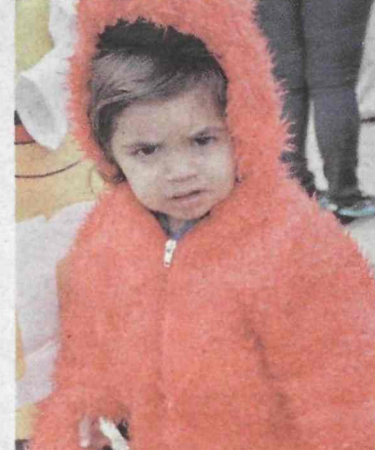
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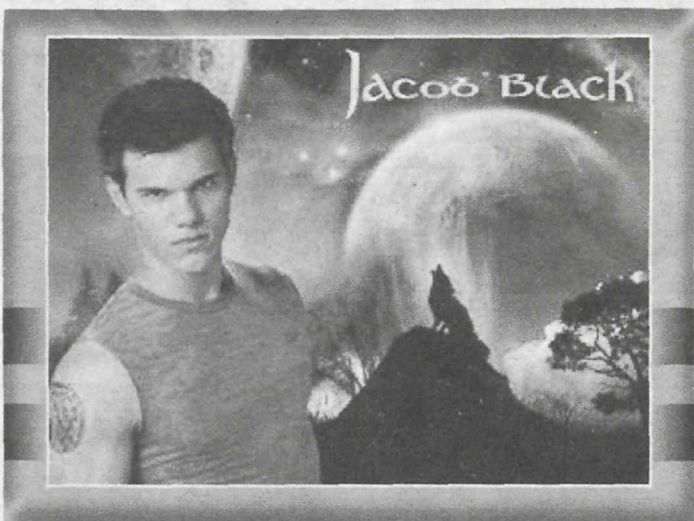
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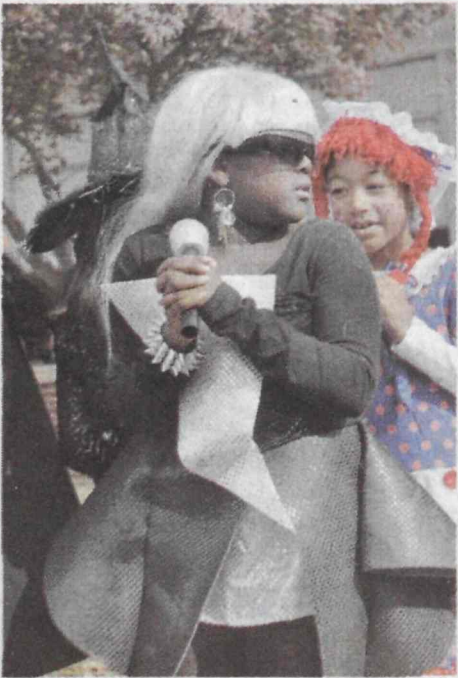
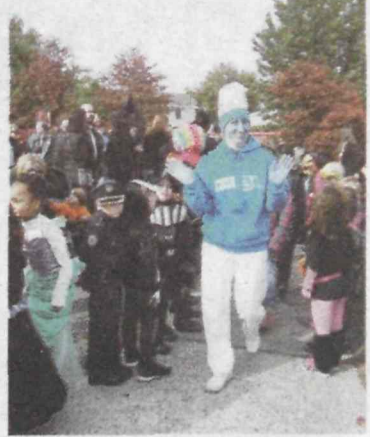
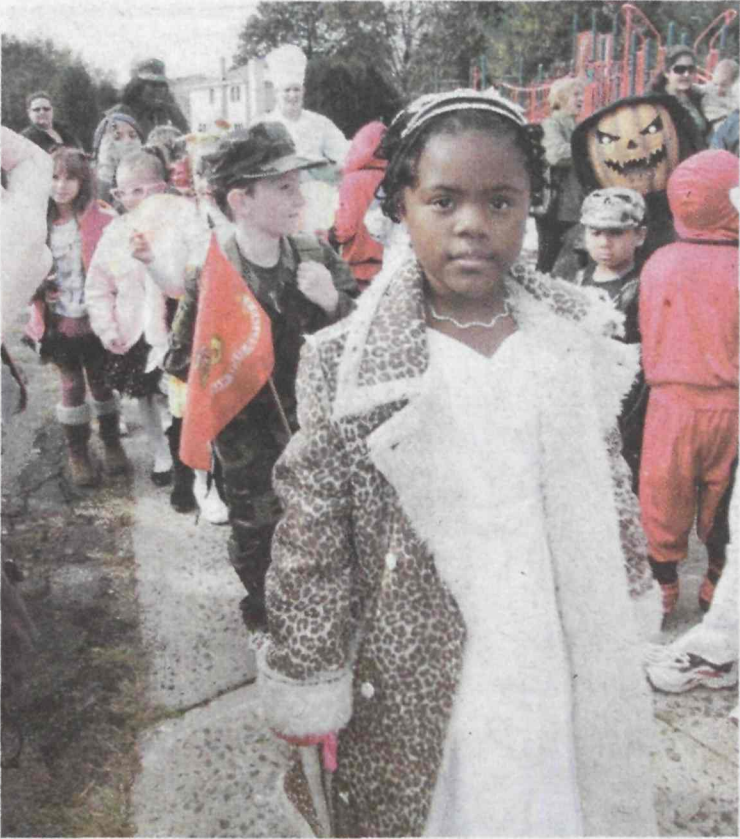
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- Sick child care
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Carone Family Chiropractic Sponsoring Thanksgiving Food Drive

As the Thanksgiving season approaches, Carone Family Chiropractic wishes to celebrate in a way that will make a difference in other people's lives. They will donate their time and services to new patients in exchange for donating food items for families in need. "We have been blessed with so much that we want to give something back to someone in need. We will be accepting new patients that have never been to our office. This would be the perfect time to get started with chiropractic care and at the same time, help us put food on the table for needy families this year," said Dr. William Carone.

Between now and Thanksgiving, new patients will receive all first day

services at no charge. The only thing they have to do is bring a minimum of five canned goods or non-perishable items. Carone Family Chiropractic, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., has also set aside Saturday, Nov. 19 from 9 a.m. to noon for their current patients to receive an adjustment by bringing in a minimum of five canned goods or non-perishable items.

The donated items will be given to the South Plainfield Food Pantry, an outstanding organization committed to knowing who is really in need and getting those food items to the proper people. Help make this a special year for families in need.

Please schedule your appointment by calling Dr. Carone at (908) 757-2330.

Dr. DeCosta Hosting Annual Food Drive

It is approaching that time of year when we very often count our blessings and think of ways we can share our good fortune with others.

The Association of New Jersey Chiropractors, a non-profit state organization, is sponsoring a statewide food drive. There are offices throughout the state where people can drop off non-perishable food for those in need. Food will be donated to local food banks in that region.

The office in our area is Dr. Anthony J. DeCosta, located at 129 South Plainfield Ave.

All non-perishable foods will be

donated to FISH Hospitality Program. FISH has been serving homeless women and families since 1990, providing shelter and meals, as well as offering assistance locating employment and affordable housing.

Please drop off all items at the office starting through Monday, Nov. 21. Dr. DeCosta's office is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 3:30 to 7 p.m.

In these most difficult times, we should pause to reflect how truly blessed we are and make an effort to help others when we are able.

Submitted by Jeff Pauls

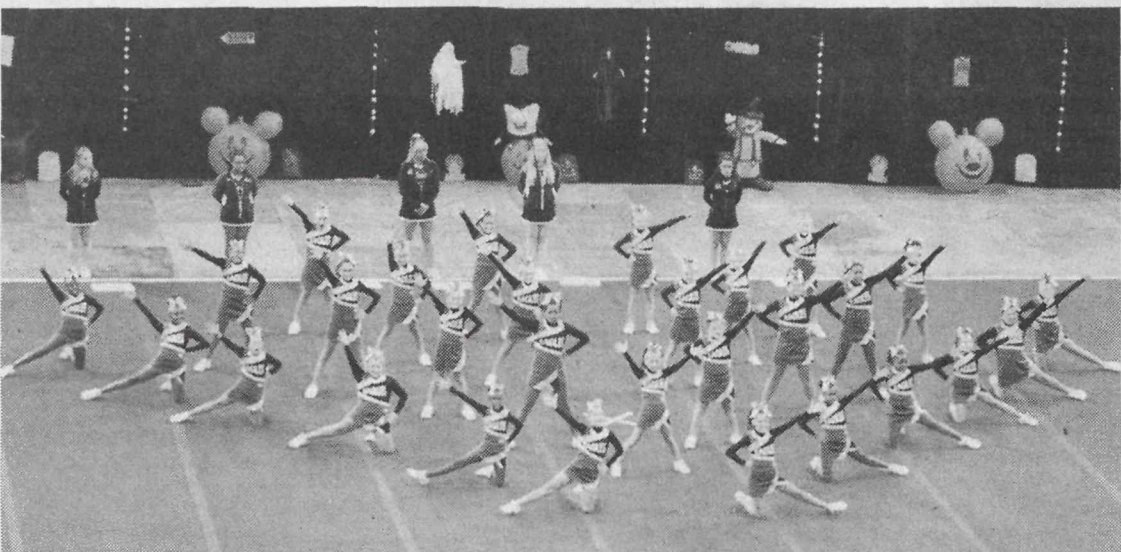
Scouting for Food to Help Two Local Food Pantries

The Cub Scout and Boy Scout units of South Plainfield will again be conducting their "Scouting for Food" program. Bags will be dropped off to be filled and collected the following week, where they will be distributed to either Sacred Heart Social Con-

cerns food pantry or to the South Plainfield Social Services food pantry, and then given to the needy.

Thank you in advance for your generosity during this holiday season.

Sports



Eagles Cheer Junior Pee Wee Squad competes at the Central Qualifiers to earn a spot in the Eastern Region competition.

Cheerleaders Earn Spot in Pop Warner Regionals

The South Plainfield Eagles were proudly represented by two cheer squads at the Central Qualifiers on October 30. Both the Junior Pee Wee and Junior Midget squads arrived at Sun Bank Arena early in the morning in spite of the inclement weather and power outages brought on by the

weekend storm.

Keeping the South Plainfield Pop Warner cheer tradition going, the girls hit the mat hard for two flawless performances. At the end of a long day of cheering, both squads earned a spot at the Pop Warner Eastern Region cheer competition with the highest score in

their category.

We wish the girls the best of luck on November 12 as they compete at the regional competition for one of two spots in the National Competition held in Orlando, Fla. in the beginning of December.

Submitted by Abra Hodge

Wrestling Club Fundraising Dinner

South Plainfield Wrestling Club will host the third annual Tiger Takedown Buffet on Saturday, Nov. 19 at the Polish Home on New Market Avenue.

Proceeds will benefit the SPHS wrestling team's trip to the Virginia Duals. Tickets are \$20 and will be sold at the door. Cash bar. Gamin' Ride Truck for the kids. We will also be drawing the winning ticket for our Super 50/50.

For more information, call Pam Heilmann at (908) 294-6009.

SPHS Weekly Sports Schedule

South Plainfield High School

Saturday, November 12

V Gymnastics - Sectionals (A) Bus TBA
V Football @ Scotch Plains (A) Bus TBA

Monday, November 14

4:00pm Fr Football - N. Plainfield (H)
6:00pm JV Football - N. Plainfield (H)

Tuesday, November 15

4:00pm MS Football - Union (H)

Thursday, November 17

3:45pm G & BV Bowling @ Carolier (A) Bus 2:30pm

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From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Eve Pasternak

The South Plainfield Public Library is reopening! The library will be open regular hours as of Monday, Nov. 14: Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Tuesdays and Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sundays 1:30 to 5 p.m.

We've been getting new materials while undergoing restoration. They're being put on the shelves as quickly as possible. You will find all the things to read, watch and listen to that you've been waiting for.

Storytimes will be resuming the first week in December. Until then,

come and admire the new layout of the children's room. You'll find the shelves of wonderful new books and plenty of old favorites, as well as a great selection of movies and CDs.

With December fast approaching, we will be collecting for the Books to Keep program. After the library reopens, please bring in new books for children and young adults to be distributed during the holiday season. Monetary donations are also welcome; include your name and address if you would like a receipt.

We appreciate the patience and support of all our patrons while we cleaned up and repaired the building. We can't wait to see you all!



The refurbished reading room of the library slated to re-open Monday.

Library Repairs Complete Doors Will Re-Open on Monday

The South Plainfield Library Board of Trustees meeting on November 1 was held in the library for the first time since the library was forced to close its doors due to flooding from Hurricane Irene on August 28. At the meeting, the board voted to employ the Dr. Duct Company to clean the HVAC ducts and further ruled to keep the library closed while the work was being completed. As of presstime, the library is expected to open on Monday, Nov. 14 at 10 a.m.

The books are out of storage and back on the shelves, new carpeting and a new water fountain have been installed, and the library now offers a brighter, cleaner atmosphere; however, other adjustments must still be made. The children's room was reorganized with a new, smaller desk and chair for the children's librarian to replace the one that was destroyed after four inches of water seeped into the building. The roof is still in need of repair to prevent leaks. Building and Grounds committee chair, Trustee Robert Bengivenga, contacted the manufacturer that supplied the roofing materials (which is still under warranty); they will contact the installers to fix the problem.

As a result of Hurricane Irene, library records that were stored in cardboard boxes were impossible to salvage. To safeguard and provide a more permanent storage method of the library's records and minutes, the board voted to accept the proposal from Innovative Imaging for \$7,920 to digitize the records. They were also authorized to digitize 10 years of the

South Plainfield Observer.

Randolph also announced that Eric Aronowitz, president of the Library Board of Trustees for the past 10 years, will receive the Trustee of the Year Award from the Libraries of Middlesex County at an award ceremony on November 29 in New Brunswick at the Crossroads Theatre. Aronowitz was nominated for his efforts to find a new building for the library and for his support of the staff, said Randolph, who nominated him for the award.

Also during the meeting, Plainfields Chapter of UNICO President Joseph De Andrea and UNICO National District X Governor Robert Bengivenga, along with UNICO members Angela Baratta and Suzie Leonardis, donated two copies of the book, *It Happened in Italy: Untold Stories of How the People of Italy Defied the Horrors of the Holocaust*. The book details how author Elizabeth Bettina learned of Italy's kind treatment of Jews in contrast to that of other nations before and during WWII.

Obituaries

Fred Baita, Sr., 86

Fred Baita, Sr. passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family at the Raritan Health & Extended Care Center in Raritan.

Fred was born in Brooklyn and lived in Bound Brook, spent six years in Florida, but resided in South Plainfield for most of his life.

He served with the Merchant Marines during WWII and worked for Colonial Tank Transport as a truck driver.

He is predeceased by his wife, Adreana; his parents, George and Marie Baita; two sisters, Marie and Chris Baita; and by two brothers, George and John Baita.

Fred leaves behind eight children, Adreana Baita-Cesaro and husband Anthony, Fred Jr. and wife Carol, Roxanne Baita and husband Karim, Edward, Cecilia Baita, Marie Baita, Joseph and wife Angela and Esther Baita and husband Carlos; a brother, Bob and wife Gloria; 23 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

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

Memorial Service for Gordon Holz

There will be a memorial service for the late Gordon Holz on Saturday, Nov. 12 at 11 a.m. at the First Baptist Church of South Plainfield.

Mr. Holz was well-known throughout the community as he was involved in the construction industry, and was the caretaker of the Hillside of Sampson Cemetery. All are invited to pay their respects to Mr. Holz.

For more information, call the church office at (908) 753-2382.

Submitted by Rev. D. Gordon Braun, Jr.,
Pastor, First Baptist Church



The South Plainfield Side Pockets and the Woodbridge Billiards.

Notes from the Senior Center

SP Side Pockets Win Inaugural Match

The South Plainfield Side Pockets defeated the Woodbridge Billiards Club 3-2 on October 19 in a tie-breaker match. The event started off with coffee and cake and a brief introduction of all players from both teams.

The South Plainfield Side Pockets were dressed for business with new matching shirts sponsored by Pro-Care Physical Therapy in Piscataway. At the conclusion of their tie-breaking

victory, lunch was provided with an old-fashioned hot dog cart, desserts and a lemonade stand.

Co-captain Lenny Caro said, "It was a great first match—our team gets better with every day of practice."

The SP Side Pockets are: Norm Chicarelli, Joe Raiello, John Mazzeo, Wally Schuff, Co-captain Peter Vanderhelm, Joe Zekas and Pedro Pizar.

Their next match is Thursday, Dec. 1 at 10 a.m. at the Senior Center. Come and join the team. New members are always welcome.

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Middle School Tests New Backpack Policy



Middle School students "sans" backpacks.

By Jane Dornick and Kimberly Dornick

After months of research, South Plainfield Middle School Principal Kevin Hajduk instituted a new policy this year that prohibits students from carrying backpacks during school hours. It is now mandatory to store backpacks and book bags in lockers upon arrival; students are allowed to retrieve them when the school day is over.

An August telephone survey conducted by Hajduk of 25 middle schools of various sizes in surrounding towns revealed that students are not allowed to carry backpacks or book bags during the school day in middle schools in Edison, Piscataway, Bound Brook, Somerville, Bridgewater, South Orange, Warren, Berkeley Heights, Manville, Summit, Woodbridge, Middlesex, Scotch Plains, Maplewood and Sayreville.

"In each school contacted, female students are allowed to carry a small

purse, usually no more than six inches across for personal hygiene items," said Hajduk. "Other than that exception, all respondents said that there is no reason to carry backpacks or book bags during the school day, and gave several reasons not to carry them."

The most common reasons, according to Hajduk, for not allowing book bags or backpacks to be carried during the day involve health, safety and learning organizational skills. The new rule creates more time to get to class because students do not have to worry about picking them up or leaving them behind. Backpacks can also carry various germs such as bacteria and viruses. Placing a backpack on a floor or desk can pick up germs which can spread sickness around the school and home. Research by doctors also shows that they cause poor back and spine health with the heaviness and distribution of weight on a growing child.

The lack of backpacks increases space in the hallways and classrooms and saves learning time in the class-

rooms as students are not rifling through them for items. Other reasons for not carrying backpacks are the prevention of accidental injury to other children by the "whip around" motion caused when a student turns quickly; children are not "hands free" limiting harassment, horseplay and texting, and limits the transportation of contraband.

It took students approximately two weeks at the beginning of the school year to adjust to the new rule; during that time they did not receive any punishment for carrying a backpack if they needed to. The policy has resulted in smoother transitions in getting to classes and there have not been any problems reported as of yet, according to Hajduk.

"Not carrying backpacks benefits students 100%," said Hajduk. "The kids are beginning to reflect on the new rule and are realizing that not having backpacks creates more room and fewer germs."

Special needs students are receiving additional assistance in adjusting.

Some students interviewed are not in favor of the new rule because they have to carry around all of their books and are afraid that if they trip they will drop everything. Other students like it because they only need one or two books to carry around and it is less stressful on their backs. One student, who did not want to be identified, said that after school it is chaos in the hallways because students are scrambling through items in their backpack and sitting on the floor trying to make sure they bring home everything needed.

Hajduk, however, believes it is a good choice for now and does not know if he will make any adjustments to the new rule.

"Not having backpacks is an improvement in the school and it is also used to help students become more organized," commented Hajduk.



Mary Ann Iannitto, Marjorie Strohsahl, Natalie Bergen, Russell Hogue, Lucy Hudson, Frieda Walker and Lynne Berenbroick surround the newly installed fountain in Bedminster.

NEWS Suburban Woman's Club

The Suburban Woman's Club, working together with Designs for Tranquility in Freehold, purchased two fountains for the Cancer Support Community in Bedminster. One fountain is installed in the meditation garden outside the facility and the other is on the wall in the building's foyer. Both fountains bring additional peace and tranquility to the already comforting environment of the beautifully restored historic building that houses the support program.

Among those attending the dedication of the fountains on October 25 was Club President Lucy Hudson, Special State Project Chairman Natalie Bergen, Marjorie Strohsahl, state corresponding secretary representing the NJSFWC state president; and Lynne Berenbroick, state special state project chairman. They were joined by the staff of the support community along with Eunice Jadbloki, director of the program; members of the

Suburban Woman's Club and Russell Hogue of Designs for Tranquility. Hogue described the two installations and presented the attendees with stones which they placed at the base of the outside fountain to enhance its beauty.

The Cancer Support Community in Bedminster is the Special State Project for 2010-2012. The funds for this donation were raised by the club last spring when it held a successful luncheon/fashion show at the South Plainfield Senior Center.

Since its inception the Suburban Woman's Club has worked to improve the community and has adopted the causes served by the state and national federations. Each year the members conduct a variety of fundraisers to enable the awarding of two, \$2,000 scholarships to South Plainfield High School seniors as well as contribute to a number of local charities and special state and federal projects.

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ROOFING



Early in October the South Plainfield Pop Warner Eagles faced many problems. An electrical problem on the playing field required fixing, and damage from Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Katia had strained the group's budget. Chaumont Post #243 of the American Legion immediately responded with a check for \$1,500 to help defray the expenses. The Eagles thanked Legion members at their monthly meeting with a framed thank you. (L-R) Back row: Sergeant-at-Arms Jim Yednak, Commander Joe Penyak and First Vice Commander Doug Viafora; front row: Brandon Cangialosi, Gabriella Cangialosi, Maria Callanan, Sam Nieves and Robby Ginda.

—Photo courtesy of Rich Doerr

Knights of Columbus Coat and Blanket Drive

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 will hold the sixth annual coat and blanket drive November 19 through March 4, 2012.

'Tis the season to be grateful for what we have and to reach out to those in need. When you look through your

closets this holiday season and find coats and blankets you no longer use, consider donating them.

All donations can either be dropped off Tuesday evenings after 7:30 p.m. at The Knights of Columbus Hall, 334 Hamilton Blvd., in the collection bins found inside Our Lady of Czestochowa Church or in the big drop-off bin in the parking lot at Sacred Heart Church.

The Knights encourage local businesses and community organizations to advocate the coat and blanket collections at your next meeting or in your office. Pick-up arrangements can be made available. Call for additional information.

Over the past years and with the help

of the donation bin at Sacred Heart, the donations have increased to over 1,000 coats and blankets. This year, our goal is to double our collection. We hope you can help us.

If you don't have coats or blankets to donate, the Knights will accept monetary donations. All proceeds will be used to purchase coats for this very special cause.

For information or for large donations, call Mike Piersanti at (908) 616-3588 and he will make arrangements for pick up of the coats or blankets.

For information on joining the Knights, call Greg Gaydos at (908) 753-4952.

New Girl Scout Troops Forming

The South Plainfield Girl Scouts are forming new troops and are especially looking for adult volunteers. If you are interested, email Michelle Biggs at MichelleB5@comcast.net.

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Students Get a Jump on Halloween at Trunk or Treat

By Patricia Abbott

Franklin School students got a jump start on Halloween fun at the annual Trunk or Treat in the school's parking lot on October 28. About 25 cars and vans were decorated with a wide variety of Halloween items ranging from simple to elaborate, scary to comical. Parent Nancy MacKenzie won the favorite trunk contest.

After the set up was completed, students, friends and family members made their way from trunk to trunk

to collect treats. The costumes the children wore varied from classic witches and vampires to outrageous creative outfits, many of which were handmade. Parents also got into the act by wearing costumes as well.

The South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad were on hand to help provide additional lighting for the parking lot. More than 200 children enjoyed activities that included a costume contest and a parade. They also had the chance to decorate their own cupcakes and



make Halloween crafts. Everyone enjoyed hamburgers, hot dogs, caramel apples, cupcakes, cookies, hot chocolate, coffee and more.

The highlight of the night was the mummy wrap contest. The somewhat reluctant mummies included Principal Ralph Errico, fire department and rescue squad volunteers, PTO members and some parents. Rolls of toilet paper quickly disappeared as the teams of students scrambled to get their "mummy" wrapped first; the results were comical as the volunteers were considerably taller than the children who wrapped them. No Halloween event would be complete without a scary story which was read by parent Antoinetta Dente.

This year's Trunk or Treat was organized by the Franklin School PTO. The candy was provided by Franklin School parents and the PTO.



Republicans Sweep Council

(Continued on page 12)

South Plainfield—but not statewide.

The vote authorizing betting on sports was endorsed by 2,168 votes in favor and 1,137 opposed in South Plainfield, and was overwhelmingly approved state-wide.

In the 18th District senate race, incumbent Barbara Buono (D) received 18,423 to defeat challenger Gloria Dittman (R), who received 12,354 votes.

Incumbent Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan was re-elected with 16,945 votes along with incumbent Assemblyman Peter Barnes, who received 17,061 votes.

Democratic incumbent freeholders Carol Barrett and Charles Tomaro were re-elected with 58,795 and 58,826 votes, respectively.

For complete local election results, visit the borough's website at www.southplainfieldnj.com.

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