

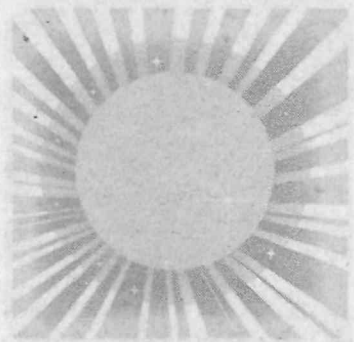
South Plainfield OBSERVER

VOL. 15, NO. 31

Member New Jersey Press Association

60 CENTS

APRIL 6, 2012



Easter Sunrise Service At Spring Lake Park

First Baptist Church of South Plainfield will celebrate Easter on Sunday, April 8 with a sunrise service at Spring Lake Park in the gazebo at 6:30 a.m. followed immediately by a delicious pancake breakfast at the church. Regular worship is at 10:30 a.m. Nursery available. First Baptist Church is located at 201 Hamilton Blvd.

For more information, call Pastor Michele Lewkow at (908) 753-2382 or visit www.fbcsouthplainfield.com.

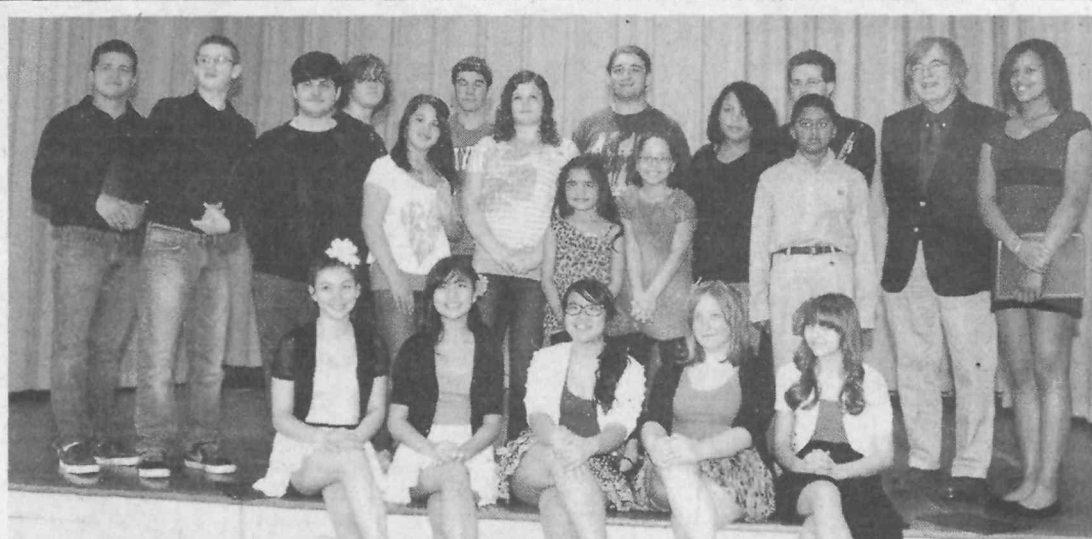
Recreation Sponsoring Easter Egg Hunt

The Recreation Department will hold the annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 7 at 2 p.m. at the PAL Memorial Field. Residents age one to 10 are welcome. Bring a bag for the eggs and a camera to take pictures.

Call (908) 226-7657 after 9 a.m. in the event of inclement weather.



That's a winner! Franklin School auction draws huge crowd. See page 13.



The Cultural Arts Commission annual Talent Showcase featured great local talent. See page 7 for story.

BOE Passes School Budget Property owners to finance 3% increase

By Libby Barsky

With little fanfare, the Board of Education adopted the final 2012/2013 school budget at a special public meeting held last Wednesday. The board voted in January to move elections to November, and as a part of the resolution, effectively removed residents' right to vote on the budgets. Although the allowable 2% increase cap over the previous year's budget is in effect, items such as healthcare costs

are excluded from the cap.

The total budget will be \$55,281,383, an increase of \$2,344,635 over fiscal year 2011/2012 and \$4,720,383 over 2010/2011 according to Business Administrator James Olobardi. The property owner tax levy, including the debt service of \$1,113,113, amounts to \$42,559,398. State and federal aid account for the difference. A new tax rate of "roughly" 3% translates into an increase of approximately \$108 a year on an average home assessed at \$122,900.

The increased revenue will provide for the hiring of 13 teachers; three of whom will replace those who have given notice of retiring, Consumer Science teacher Loretta Tansy, Industrial Arts teacher Michael LoConte and Speech Therapist Martha Klink.

Interim Superintendent Dr. Gary Bowen says they are bringing back staff that had been cut in the last two budgets, including a high school career teacher, an elementary music teacher, a Grant School media specialist (librarian), an elementary special education teacher, a middle school math teacher and a kindergarten teacher. To strengthen the curriculum and student performance in the district, the board is also seeking to hire a supervisor of language arts and sci-

ence, a K-8 gifted and talented teacher, an elementary reading specialist and a basic skills math teacher.

There was no formal budget presentation and only a handful of residents attended the 6 p.m. meeting. Bowen said that there was going to be a discussion amongst board members, but no Powerpoint presentation as in the past.

Resident and former board member Frank Mikorski was "frustrated and disgusted" by the minimal turnout of residents considering the "magnitude" of the budget, and blamed it on the time of the meeting.

"It's a disgrace," said Mikorski. "We won't have a chance to vote on the budget, but we will get a chance to vote on board members."

Borough Council President Ray Rusnak was present at the meeting to request that the board consider the plight of the borough which had to absorb \$280,000 in tax appeals last year.

"Refunds go back to the residents out of the borough's budget only, and we don't come back to the school board for any of that," explained Rusnak. He hoped that the board would consider refunding the borough 57%, or \$159,000, which is their share of the total tax bill out of their \$1.3M

(Continued on page 12)

Borough Council Appoints Acting Municipal Clerk

The Borough Council hired North Hanover Township Clerk Amy Antonides as acting clerk effective April 2 at Monday evening's meeting.

The council elected not to renew the three-year contract of Municipal Clerk Joann Graf at the March 5 council meeting. Graf served in the position for four years.

Antonides will receive a weekly stipend of \$250 without benefits until she begins the job permanently as municipal clerk on Monday, April 30. Her salary will be \$70,000 a year plus benefits.

Each of the 566 municipalities in New Jersey employs a municipal clerk who is responsible for maintaining all legal documents and is the principal point of contact for the municipality.

Borough To Sell Five Land Parcels

By Jane Dornick

The Borough Council passed ordinances at Monday night's meeting to auction off five small pieces of surplus vacant land in order to utilize the revenue in this year's budget, as well as to bolster future ratable property.

The parcels are Block 364, Lot 5 on Delmore Avenue; 50 x 100 valued at \$35,000; Block 304, Lot 2 on Sage Street and South Clinton Avenue, 4,450 sq. ft. valued at \$20,000; Block 398, Lot 2.01 on Tremont Avenue, 100 X 100 valued at \$88,000; Block 398, Lot 2.10 on St. John's Place and Harvard Avenue, 75 x 100 valued at \$100,000 and Block 404.03, Lot 1.01 on St. John's Place and Harvard Avenue valued at \$85,000.

The auction will take place during the Monday, May 7 council meeting at 7 p.m.

Inside 4.6.12

BOE Considering School Roof Repair

By Jane Dornick

The Board of Education (BOE) has been discussing the issue of repairing roof leaks at several of the schools since February, and has set aside \$1,207,349 for repairs in the 2012/2013 budget adopted last Wednesday.

In a letter to the editor that appeared in the February 17 issue of the *Observer*, Interim Superintendent Dr. Gary Bowen explained that the excess surplus of \$1.3M from the 2010/2011 budget would be made available for repairs at the high school and middle school. Grant School would also be assessed for "roof repair priority" according to Bowen.

However, when first discussed in public at the February 15 meeting, Buildings and Grounds Committee Chair Carol Byrne stated that they had discussed with architects the necessity for repairing the roof. Their recommendations at that time were repairing the second story roof of the high school, along with the hallway roof over the shop area. They determined that the middle school gym roof had to be torn off and replaced, the gym windows were in need of replacement and interior walls required repair. Byrne explained that it was an "emergency" situation and that they were awaiting price quotes. Board member Joe Sorrentino urged the board

to "move on the roofs immediately for the safety of the students." Vice President Debbie Boyle and board member Bill Seesselberg said that they had actually walked on the roofs and felt they were in need of repair.

At the March 21 BOE meeting a resident questioned members about a letter read at a prior council meeting by Council President Ray Rusnak from a local roofer who estimated the repairs in the thousands—not millions—of dollars. Board President Jim Giannakis appeared to be unaware of such an estimate; however, Vice President Debbie Boyle mentioned that it was in their packet of information for the meeting. The letter was from Walter Pod-

pora Home Improvements of South Plainfield, who has 25 years in the commercial and residential roofing business. After hearing that the roofs were unsafe, Podpora inspected both the high school and middle school roofs in February at no cost. According to Podpora, "Neither has sustained a magnitude of water damage causing potential structural collapse; therefore, they are in no immediate danger." He also gave an estimate of up to \$2,000 to repair each minor leak and up to \$10,000 for major leaks.

In August 2011, Infrared Roof Moisture Surveys were performed on Grant School, the high school and the

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WRESTLING
By Brian Erhardt
Looking Back
on a Banner
Year with
Coach McCann
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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**
 Monday, April 16 Monday, April 16
 Monday, May 7 Monday, May 7

All Agenda Meetings begin at 7 p.m. followed immediately by the Public Meeting, unless otherwise noted. Meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with the N.J. Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Ave.

planning board

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month, *except where noted.
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. Questions? 908-226-7641
 April 10, April 24, May 8, May 22, June 12, June 26, July 10, July 23*,
 Aug. 14, Aug. 28, Sept. 11, Sept. 25, Oct. 9, Oct. 23, Nov. 13, Nov. 27, Dec. 11

zoning board of adjustment

Meets first and third Tuesdays of the month, *except where noted.
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. Questions? 908-226-7641
 April 17, May 1, May 15, June 5, June 19, July 3, July 17, Aug. 7, Aug. 21,
 Sept. 18, Oct. 2, Oct. 16, Nov. 20, Dec. 4, Dec. 18

board of education

Meets Wednesdays at Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave.
Committee of the Whole meetings (begin at 6:00 p.m.)
Regular Public Meeting (begin at 7:30 p.m.) except where noted* 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.

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.
 April 17, May 15, June 19, July & Aug.-No Meeting,
 Sept. 18, Oct. 16, Nov. 20, Dec. 18

library board of trustees

Meets once a month on the second Tuesday, at the library at 7 p.m.
 April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, Aug. 14, Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 13, Dec. 11

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
 April 10, May 8, June 12, Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 13, Dec. 11

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.
 April 18, May 16, June 20, July 18, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 19

environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday) Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m.
Questions? 908-226-7621
 April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, Aug. 8, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 9

business advisory group

Meets once a month (first Wednesday) Borough Hall Council Chambers, 6:30 p.m.
 (No meetings July and August)

ad hoc alternative truck route committee

South Plainfield OBSERVER

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 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:

This week before Easter brings back memories of the same week of 1943. I was in a Marine Air Group and was to be transferred with about 25 other men. We had to wait for a ship to take us from Banika Island in the Russell Group of the Solomon Islands back to Guadalcanal.

There was no "find a palm tree and go sit there till the ship comes in." We were told to work with the Sea Bees until we were called. The job at the time was to erect a quanset hut to be used as a part of the control tower on the air base. Easter Sunday morning became just another "workday."

About 10 in the morning the Catholic chaplain came by and asked if there were any Catholics there and would they like for him to say Mass for them. About 10 or so said, "Yes, that would be great," because we didn't have a chance to go to any chapel service.

Then the priest said, "Well, I'll need something to use as an altar."

In a matter of what seemed like less than 10 minutes, we built an altar using four empty ammo crates and a piece of plywood about four feet square. A bed sheet showed up from someplace, and we had our altar. After the word got out that there would be a Mass, many more men showed up.

**HAPPY EASTER,
WILLIAM (BILL) TUTHILL**

To the Editor:

In "News from Trenton" (*The South Plainfield Observer* of March 23, 2012) Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan, chair of the Education Committee, writes: "The most important attribute of a public official is listening to his constituents. I have always tried to do that and I welcome your input."

Here are my comments to Assemblymen Diegnan.

The assemblyman wrote: "Anyone who says that New Jersey has a poor public education system is simply

wrong. We have the highest graduation rates in the country and our students consistently score at or near the top in the nation."

From the column of Jeff Scheininger (*The Star-Ledger* of March 29, 2012): "We have tried to hire production personnel and have been shocked to find that applicants cannot subtract fractions. The problem, 23D 4 minus 5D 8, was answered correctly by only six of 100 applicants, and most had high school diplomas."

"Not long ago, we thought of Pennsylvania and North Carolina as our chief competitors. Now, they are Singapore and India. This international competition is here to stay."

The only objective measure of students' knowledge is their SAT scores, not graduation rates based on phony "alternative assessments." The average SAT score over the years 2008-2010 were: US: 1510, NJ: 1506. That means that NJ's SAT scores are below the US average and locate NJ students in the bottom half of the US. It's a long way from the bottom half to the top in my opinion.

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

Even if the Assemblyman's statement, which can be paraphrased "NJ students' knowledge makes students of other states green with envy," would be true, it is akin to "one-eyed man is a king among the blind."

The Assemblyman also states: "In well performing districts, such as South Plainfield, the residents should have a voice before a charter school is approved." The average SAT score in South Plainfield for years 2008-2010 was 1465. This is 41 points below the NJ average and 45 points below the US average. Moreover, the same dismal picture of South Plainfield educa-

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.

tion emerges from a comparison to NJ districts with the same socioeconomic status of the population. If our "well performing" district would achieve just NJ students' average results based on education and income of South Plainfield's population, the students average SAT score should have been 34 points higher (1499, not an atrocious 1465). Maybe the professional politician confused "well performing district" with well compensated staffing, where the base salary of a teacher after approximately 13 years is \$90,000. On top of base salary, each advisory position (school yearbook advisor, right to know officer and all kinds of coaching) is paid additionally in thousands of dollars.

"Teachers are the biggest proponents of a fair and expeditious procedure to remove non-performing teachers from the classroom." Apparently it is a goal that the NJEA/AFT has been trying to achieve for the last 159 years; since it was established in 1853. As a result of its efforts, Newark's school district, with 4,000 teachers, has 80 teacher hangers-on, who do not work because nobody wants them; but they cost taxpayers \$8 million per year in salaries, as they cannot be fired.

BOGDAN FRYSZCZYN

CORRECTION

• The "mad scientists" in the photo on page one of last week's *Observer* were incorrectly identified. They are kindergartners Ryan Vasata and Sebastian Lorenzo. We apologize for the error.



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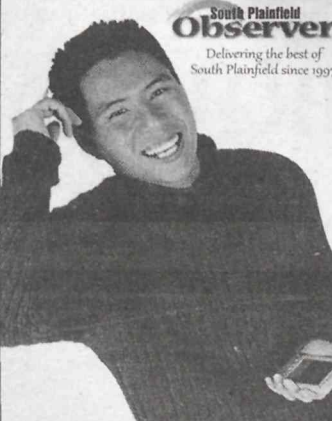
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Adult Basketball Tournament to Benefit Fire Victims

The Metuchen Adult Basketball Benefit Tournament, to benefit the victims of the Stockoff Farmhouse fire in South Plainfield, will be held on Sunday, April 29 at the Metuchen SportsPlex beginning at 9 a.m.

Teams must register by April 21. The cost per team is \$200; each team is guaranteed three (3) 30-minute games. Register online at www.tms.ezfacility.com/OnlineRegistrations or by calling (848) 248-4684.

Proceeds will go to the Boyle Memorial Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that is administering the cash donations to the victims. If you can't participate, but would like to contribute, make checks payable to the Boyle Memorial Foundation. In the memo line, please write "Clinton Avenue Fire Victims" and "Metuchen Benefit Basketball Tournament."

For more information, call Douglas Weh, general manager of Metuchen SportsPlex, at (848) 248-4684.



South Plainfield Business Association members (L-R) Mike Dixon, Shannon McGrady, Tom Stillman and Debbie Boyle collect trash in the rain as a part of their annual Adopt-A-Spot clean up day on March 31.

Holy Savior Academy to Hold Technology Fundraiser

Holy Savior Academy will hold its first major fundraiser on Wednesday, April 25 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Metuchen Inn, 424 Middlesex Ave. in Metuchen.

"A Reception for Technology" will feature an open bar and hors d'oeuvres. The Rev. Patrick Kuffner, pastor of Our Lady of Mount Virgin Parish in Middlesex, and board member Brendan Flynn of Metuchen are co-chairs of the event. The hosts for the event will be the board of trustees and the administration of the school.

Tickets are available to the public at a cost of \$150 each or \$250 per couple. Tickets may be reserved by calling the academy at (908) 822-5890.

Benefiting the technology department, the fundraiser will enable the school to purchase new equipment and update software and hardware

capabilities. Holy Savior Academy is known for its emphasis on using technology as teaching tools and for parent communication. Like all areas of technology, constant updating must be performed to ensure that the technology is used to the fullest possible extent.

Holy Savior Academy currently uses smart boards (also called whiteboards) and personal computers in its two computer labs; campus-wide WiFi capability; video conferencing which allows classes to visit museums, historic sites and other classes without leaving the school, and NetBook carts. Instruction in the use of computers begins in Pre-K3 and continues throughout all grade levels.

For more information, please visit HolySaviorAcademy.com or call the school office at (908) 822-5890.

Holy Week SERVICES



Wesley United Methodist Services & Events

Wesley United Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave., invites the community to join in celebrating Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

Good Friday Service—Friday, April 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Easter Sunday (Resurrection Day)—We will be joining the Ecumenical Sunrise Service at Spring Lake Park at 6:30 a.m.; Contemporary Service at Wesley at 9 a.m.; Traditional Service at Wesley at 10:30 a.m. with the Chancel Choir and Bell Choirs participating and a special time for children.

For more information, please call (908) 757-2838 or email us at wumcsp@verizon.net.

St. Stephen Lutheran Services

St. Stephen Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3145 Park Ave., (908) 757-4474
Holy Week Services are as follows:

Good Friday—April 6 at noon and 7:30 p.m.

Easter Vigil—April 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday—April 8 at 10:30 a.m.

Park Avenue Convenience Store Gains Planning Board Approval

By Libby Barsky

The former Exxon Gas Station, located at the corner of Park and Maple avenues, will be replaced by a convenience store. Property owner Tesinder Akal received preliminary approval at the Planning Board meeting held on March 27.

Akal had originally come before the Board of Adjustment in January 2011 seeking approval to use part of the garage to sell convenience items, such as milk and candy. Not long after, Akal's relationship with Exxon ended. Since then, the underground gas storage tanks have been removed, as well as the gas pumps and the cement islands.

With the property clear of all tanks and pipes, Akal came before the board with plans to convert the garage, which remains on the property, into a 24-hour convenience store. Professional engineer and planner Stephen Kutch P.E., P.P. of Manchester provided the board with plans for the interior of the building and stated that the location would have 17 parking spaces.

Planning Board members voted unanimously for preliminary approval of the plan with the following conditions: Deliveries would take place between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. and no cooking would be allowed in the store.

BOE Change of Meeting Time

Be advised that the time for the Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Education on Wednesday, April 18 originally scheduled for 6:30 p.m., has been changed to 6 p.m. The meeting will be held in the gymnasium of the Roosevelt Administration Building, 125 Jackson Avenue.

Volunteers Sought for Litter Cleanup Week

The South Plainfield Clean Communities Advisory Board will sponsor a borough-wide cleanup the last week in April. The main clean up event will be on Saturday morning, April 21. Volunteers will meet from 9 to 10 a.m. at the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Ave., to collect equipment and cleanup assignments. They will target roadsides, parks, streams and

vacant lots. Residents are welcome to organize a crew, or to come on their own. All volunteers are invited back to Borough Hall at noon for a free, pickup picnic.

For more information, call Alice Tempel, the Clean Communities coordinator, at (908) 226-7621, or email her at atempel@southplainfieldnj.com.

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events

Around Town

Easter Bake Sale

April 7

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Orthodox Church, 400 Delmore Ave., will hold an Easter bake sale on Saturday, April 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Homemade babka (Easter bread), stuffed cabbage rolls, poppy seed and nut rolls, pierogis, kiffles (cookies), kielbasi and sauerkraut, meatballs and noodles and more.

For information, call (908) 561-6366 or email nbvocpierogi@gmail.com.

Historical Society Monthly Meeting

April 10

Due to the Easter holiday school closure, the South Plainfield Historical Society will hold its next monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 10 at 7 p.m. at Miele's Art Studio, 30-32 South Plainfield Ave. (corner of Front Street and across from Mr. Subs).

Entrance is on Front Street; look for the blue awning. Park in the rear, or in the Harvest Market Parking lot.

Education Foundation Annual Wine Tasting

April 13

The fourth annual Education Foundation/Oak Tree Liquors Fine Wine, Spirits and Craft Beer tasting fundraiser will be held on Friday, April 13 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. Food will be provided by Paulo's Barbecue, Flanagan's Restaurant and Hometown Heros. Tickets:

\$30 or four for \$100; \$35 at the door. Limited to the first 180 people.

For tickets or information, call Marjorie Reedy at (908) 561-5800, ext. 302, Debbie Boyle at (908) 803-1573, or Bob Boyle at (908) 599-0699 or visit www.vision2001.org.

AFP Tricky Tray

April 13

Almost Famous Players will hold a tricky tray raffle at the Senior Center on Friday, April 13 during the Education Foundation's annual Wine Tasting. There are over two dozen prizes available. Tickets are \$1 each or 15 tickets for \$10. You do not have to attend the wine tasting to participate in the raffle, but the event is a great opportunity to support our schools and have a great evening of sampling various beverages and food from local restaurants.

For more information on the raffle, call (908) 346-2290.

Knights Don't Cook Friday Dinner

April 13

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 is once again holding the annual "Don't Cook Friday" Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, April 13 from 4 to 7:30 p.m. at the council hall located at 334 Hamilton Blvd. Adults, \$8; seniors, \$7; children, \$4.

Take out dinners are also available.

Send Your Community Events to: spobserver@comcast.net

Troop 207 Spaghetti Dinner

April 14

Boy Scout Troop 207 will hold its annual spaghetti dinner on Saturday, April 14 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the American Legion Post, 243 Oak Tree Ave. Tickets: \$7; includes salad, drink, bread, meatballs and spaghetti. Purchase at the door. Take out is available. All proceeds will go towards troop equipment and events.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call (908) 757-3369 or (908) 413-1000.

SPCAC Line Dancing At the Senior Center

April 14

The South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission will sponsor line dancing at the Senior Center on Saturday, April 14 from 7 to 10 p.m. Line dancing lessons and dancing by Wanda and Jim York. Light refreshments will be served. Admission is free. All ages are welcome.

For more information, email spcac.nj@gmail.com.

Blackrose to Perform

April 14

Blackrose, a band playing classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will perform at KC's Korner, 100 Oak Tree Ave., on Saturday, April 14 at 10 p.m. No cover charge.

Sacred Heart Climate Change Program

April 15

Sacred Heart Church will present a climate change program on Sunday, April 15 (Earth Day) from 2 to 4 p.m. in the church. Sr. Mary Elizabeth Clark, SSJ will connect our faith with the environment by linking the teachings of the Catholic church on environmental issues and climate change. Dave Sliker will address practical ways we can implement the three R's in our home and our community. Free and open to the public.

Brayden Carr

Send Your Community Events to: spobserver@comcast.net

Annual Fundraiser

April 15

In Brayden's Eyes, The Brayden Carr Foundation, will hold the annual fundraiser, "Bray's Run & Fun," a 5K run and 1.5 mile fun walk on Sunday, April 15 at 10 a.m. followed by a basketball game at 11 a.m. Rutgers men's basketball coaches/alumni vs. South Plainfield PBA. Register: 8:15 to 9:45 a.m. Fee: \$30 run/pp; \$20 walk per family w/children under 14; or \$10 students with ID. Game only: \$5.

Register online at braydencarrfoundation.org or send check or money order with registration form (available online) to: In Brayden's Eyes, The Brayden Carr Foundation, P.O. Box 129, South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

Middle School PTO Blood Drive

April 19

South Plainfield Middle School PTO, along with the high school student council, will host the fifth annual blood drive in the upstairs gym at the high school on Thursday, April 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Students age 16 must have a signed letter from a parent with permission to donate; 17 years and up, please sign up in advance. The public is welcome.

For more information, call Debbie Boyle at (908) 803-1573 or see Student Council Advisor Mr. Encinas.

Funds will be donated to South Plainfield High School Project Graduation vendor, The Club at Ricochet.

Annual Luncheon/Fashion Show

April 22

The Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield is sponsoring a luncheon/fashion show on Sunday, April 22 from 2 to 6 p.m. at the South Plainfield Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave. Fashions by Coldwater Creek of Westfield. Proceeds benefit The Cancer Support Center of Central NJ and the scholarship fund. Tickets are \$20.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call (908) 756-8679.

Walk for Autism

April 29

The South Plainfield Squelettes will sponsor a "Walk For Autism," in-

SENIOR CENTER Calendar

April 19-Bally's Atlantic City \$20pp Bus leaves 8:45 a.m. Sign up at Senior Center

May 20-23-Trip to Wildwood, \$210 double, \$261 single. Sign up at Senior Center

MONDAYS

Crocheting 9:30-11:30 am
Yoga 10:30 am
Art Class 11:30 am
Active Seniors 11:45 am

TUESDAYS

Bingo 10 am-2 pm
Ladies Social Group 10 am

WEDNESDAYS

Exercise Class 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 9:00 am
Crafts Class 10 am
Computer.. 10, 11:30 am, 1:30 pm
Exercise Class 1:15 pm

FRIDAYS

Bingo 10 am-2 pm

Senior Center is open daily 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays & Sundays.
(908) 754-1047

spired by Richie Romano on Sunday, April 29 at Putnam Park (by A&P). Registration: 1 p.m.; walk starts 2 p.m. Cost: \$5, 16 and under; \$10, 17 and over. All proceeds go to the Hope Autism Foundation and the Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation.

For more information, call Myrna Morales at (347) 834-1819.

Sacred Heart Trip to The National Shrine

May 1

Sacred Heart Altar Rosary Society is sponsoring a trip to The National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, Pa. on Tuesday, May 1. Buses leave from the church parking lot at 8:30 a.m. and return at approximately 5 p.m.

Cost of \$50 includes bus, driver's tip, snacks on board and lunch at the shrine.

Activities at the shrine include tour, movie, Mass and time on your own to visit the gift shop and bookstore. If time permits, included is a stop at Peddler's Village in Lahaska, Pa.

For reservations or information, call Kathy at (908) 756-3772 or Nancy at (908) 561-5917.

Fire Department Benefit Concert

May 12

The South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department will hold its annual benefit concert on Saturday, May 12 at 8 p.m. at South Plainfield High School in the auditorium.

This year's show is a Johnny Cash tribute featuring Terry Lee Goffee. General admission: \$16. Tickets available at the door.

SPHS Class of 1962 Plans Reunion

May 16

The South Plainfield High School Class of 1962 is holding a 50th class reunion on Wednesday, May 16 at the Resorts Casino on the boardwalk in Atlantic City. Reunion banquet is \$65 per person and includes appetizers, Italian buffet, desserts and coffee/tea. Cash bar from 6 to 11 p.m.

A block of rooms are available at a discounted price for anyone interested in staying at Resorts. For more information on our special reservation code, call Jeanette (Reynolds) Keleher

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— Out of Town —

African Art Exhibit At Kean University

Through April 18

The Karl and Helen Burger Gallery at Kean University, 1000 Morris Ave. in Union, will host the exhibition, "Embodying The Sacred In Yoruba Art: Selections From The Newark Museum Collection," through April 18. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free.

For more information, call (908) 737-0392.

Passover Seder at Temple Sholom

April 7

Temple Sholom of Fanwood/Scotch Plains, located in the Fanwood Presbyterian Church at the corner of Martine and LaGrande avenues, will hold an annual Congregational Seder on Saturday, April 7 at 6 p.m. Adult non-members, \$30; child non-members, \$15; three and under, free.

RSVP to (908) 889-4900, email sholom@sholomnj.org or visit www.sholomnj.org.

Tickets on Sale for Taste of Somerset

May 21

The 20th annual Taste of Somerset is scheduled for Monday, May 21 from 6 to 9 p.m. at The Palace at Somerset Park, 333 Davidson Ave. in Somerset. Proceeds from the event support the PeopleCare Center and the non-profit tenants housed in the facility at 120 FINDERNE AVE. in Bridgewater.

Tickets are \$75 and are available at www.peoplecarecenter.org or at the PeopleCare Center office.

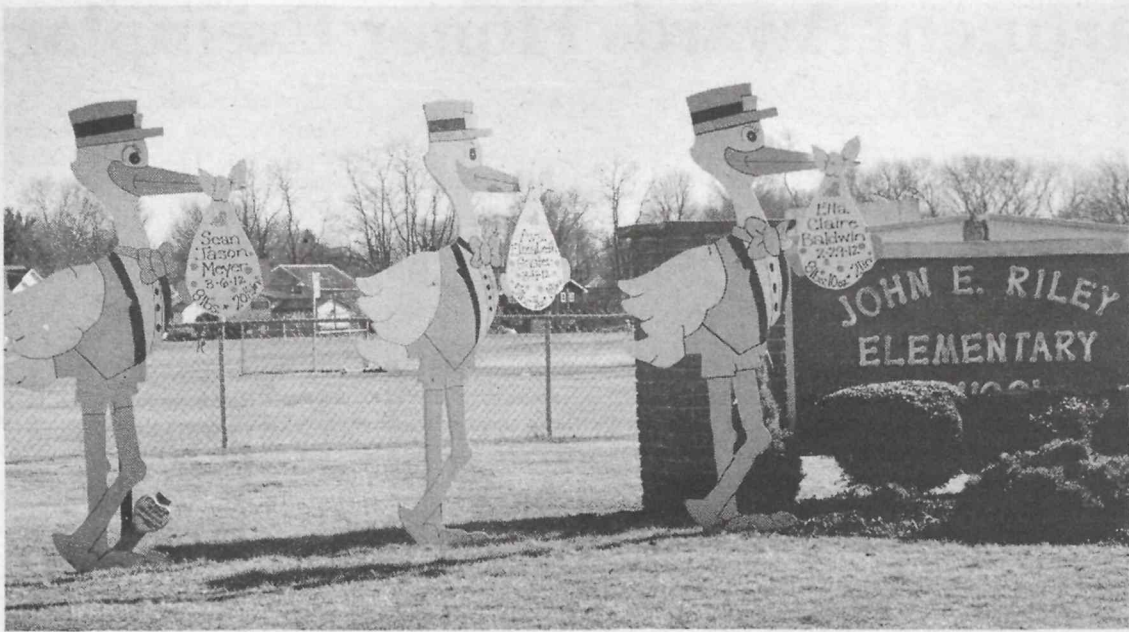
For more info, call (908) 725-2299.

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A Flock of Storks Heralds Good News at Riley

By Patricia Abbott

Three stork signs announced the birth of three babies to members of the Riley School community—all within one week.

It might not be a world record, but it was indeed one for South Plainfield. Fourth grade teacher Lori Meyer, first grade teacher Jennifer Gaster and Jennifer Baldwin, wife of music teacher Tobie Baldwin, all gave birth within a few days.

On February 29, Leap Year baby Ella Claire Baldwin arrived. She was born at 1:05 p.m. and weighed in at eight pounds, 10 ounces and measured 21 inches. Gaster gave birth to Ava Elizabeth on March 4 at 12:13 a.m. She was five pounds, four ounces and 18 inches. Two days later, on March 6, Lori Meyer gave birth to Sean Jason Meyer. He was born at 2:47 a.m. and was eight pounds and 20 and one half inches.

Meyer and husband Tim have a three year-old daughter, Addison. She said that Addison is very proud to be a big sister.

Meyer began to prepare her students for her leave of absence early on. The students were introduced to the teacher who would serve as

substitute, Miss Hoffman. Although the couple knew they were going to have a boy, they hadn't decided on a name. Meyer's students were happy to offer plenty of suggestions.

On her last day of work, Meyer's students and the fourth grade teachers surprised her with a mini version of a baby shower—a "baby sprinkle." Meyer was thrilled with the baby toys, clothes, blankets, diapers and more. She said, "You name it, they got it for me. The parents and students were extremely generous and I am forever grateful. We ended up naming him Sean Jason. I will be returning to work before the end of the year. We are all doing well and truly enjoying our newest addition and blessing to our family."

Gaster and husband John's baby was a bit of a surprise, arriving about a month early. The baby is their first child. Gaster said, "I did tell my students that I was expecting a baby girl in January, but told them she would not be here until spring time around Easter. First graders do not have much of a concept of time, so I had to relate it to seasons. I told them that right now the weather is cold and it is winter. I was going to have the baby when the weather is warm and

it would be spring. This was to avoid them asking the question every day, 'Are you having your baby yet?' Then they understood that I was not due for a while. Even though my students are only in first grade, they were very excited that I was having a baby. The girls were even more excited when they found out I was having a girl! We did have the name picked out in advance. Actually, my husband fell in love with the name Ava, and was calling my belly Ava for months.

"The parents in my class were also extremely helpful and generous by being so supportive and caring. Since my actual due date was March 30, I did not have a baby shower in school. I received many well wishes from everyone at school."

Gaster will return to school for September, but she plans to visit her students sooner because she misses them and her coworkers as well.

The Riley School sign has three large storks announcing the births. The stork signs were courtesy of Amy Hastings, whose daughter was promoted from Riley last year.

To rent a stork, visit www.kid-krazee.com.

Bible Chapel Adopts Cedarbrook Avenue Stream Crossing

Trustee President Russell Innes has signed an agreement with the South Plainfield Clean Business Association on behalf of the Cedarcroft Bible Chapel to adopt the bridge on Cedarbrook Avenue. One or two chapel members at a time will remove litter from the roadside every other month.

This spot is already adopted by the Roscoe Family, who have been doing quarterly litter cleanups there and around the corner on Morris Avenue since 2005. Innes said his group noticed that as soon as the road is cleaned, it begins to accumulate litter again, and they thought more frequent pickups were needed. The bridge crosses the Cedar Brook where it flows out of the Middlesex Water Company property and into the northern reaches of Spring Lake Park. The wooded water company property seems to invite litter and illegal dumping, so consistent cleanups are needed to prevent the area from turning into a dump site.

For more information about the Adopt-A-Spot program, contact the Clean Communities coordinator at (908) 226-7621 or email atempel@southplainfieldnj.com.

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Police Department Awards Honor Exemplary Service

Part Two—This is the second part of the story featured in the March 30 Observer.

The South Plainfield Police Department honored their own at an awards dinner held at 365 Bistro on March 21. The presentation of awards, medals and commendations recognized exemplary performance of law enforcement personnel as well as civilians.

Honorable Service Medal

Awarded to Officer Peter Magnani

On December 29, 2011 at 11:52 p.m., Officer Peter Magnani was assigned to a drunk driving enforcement detail and stopped a 2006 Honda for a motor vehicle equipment violation. Officer Magnani detected the odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle and through his investigation, located a small bag of marijuana in the glove box. Officer Magnani did not believe that the marijuana he located was the source of the odor. He continued investigating and obtained a consent to search from the 23 year-old male driver. Magnani located an additional 3.7 ounces of marijuana, a scale and packaging material in the vehicle. The male was charged with distribution of CDS.

Officer Peter Magnani was awarded the Honorable Service Medal for this incident.



(L-R) Scott Waters, Officer Joseph Glowacki, Sergeant Daniel Hoppe, Patricia Waters and Lori Ioriatti at the awards ceremony.

Letter of Commendation

Awarded to Officer Brian Iarrapino and Officer Lloyd McNelly

While enroute to an alarm at a different location, Officer Iarrapino passed a vehicle backed up to a business on McKinley Street with its rear hatchback open and a male standing outside. Officer Iarrapino immediately thought this was suspicious and pulled up to the vehicle to investigate. It became apparent that the story the male had given was not true. After Officer McNelly arrived, further investigation by both officers determined the busi-

ness was being burglarized. A second suspect was found hiding on the train tracks. Officers Iarrapino and McNelly showed true professionalism and diligence in their duties to apprehend two criminals in the course of committing a crime. They removed a quantity of illegal narcotics from the individuals and returned valuable material to the rightful owner.

Officer Brian Iarrapino and Officer Lloyd McNelly were awarded a Letter of Commendation for their participation in this arrest.

Performance Commendation

Awarded to Captain Matt Koep, Sergeant Wendell Born, Officer Brad Bullard, Officer Mark Bullock, Officer John McConville, Officer Michael Molinaro and Officer Michael Redden

On July 29, 2010, Captain Matt Koep, Sergeant Wendell Born, Officer John McConville, Officer Brad Bullard, Officer Michael Molinaro, Officer Michael Redden and Officer Mark Bullock responded to the area of Oxford Avenue on a 9-1-1 call reporting a house burglary in progress. Upon arrival, three juveniles were seen running from the house. After a foot chase, all three suspects were apprehended without incident and all of the merchandise from the home was recovered. Because of the quick response and diligent efforts of all the officers, three burglars were taken off the street.

Performance Commendation

Awarded to Sergeant Wayne Diana, Officer Mark Bullock, Officer Joe Glowacki, Officer Michael Hoppe, Officer John McConville, Officer Ahmad Stuckey, Detective Anthony Pacillo and Officer Christopher Robles

A local bar was holding a special event featuring a popular hip-hop artist, which drew a crowd of approximately 200 people inside the small bar. At 1:30

a.m., a fight broke out inside the bar prompting the owner to call for police assistance. The seven patrolmen and one shift supervisor entered the bar and were confronted with a crowd fueled by alcohol, drugs and very loud music. The subdued lighting made it difficult to see. There were fights taking place in three different areas of the bar with bottles, glasses and bar stools being thrown and used as weapons. When the crowd ignored verbal commands to disperse, OC spray was deployed which made it difficult for the officers to remain inside. The officers continued to push through the bar, forcing the crowd outside, where they were met by 28 officers from surrounding towns who assisted in dispersing the crowd and preventing any further violence. Throughout this incident, all of the officers worked together as a team and showed great restraint and professionalism while being taunted and challenged by many of the patrons.

Communications Award

Awarded to Communications Operators Darleen Marin and Traci Bruton

Communications Operator Traci Bruton received a 9-1-1 call from a female who was trapped in a burning building. The female was in obvious distress and was beginning to suffer from smoke inhalation. Communications Operator Bruton tried many times to get the female's address but she was being overcome by smoke. After several more times, Bruton was able to calm the victim down enough to ascertain her address and instruct her to a window moments before the phone disconnected. During this time, Communications Operator Darleen Marin dispatched all the units to the scene and coordinated communications with the multi-agency response. Without the professional conduct of Communications Operators Bruton and Marin, the victim may not have survived her ordeal.

Military Service Award

Awarded to Officer John McConville

Officer John McConville is a 24-year veteran of the United States Marine Corps. In August 2009, John was deployed to Iraq for his third tour of duty and remained there for six months. He is currently active and holds the rank of First Sergeant with the Marine Corps.

Officer McConville was awarded the Military Service Award for his deployment to Iraq.

Life Saving Medal

Awarded to Officer Michael Hoppe and Officer Roberto Vega

On February 5, 2011, Officers Michael Hoppe and Roberto Vega responded to Maple Avenue on a report of a non-breathing female. Upon arrival, the officers followed proper CPR procedures in evaluating the victim and then began CPR. They were successful and the victim regained a pulse. She was stabilized and transported to JFK Hospital.

Life Saving Medal

Awarded to Sergeant Dan Hoppe and Officer Joseph Glowacki; Civilian Letter of Commendation Awarded to Lori Ioriatti

Sergeant Dan Hoppe responded to Norwood Avenue on a report of an unresponsive female. Upon arrival, he was guided down to the basement where he found a neighbor, Lori Ioriatti, performing rescue breaths on the victim. Ioriatti went to the house after a frantic family member ran to her house yelling for help. She advised Sergeant Hoppe that the patient had no pulse. Sergeant Hoppe began compressions while Ioriatti continued the rescue breathing. Officer Glowacki arrived with the AED and delivered a shock which started the heart and the patient began to breathe on her own. The patient made a full recovery. The patient probably would not have survived if it was not for the quick application of CPR and the AED by Sergeant Hoppe, Officer Glowacki, and Lori Ioriatti.



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South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission Fourth Annual Talent Showcase at Wesley Methodist Church included singers, dancers, musicians and more.

Cultural Arts Commission Presents Annual Talent Showcase

The South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission presented its fourth annual Talent Showcase to a full house at Wesley Methodist Church on March 25. The afternoon program included 11 acts and featured 20 talented local performers.

Emcee Barry Gould introduced each act with a short bio. First to entertain was the band, "Etc. Etc." (formally known as "Default"), which performed some of their original music. Band members are Ryan Bundy on bass, James Conrad on guitar, Alexa Douras on drums and Marc Stasio on guitar.

Etc. Etc. was followed by Brianna



Weber, who sang *Hallelujah*; Paul McCullen, who performed a solo on the clarinet; and Kristiana Buschan, who sang *Lean On Me*. A dance group made

up of Amanda Ciardiello, Allie Hoelzel, Kim Lam, Noelle Rutowski and Ellie Tom danced to *Be My Baby*. Other performers were Srihari Yamunan, who sang *From a Distance*, and Rusty Teller and Dan Schuch, who sang *I'm Yours*. Alex White played *Amazing Grace*; Sabrina Rebolledo sang *Rolling in the Deep*; Kayla Santiago and Gina Turicani sang *If I Die Young*; and Corey Singer sang *This is the Moment*.

The South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission consists of a group of dedicated volunteers who work to bring a variety of programs and performances to the residents of South Plainfield and

surrounding communities. Members of the South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission are Suzanne Lepore-chairperson, Frank Furino-vice chair, Pamela Stefanek-treasurer, Beverly Krausse-secretary, Yvonne Viscosi-talent coordinator and members Mark Abramson, Melissa Carryl, Dave Joshi, Suzanne Lyte, Louis Pirozzoli, Eva Sienkowitz, Richard Veit and Marion Weber. Deryck White serves as council liaison.

Upcoming events are line dancing at the Senior Center on Saturday, April 14 at 7 p.m. and a performance of *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris* at the Edison Valley Playhouse on Sunday, May 20.

For information on upcoming programs or to volunteer with organizing events and programs, visit spcac.nj@gmail.com or "Like" them on Facebook.

The Salon Professional Academy to Hold Fundraiser for National Brain Tumor Society

Tara Mitchell, a student at The Salon Professional Academy in South Plainfield, at the age of 17, was diagnosed with a neurocytoma brain tumor in November 2010. After undergoing the initial surgery to remove the tumor, two follow-up surgeries were performed. After all was said and done, Tara became proactive and decided to create a team to walk for the National Brain Tumor Society on Governor's Island in New York City. Tara's team, Tara and the Brains, raised over \$4,000 in 2011, all of which went to brain tumor research.

The 2012 walk is fast approaching, and will take place on Saturday, June 16. Tara's goal this year is to double what her team raised last year and then, in turn, start her own charity for brain

tumor awareness.

To support Tara's fundraising efforts, The Salon Professional Academy, located in the Hadley Shopping Center off Stelton Road, is holding a "Blow Out Brain Tumors" during National Brain Tumor Awareness Month on Sunday, May 20, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tara and her fellow stylists will "blow out" your hair for a minimum donation of \$15, with 100% of the proceeds from this event going to the National Brain Tumor Society in honor of Tara's team, Tara and the Brains.

Brain tumors are the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in children (males and females) under age 20 (leukemia is the first). Each year approximately 210,000 people in the United States will be diagnosed with

a primary or metastatic brain tumor. There are over 120 different types of brain tumors, making effective treatment very complicated. That's over 575 people a day.

The National Brain Tumor Society is a leader in the fight against brain tumors. With help, the society will continue to inspire hope and make a difference in the brain tumor community. The National Brain Tumor Society research programs play an integral role in the progress toward new therapies for brain tumor patients.

For more information or to make a donation, call Aimee Stone at The Salon Professional Academy, (908) 561-2809.

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SPHS South Plainfield High School SPORTS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

11am Fr Baseball-No. Brunswick (A)
Bus 9:30
11am V & JV Softball-Dunellen (A)
Bus 9:30
11am V & JV Baseball-No. Brunswick (H)
GV Track-Summit Relays @ Investors Bank Fld Bus 7am

MONDAY, APRIL 9

11am V & JV Baseball-No. Brunswick (A) Bus 9:30
11am Fr Baseball-No. Brunswick (H)

TUESDAY, APRIL 10

3:45pm V Lacrosse-Old Bridge JV/5:15 (A) Bus 2:30
3:45pm V & JV Softball-JFK (H)
3:45pm BV Track-East Brunswick/JF Stevens (H)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

3:30pm V Golf-Old Bridge (A) @ Glenwood Bus 2:30
4pm V G Track-Spotswood/JFK (H)

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

3:45pm V & JV Softball-Colonia (A) Bus 2:30
3:45pm V Lacrosse-JP Stevens JV/5:15 (A) Bus 2:30
3:45pm BV Tennis-JFK (A) Bus 2:30
4pm Fr Baseball-Perth Amboy (A) Bus 2:30
4pm V & JV Baseball-Perth Amboy (H)

FRIDAY, APRIL 13

3:30pm V Golf-St. Joes @ W9 (H)
3:45pm Fr Baseball-Perth Amboy (H)
4pm V & JV Baseball-Perth Amboy (A) Bus 2:30
4pm V Lacrosse-Warren Hills (H) JV/5:30
BV Track-Metuchen Frosh/Soph (A) Bus TBA

U-13 ARSENAL

Submitted By Mark Resende

Arsenal Roll To 3-0 Win

The South Plainfield Soccer Club's U-13 boys team, Arsenal, hosted the Stingrays of Franklin Township on April 1 at the Riley School field. Franklin controlled the early part of the match, but once Arsenal got going they couldn't be stopped.

In the 23rd minute Franklin took a corner kick from the left side that was cleared from the penalty area by defender Mason Resende right to Ricky Pellegrino, who then streaked up the field and put the ball over the Franklin goalie for a 1-0 lead. Ricky doubled the Arsenal lead to 2-0 in the 41st minute of the second half after taking the ball from an opponent, breaking up the right side and blasting it past the keeper. The third and final goal came in the 55th minute when William Arias took a corner kick, and

Jason Belanger found the loose ball in front and sent it home.

The team was anchored by solid defense in front of goalkeeper Caleb Kuberiet. Jason Cieszkiewicz, Jared Marks, Dylan O'Connor, Alec Paez, Edwin Rivas, Elijah Robinson, Kevin Solano and Wallace Truesdale all played very well and contributed to the total team effort. Jake Hoffman missed the game due to an injury and Nick Plate had a prior commitment. The "Man of the Match" has to be Ricky Pellegrino, for his all-out hustle and goal-scoring prowess.

Arsenal is off for the upcoming Easter weekend and returns to action on April 15 at 11 a.m. in Union. The team is coached by Dave Cieszkiewicz, Greg Hoffman and Steve Belanger. Go Arsenal!

BY GARY LAMPASONA

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB

Even a wet day couldn't discourage a good field duty group. Preparations continue toward opening day on Saturday, April 14.

This week's final work detail is for parents of 15 through 18 year-olds. Please report to the clubhouse at 8 a.m. Opening day festivities begin at

10 a.m. with a parade from Roosevelt School to the complex, followed by opening ceremonies and the first pitch of the season. We look forward to seeing everyone there.



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Notes from the Jim Pornovets Memorial Golf League



The 2011 season ended in abbreviated fashion, so there were no inter-divisional play-offs. Consequently, as the 2012 season begins, there is no defending league champion, just division title holders Alfie's Boys from the American Division and Unique Sports Accessories from the National Division.

With the end-of-year team realignments, both teams will be in the American Division along with Twin City Pharmacy, KC's Korner, 2 Buds, 2 Dubs and McCrisky-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

Based on the way they performed under pressure last season and always seemed to rise to the challenge in crucial matches against the toughest competition, the pre-season prediction from Las Vegas is that Alfie's Boys will be the team to beat this season.

Captain Irish Danny Griffin has a lot of talent to choose from in fielding his four-man team each week. Bill Mann, John Gaven, Mike King, Dan Picciottoli and Mike Gokey form a solid nucleus, and Griffin also has some super-subs he can count on.

Twin City Pharmacy also boasts a powerhouse line-up that could give Alfie's Boys a formidable challenge. Jay Cappola, the 2009 Player-of-the-Year, got some valuable golf tips from Dale Dube towards the end of last season and is now crushing his drives like he did 20 years ago. Guy Severini's game has improved so much in the past two years that he now has to give his father a stroke a hole and two strokes on any hole over 350 yards. And then there's Joe Diller. No one in the league was more reliable last season than Diller, who was a model of consistency.

With two of the most competitive players in the league in the line-up in Chris Dillon and Jay "The Sexy One" Bertleson, Unique Sports Accessories is always a tough opponent.

Tony Cotone, Jr. of KC's Korner has a squad of seasoned veterans who have risen to the occasion in key matches over the years. They did win back-to-back titles not that many years ago, so they certainly can't be counted out as contenders for the American Division title.

If practice makes perfect, then maybe 2012 will be the year for 2 Buds, 2 Dubs, Dale "The Needler" Dube and his buddies, Jeff Orth and Don Hall, know how every putt is going to break on every hole, regardless of the pin position. Their friendly practice sessions are filled with so much action

that they all have learned how to play under pressure. This is a team that can jump up at you at any time and pull off some surprises.

McCrisky-Gustafson Home For Funerals may well have the underdog role in many of their matches against their divisional opponents, but Captain Mark "Mr. Steady" Chichvar is confident that his secret weapon, Eleanor, will somehow find the way each week to make his team a David against the Goliaths.

Over in the National Division, the man in the spotlight will be Kevin "Boom Boom" Bickunas. He had his Tin Cup moments last year, but he still has that lovely swing and the power to drive the ninth hole, so if he can regain some of his old wonderful form, Witty's Liquors could cruise to the division title. His talented teammates will also have some work to do to overcome some inconsistent play of last year, but Witty's clearly looks like the pre-season favorite to go all the way.

A big change in the composition of the league this year will be the absence of any member of the Pornovets Family. Jim Pornovets, Sr. was one of the founders of the league more than 50 years ago, and his son, Jim Pornovets, Jr., played and served as league secretary for many years when the team was simply called Pornovets.

In recent years, Jim, Jr. and his brother Robert played under the sponsorship of Oak Tree Dental. After Jim, Jr. had a job transfer to Kentucky, Robert continued to play, but regrettably notified the league president that his work obligation will prevent him from playing this year.

The replacement team will be Windows Plus, led by Matt Fredrickson who will serve as team captain. Fredrickson previously played for 2 Buds, 2 Dubs, and it remains to be seen how his game will be affected by the absence of Dale Dube's gracious assistance, helpful hints, and motivational presence.

Sport & Social, Dirty Harry & Friends, South Plainfield Funeral Home and the Italian-American Club should all have an interesting battle over the course of the first few weeks of the season trying to establish which can become contenders. Some teams will have a few new faces that could have a major impact.

League play will get underway on Tuesday, April 10.

-Submitted by Bob Nilan

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Tecate Cans 24-12oz case	\$16.99	Milwaukee Best /Lt/Ice 30 pk cans	\$15.99
Fosters Lager 2/12 pk Bottles	\$19.99	Molson Ice Loose Case cans	\$19.99



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sports

Looking Back on a Banner Year With Coach McCann

By Brian Erhardt

By the time Coach Kevin McCann arrived in Atlantic City with his South Plainfield High School wrestling team for the state finals, the Tigers, led by the middle of their lineup known as "Murderer's Row," were beginning to make things look easy. Routinely pinning opponents in fewer than three minutes and often sealing victories by the time the seventh wrestler left the mat, South Plainfield did not come across as a team that struggled much during the 2011/2012 season. Enroute to the team's second Group II Championship in three seasons, the Tigers were ranked #1 by the State Coaches Association.

Some in the wrestling community stated this may have been one of the most dominant New Jersey teams in decades. McCann, who also teaches at Kennedy School, gave a shrugging response to those claims.

"I don't think we really look at the history or compare ourselves to different teams," he said.

The team did struggle a little in early December, dropping a match to St. Peter's Prep of Jersey City.

"I don't know if we either weren't ready, or we weren't our team yet," said McCann, who is now a five-time champion head coach. "I think where everything came together was when we went down to Virginia and we kind of let it roll down there. We took third in a national tournament. We beat New Kent, which was supposed to be one of the tougher teams in that state-ranked third or fourth in Virginia—and we beat them [by a score of] 72-3 or something like that. And then we went home and rolled through Timber Creek. I think the confidence started there and we never looked back."

Never looking back, McCann believes, can be traced back to when the



inside view
Brian Erhardt recently joined the staff of the Observer. He will provide coverage of high school sports, including coach and athlete interviews and game recaps. Brian brings a unique perspective to local interscholastic athletic events. Brian (SPHS Class of 2009) is a lifelong borough resident. He currently attends Middlesex County College pursuing a degree in journalism studies and formerly attended East Stroudsburg University.

upper weight portion of the roster started to come through. Going into the season, many "experts" correctly predicted that the core of South Plainfield's lineup would help them go far, but their greatest liability would be when the team needed the less athletic heavyweights to score points.

"This year we had some guys who were green and inexperienced. Some guys took the previous year off," said McCann, before promptly passing along credit to his assistant coaches for being "in there every day, bumping heads and getting [the heavyweights] better. I think that can get contagious. They see what we're doing—we're working hard—and it pays off. Hard work equals success. And they bought into it. And we went from there."

If hard work was contagious for the heavyweights, then winning was an epidemic for junior Anthony Ashnault, who, for the third straight year, went undefeated for the Tigers. He now holds a perfect 130-0 career record heading into his final high school season.

The secret to his success?

"I think he outworks everybody. He's one of the hardest workers I've seen," McCann glowingly asserted. "He puts moves together that no one else does. He's four or five moves ahead of his opponent. You're supposed to be like that in college, and he's there now."

Asked if the 126-pound Ashnault is likely to put too much pressure on himself next year to remain undefeated in his high school career record, McCann never flinched.

"I don't think that's his goal [to go undefeated]. I think if he sets his goal to be a four-time state champ and does everything within his power to be a state champ, then that stuff is all going to take care of itself."

For some Tigers, the road to becoming "state champs" again next season has already begun with the conclusion of the state tournaments; however, it does so without the leadership of the coaches for the early stages of the offseason.

McCann explained, "With all the NJSIAA rules, they stop us and [the coaches] can't be with the team until some point in June. In June, we'll get together and start practicing two to three times a week. Then we'll enter tournaments as a team to bond. That's about it [for the offseason calendar]. But the serious guys, they know what they have to do. They're by themselves in the weight rooms already. [Offseason preparation] all comes down to the senior leadership; and I think we're going to get it this year. We'll get together [with the seniors] at some point and figure out an offseason routine that will help all the other guys get ready."

But while Ashnault, his fellow seniors and company look ahead to 2013, a tragedy-stricken South Plainfield looks back with heavy hearts.

It was just one week after a tragic house fire claimed the lives of five residents that McCann and his team headed into the finals.

"The whole point of high school athletics... yes, you want to win state titles... but, you're also trying to teach the kids life lessons. With the good, there's always going to be bad. It was a tragic loss, and we were glad to do anything to uplift anyone who was associated with [the fire] or had any feelings toward it," said McCann.

And uplift they did.

KC's Korner, a local bar/restaurant, broadcast a live stream of the finals in Atlantic City and had a crowd larger than they did during the super bowl. McCann laughed and chalked it up to "high school wrestling throughout the nation getting bigger and bigger."

"And, we have one of the best state tournaments [here in New Jersey], so I'm not surprised by that," McCann said. "A lot of people are into it now."

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Eve Pasternak

The library will be closed on April 6 for Good Friday and on Sunday, April 8 for Easter. On Saturday, April 7 we will be open our regular hours, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

There will be a meeting of the Library Board of Trustees on Tuesday, April 10 at 7 p.m. at the library. Public comment is invited about mid-way through the meeting.

Don't forget Mondays at the Movies at 10:30 a.m. for children two and older, and 6:30 p.m. for a newly released feature.

Announcements over, let's talk about books, and let's talk about talking books, and let's talk about talking about books.

First, let's talk about books and springtime. Now that there are blossoming trees, it's really springtime, and in spring one's fancy turns to—baseball. In addition to biographies of players and coaches, there are books about the history of the game and about coaching and playing better. Check out the shelves at call number 796.357, and don't forget to look at the new books and the DVDs as well. If, like the proverbial young man, your fancy turns to love instead, then you will be able to find plenty of books on that subject, too. Romances get a special spine label identifying them as love stories.

Spring is also the time to get started on gardening. The library has many resources for you. There are several gardening magazines, including *Fine Gardening* and *Birds and Blooms*. You can borrow all but the most recent issue. If you'd like books, you'll find them in two places. Search at call number 712.6 to find books with great ideas for garden and landscape designs. You'll find books on horticulture, with information on varieties of plants and plant care, at 635. There are books for kids, too; wouldn't you love to plant a garden with your children?

Moving on to talking books, which is an old name for recorded books. It used to be that if you wanted to listen to a book instead of reading it, the only option was cassette tapes. Now your choices are myriad. The library has hundreds of books on CD which will play in any CD player. There is a second format of CD-MP3—which can be played in your computer's

CD drive, in newer players or in cars manufactured after 2006. The format allows for denser recording; one MP3 CD can hold the same material as 10 regular CDs. No more changing discs at red lights!

There are also portable audiobooks. Sometimes called by the manufacturer's name, Playaway, these are small, self-contained audio players. Even the earphones are in the case. Try one of these when you are walking or working out or anytime a CD player is not convenient.

It is also possible to download audiobooks. By going to listenj.com (you'll find a link on the library's home page), you will be able to search for books by title, author or subject. Downloading them to your computer requires a library card. From there, they can be loaded onto a variety of music players. There is a full listing of compatible devices on the site. You can also download e-books. If you have any questions, ask our friendly, helpful staff.

Children's books are available as CDs and portable audiobooks, but nothing beats the experience of being read to live. To hear great stories along with songs and crafts, join us for storytime. This week, children ages three and over are welcome at 10:30 a.m., on Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday and 1:15 p.m. on Thursday. Two and three year-olds will enjoy their special program Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.

The last segment I want to cover is talking about books. I'm sure many of you enjoy book groups, where friends can gather to discuss the wonderful things they've read (with snacks!). Did you know that many books are published with discussion guides? If you search for "discussion guide," "discussion questions" or "reading group guide" in the Encore catalog or as keywords in the classic catalog, you will find a wide range of books with questions that are sure to start stimulating discussions. Many also have interviews with the author and other interesting information.

There are many online sources for discussion guides. Take a look at readinggroupchoices.com to find advice on choosing books, summaries of books in a wide variety of genres, and discussion questions. Many publishers also include discussion guides on their websites.

Golden Tee Results

There was a five-way tie in a Cal-loway tournament at the Plainfield West Nine on March 29. B. Darenzo was declared the winner in a tie breaker. Bob Pero, Jack Ford, Wayne Lavender and Bill Gammel tied for second.

Bob Kosovan came in first, while Ron Falcone finished second on a very windy April 2. More than 50 golfers have participated in the

Golden Tee program during the winter. Tournaments are held every Monday and Wednesday, weather permitting. Mondays are restricted to members of the West Nine only. During the month of April, anyone can play on Wednesdays.

For information or to register, call Bill Castner, PGA professional, at (908) 769-3672.

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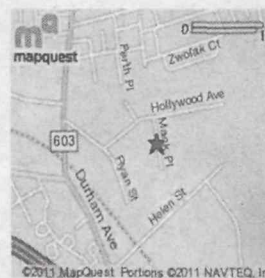
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Spisso, Rossmeyer Announce Engagement



Deana Spisso and Brian Rossmeyer

Brian and Vicki Spisso proudly announce the engagement of their

Kelly Koury, Jeff Latona Engaged

Dave and Peggy Koury are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Kelly Koury, to Jeff Latona, son of Vincent Latona and the late Rosalie White.

Kelly, a 2001 graduate of South Plainfield High School, is a licensed cosmetologist and works at Salon Vaunt in Goodyear, Ariz.

Jeff, a 1991 graduate of Roxbury High School, is in lean manufacturing and is pursuing a degree in business management.

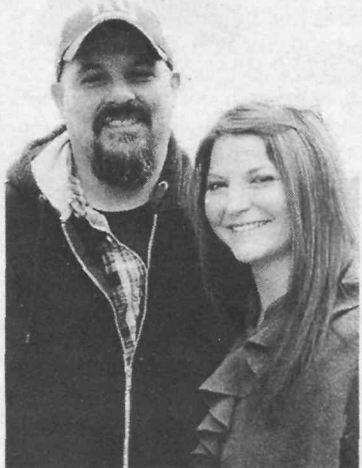
The couple currently reside in Buckeye, Ariz. A September 2012 wedding will be held in Spring Lake.

daughter, Deana Marie Spisso, to Brian Philipp Rossmeyer, son of Otto and Diane Rossmeyer of Edison and Point Pleasant Township. The couple became engaged on November 26, 2011.

Deana graduated from Raritan Valley Community College with an A.S. in business administration. She is employed by St. Peter's University Hospital in New Brunswick.

Brian received a B.S. in business administration from Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. He is employed by the Edison Police Department.

The couple will be married on June 8, 2012 at the Westin Governor Morris Inn in Morristown.



Jeff Latona and Kelly Koury

Project Graduation Auction/Raffle

The South Plainfield High School PTA will be hosting the annual Project Graduation auction/raffle on Saturday, April 28 from 7 to 11 p.m. in the high school gym. Doors open 6 p.m. Profits will go towards Project Graduation for the Class of 2012. Tickets are \$12.

For tickets, to reserve your table or for more information, call Tracey

Hartmann at (908) 750-6194 as soon as possible.

For additional information or to make a donation, please call Sharon Miller at (908) 754-6461.

This is a great event for a very worthwhile cause. We look forward to you joining us in support of the Class of 2012. Together we can make a difference!

Jillian Bengivenga to Appear in Production of "The Secret Garden"



Jillian Bengivenga

-Photo by Melissa Ackerman

Jillian Bengivenga is thrilled to be a part of the professional-quality Dance Vision production of *The Secret Garden*. Jillian, a resident of South Plainfield, has been cast as a rabbit.

An original ballet choreographed by DanceVisionArtistic Director Risa Kaplowitz, *The Secret Garden* will come to life onstage at Kendall Hall, The

College of New Jersey on Saturday, April 28 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 29 at 2 p.m.

Based on the classic book by Frances Hodgson Burnett, *The Secret Garden* is danced to music by Claude Debussy and Jules Massenet. Presented by the DanceVision Performance Company, *The Secret Garden* features 60 of the most talented pre-professional dancers.

Now in its fifth year, *The Secret Garden* is a well-attended spring tradition for community members of all ages. From the timeless love story between Lillas and Craven to the acrobatic squirrels, hopping bunnies and blooming rosebuds, the ballet has something for everyone. *The Secret Garden* is a perfect way for families to celebrate spring after a long, dreary winter. Come out and enjoy an original, affordable, professional-quality ballet about friendship, renewal, and the wonder of nature.

Advance ticket prices: Adults, \$20; seniors and students, \$15; at the door prices are \$25 and \$20, respectively. Tickets can be purchased via the web at www.dancevisionnj.org or by calling the box office at (609) 771-2775.

Angelica Hughes Honored by Junior Achievement of New Jersey

Angelica Hughes, a tax analyst at Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey (Horizon BCBSNJ), is a "Rising Star." This cosmic recognition comes courtesy of Junior Achievement New Jersey (JANJ), which honored Hughes with the organization's first Junior Achievement Latino Rising Star award during a ceremony at the Junior Achievement Latino Leadership Forum on February 28 in Newark. Hughes was presented the award in recognition of her commitment to the Latino community through her service as a Junior Achievement volunteer and her leadership role at Horizon BCBSNJ.

"I am proud and honored to be

recognized by Junior Achievement New Jersey," said Hughes, of South Plainfield. "It is tremendously gratifying to take an active role in my community, and I commend both Junior Achievement and Horizon for providing me with the opportunity for service."

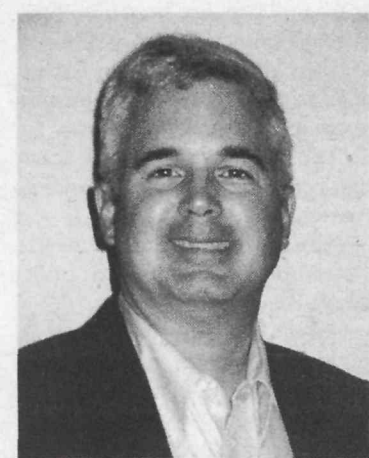
Junior Achievement New Jersey is dedicated to educating students about entrepreneurship, work readiness and financial literacy through experiential hands-on programs. Programs empower students by helping them discover tools to succeed in the adult world.

To learn more about Horizon BCBSNJ and its diversity efforts visit www.HorizonBlue.com/diversity.

Matthew Olpinski Named to Dean's List at RIT

Matthew R. Olpinski of South Plainfield has been named to the dean's list for the winter quarter at Rochester Institute of Technology in New York. A fourth-year student in RIT's College of Imaging Arts and Sciences, Matthew is studying new media design and imaging. Matthew is the son of Kathy and Robert Olpinski and a 2008 graduate of Timothy Christian High School.

Rochester Institute of Technology is internationally recognized for academic leadership in computing, engineering, imaging technology, sustainability and fine and applied arts, in addition to unparalleled support services for deaf and hard-of-hearing students.



Author Thomas Berry

Thomas Berry Publishes a Second Book

Thomas Berry, a longtime South Plainfield resident, recently published his second book, *Texas Freedom: Last Stand at the Alamo*. An historical fiction novel, it is a richly detailed story surrounding the Texas Revolution and the Battle of the Alamo in 1836.

Berry's *Texas Freedom* project has been two years in the making, and included a trip to San Antonio, Texas in March 2011 during the 175th anniversary of the famous battle. He had the opportunity to interview Alamo curator and historian Bruce Winders and Alamo museum education director Sherri Driscoll, as well as dozens of experts in various fields.

"I wanted to get a truly accurate account of the events leading up to and through the epic battle," Berry said. "There are so many myths and legends surrounding the Alamo and those involved that it was important to cut through the haze and uncover what really happened. Although this novel is a story with some fictional plotlines, it is based on accurate details and thorough research."

This is Berry's second novel. His first book, *Lewis and Clark: Murder on the Natchez Trace*, was published in 2010 and centered on the investigation into the death of the famous explorer Meriwether Lewis during the War of 1812.

You can purchase *Texas Freedom: Last Stand at the Alamo* through www.booklocker.com, Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble or through your local bookstore. It is available in both print and electronic formats, including Kindle and Nook.

For all the news about your town, subscribe to the Observer.

Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield, NJ

Rev. John Paul Alvarado, Pastor

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Mass 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

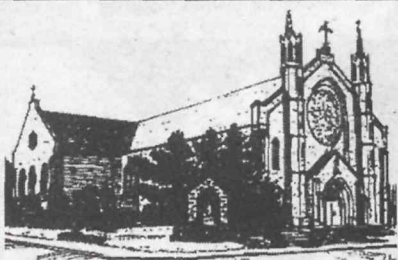
Sunday 9:00, 11:30 a.m.

Daily 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday

7:00 p.m. Monday (Church), Thursday (Parish Center Chapel)

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

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



It's a Winner!

Charlie and Debbie Kurland of Hometown Heros deliver dinner to Junior Journalist winner Christina Romano pictured with parents, Michelle and Richie, and brother and sister, Natalie and Richie Jr.

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Obituaries

Clifford D. Roseman, 75

Clifford D. Roseman passed away on Friday, March 30 at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born on March 29, 1937 in Newark to Edwin and Irene (Sarrell) Roseman, he lived in South Plainfield for most of his life.

Mr. Roseman worked for the Roller Corp. of America in South Plainfield for 30 years prior to working as a custodian for the South Plainfield High School. He attended Wesley United Methodist Church and was a member of the Senior Citizens Club, both in South Plainfield. Cliff was also an avid Yankees fan.

Mr. Roseman was predeceased by a brother, Robert Roseman.

He is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Judith A. Roseman of South Plainfield; his beloved children, Scott D. Roseman and wife Christine of Nesquehoning, Pa. and Amy D. Kurceski and husband Edward of Middlesex; five cherished grandchildren, Justin, Mark, Megan, Julia and Jennifer; and a brother, Elliott Roseman of Toms River.

Funeral services were held at South Plainfield Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent in his memory to the American Heart Association, P.O. Box 417005, Boston, Mass. 02241-7005.

Angelo Yannella Jr., 70

Angelo Yannella Jr. died on Thursday, March 29 at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born in Newark, Angelo resided in Colonia for most of his life prior to moving to South Plainfield in 1990.

A veteran of the U. S. Army, Mr. Yannella was employed by the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in Piscataway for several years.

Angelo was a skilled carpenter and a talented artist who was very creative with his hands. In addition, he was a

movie buff, enjoyed country music and was computer savvy.

Surviving are a sister, Catherine Johnson of South Plainfield; a niece, Lynne Gaspari and husband Gary, also of South Plainfield; two nephews, Glenn Johnson and wife Scarlet and Chris Johnson and wife Theresa, all of Point Pleasant. Also surviving are two great-nieces and three great-nephews.

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

Thomas "Tom" J. Oakes, Jr., 93

Thomas "Tom" J. Oakes, Jr. passed away peacefully on Thursday, March 22.

Born in Newark in 1918, Tom was formerly a resident of South Plainfield where he and his loving wife, Terry, raised three sons: Thomas (Karen) of Stuart, Fla., Bruce (Barbara) of Absecon and Charles (June) of Monroe Township.

Tom and Terry moved from South Plainfield and enjoyed living many happy years together on "Sunny Hill Farm" in Windham Summit, Pa. After the passing of Terry, Tom moved to Athens, Pa. and most recently resided at The Personal Care Home in Towanda, Pa.

In 1941 Tom heard the calling, joined the Army and became an original member of the "90 Day Wonders." He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He completed his service to his country graduating from General Command and Staff College, retiring a major from the USAR in 1978.

Tom made friends wherever he went and was always "willing to lend a hand." During the time Tom lived on Windham Summit he delivered the U.S. Mail on a rural route covering many miles every day until he was 75. He loved building and test flying model airplanes, going on bus tours with his favorite senior groups, bowling, square dancing and spending

time with family and friends. As a great "tinkerer" Dad could repair and build most anything and enjoyed sharing how he fixed "stuff."

He will be loved and remembered as a great husband, ever giving father, and he was so very proud of his seven remarkable grandchildren and 10 fantastic great-grandchildren.

Dad will be remembered at the Methodist Church in Nichols, N.Y. at a future date.

Funeral services were held at the South Plainfield Funeral Home.

In memory of Dad and in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Make-A-Wish New Jersey, 1347 Perrineville Rd., Monroe Township, N.J. 08831; St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, P.O. Box 1000, Dept. 142, Memphis, Tenn. 38148; or Boy Scouts of America, 5 Rivers Council, 244 West Water Street, Elmira, N.Y. 14901.

Anthony P. Sincavage, 76

Anthony P. Sincavage passed away on Saturday morning, March 31 at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

Born and raised in Sugar Notch, Pa., Anthony was honorably discharged from the United States Army in 1959 and settled in South Plainfield in 1960.

He graduated from Kings College, attended Rutgers University and achieved a master's degree from Kean College.

He began a long and rewarding career as an educator for the South Plainfield Board of Education for 35 years. He retired as a principal from the John E. Riley Elementary School in 1994 after 25 years of dedication. He had been a member of the NJEA, the New Jersey Association of School Administrators and a member of the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus. Anthony was also one of the founding members of the South Plainfield Com-

munity Pool.

His lifelong love for basketball led him to become an undefeated coach for the South Plainfield Middle School. Anthony was a man of integrity who was respected by his family, players, fellow educators and community members.

He leaves behind his wife of 52 years, Patricia A. (Brogan) Sincavage; their children, Joan Marie Sincavage and husband Robert Puccio of Scotia, N.Y. and Patricia Hlavka and husband John of South Plainfield; four grandchildren, Peter Hlavka, Brianna Lydon, Haley Hlavka and Emma Lydon; and a brother, John Sincavage.

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

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to the Alzheimer's Association, Northern N.J. Chapter, 400 Morris Ave., Suite 251, Denville, N.J. 07834.

Daniel J. Lima, 85

Daniel J. Lima, beloved husband, father and grandfather, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, March 30.

Born in Fall River, Mass. to the late Gene and Jennie Lima, Daniel had resided in Jersey City and then North Arlington for a short time prior to settling in South Plainfield after his marriage in the early 1950s.

He served his country as a veteran of the United States Navy during WWII

and is a former member of the VFW.

Daniel enjoyed a long career with PSE&G as a marketing representative initially working in the Plainfield offices, later working in Cranford before retiring from the Bridgewater office almost 25 years ago.

He was a member of the South Plainfield Senior Citizens, a communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church, enjoyed trips to AC, watching television and sports. He also served as a trustee of the South Plainfield Pop Warner.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Geraldine (Paladino); two daughters, Deborah Erceg and husband Guy of Hillsborough and Kathy Appello of South Plainfield; a sister, Olivia Hannlon of Elizabeth; and three grandsons who will always remember their "Poppy", Vincent, Brandon and Daniel.

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

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BOE Considering Roof Repair

(Continued from page 1)

Roosevelt Administration Building roofs by Spectrum Infrared Services, Inc. of Allendale. The report on the high school roof showed a total of 22 areas, or 3,272 sq. ft. of wet insulation. That constitutes 2.1% of the 155,620 sq. ft. roof area. Twelve areas of moisture were located on the roof itself, and there were areas located at the base of the flashing or perimeter edges of the roof. The cause of the leaks was determined to be "deterioration of the built up roof, flashing and repair patches." Byrne said that an infrared report was also performed on the middle school, but it was not obtained by the *Observer*. The reports cost approximately \$6,000.

According to Podpora, "Infrared measures heat loss or a temperature change and shows only the presence of water, which remains warmer than the rest of a roof." He said that the custodian was able to "more accurately pinpoint the leaks from inside the building leading up to the roof than the infrared."

"The infrared does not show exactly where an actual leak is coming from" stated Podpora in his letter, and he said that it was "more prudent to follow the water leak up to the roof." He also felt that the \$1.3M figure to repair the high school and middle school roofs was "astronomical."

Byrne said that the board's Architect of Record, SSP Architectural Group, Inc. of Somerville, gave them a \$9M figure to "replace and/or repair almost all the roofs in the district." They were also the company that had commissioned the infrared reports.

ARMM Associates of Cherry Hill, a roof consulting firm, has submitted an estimate of close to \$1M to replace approximately 30,000 sq. ft. of roofing and insulation on the high school and roofing on the main two story part of the building and the shop hallway. Byrne said that they discussed including the middle school roof over the gym and the replacement of gym windows at \$20,000 each. There has

been no cost paid to ARMM as of now, said Byrne. "If we go ahead and use them for the roofing job, then the design work would have to be paid for."

Roth Inc. of Youngstown, Ohio, a building services and construction company, also surveyed the roofs without charge to the district; however, as of presstime they had not received an estimate. The company was recently purchased by Sodexo, the maintenance and food service company that has been used by the district for many years.

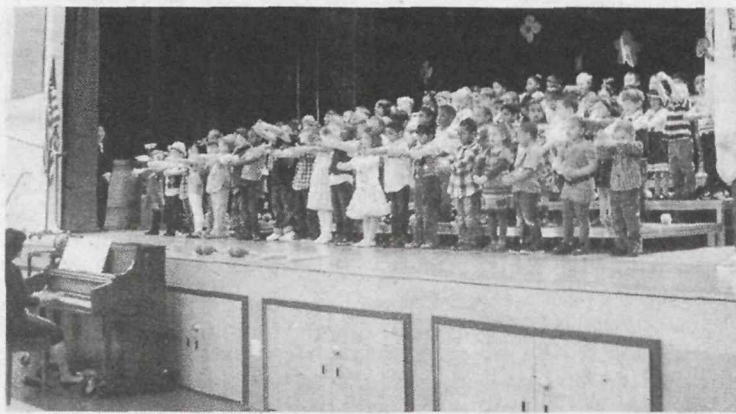
"When the project is bid out we would find out the actual numbers. It all depends on the amount of work out there for the companies, the time frame needed for the work and the quality of the materials used," said Byrne. "As an example, we were shown three thicknesses of underlayment. Depending on where they are to be used and the warranty length, the prices would obviously vary."

With regard to the letter from Podpora, Byrne said, "We are planning on inviting him to a B&G meeting to discuss his findings with us."

Bowen said that the board is doing a "complete assessment by multi professionals to give advice" on the roof situation and that everything was "preliminary until all the assessments are read and understood" by the board.

The roofs throughout the district were replaced by ARMM Associates approximately 22 years ago through a lease purchase by the board after a bond referendum covering the cost was voted down by residents. Lease purchasing allows school districts to finance capital improvements without the voter approval required by a referendum to increase bonded indebtedness.

According to Marge Reedy, who served on the board during that time, the company that had replaced the roofs prior to ARMM was sued by the district for faulty workmanship. She was unsure as to the outcome of the lawsuit.



Roosevelt School Celebrates Grandparents With Performance

By Jane Dornick

Roosevelt Elementary School kindergarten students presented their annual Grandparents Day program on March 28.

The show began with announcers Aiden Blow, Matthew Clarke, Ishika Dhawan and Gianna Penyak and a flag salute. The students sang *America, We Are Roosevelt's Children, I'm Gonna Climb My Family Tree, Spend Some Time With Your Child, Let's Go See Our Grandparents, Skinnamarink, All I Really Need, Grandma, Grandpa, How I Love You, Here's a Flower Just for You* and *Now We Say Goodbye*.

Solo instrumental performers were Logan Smith and Emily Danniballe on sand blocks, Evan Salazar and Victoria Huynh on claves, Joseph Leonard on cabasa, Brooke Ridley and Angelina Nguy on maracas and Niraj Yawalkar and Mahek Khan on guiro.

During the program, the children recited special sayings in groups about what grandparents are for.

Teachers Joy Czaplinski, Mary Beth Boschen, Kristen Kunie and Pat Santillo coordinated the program. The music was directed by Sharon Perez. Art teacher Glenda Posey made the decorations, and the PTO provided refreshments.

BOE Passes School Budget

(Continued from page 1)

plus in excess surplus.

"If we could find some money in our budget, I think we should try to give back to them [taxpayers]," said Board President Jim Giannakis, who wanted to wait to discuss the issue until the new superintendent starts on April 16.

Regarding the increase in the budget, board member Carol Byrne commented that "we have to put our children first" stressing the need to keep the buildings in good repair. Board member John

Farinella said that the hiring of additional teachers "puts back some very strategic and important pieces into the instructional program that were lacking" and board member Sharon Miller also felt the need for "added staffing for the education of our children." Giannakis thought that the board did a "responsible job with the budget."

The board voted 8-0 to adopt the budget. Vice President Debbie Boyle was not present for the vote.

SPHS Project Graduation Auction

The big event is only three weeks away! The SPHS Project Graduation Auction will be held on Saturday, April 28, 7 to 11 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.) at South Plainfield High School. 2012 will mark South Plainfield High School PTA's 24th year of providing graduating seniors with a Project Graduation celebration. Class of 2012 parents, this one is for your children, so we hope you will join us at the auction. See below on how to obtain tickets.

South Plainfield Community: It is not too late to help. Together we can make this event a success for our graduating seniors with the help and support of SPHS families, especially senior class families, the South Plainfield community/educational organizations and local businesses. Please support this worthwhile cause. Contributions can be in the form of a gift card, a single gift item, a theme gift basket or a monetary contribution. We have to receive contributions by April 16.

Contributions can be sent to: South Plainfield HS, 200 Lake Street, South Plainfield, N.J. 07080, Attn: SPHS PTA. Please make checks payable to: SPHS PTA/Proj Graduation.

Auction Ticket Sales: For ticket info and to reserve a table, contact Tracey Hartmann at (908) 750-6194. Provide your name, phone number and number of people you would like at your table.

Auction Volunteers/Item Arrangements: To be an auction volunteer (set-up, noon-3 p.m.; ticket sales, 6-7 p.m.; or clean-up, 11 p.m.) or to help move prizes from the homes where they are being stored to SPHS at 11:30 a.m. or to arrange for items to be picked up from your home or business, contact the high school main office at (908) 754-4620, ext. 248 or Sharon Miller at (908) 754-6461. All volunteers will receive a call as a reminder.

For more information on the auction, call (908) 754-6461.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE NO. 1960

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SURPLUS MUNICIPAL PROPERTY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13 FOR PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 4.04, LOT 1.01 was introduced on first reading and advertised in the South Plainfield Observer on Friday, April 6, 2012. The ordinance will have a public hearing and final adoption at the April 16, 2012 public meeting of the Mayor and Council which will begin immediately following the 7:00pm Agenda meeting in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ORDINANCE NO. 1960

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SURPLUS MUNICIPAL PROPERTY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13.

WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, is the owner of property identified as Block 404.03, Lot 1.01, located within the Borough of South Plainfield (hereinafter referred to as the "Property"); and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield has determined that said property is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has determined it to be in the public interest to sell said property by open public sale at auction at the Borough Council meeting scheduled on May 7, 2012 at 7:00pm at Borough Hall located at 2480 Plainfield Avenue South Plainfield, NJ 07080 to the highest bidder in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Mayor and Council declare the Property to be surplus and not needed for public use;
2. The sale of the Property to the respective purchasers shall be pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Notice of Sale of Land;
3. The Mayor, Borough Clerk, Borough Attorney and such other Borough officials as the law may provide are hereby authorized to prepare and execute such documents as may be required to close and transfer title to the Property to the successful bidder or bidders;
4. The Property shall be sold subject to all existing encumbrances, liens, zoning regulations, easements or other restrictions, such facts as an accurate survey would reveal in any present or future assessments for the construction of improvements benefitting said Property;
5. If any article, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance, and they shall remain in full force and effect;

6. In the event of any inconsistencies between the provisions of this Ordinance and any other Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield, the provisions hereof shall be determined to govern. All other parts, portions and provisions of the Revised General Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield are hereby ratified and confirmed, except where inconsistent with the terms hereof.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with New Jersey law.

ATTEST:
Amy Antonides, Acting Borough Clerk

\$53.08 April 6, 2012

LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE NO. 1959

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SURPLUS MUNICIPAL PROPERTY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13 FOR PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 398, LOT 2.10 was introduced on first reading and advertised in the South Plainfield Observer on Friday, April 6, 2012. The ordinance will have a public hearing and final adoption at the April 16, 2012 public meeting of the Mayor and Council which will begin immediately following the 7:00pm Agenda meeting in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ORDINANCE NO. 1959

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SURPLUS MUNICIPAL PROPERTY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13.

WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, is the owner of property identified as Block 398, Lot 2.10, located within the Borough of South Plainfield (hereinafter referred to as the "Property"); and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield has determined that said property is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has determined it to be in the public interest to sell said property by open public sale at auction at the Borough Council meeting scheduled on May 7, 2012 at 7:00pm at Borough Hall located at 2480 Plainfield Avenue South Plainfield, NJ 07080 to the highest bidder in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Mayor and Council declare the Property to be surplus and not needed for public use;
2. The sale of the Property to the respective purchasers shall be pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Notice of Sale of Land;
3. The Mayor, Borough Clerk, Borough Attorney and such other Borough officials as the law may provide are hereby authorized to prepare and execute such

documents as may be required to close and transfer title to the Property to the successful bidder or bidders;

4. The Property shall be sold subject to all existing encumbrances, liens, zoning regulations, easements or other restrictions, such facts as an accurate survey would reveal in any present or future assessments for the construction of improvements benefitting said Property;

5. If any article, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance, and they shall remain in full force and effect;

6. In the event of any inconsistencies between the provisions of this Ordinance and any other Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield, the provisions hereof shall be determined to govern. All other parts, portions and provisions of the Revised General Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield are hereby ratified and confirmed, except where inconsistent with the terms hereof.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with New Jersey law.

ATTEST:
Amy Antonides, Acting Borough Clerk

\$54.00 April 6, 2012

LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE NO. 1958

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SURPLUS MUNICIPAL PROPERTY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13 FOR PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 398, LOT 2.01 was introduced on first reading and advertised in the South Plainfield Observer on Friday, April 6, 2012. The ordinance will have a public hearing and final adoption at the April 16, 2012 public meeting of the Mayor and Council which will begin immediately following the 7:00pm Agenda meeting in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ORDINANCE NO. 1958

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SURPLUS MUNICIPAL PROPERTY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13.

WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, is the owner of property identified as Block 398, Lot 2.01, located within the Borough of South Plainfield (hereinafter referred to as the "Property"); and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield has determined that said property is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has determined it to be in the public interest to sell said property by open public sale at auction at the Borough Council meeting

scheduled on May 7, 2012 at 7:00pm at Borough Hall located at 2480 Plainfield Avenue South Plainfield, NJ 07080 to the highest bidder in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Mayor and Council declare the Property to be surplus and not needed for public use;
2. The sale of the Property to the respective purchasers shall be pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Notice of Sale of Land;
3. The Mayor, Borough Clerk, Borough Attorney and such other Borough officials as the law may provide are hereby authorized to prepare and execute such documents as may be required to close and transfer title to the Property to the successful bidder or bidders;
4. The Property shall be sold subject to all existing encumbrances, liens, zoning regulations, easements or other restrictions, such facts as an accurate survey would reveal in any present or future assessments for the construction of improvements benefitting said Property;
5. If any article, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance, and they shall remain in full force and effect;
6. In the event of any inconsistencies between the provisions of this Ordinance and any other Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield, the provisions hereof shall be determined to govern. All other parts, portions and provisions of the Revised General Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield are hereby ratified and confirmed, except where inconsistent with the terms hereof.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with New Jersey law.

ATTEST:
Amy Antonides, Acting Borough Clerk

\$53.08 April 6, 2012

LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE NO. 1956

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SURPLUS MUNICIPAL PROPERTY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13 FOR PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 364, LOT 5 was introduced on first reading and advertised in the South Plainfield Observer on Friday, April 6, 2012. The ordinance will have a public hearing and final adoption at the April 16, 2012 public meeting of the Mayor and Council which will begin immediately following the 7:00pm Agenda meeting in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ORDINANCE NO. 1956

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SURPLUS MUNICIPAL PROPERTY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13.

WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, is the owner of property identified as Block 364, Lot 5, located within the Borough of South Plainfield (hereinafter referred to as the "Property"); and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield has determined that said property is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has determined it to be in the public interest to sell said property by open public sale at auction at the Borough Council meeting scheduled on May 7, 2012 at 7:00pm at Borough Hall located at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ to the highest bidder in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a);

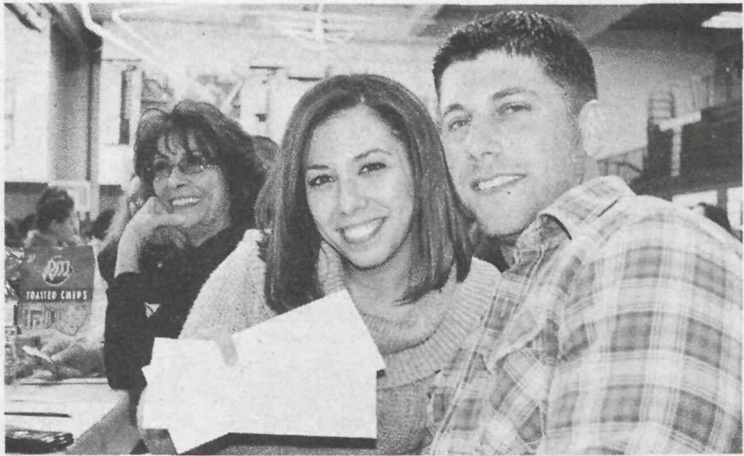
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Mayor and Council declare the Property to be surplus and not needed for public use;
2. The sale of the Property to the respective purchasers shall be pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Notice of Sale of Land;
3. The Mayor, Borough Clerk, Borough Attorney and such other Borough officials as the law may provide are hereby authorized to prepare and execute such documents as may be required to close and transfer title to the Property to the successful bidder or bidders;
4. The Property shall be sold subject to all existing encumbrances, liens, zoning regulations, easements or other restrictions, such facts as an accurate survey would reveal in any present or future assessments for the construction of improvements benefitting said Property;
5. If any article, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance, and they shall remain in full force and effect;
6. In the event of any inconsistencies between the provisions of this Ordinance and any other Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield, the provisions hereof shall be determined to govern. All other parts, portions and provisions of the Revised General Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield are hereby ratified and confirmed, except where inconsistent with the terms hereof.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with New Jersey law.

ATTEST:
Amy Antonides, Acting Borough Clerk

\$53.08 April 6, 2012



The winners of the Southwest Airline tickets.



Louann Severini deposits a ticket.



Debbie and Megan Boyle check out their ticket numbers.

Franklin School PTO Hosts Huge Crowd at Luau-Themed Auction

By Patricia Abbott

Franklin School PTO's 17th annual auction/raffle on March 24 boasted a luau-themed event. The huge crowd gathered in the South Plainfield High School gym well before the 6 p.m. opening. Armed with bags of food and goodies, attendees found their tables, arranged their fare and headed out to the hallway to purchase raffle tickets in

various categories and price levels. The crowds moved into the gym with programs in hand and circled the perimeter to view the available prizes that were set on the lowest level of bleachers. More than 30 Franklin School teachers and family members were in attendance, including former principals Nancy Erickson and Ellen Decker-Lorys. One group opted to do away with

snacks and instead worked with various crafts to pass the time as they listened for winning numbers to be called. Debra Cardamoms, Aryan Cardamoms and Diane Kelly, all of South Plainfield, and Cheryl Chucking of Lake Coma pleasantly whiled away the time by crocheting and working on needlepoint projects. There were six prize categories plus a 50/50 raffle: Potpourri with 62 prizes,

Baskets and Things with 72 prizes, Cuisine and Entertainment with 74 prizes and the Super Raffle with 61 prizes. The four grand prizes included Xbox Kinect, four complimentary one-day Disneyworld Park Hopper passes, an Apex 46-inch TV and a free week at New York Giants Youth Football Camp in Montclair. Super grand prizes included two Southwest Airline tickets, a two-night

stay at Great Wolf Lodge for a family of four and a 16 GB iPad with WiFi. The event was organized by PTO officers and members. Officers are Tara Rocco-president, Jennifer Cassio-vice president, Georgia Lambert-treasurer, Kim LaCross-recording secretary and Chanda McCoy-corresponding secretary. Proceeds from the auction benefit the school's cultural arts assemblies, class trips and other activities.

IRS Offers New Expanded Fresh Start Initiative to Help Struggling Taxpayers

The Internal Revenue Service is expanding its "Fresh Start" initiative to help struggling taxpayers by taking steps to provide new penalty relief to the unemployed and making installment agreements available to more people. Under the new Fresh Start provisions, part of a broader effort started at the IRS in 2008, certain taxpayers who have been unemployed for 30 days or longer will be able to avoid failure-to-pay penalties. In addition, the IRS is doubling the dollar threshold for taxpayers eligible for Installment Agreements to help more people qualify for the program. To assist those most in need, a six-month grace period on failure-to-pay penalties will be made available to

certain wage earners and self-employed individuals. The request for an extension of time to pay will result in relief from the failure to pay penalty for tax year 2011 only if the tax, interest and any other penalties are fully paid by October 15. The penalty relief will be available to wage earners who have been unemployed at least 30 consecutive days during 2011 or in 2012 up to the April 17 deadline for filing a federal tax return this year and self-employed individuals who experienced a 25 percent or greater reduction in business income in 2011 due to the economy. This penalty relief is subject to income limits. A taxpayer's income must not exceed \$200,000 if he or she files

as married filing jointly or not exceed \$100,000 if he or she files as single or head of household. This penalty relief is also restricted to taxpayers whose calendar year 2011 balance due does not exceed \$50,000. Taxpayers meeting the eligibility criteria will need to complete a new Form 1127A to seek the 2011 penalty relief. The new form is available on IRS.gov/form1127. The failure-to-pay penalty is generally half of one percent per month with an upper limit of 25%. Under this new relief, taxpayers can avoid that penalty until October 15, which is six months beyond this year's filing deadline; however, the IRS is still legally required to charge interest on unpaid back taxes and

does not have the authority to waive this charge, which is currently 3% on an annual basis. The Fresh Start provisions also mean that more taxpayers will have the ability to use streamlined installment agreements to catch up on back taxes. The threshold for using an installment agreement without having to supply the IRS with a financial statement has been raised from \$25,000 to \$50,000. This is a significant reduction in taxpayer burden. Taxpayers can set up an installment agreement with the IRS by going to the On-line Payment Agreement (OPA) page on IRS.gov and following the instructions. Under the first round of Fresh Start,

the IRS expanded a new streamlined Offer in Compromise (OIC) program to cover a larger group of struggling taxpayers. An offer-in-compromise is an agreement between a taxpayer and the IRS that settles the taxpayer's tax liabilities for less than the full amount owed. Generally, an offer will not be accepted if the IRS believes that the liability can be paid in full as a lump sum or through a payment agreement. The IRS looks at the taxpayer's income and assets to make a determination regarding the taxpayer's ability to pay. The series, "Owe Taxes? Understanding IRS Collection Efforts," is available on the IRS website, www.irs.gov.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE NO. 1952
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE # 1757
ENTITLED: "FEES" OF THE DEVELOPMENT REVIEW
ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NJ
was finally adopted after a public hearing was held at the April 2, 2012 public meeting of the South Plainfield Mayor and Council. Copies of the full ordinance are available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk's office for members of the general public who request the same.
ATTEST:
Amy Antonides, Acting Borough Clerk
\$28.50 April 6, 2012

LEGAL NOTICE
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE NO. 1953
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 1363
ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND CODIFYING ORDINANCE 730, 922, 1115, AND 1184, ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ESTABLISHING A STATE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE ENFORCING AGENCY, ETC."
was finally adopted after a public hearing was held at the April 2, 2012 public meeting of the South Plainfield Mayor and Council. Copies of the full ordinance are available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk's office for members of the general public who request the same.
ATTEST:
Amy Antonides, Acting Borough Clerk
\$29.45 April 6, 2012

LEGAL NOTICE
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE NO. 1955
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 324 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY ENTITLED PEDDLING AND SOLICITING
was introduced on first reading and advertised in the South Plainfield Observer on Friday, April 6, 2012. The ordinance will have a public hearing and final adoption at the April 16, 2012 public meeting of the Mayor and Council which will begin immediately following the 7:00pm Agenda meeting in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.
ORDINANCE NO.1955
AN ORDINANCE AMEND CHAPTER 324 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED: PEDDLING AND SOLICITING.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that Chapter 327 of the Code of the Borough of South Plainfield be amended as follows:
ADD to Chapter 327, entitled "Peddling and Soliciting", Article IV to be entitled "Second-Hand Dealers as follows:
SECTION 327-22 - Definitions.
As used in this Article, the phrase "second-hand dealer" shall apply to every person or entity now or hereafter engaged in or carrying on a business in which it may buy or sell used or second-hand gold, silver, jewelry, ornaments, wearing apparel, household articles or goods, electronic devices (including, but not limited to radios, I-Pods, cell phones and accessories thereto). A person or entity shall be considered a second-hand dealer regardless of whether the purchase or sale of merchandise as described herein is its primary business or function.
As used herein, "person" shall be construed to mean any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, volunteer association, incorporated association or other business entity or any agent thereof.
SECTION 327-23 - Purpose.
The purpose of this Article is to prevent fraud, crime and unethical and dishonest conduct, and for the general protection, health and welfare of the residents of the community.
SECTION 327-24 - License Required.
Every second-hand dealer must apply for a license to be obtained through the Office of the Borough Clerk.
A. The application for a license shall be in writing and signed by the applicant, and shall be accompanied by prescribed fees as may be established from time to time by resolution of the Mayor and Council.
B. The application for a license shall contain a statement of the name, age and residence of the applicant; the purpose of the license; the place where the licensed business will be conducted; the name, age and residence of each employee of the licensee.
C. No license shall be granted to any person who:
1. Has been convicted of violating any Federal, State, County or Municipal law or ordinance involving dishonesty or moral turpitude; or
2. Has misrepresented any facts in the application.
SECTION 327-25 - Record Keeping.
Every licensee shall maintain and, upon demand by authorized representatives of the Police Department, produce a full and complete record of each and every transaction had in such business, including all deposits, redemptions, purchases and sales, on a day-by-day chronicled basis, written legibly and containing accounts and descriptions, including all distinguishing marks and numbers, of any and all goods, articles or things purchased or sold which are regulated by this Article.
SECTION 327-26 - Purchase from a Minor.
No second-hand dealer shall receive or purchase any articles or materials from a person under 16 years

of age.
SECTION 327-27 - Lost or Stolen Articles.
No second-hand dealer shall receive or purchase any articles or materials which are known to him or her to have been lost, stolen or converted.
Any second-hand dealer who receives or is in possession of any articles or materials alleged to have been lost or stolen, upon demand, shall present them for inspection to any officer or agent of the Police Department.
If any articles or materials are advertised in any newspaper published within the Borough as having been lost or stolen, and the articles or materials are, or thereafter come into the possession of any second-hand dealer, said dealer shall immediately notify in writing the Chief of Police. The notice to the Chief of Police shall state from whom the articles or materials were received or purchased, and the time and date of the receipt or purchase.
SECTION 327-28 - Violation.
Any person who violates any provision of this Article shall, upon conviction, pay a fine of not less than \$100.00, nor more than \$1,000.00, or be imprisoned in the County Jail for a term of not more than 30 days, or both, within the discretion of the judge for each and every violation.
This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with New Jersey law.
ATTEST:
Amy Antonides, Acting Borough Clerk
\$68.20 April 6, 2012

LEGAL NOTICE
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE NO. 1957
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SURPLUS MUNICIPAL PROPERTY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13 FOR PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 305, LOT 2
was introduced on first reading and advertised in the South Plainfield Observer on Friday, April 6, 2012. The ordinance will have a public hearing and final adoption at the April 16, 2012 public meeting of the Mayor and Council which will begin immediately following the 7:00pm Agenda meeting in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.
ORDINANCE NO. 1957
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SURPLUS MUNICIPAL PROPERTY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13.
WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, is the owner of property identified as Block 305, Lot 2, located within the Borough of South Plainfield (hereinafter referred to as the "Property"); and
WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield has determined that said property is no longer needed for public use; and
WHEREAS, the Borough Council has determined it to

be in the public interest to sell said property by open public sale at auction at the Borough Council meeting scheduled on May 7, 2012 at 7:00p.m. at Borough Hall located at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ to the highest bidder in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a);
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey as follows:
1. The Mayor and Council declare the Property to be surplus and not needed for public use;
2. The sale of the Property to the respective purchasers shall be pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Notice of Sale of Land;
3. The Mayor, Borough Clerk, Borough Attorney and such other Borough officials as the law may provide are hereby authorized to prepare and execute such documents as may be required to close and transfer title to the Property to the successful bidder or bidders;
4. The Property shall be sold subject to all existing encumbrances, liens, zoning regulations, easements or other restrictions, such facts as an accurate survey would reveal in any present or future assessments for the construction of improvements benefiting said Property;
5. If any article, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance, and they shall remain in full force and effect;
6. In the event of any inconsistencies between the provisions of this Ordinance and any other Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield, the provisions hereof shall be determined to govern. All other parts, portions and provisions of the Revised General Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield are hereby ratified and confirmed, except where inconsistent with the terms hereof.
This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with New Jersey law.
ATTEST:
Amy Antonides, Acting Borough Clerk
\$53.08 April 6, 2012

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Grant School Announces Second Marking Period Honor Roll

High Honor Roll Report

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Brenden Hedden, Jillian Holoboski, Gabriel Humphreys Lippel, Ezinne Ibeku, Chance Jones, William Keane, Joseph Kelly, Rober Lenau, Cassidy Leonardis, Olivia Leonardis, David Loniewski, Martha Lopez, Neha Lund, Aubrey Marish, Thomas Massaro, Jessica McGuinness, Adithyan Menon, Jonathan Nguyen, Oluchi Nwankwo, Ashley Olson, Brandon Pascale, Michelle Pastuna-Arias, Aakash Patel, Harshit Patel, Meera Patel, Roshni Patel, Vishika Patel, Alexander Pear, Sahir Penmatcha, Bao Pham, Victoria Pipolo, Shea Price

Aishwarya Rajesh, Neelam Rana, Pratyusha Ravulapalli, Sarah Regan, Emily Resal, Zenen Rivera, Laura Rodriguez, Taylor Santamaria, Dylan Silverstein, Sarahann Singh, Ria Soni, Brianna Spadavecchia, Francesca Tor-

alba, Nancy Tran, Akachukwu Uba, Edwin Vasquez, Timothy Wilson, Connor Wolpin

Honor Roll

Adam Abdeljaber, Tala Abdeljaber, Emily Abrego, Sarah Abrego, Aniket Agnihotri, Maya Ahmed, Sabrina Ahmed, Eric Akpan, Yenefiker Alamerew, Kimberly Albrecht, Connor Aleksandrowicz, Kinza Ali, Karly Almanzar, Nicholas Alvear, Alexander Amato, Gavin Apgar, Alexander Ardito, Brianna Atkinson, Andrea Avelar, Anthony Barge, Hrithik Bawa, Jillian Bengivenga, Ryan Berardi, Kaziah Betts, David Bickunas, Patrick Both, Kristen Brady, Sonali Budhan, Bradley Butler

Shawn Callanan, Cara Capone, Ryan Carey, Olivia Carone, Matthew Cassio, Michael Castagno, James Cavanagh, David Chatel, Jullianne Chavez, Christine Chen, Ming-Wai Cheung, Daniel Ciardiello, Erica Cieszkiewicz, Arianna Clark, Steven Colicchio, Kevin Conroy, Brianna Crabtree, Nikki Dang, Jenna DaSilva, Isaiah David, Skylar Davison, Philip DeFort, Ryan DeGroot, Leanna DeLisa, Jake DelPaoli, Zachary DelVecchio, Giovanni Dudley, Jessica Dugtong, Milena Erazo, Francine Esiape, Mark Etwarroo, Austin Feltham, Pavan Gandhi, Alejandro Garcia,

William Glynn, Lailah Goldberg-Mota, Bryan Gonzalez, Donald Grabinsky, Kayla Greenleaf, David Gross, Brad Guerrero, David Guevara, Xiani Guzman, Kevin Hagy, Mackenzie Hall, Brian Harper, Troy Harzula, Devin Hastings, Joseph Heilmann, Jeffrey Heine, Dishon Hessing, Tiana Hooks, Maricelys Inoa, Caleb Ivaniuc, David Jaipersaud, Gwenth Jones, Justin Jones, Mehdi Kamal, Shivam Khandelwal, Michael Lapolla, Ryan Lavelle, Tiffany Le, Courtney Lee, Julian Lee, Maggie Li, Christina Lobosco, Charles Lovett, Brandon Luster

Kaylie Macpherson, Kristi Maher, Hina Mahmood, Kieran Mangra, Alexa Manno, Krystal Manobanda, Michael Marrero, Mikayla Mastroianni, Brian Maszczak, Nicholas Mazzelli, Sean McConville, Elijah McNeill, Hailey Medina, Michael Menkin, Tatyana Mercado Navarro, Quinn Milane, Gabrielle Mine, Jayesh Mistry, Simran Modhera, Anaid Mohtadi, Amaya Moore, Mayra Moreno, Darius Mullen, Sahith Nagireddy, Brian Nassy, Justin Newman, Jackson Nguyen, Tyson Nguyen, Luke Niemeyer

John O'Brien, Alexandria Obregon, Haley Olsen, Ryan Olson, Gabriella Ortiz, Kelly Ortiz, Genesis Ortiz-Samayoa, Zachary Paluch, Tiffany Parajon, Alisia Parra, Haley Passarelli, Amit Patel, Biren Patel,

Jil Patel, Maulin Patel, Parth Patel, Prachi Patel, Erwin Pelacz, Divon Pender, Henrique Pereira, Nicholas Peterson, Cole Peterson, Jose Ponce, Alona Prokofieva, Samantha Pullen, Louis Quintanilla, Rhea Rajpal, Ahnaf Rashid, Samiya Reid, Hannah Rhoads, Jacob Rivera, John Roarty, Megan Russo, Natalie Rutkowski

Joseph Sacco, Jennah Sadiq, Nisani Santiago, Shannon Santora, Sebastian Santos, Franko Savoca, Jemma Scalera, Jade Scotti, Jack Scudato, Brian Sesta, Grace Sesta, Christopher Shine, Jordyn Simmons, Bridget Simpson, Brianna Slover, Courtney Smith, Kaitlyn Smith, Eduardo Solano, Lindsey Soper, MaKayla Sosa, Zion Spears, Vera Squero, Tatianna Sutor, Megan Szeman, Lucas Tamburro, Vito Tartza, Dayanara Tavaréz, Siddharth Thuppil, Jaclyn Timmerman, Alexis Tirado, Bridgette Titus, Gianella Torres, Jenna Toth, Daria Turner

Anthony Vallejo, Dayana Velasco, Emily Velasco, Jonathan Veliz, Nicole Villagomez, Vena Viran, Rachel Voelkel, Alexis Walker, Alexia Wargacki, Stephanie Waters, Alea Watson, Jessica Wiczorkiewicz, Ian Wietrzykowski, Kenneth Williams, Samantha Williams, Chloe Wilson, Brandon Wizda, Cole Young, Azreen Zaman, Alyzah Ziga, Lauren Zultowski

MCC to Offer Saturday Hours On April 14

Students and future students who need enrollment services at Middlesex County College may take advantage of special hours on Saturday, April 14. The offices will be open from 8:30 a.m. to noon. The college is located at 2600 Woodbridge Ave. in Edison.

In addition, the New Brunswick Center, located at 140 New St., and the Perth Amboy Center, at 60 Washington St., will be open from 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

"This is a convenience for adult students and others who might work during the day and find it easier to take care of enrollment procedures on Saturdays," said Marla Brinson, dean of enrollment and student support services.

Offices that will be open on April 14 include the Enrollment Center, Bursar's Office, Admissions, Financial Aid, the Registrar's Office, the testing center, Counseling and Career Services, Student Activities, Academic Advisement and the college bookstore.

In addition, the Financial Aid office will conduct a workshop on applying for financial aid. The workshop has limited seating, so students should call the Financial Aid Office to reserve a seat at (732) 548-6000, ext. 3520.

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2012 Municipal Budget BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012 Revenue and Appropriation Summaries

Summary of Revenues - Current Fund	Anticipated	
	2012	2011
1. Surplus	867,500.00	1,210,000.00
2. Total Miscellaneous Revenues	6,009,673.00	6,438,185.19
3. Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	885,000.00	740,000.00
4. Local Tax for Municipal Purposes	17,487,443.00	17,892,863.10
5. Minimum Library Tax	1,310,958.00	
Total General Revenues	26,560,574.00	26,281,048.29

Summary of Appropriations - Current fund	2012 Budget	2011 Budget
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	10,387,077.00	10,236,665.00
Other Expenses	11,002,388.00	10,843,786.19
2. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	2,213,438.00	2,457,006.10
3. Capital Improvements	80,000.00	50,000.00
4. Debt Service	1,310,671.00	1,274,591.00
5. Judgments	37,000.00	39,000.00
6. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	1,530,000.00	1,380,000.00
Total General Appropriations	26,560,574.00	26,281,048.29
Total Number of Employees - Full & Part Time	113	115

2012 Dedicated Sewer Utility Budget		
Summary of Revenues	Anticipated	
	2012	2011
1. Surplus	175,000.00	162,699.37
2. Miscellaneous Revenues	6,459,825.00	6,455,000.00
Total Revenues	6,634,825.00	6,617,699.37
Summary of Appropriations	2012	Final 2011 Budget
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	474,000.00	468,133.00
Other Expenses	5,630,925.00	5,543,800.00
2. Capital Improvements	2,000.00	4,000.00
3. Debt Service	482,900.00	502,000.00
4. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	45,000.00	99,766.37
Total Appropriations	6,634,825.00	6,617,699.37
Total Number of Employees - Full & Part Time	6	5

2012 Dedicated Swim Pool Utility Budget		
Summary of Revenues	Anticipated	
	2012	2011
1. Surplus	0.00	1,000.00
2. Miscellaneous Revenues	247,975.00	241,977.00
Total Revenues	247,975.00	242,977.00
Summary of Appropriations	2012 Budget	2011 Budget
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	164,175.00	168,477.00
Other Expenses	62,000.00	54,000.00
2. Capital Improvements	500.00	500.00
3. Debt Service	13,300.00	14,000.00
4. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	8,000.00	6,000.00
Total Appropriations	247,975.00	242,977.00
Total Number of Employees - Full & Part Time	5	5

Balance of Outstanding Bonded Debt 12-31-11	
	General & Sewer
Interest	123,285.00
Principal	2,914,000.00
Outstanding Balance	3,037,285.00

Notice is hereby given that the budget and tax resolution was approved by the Borough Committee of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex on March 26, 2012.

A hearing on the budget and tax resolution will be held at the Municipal Building on April 30, 2012 at 7:00 (PM) at which time and place objections to the Budget and Tax Resolution for the year 2012 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.

Copies of the detailed budget are available in the office of , Borough Clerk, at the Municipal Building, during the hours 9:00-4:00.



Javid Khan Named Junior Journalist



Junior Journalist winner Javid Khan with teacher Margaret Celentano.

Javid Khan, Roosevelt School third grade student, is this week's winner in the Junior Journalist program. His winning entry, "Spring," has earned him 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.

Javid is the final winner in this year's contest. All the winners will be celebrated at a banquet in their honor on May 9. Students will have the opportunity to read their works, enjoy a catered dinner with their families courtesy of Hometown Heros and be recognized for their achievement by representatives of local and state government. In addition, the winner of the Ruth Kurland Memorial \$1,000 Savings Bond will be announced that evening.

For those students who would like to enter the contest, entries will be accepted starting this September. Watch the Observer this fall for details on the 10th annual Junior Journalist program.

Spring

By Javid Khan

Spring smells like cotton candy.
Spring feels like a summer breeze.
Spring tastes like fresh water. Spring sounds like chirping birds flying.
Spring looks like paradise.

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