

South Plainfield OBSERVER

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APRIL 20, 2012

Gov. Christie Addresses Town Hall Meeting



Governor Chris Christie addresses the crowd gathered at the PAL for a town hall meeting last Thursday.

By Jane Dornick

Governor Chris Christie's Town Hall Meeting held at the PAL building last Thursday drew more than 400 residents from various parts of the state waiting to question him on a variety of issues.

The governor's entrance into the PAL garnered thunderous applause and a standing ovation from the crowd. A banner over his head read, "The Jersey Comeback Has Begun."

In a lengthy pre-question speech, Christie spoke of a "sense of despair" among residents of the state when he took office in 2009. He said that during the prior eight years the legislature had raised taxes 115 times and that property taxes alone had risen 70% in the past 10. Businesses were moving out of the state at a fast pace and there were 117,000 private sector jobs lost as a result. He said he was faced with an \$11B deficit in a \$29B budget that former Governor Jon Corzine had left behind, and they needed to come up with \$2B to make payroll for the second pay period in March.

Through massive spending cuts, Christie said he has been able to keep his promise of making government smaller and lowering property taxes with a "real" 2% cap since he took

office. He made tough decisions with pension reform and by having everyone "pay their fair share."

During the question and answer session, a Piscataway resident commented that his town council was bonding for more items than usual and he wanted to know if it was legal. Christie replied that there are three ways to get around the 2% tax cap—pension and health benefit costs and debt. "If they are bonding for things they shouldn't be, then I'm glad you gave me the tip," said Christie, and he said he would have someone from Local Government Services that oversees the cap investigate.

An Edison resident asked the governor if there was going to be any help for small business owners. Christie said that he wants to "put people back to work." He has made

\$2.4 billion in small business tax cuts, of which 70% of the 75,000 new jobs are, in fact, small businesses that have been created in the state. Information for small business owners that qualify can be obtained through the N.J. Business Action Center.

A Lake Hopatcong resident stated that heroin use was huge in the state and wanted to know what we are doing as a state to save the youth from this epidemic. She had recently spent \$30,000 on rehabilitation for her son. Christie called for drug treatment for non-violent offenders. "I've never met anyone who is willing to go for treatment—they go at the end of a threat or in the middle of a crisis," said Christie.

View Governor Christie's Town Hall meeting tomorrow on Comcast Channel 96 at 7 p.m.

He explained that it cost the government \$49,000 a year to house a prisoner and inpatient, secure year-long treatment is \$24,000 a year. He hopes in 2013 to offer everyone who "winds up getting themselves in trouble a second chance" by treating addicts.

A borough grandmother of an autistic grandchild questioned the governor as to what is going to happen when children age-out of the school system. Christie said that he is consolidating services for the developmentally disabled so that they have one case worker that is knowledgeable in all services. He does not want to see people move out of town to receive better services and called for "Centers of Excellence" to be created in each town. "We want everyone to reach their maximum potential instead of institutionalize them as they are not a danger," stated Christie. "We care about this issue deeply."

When asked if he would accept the vice presidential nomination, Christie replied, "I have no intention of leaving New Jersey," and "I don't have the personality for a vice president. I will still be governor in 2013."

"I love public schools and teachers," said the governor after being asked about unions and taxes. "I don't want unions that are taking advantage of their members." Christie referred to

union dues as a "slush fund." He also called for tenure reform and felt that "teachers who are good should get paid better."

Christie's feelings about "Obama-care" were quite clear as he reiterated that he was opposed to it. "People are angry about it," replied Christie, to the woman in the audience. If the legislation fails in the Supreme Court, he wants to see Democrats and Republicans work together to come up with a plan.

At the end of his hour and a half long visit to the borough Christie said, "Things are heading in the right direction. Thanks for giving me the chance to do the job." He concluded by saying, "I love my job."

Love Your Borough? Volunteer for Litter Cleanup

The South Plainfield Clean Communities Advisory Board will sponsor a borough-wide cleanup week beginning this Saturday, April 21. The main clean up event will be held tomorrow. Volunteers should meet from 9 to 10 a.m. at the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Ave., to collect equipment and cleanup assignments. Clean up efforts will target road-

sides, parks, streams and vacant lots. Residents are welcome to organize a crew, or to come on their own.

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 atempel@southplainfieldnj.com.

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SPJBC Wrestling Team Recognized for Outstanding Year See page 16.



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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, May 7	Monday, May 7
Monday, May 21	Monday, May 21

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

planning board**Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month, *except where noted.**
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. Questions? 908-226-7641
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
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***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.**
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.**
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
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.**
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
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)**In My Opinion**

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

Dear Editor,

As we continue to celebrate 100 years of Girl Scouting this year, I'd like to thank the dedicated South Plainfield Girl Scout leaders who help girls in our community become leaders in their own lives by building courage, confidence and character. April 22 is Girl Scout Leader Appreciation Day, a day to thank all the leaders who inspire girls who will make the world a better place.

Thanks to Michelle Biggs, Nancy Wagner, Christa Reineke, Jeanne Gruver, Tracy Garcia, Madeline Christilles, Stacie Marish, Mary Makowski, Heidi Modugno, Luanne Severini, Amy Battista, Tricia Obregon, Susan Piro, Dana Milane, Sandy Surowiec, Elice Beryeman, Nancy Padovano, Mary-Ann Bythell, Teresa Veit, Sherri Lapp, Georgia Lambert, Nicole Palmeri, Veronica Lowich, Stacey Olsen, Jean Maritz, Deborah Metz, Rosa Genter, Jennifer Dodge, Michele Rabner, Mary Hamilton, Kristina Nieradka, Lori DelPaoli, Mary Ann Renni, Kim Luster, Wendy Dobrynio, Amy Fleming, Stefanie O'Brien, Shannon Hecht, Kiersten Ravi-Bohl, Carolyn Parisi, Erin Farrell, Laura O'Shaughnessy, Susan Fleming, Danielle Indico and Melissa Genovese.

Several of these women are leaders for not just one, but two troops. All are enthusiastic and devoted Girl Scout Leaders. If you have a daughter in Girl Scouts, please thank her leader for all that she does.

SINCERELY,
JANE BECKER, SERVICE UNIT
MANAGER, SOUTH PLAINFIELD
GIRL SCOUTS

Dear Editor,

I am usually not at a loss for words, but after reading a letter to the editor from BOE member Joe Sorrentino I am almost speechless. He talks of a meeting when I asked the Board of Education to pay their fair share of tax appeal refunds as if he has an idea of what I was speaking about. In his letter he states that we should have budgeted for tax appeals. We did, and we refunded \$280K last year, which also includes the portion attributed to the Board of Ed's share of the refund.

Here is how this works. Taxes are collected for the municipality, county, and school. When a tax appeal is awarded to a property owner, the full amount comes from the municipal budget only. This in turn comes from the taxpayer. The tax bill portion for the school is 57% of the bill. I, in turn, asked the board to refund their portion, which last year equaled \$159K back to the borough. In essence, I simply asked the board to pay their portion of the bill. The council would then refund the full amount back to the residents for tax relief. And he has a problem with this? He even stated he would "never vote to give money back."

It is not as if the Board of Ed has no money. Their auditor found \$1.3M they didn't know they had and the state has given them an additional \$735K in aid above and beyond the amount they received the prior year. And he doesn't think paying the board's share is fair? He expresses that we want to do this to look like heroes. No, the Board of Education

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.

would look like heroes, but some people can't see the forest through the trees. And this is the same person who stated the board's imposed budget increase would only amount to \$30 for the average taxpayer and I had to enlighten him it would actually be closer to \$120 per year, which it is. I guess he just wants to spend, spend, spend while I am looking to refund money back to borough taxpayers. His letter is so misinforming and inaccurate that I can continue, but I think I made my point.

RAY RUSNAK,
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

To the Editor:

If you were planning on picking up an American Express gift card for a friend or family member, don't bother. Thanks to an amendment made to the state's unclaimed property law by the Christie Administration two years ago, American Express has decided to pull its gift cards from retailers in New Jersey. Blackhawk Network and InComm, the companies behind hundreds of major name-brand gift cards, plan to follow suit by the end of June, if the law is not reversed.

This affects consumers and retailers in a time when most are struggling to keep their doors open. That is why I'm sponsoring a bill (A-1871), which has already passed the assembly, to reverse the changes made to the laws governing the state's treatment of unclaimed property. The state and the businesses that operate here cannot afford to lose any potential revenue. Consumers also need to know that the state will not be

(Continued on page 14)

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How to Reach Us

1110 Hamilton Boulevard, Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080
Ph: 908-668-0010 • Fax: 908-668-8819
Email: spobserver@comcast.net
www.spobserver.com**EDITORIAL**

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Associate Publisher..... Wayne Grennier
Art Director/Associate Editor..... Susan Kaneps
Staff Writer/Photographer..... Patricia Abbott
Staff Writer..... Libby Barksy
Contributing Writer..... Brian Erhardt

Editorial Assistants..... Jane Dornick, Jean Fultz
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Contributing Photographers..... Louis Mormile
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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

We encourage the submission of stories and photos. To have an article published: Type (double spaced) the article and mail, email or fax. Include name, address and telephone number. **Deadline for submission is Monday, 5 p.m.**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

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SPHS Music Boosters MUSIC NOTES

Winter Guard—South Plainfield High School's Winter Guard will be competing at the Mid-Atlantic Indoor Network (MAIN) Winter Guard Championships on Saturday, April 12 between 1:30 and 3 p.m. at South Brunswick High School. Come out and support the SPHS Winter Guard.

New Jersey Association of Jazz Educators—The following students auditioned and were chosen to participate in the NJAJE Region II Choir: John Delacruz-baritone; Jonathan Reyes-tenor; Rusty Teller-bass; Dung Tran-soprano; Marc Stasio-bass guitar player for the Jazz Choir.

Mrs. Stasio and Mr. Vroom worked with the students to prepare them for the auditions which were held on March 19 at South Plainfield Middle School. The Jazz Region Concert will be held on Sunday, April 22 at 3 p.m. at Princeton High School.

Attention Seniors—Scholarship application has been posted. Deadline is Friday, April 27! Late applications will not be accepted. Copies of the scholarship application can be accessed on our website at www.sphs-musicboosters.webs.com or on the music department website at www.spboe.schoolwires.net/domain/140. Your completed application must be returned to Mr. Vroom, Mrs. Stasio or Mr. Mikolon on or before April 27.

The SPHS Boosters of the Musical Arts 2012/2013 Executive Board—The annual elections for the 2012/2013 Executive Board will be held on Wednesday, May 2 at the May Music Boosters general meeting. If anyone is interested in leadership opportunities, please come to our next meeting. Many of our senior parents and executive board members will be leaving the Boosters in June, and we need mem-

bers to fill much needed positions. If you want to be considered or have a nomination, please contact Donna Teller via email: rteller3@comcast.net. Remember, in order to vote in the May Music Boosters election you must be a member and have attended three meetings. Membership is \$3 individual or \$5 family.

Music Booster Banquet—The banquet is scheduled for Friday, June 8 at 6 p.m. at the Italian-American Club in North Plainfield. Invitations for the banquet have been mailed out. Please RSVP by Friday, May 11. For more information, email Laura Conrad at njconrads@comcast.net.

Current Music Booster Fundraiser—Purchase any wine with a "Wine Master" sticker at Oak Tree Wine & Spirits, 902 Oak Tree Ave. and they will donate \$1 for every bottle sold up to \$19.99, and \$2 for every bottle sold from \$20 and up. Please tell the cashier to mark the sales to "SPHS Music Boosters."

Important Music Booster Dates to Remember:

- April 21—Winter Guard Championships at South Brunswick High School
- April 22—Jazz Regions Concert at Princeton High School
- April 27—Scholarship applications must be returned to high school music teachers
- May 2—Music Boosters general meeting, 7 p.m. in the HS chorus room
- June 6—High school spring concert
- June 8—Music Boosters banquet

To keep informed of all the Music Boosters activities, we welcome and encourage all parents to attend the monthly meetings throughout the year.



Girl Scout Troop #65109 attends a fire safety class at the rescue squad building to learn what to do in the event of a fire—how to check smoke detectors and that detectors are available at the firehouse if they don't have one. The girls would like to thank Tom Callahan from CPR Restoration and Cleaning Services and South Plainfield Rescue Squad for the use of the hall. Thank you to all the Girl Scout troops that attended, and to Stacey Olsen for arranging the outing.

Library Plans for Larger Movie Audience

By Libby Barsky

South Plainfield Public Library is planning to move the Monday Night Movie series from the children's room to the larger space in the main room in order to provide more seating.

The series, which began on March 19, allowed for seating of 20. At the April 9 movie night, seats were filled well before the 6:30 p.m. showtime, and more had to be added.

Library Director Linda Hansen said that before the movies can be moved into the larger space a speaker and amplification would have to be installed as well as "split lighting" (lighting to darken only the center of the library), while the lights on the periphery would remain on.

"When we shut the lights in the library, the entire area is dark," said Hansen at the Library Board of Trustees meeting on April 13, adding that with split lighting patrons could still use the library to read newspapers and magazines located in the same area.

The Board of Trustees approved Hansen's proposal to contact electrician Richard Little of RT Tech in South Plainfield to make the adjust-

ments in the larger space of the main library area.

The board approved the fees for two library employees to attend all day, in-state conferences; Hansen for librarians and Ken Morgan for library assistants; and for Chris Grippo to attend the Book Expo in New York City without an overnight stay.

Hansen also reported on the recent revival of the Friends of the Library group which will meet on the first Thursday of each month. The next

meeting will be held at the library on May 3 at 7 p.m. The library will present a free program on couponing at on Thursday, April 26 at 7 p.m. Space is limited; register at the library or by calling (908) 754-7885.

Hansen also said they plan to establish adult computer classes which would provide basic skills use of the computer as well as teach patrons how to navigate and use the databases available through the library in areas of genealogy and foreign languages.

SPHS Class of 1962 Plans Reunion

The South Plainfield High School Class of 1962 will be holding its 50th class reunion on Wednesday, May 16 at the Resorts Casino on the boardwalk in Atlantic City.

The price of the reunion banquet is \$65 per person. Appetizers, an Italian buffet, desserts and coffee/tea will be served, with a 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, please call Jeanette (Reynolds) Keleher at (908) 246-8861 or Diana (Maniscalco) Zaslow at (203) 227-1346.

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events

Around Town

Knights Don't Cook Friday Dinner

April 20

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 is once again holding the annual "Don't Cook Friday" Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, April 20 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.

American Legion Flea Market

April 21

The American Legion Post Women's Auxiliary, 243 Oak Tree Ave., is hosting a flea market on Saturday, April 21 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Cost to rent a spot is \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members.

If you're interested in reserving a table, please call (908) 403-4292.

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 Cold Water

Creek of Westfield. Proceeds benefit the Cancer Support Community of Central NJ and the scholarship fund. Tickets are \$20.

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

SPHS PTA Project Graduation Auction

April 28

South Plainfield High School PTA will host the annual Project Graduation auction on Saturday, April 28 from 7 to 11 p.m. in the high school gym. Doors open 6 p.m. Proceeds to benefit Project Graduation for the Class of 2012. Tickets are \$12.

For tickets or to reserve a table, call Tracey Hartmann at (908) 750-6194.

For more 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.

Ecumenical Hymn Sing at Sacred Heart

April 29

The South Plainfield Association of Christian Churches will host its second Ecumenical Hymn Sing on Sunday, April 29 at 2 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church. Time-honored hymns will be sung from the faith traditions

of Wesley Methodist, St. Stephen Lutheran, First Baptist, Pilgrim Covenant, Rescue House of Prayer and Sacred Heart Catholic Church. The event is free and open to the public.

Walk for Autism

April 29

The South Plainfield Squelettes will sponsor a "Walk For Autism," inspired by Richie Romano on Sunday, April 29 at Putnam Park (by A&P). Register 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.

Water, Earth, Wind & Fire Fashion Show

May 1

The Salon Professional Academy will present Elements 2012 Water, Earth, Wind & Fire Fashion Show to benefit the Erika Lynn Foundation (www.erikalynn.org) on Tuesday, May 1 at Studio 901, 901 Montrose Ave. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for a tricky

tray. Tickets are \$10. Show starts at 7:30 p.m.

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 at (908) 246-8861 or Diana (Maniscalco) Zaslow at (203) 227-1346.

Senior Center Trip To Wildwood

May 20-23

The South Plainfield Senior Center is sponsoring a trip to Wildwood for four days/three nights from Sunday to Thursday, May 20-23. Package includes motorcoach transportation, three nights deluxe accommodations-oceanfront hotel, three full breakfasts at the hotel and two dinners at fine local restaurants. Welcome cocktail party with live entertainment. Full day in Atlantic City with bonus package. Visit to Stone Harbor, Cape May,

SENIOR CENTER Calendar

Zumba Gold-Classes start Monday, April 23 at 9:30 a.m. Join the party!

May 2-Taj Mahal \$20pp. Bus leaves at 9 a.m. Sign up at Senior Center

May 17-Bally's Atlantic City \$20pp Bus leaves 8:30 a.m. 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

Wildwood Boardwalk, Woodland Village, Historic Smithville, Sunset Beach-Cape May Wicker Col. All tax and baggage handling included. Cost: \$210/pp double occupancy; \$261/single.

For more information or to make reservations, call (908) 754-1047.

— Out of Town —

Temple Sholom Yom HaShoah

April 20 & 22

Temple Sholom of Fanwood/Scotch Plains, located in the Fanwood Presbyterian Church at the corner of Martine and LaGrande avenues in Fanwood, will commemorate Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) tonight at 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 22 at 7 p.m. Free two-part program open to the public.

For more information, call (908) 889-4900, email sholom@sholomnj.org or visit www.sholomnj.org.

North Stelton Annual Spring Yard Sale

April 21

The Ladies Auxiliary of the North

The South Plainfield Health Department Is Conducting Its Annual RABIES CLINIC

At the South Plainfield Borough Garage (corner of Spicer and Belmont Ave.) Dog and Cat Owners are urged to bring their pets for inoculation.

2012 Dog & Cat Licenses Will Be Available

Please Note: Cats must be in a carrier

DATE:
Saturday, April 28, 2012
9:00 am - 12:00 noon

PLEASE NOTE:

The Health Department will no longer mail license or rabies clinic reminders. Please check the Borough Web site (www.southplainfieldnj.com) for current license/late fees and clinic information.

For More Information Please Call

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Stelton Voluntary Fire Company will be sponsoring the annual spring yard sale on Saturday, April 21 (rain date: April 28) from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the North Stelton Volunteer Fire Company, 70 Haines Ave. in Piscataway.

Vendors are wanted for this giant yard sale. Spaces available for \$15 each.

For more information or to reserve a space, call Sharon at (732) 763-6373.

Awareness Bake Sale and Fundraiser

April 21

Fanwood resident Mallory Banks will be at Parker Gardens, 1325 Terrill Rd., selling many delicious goodies for the benefit of Autism Awareness Month on Saturday, April 21 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is Mallory's second year organizing a bake sale for this cause that is very dear to her heart as it is done in support of her brother. Parker Gardens will also be donating five percent of all sales of vegetables, herbs and fruiting plants purchased on Saturday to Autism Awareness Month.

For more information on Parker Gardens special events seminars and hours, call (908) 322-5552.

Food Tasting at MCC

April 25

Middlesex County College Alumni Association will host a food tasting on Wednesday, April 25 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the college center featuring 25 high-quality restaurants. Tickets: adults, \$30 in advance; \$35 at the door; MCC students, \$20; and children under 12, free with the purchase of an adult ticket.

Purchase tickets online at www.middlesexcc.edu/taste or by calling (732) 906-7732.

Depression/Bipolar Support Meeting

April 25

The Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance will feature at its monthly meeting Carol Rickard, LCSW on Wednesday, April 25 at 7:45 p.m. using the facilities of the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship, 21 Normandy Heights Rd. in Morristown. The public is cordially invited; a nominal donation is requested from non-members.

For further local information, call (973) 994-1143 or the New Jersey Self-Help Group Clearing House at (800) 367-6274.

'Upscale Singles Dance Party

April 28

Steppin' Out Singles is hosting an upscale singles dance party on Saturday, April 28 at 8 p.m. at the Woodbridge Hilton Grand Ballroom, 20 Wood Ave. South in Iselin. Ages 40 and up. No jeans/t-shirts/sneakers/shorts. Admission: \$17.

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

Tournament to Benefit Fire Victims

April 29

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 30-minute games.

Register online at www.tms.ezfacility.com/OnlineRegistrations.

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, at (848) 248-4684.

Plainfield Gesang-und Turn-Verein Concert

April 29

The Plainfield Gesang-und Turn-Verein 126th annual spring concert will be held on Sunday, April 29 at 4 p.m. at Singer Hall, 220 Somerset St. in North Plainfield featuring Music Director Johanna Teubner-Prussak. Songs in German and English. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Refreshments available after the concert.

Call Gerda at (908) 369-3359 for more information.

Metuchen-Edison Women's Club Mtg.

May 2

The Metuchen-Edison Women's Club will hold its next monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 2 at 7:30 p.m. at the Heritage Clara Barton, 1015 Amboy Ave. in Edison.

Marvin Schlaffer, director of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Rutgers University, will introduce educational non-credit programs designed for individuals over 50. No tests or grades; just a willingness to expand your experiences. Join us for an informative evening. The program is free and open to the public.

For more information, call Diana at (732) 548-0925.

Clothing Drive to Benefit Autism Charities

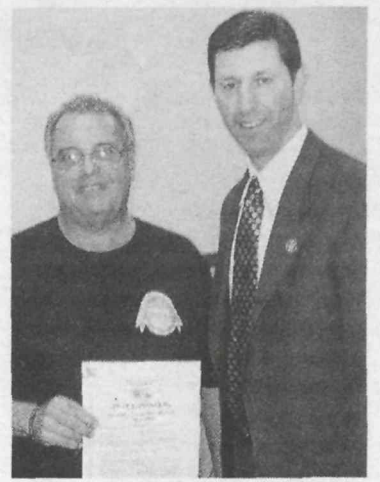
During April, Autism Awareness Month, the Erika Lynn Foundation will hold a Pound for Pound clothing drive. The mission of the Erika Lynn Foundation is to financially help any institution that reaches out to children with mental or physical handicaps. The foundation collects clothes, shoes, toys and books from the public and private sectors and redistributes them to local thrift stores and textile outlets. A percentage of what is earned is donated to charities for children with Autism, Asperger Syndrome, children's cancer, or any other child disease organization that needs help.

The passion to help these children comes from the heart. The foundation has experienced firsthand what it is

like to have a special needs child and they want to be there for any financial or emotional help families may need. Their story will inspire and give hope to the parents and families that are not sure what the future will bring. When you read Erika's bio at Erikalynn.org and get a chance to hear from the rest of her family and friends, you will see that miracles do come true.

The school that collects the most clothes (by weight) throughout April will win a dinner for its principal and superintendent. Not only will you gain satisfaction in helping a wonderful cause, you will afford your principal bragging rights about their school spirit!

For more information, call Mike Dixon at (908) 715-1694 or Alfred Dixon at (908) 715-8079.



Mayor Matt Anesh presents a proclamation to Mike Dixon recognizing April as Autism Awareness month at the April 2 council meeting.

New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestral Concert

The New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra (NJIO) presents the free concert, "Longing for Home," on Saturday, April 28 at 7:30 p.m. at New Providence High School, 35 Pioneer Dr. in New Providence.

NJIO Music Director and Conductor Farkhad Khudiyev has programmed a concert with the theme of "Longing for Home," featuring the Mozart Clarinet Concerto in A Major with special guest soloist, William Shadel. The symphony will also perform *Kadra's Dance* by Sibelius, *Sabre Dance* by Khachaturian and Dvorak's *Symphony No. 8 in G Major*. The Intermezzo String Orchestra under the baton of Gavin Davies will perform works by Handel, Mussorgsky, Franck and Peter Warlock. The Prelude String Ensemble under the direction of Margaret Zufall Roberts will perform prior to the concert.

Highly regarded up-and-coming, Conductor Khudiyev is concluding his first season as music director and conductor at the New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra. Khudiyev comes from Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, where he first studied violin and composi-

tion. He came to the United States in 2001 and is a graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory. He received a master's degree in orchestral conducting from the Yale School of Music.

Guest soloist William Shadel is the principal clarinetist with the Westfield Symphony and was the principal clarinetist of the New Jersey Symphony for 13 years. He has performed and recorded with the New York Philharmonic and the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra under the direction of Leonard Bernstein, Zubin Mehta, Kurt Masur and others.

The New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra was founded in 1994, and has grown into one of New Jersey's shining stars. With three orchestras and over 100 volunteer musicians from various New Jersey communities, the NJIO has successfully bridged the generations through

music. Members have ranged in age from six to 93 years old.

Currently, NJIO is accepting applications for its annual concerto competition, the spring cello workshop and the summer introduction to chamber music program. Information about these and other programs is available on the NJIO website at www.njio.org.

This concert is free and open to the public. Donations will be gratefully accepted. New Providence High School is handicap accessible.

For more information, visit our website at www.njio.org, email info@njio.org or call 908-603-7691.

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Bookmarks

By Chris Grippo

The year 1940 was very important in the history of the United States. The Great Depression had been in existence for the previous decade and Europe and Asia had been at war since at least the previous year. It was also time for the sixteenth census of the United States.

The census is taken every 10 years and usually is primarily concerned with the reapportionment of congressional seats and a general view of characteristics of the American people. In light of both the national and international situations, the 1940 census for the first time asked many more detailed questions concerning the economic status of the American people while also trying to get an idea of movements of population that had occurred in the United States.

To help our patrons navigate this census we are offering a workshop on Thursday, May 3 at 6 p.m. in the library. This census has not yet been name indexed so access to the raw data can only be obtained through the Enumeration District in which the census was taken. In this workshop you will be shown the census forms and various questions which were asked (and in some cases why), and we will discuss the easiest ways to find the Enumeration District where the people you are researching lived. The workshop is free, but we request that you register as we would

like to know the number of people interested in this topic.

A more general workshop on genealogy (including earlier census) will be presented on Thursday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the library. As anyone who has tackled the subject of one's ancestors knows, this can be quite a daunting topic. In this workshop we would look at a variety of sources in addition to the census and the two databases to which the library subscribes, Ancestry.com and HeritageQuest (each has its own benefits). Again, we request that you please register for this program. You can do so for either program by calling the library at (908) 754-7885 or in person at 2484 Plainfield Avenue (next to borough hall).

As a reminder, Miss Linda and Miss Mija have their regular story/craft times for three year olds and up Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. Time for 2s and 3s is Wednesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. and Books 'N Babies on Friday at 10:30 a.m. All programs are free and on a drop-in basis, although it is requested that you arrive before the program begins so your child can get the complete experience.

Also remember, for the next few weeks Miss Danielle is showing first run movies at the library on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Call the library to find out the title of the next movie to be shown.

John F. Kennedy Kindergarten Get Acquainted Program

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

The purpose of the program is to help your child become familiar with the school and ease some of the anxiety about coming to school in September. The program includes a visit with the

principal, school nurse, members of the faculty and staff, and a mini bus ride.

The program will include two class meetings. Choose either morning or afternoon session as follows: Thursday, May 31 and Thursday, June 7 from 9 to 10:30 a.m.; Thursday, May 31 and Thursday, June 7 from 12:30 to 2 p.m.; Friday, June 1 and Friday, June 8 from 9 to 10:30 a.m.; and Friday, June 1 and Friday, June 8 from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

Parents must assume responsibility for bringing children to school and picking them up at the end of class.

For more information, call Kennedy School at (908) 754-4620, ext. 330.



(L-R) Melinda Hanlon, Grand Knight Joe Scrudato, Frank Stahl, Father John Alvarado and Audrey Ginda.

Knights Disburse Funds From Lenten Fish Dinners

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 held the 2012 Sacred Heart Lenten Fish Dinners last month and raised \$4,840 during the six weeks of Lent. As a thank you to all of the volunteers who helped out at the dinners, an appreciation dinner was held on April 12 at the Knights Hall on Hamilton Boulevard.

Knights member Joe McGeehan cooked a great dinner, serving about 70 volunteers who enjoyed a relaxing evening.

Grand Knight Joe Scrudato presented \$700 to Father John Alvarado from Sacred Heart Church; Melinda Hanlon, principal from Holy Savior

Academy, received \$700, and Frank Stahl and Audrey Ginda from the Sacred Heart Church Social Concerns Committee received \$3,040 to be used for parishioners and residents who need financial help in paying their bills or for food.

The Knights thanked Rich from Presto Printing for donating the place mats and brother Knights Rick McCriscin and Jim Gustafson from McCriscin-Gustafson Home For Funerals for donating money for start up expenses.

Scrudato also thanked all the Knights and volunteers who made the Lenten fish dinners a great success again this year.

police report

- On April 6 Haley K. Thergesen, 20, of Edison was arrested at Kohl's for shoplifting \$44 worth of clothing and jewelry.
- Karen W. Wallace, 32, of Springfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated and reckless driving.
- On April 7 Audrey L. Powers, 62, of Middlesex was arrested at Kohl's for shoplifting \$113 worth of jewelry.
- On April 9 Malcolm L. Perry, 19, of Woodbridge was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.
- On April 11 Nikita Connell Hines, 40, of Raleigh, N.C. was arrested for expired registration, driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant.
- On April 12 Eric Rodriguez, 41, of Sayerville and Clyde E. McRae, 63, of Dunellen were arrested for theft of scrap metal.

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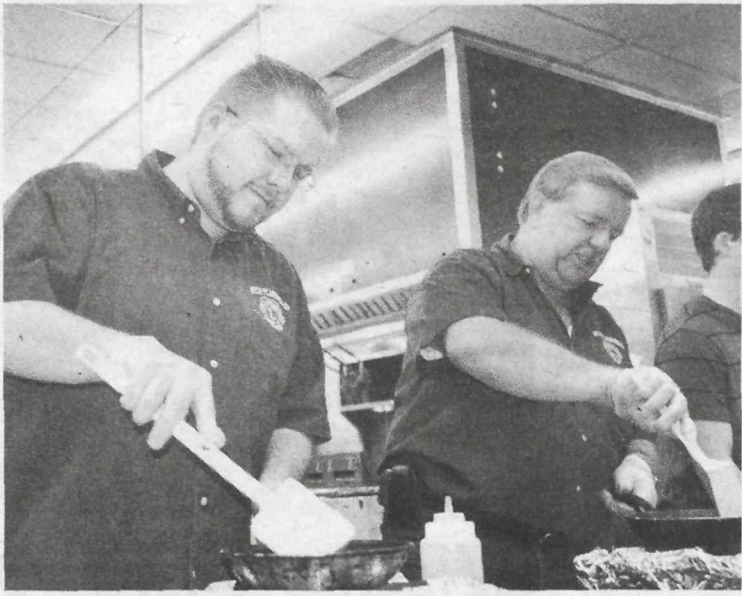
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<p>\$39 45min Facial</p> <p>With coupon only. Not to be combined with any offer or gift certificate. Expires May 25, 2012.</p>	<p>\$35 Foot Reflexology (45 min.) or Ear Candling (30 min.)</p> <p>With coupon only. Not to be combined with any offer or gift certificate. Expires May 25, 2012.</p>	<p>Wax Special Eyebrow Up or Chin \$5/ea Under Arm \$8 Full Leg & Bikini \$25</p> <p>With coupon only. Not to be combined with any offer or gift certificate. Expires May 25, 2012.</p>
<p>\$65 Eyelash Extension</p> <p>With coupon only. Not to be combined with any offer or gift certificate. Expires May 25, 2012.</p>	<p>New Customer Special (Any service)</p> <p>With coupon only. Not to be combined with any offer or gift certificate. Expires May 25, 2012.</p>	<p>50% OFF Autoclave Sterilization Same Method Used by Hospital</p>

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Lions Host Annual Palm Sunday Breakfast



Ken and Mike Zushma prepare made-to-order omelets at the Lions breakfast.

By Patricia Abbott

South Plainfield Lions Club has been holding a Palm Sunday gourmet breakfast for more than 50 years. The event, held in the high school cafeteria, is an all-you-can-eat breakfast that offers much more than cereal and fruit. Guests had a choice of sausage, bacon, French toast, Belgium waffles, home fried potatoes, toast, coffee, tea, orange juice and, the most popular menu item, made-to-order omelets with a wide choice of fillings.

Long before the start of the breakfast, Lions members and volunteers were hard at work setting up the kitchen and cafeteria. The breakfast is more than just a town tradition; it's become a family tradition. While some eat and run, many others linger, enjoying a final cup of coffee and talk with friends, family and neighbors.

There was more than enough work to go around. Two members manned the door to sell or take tickets, and to sell raffle tickets. Volunteers quickly cleaned and reset tables to keep up with the crowd. The kitchen was a highly organized beehive of activity. Those handling food prep were busy non-stop. The food was served cafeteria style with two entrances that prevented overcrowding and long lines. While French toast and waffles were being made in

the kitchen, other members worked the buffet line serving side dishes.

On omelet duty were Ken Zushma, Mike Zushma and Sal Severini, flipping and filling eggs cooked to perfection.

As the crowd thinned, Lions members and their families found the time to sit down and enjoy their breakfast.

At noon the winner of the raffle prize, a full patio set, was announced.

Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization with more than 1.3 million members in 206 countries and geographic areas who work together to answer the needs that challenge communities around the world.

Lions Club was founded in 1917 by Melvin Jones, a 38 year-old Chicago business leader. Within three years, Lions became an international organization. Best known for fighting blindness by conducting vision screenings, equipping hospitals and clinics, distributing medicine and raising awareness of eye disease, Lions work toward their mission of providing vision for all. They have extended a commitment to sight conservation through countless local efforts and through the international SightFirst Program.

For more information about Lions Clubs, visit www.lionsclubs.org or call (908) 753-3850.



O'Sullivan sisters Nicole, 8 and Amy, 3 each donated 10 inches of their hair to "Locks of Love" at Elegant Image Salon in Westfield.



South Plainfield Schools Calendar

Franklin School

- April 26-27-Parent/Teacher Conferences

Grant School

- April 25-Spring Dance
- April 30-May 2-NJASK testing

Kennedy School

- April 20-Father/Daughter Dance
- April 25-"Respect" Challenge
- April 26-27-Parent/Teachers Conferences, early dismissal
- April 27-Third grade Grandparents Day

Riley School

- April 20-Mother/Son Dance
- April 24-Staten Island Yankee Assembly; McDonalds Family Night
- April 26-27-Parent/Teachers Conferences, early dismissal

Roosevelt School

- April 26-27-Parent/Teachers Conferences, early dismissal

High School

- April 28-Project Graduation Auction

Middle School

- April 22-23-24-25-26 and 27 NJASK Testing
- May 1-NJASK testing makeup
- May 3 and 4-Play 7 p.m.

Borough to Hold Budget Hearings

The Borough Council will hold hearings for the 2012 budget at the Senior Center starting at 5 p.m. for the following departments:

Monday, April 23-OEM, economic development, court, fire department, fire official, recreation pool, Office on Aging, health, police and 911.

Tuesday, April 24-building, zoning and planning, environmental, recycling, public works, sewer utility, finance, tax collection, tax assessing and clerk.



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Commissioner Mike Pellegrino with Grand Marshal Frank Smith



Welcome Back! Junior Baseball

By Jane Dornick

Under bright sunny skies, the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club held their 59th annual opening day parade and ceremony last Saturday morning.

Fire department and rescue squad vehicles led the way as officials, players and coaches marched from Roosevelt School to the baseball complex on Kenneth Avenue. Council members Tim McConville, Rob Bengivenga, Alex Barletta, Derryck White, Council President Ray Rusnak, along with Police Chief James Parker, Fire Chief Tom Scalera and Rescue Squad Captain Ed Laferrara and his members attended the festivities. Mayor Matt Anesh was present in the outfield to coach sons Joseph and Harrison's Small Fry B League team.

Assistant Commissioner of Public Relations Ricky Donovan welcomed the crowd along with



master of ceremonies, Phil Aiello.

There was a presentation of the flag and a moment of silence for the men and women who have given their lives for our

freedom and for those around the globe still serving and fighting the war against terrorism.

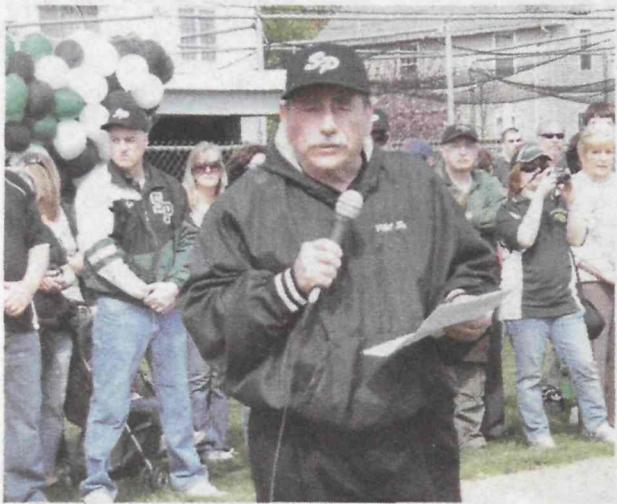
Joann Marsten sang *God Bless America* and Lanie Harris followed with the *Star Spangled Banner*. Doves by Kaila's Love Doves of Fords were released and an invocation was given by Reverend Gray.

This year's grand marshal was Frank Smith, who became involved with the club in 1971 with his two sons, Frank and Bob. Back then, all of the C-League games were played at Riley School and Putnam Park. Frank was involved in coaching and managing throughout his tenure. His wife, Barbara, was one of the many Candy Lady mothers who sold candy to help

raise money for the club. All of the club meetings were held at the Polish Home and the only field with lights was the Pony Field.

When Frank became commissioner in the late 70s he was the first to make changes to the club which are still a part of the league today. He helped form the Pony B League for 13 year-olds; allowed the players to keep their own uniform shirts and hats after the season; had new trophy cases for trophies installed and established a Babe Ruth League for 16 year-olds which he also managed.

In Smith's 10 years with the club, he saw the clubhouse and snack stand being built and additional fields added to the



Emcee Phil Aiello



Mike Pellegrino with Bob Buck



Commissioner Mike Pellegrino with Tree Olano



Lanie Harris sings the Star Spangled Banner

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Commissioner Mike Pellegrino with Bob Merkler



Commissioner Mike Pellegrino with Jim Olano



Commissioner Mike Pellegrino with Danan Hughes

Club Holds 59th Annual Opening Day Ceremony

complex. He still remembers all of the hard working volunteers, both men and women, that he worked with to make the club the success it is today.

Bob Buck and Bob Merkler both received Lifetime Member Awards. Buck was involved with the club for many years with his sons Michael, Kyle and Adam. He was a snack stand captain for nearly 10 years. While he took on the role of cooking on Friday evenings, he was also busy cleaning and getting ready for the next day's shift.

Merkler was a coach and manager for many years while

his sons Bobby and Billy played during the regular season. He was very successful with the All-Star teams winning many tournaments. Merkler was also a secretary on the board and took on the role as director of the A League. He was also instrumental in the renovations of the fields at the complex.

The Commissioner's Award went to Tree Olano who helped rejuvenate the Women's Auxiliary. While her son played ball, she became the co-president for two years and was the president for the next four years. Tree helped organize many ways to

raise money for special projects at the club which included a new batting cage for Field 3, new foul poles for all of the fields, bat and helmet racks for all of the fields and other yearly projects. Tree, along with the committee, also helped out with the summer district and state tournaments.

Both Andy Bythell and Jim Olano received Past Board Member Award plaques and recognition from the club.

The special athlete guest speaker was Danan Hughes, a former pro football and baseball player from Bayonne. He gradu-

ated from the University of Iowa having played well at both sports and was drafted by the Milwaukee Brewers where he spent two years. He decided to make football his full time profession and was a wide receiver for the Kansas City Chiefs from 1993 to 1998. "I'll never forget these days," said Hughes, as he told the youngsters to "have fun and play hard."

Smith threw out the first pitch to Small Fry A league catcher Jack Scrudato as the traditional white and green balloons were released into the air to signify the beginning of a new season.



Commissioner Mike Pellegrino with Andy Bythell

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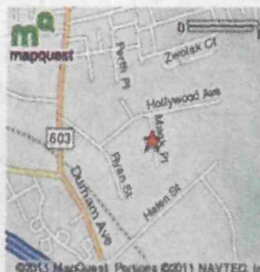
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BY GARY LAMPASONA JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB

Opening Day—On a seasonably warm day under abundant sunshine, the 59th season of baseball began last Saturday at the SPJBC Complex. A parade, complete with the South Plainfield High School Band and thrilling fire trucks, wound through the streets to a vibrant opening ceremony at the field. After the pomp and circumstance, baseball arrived after the call to “play ball” for another fun-filled season in South Plainfield.

Team Banner Contest Winner—All Small Fry teams are winners! Uncle Louie G’s Ice Cream Shop has donated one free ice cream cone or Italian ice for each team member who participated in the contest. Please see your manager for a coupon. The first place winner is the Small Fry A League Dodgers. Each player will receive a free Meal Deal at our famous snack stand. Please see your manager for the coupon.

High School Baseball Game—The SPJBC is sponsoring the South Plainfield High School Baseball team’s participation in an interstate baseball game at Richmond County Bank Ballpark, the home of the Staten Island Yankees minor league baseball team. Join us on Saturday, May 12 and cheer on your high school team as they play the Briarcliff, N.Y. high school baseball team. Admission is free.

Field Duty—Let’s not forget that it is with everyone’s efforts that our complex stays in outstanding condition for the kids. Field duty this weekend is scheduled for the Small Fry B Marlins and Pony B Muck Dogs on Saturday and the Small Fry A White Sox and Small Fry B Mets on Sunday. Please report and sign in at 8 a.m. at the clubhouse.

Register For South Plainfield Eagles Football & Cheer

South Plainfield Eagles Football & Cheer is holding open registration on Saturday, April 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Eagles Fieldhouse, 832 Kenneth Ave. You can also register online at www.leaguelineup.com/speagles. For more information, call (732) 991-3880.



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SPHS South Plainfield High School

SPORTS SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

3:30pm V Golf-Edison @ W9 (H)
3:45pm V & JV Softball - Wardlaw (A) bus 2:30
3:45pm BV Tennis-New Brunswick (A) bus 2:30
BV Track-Metuchen Fresh/Soph (A) bus TBA

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

11am V & JV Softball-JP Stevens (H)
1pm Fr Baseball-Paramus (A) bus 11:15
1pm V & JV Baseball-Paramus (H)
GV Track-Hillsboro (A) bus TBA

MONDAY, APRIL 23

3:30pm V Golf-JP Stevens @ W9
3:45pm Fr Baseball-JFK (A) bus 2:30
4pm V & JV Baseball-JFK (H)
4pm V & JV Softball-Roselle Park (H)
4pm V Tennis-Woodbridge (H)

TUESDAY, APRIL 24

3:30pm V Golf-JP Stevens @ W9 (H)
3:45pm V & JV Softball-Perth Amboy (A) bus 2:30
3:45pm GV Track-Metuchen (A) bus 2:30

TUESDAY, APRIL 24 (cont.)

3:45pm Fr Baseball-JFK (H)
3:45pm V Lacrosse-No. Bruns (H) JV/5:15
4pm V & JV Baseball-JFK (A) bus 2:30
BV Track-Old Bridge (A) bus TBA

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

3:30pm V Golf-St. Joes @ Hyatt Hills (A) bus 2:30
3:45pm V Tennis-Sayreville (H)
4:00pm JV & Fr Baseball-St. Joes (H)

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

3:30pm V Golf-East Brunswick (H)
3:45pm V & JV Softball-No. Brunswick (A) bus 2:30
3:45pm V Lacrosse-S. Brunswick (H) JV/5:15
4:00pm V Baseball vs. St. Joes @ Rutgers (A) bus 2:30
GV Track-Penn Relays (A) bus 6am

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

3:30pm V Golf-Piscataway @ W9 (H)
3:45pm V & JV Softball-Scotch Plains (A) bus 2:30

U-19 FUSION

Submitted By Peter Goitiandia

Breakaway Goal Takes U19 Fusion to 3 and 0

South Plainfield’s U19 soccer team is off to a terrific start. After winning the Flight 1-Division 1 MNJYSA Championship last year, Fusion defeated their first three opponents—Rahway Crew, Bayonne Liberty Elite and most recently, the Perth Amboy Panteras.

On Sunday Fusion went on the road against another undefeated team vying for first place in their flight. Team Fusion played the first half facing a brisk wind, and most of the play for the half was in our defensive zone.

The defense, anchored by goalie Shane McCoid and defensemen Lucas Goitiandia, Jose Cruz, Jelani Ptaah and newcomer Christopher Pastuna, was outstanding. They held the Panteras scoreless in the first half with the help of mid-fielders Edwin Molina, Gary Pastuna, Jeffrey Giron, Erick Rodriguez, newcomers Roberto Mendoza and Jacob Villares and with support from Bacilio Alvarado, Samuel Alvarado, Christian Bonilla, Eric Garcia and Brandon Perez. The offense, led by Samuel Tejada and Steve Lanza, had a couple of good chances in the half but were unable to capitalize.

The second half started slowly for Team Fusion, and Perth Amboy scored

in the fifth minute of play. Play picked up and turned physical in the second half with both teams getting multiple chances at scoring.

At 24 minutes in, Fusion was awarded a penalty kick which Edwin Molina converted and tied the score at one all. The excitement and intensity of the game could be felt by everyone with play going back and forth for most of the second half and our defense coming up big time blocking shots.

Towards the end of the game as time was running out, South Plainfield had a breakaway with 20 seconds left on the clock, and Samuel Tejada put the game winning goal into the back of the net. Fusion celebrated their victory with a final score of 2-1.

Several other rostered members were unable to play this weekend, including Christian Villalva, Omar Mohamed and Juan Gonzalez.

Coaches Paul Billich, Peter Goitiandia and Samuel Tejada would like to encourage all to come out and support Team Fusion at the next home game at Riley field on Sunday at 12 p.m. against the Franklin Township Warriors, the team Fusion defeated for the Division Championship last spring.

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Notes from the Jim Pomovets Memorial Golf League



LEAGUE STANDINGS

American Division	W	L	T	National Division	W	L	T
2 Buds, 2 Dubs	1	0	0	So. Plainfield Funeral Home	1	0	0
McCriskin-Gustafson	1	0	0	Sport & Social	1	0	0
Unique Sports	1	0	0	Italian-American Club	1	0	0
KC's Korner	0	1	0	Dirty Harry & Friends	0	1	0
Twin City	0	1	0	Witty's Liquors	0	1	0
Alfie's Boys	0	1	0	Windows Plus	0	1	0

Opening night in the Jim Pomovets Memorial Golf League was filled with a number of surprises, some splendid golf, and a spectacular eagle.

And then there were a significant number of golfers who started off in balmy weather and then struggled with the cold and windy conditions that quickly developed and posted some uncharacteristically high scores.

The biggest surprise came in the match between Alfie's Boys, last year's American Division champions, and 2 Buds, 2 Dubs.

On the 413-yard second hole, Don Hall of 2 Buds, 2 Dubs, hit a fine drive and then stroked a beautiful second shot that found the hole for a spectacular eagle. Since he was getting a stroke on that hole from both of his opponents, his net score was a double-eagle. Inspired by Hall's fantastic shot, 2 Buds, 2 Dubs went on to crush Alfie's Boys, 16-4. Capt. Dale "The Needler" Dube had a 39 for the victors while John Gaven had a 38, and Irish Danny Griffin fired a 39 for a still dazed Alfie's Boys squad.

Another team that was found wandering around the clubhouse in stunned disbelief after their match was Twin City Pharmacy. Capt. Guy "The Hustler" Severini had his full Bomb Squad at the ready when they took on McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals. What Twin City didn't realize was that Mark "Mr. Steady" Chichvar of McCriskin's had his mother-in-law, Eleanor, infuse him with one of her magic spells so that he, in turn, could electrify his team. Eleanor's magic worked again as McCriskin's buried Twin City, 15-5. Chris Krantz earned the medal for the winners with his 37, and Chichvar chipped in with a 39. Jay Coppola of Twin City was the low man for his team with a 37 while Guy Severini and Joe Diller had a pair of 39s in a losing effort.

The challenge posed by a fickle Mother Nature was no problem for Chris "The Hawk" Dillon who played superbly in registering an even-par 33 to spark Unique Sports to a 12-8 win over KC's Korner. Ted "Old Reliable" Stanik came through with a 38 to aid in the victory.

A few years ago, Mike Behr of KC's Korner was known as "Iron Mike" because he never used a driver off the tee. Nowadays, he carries a Big Dog in his bag—but he rarely uses it. He hits all his other clubs so extremely well and so much straighter that he really doesn't need his driver at West Nine. He demonstrated that with a sparkling even-par 33 to share medalist honors for the night with Chris Dillon.

Over in the National Division, the pre-season favorite, Witty's Liquors got a solid performance from Jim Parker who came through with a nice round of 38. Unfortunately, the rest of the team did some whacking and thwacking, and Sport & Social pulled off a 12-8 victory, despite the fact that they were having a tough time themselves. Frank Mathews, wearing 25 Mitt Romney buttons on his golf shirt, managed a 44—and that was good enough for medalist honors.

John Dominic looked good in his debut for the South Plainfield Funeral Home and crushed some impressive drives but showed he still has some things to learn about the tricky greens at West Nine. Dominic and Wayne Lavender both had rounds of 40 to fire their team to a 15-5 win over the new kid on the block, Windows Plus. Dave Brennan shot a 43 in a losing cause.

In a high-scoring match, the Italian-American Club squeaked by Dirty Harry & Friends, 11-9. Lou Colicetto led the way for the victors with a 43 while Eddie Rodriguez had the same score to earn the medal for Dirty Harry & Friends.

For their match next week against Witty's Liquors, Danny Griffin has instructed his Alfie's Boys teammates to wear subdued golf attire. The garish look doesn't seem to be working this season. And Guy Severini has threatened to withhold the meatballs at Sal's if Twin City Pharmacy doesn't shape up next week when they take on Matt Fredrickson and his Windows Plus squad.

Low scores for the night: Mike Behr, 33; Chris Dillon, 33; Don Hall, 36; Jay Coppola, 37; Chris Krantz, 37; John Gaven, 38; Ted Stanik, 38; Jim Parker, 38.

—Submitted by Bob Nilan

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Education Foundation/Business Association Annual Golf Outing

Join the South Plainfield Education Foundation and the South Plainfield Business Association for a fun day of golf and networking with delicious food and drink on Tuesday, May 8 from 3 to 8 p.m. at Cranbury Golf Club, 49 Southfield Rd. in West Windsor.

Proceeds from the event go to local scholarships and other charitable causes.

Entry fee of \$150 includes 18 holes of golf, use of locker rooms, greens fees and cart, continental breakfast, complimentary beverage cart, hot dog and chips at the turn, open bar (beer, wine and soda) and BBQ luncheon.

The format is a four man scramble with a shotgun start. Prizes will be awarded for team low gross, team low net, longest drive and closest to the pin and Par 3 contest. Hole in one wins a car!

Registration and continental breakfast at 8 a.m. with shotgun start at 9 a.m. Open bar begins at 2 p.m. followed by the BBQ luncheon and awards.

The following corporate sponsorships are available: Platinum \$1,000; gold \$750 and silver \$500. Corporate underwriters include: event sponsor \$500; breakfast sponsor \$250; beverage cart sponsor \$250; lunch sponsor \$250; tee sign-first and 18th tee box \$175 and tee sign-second through 17th green \$125.

To register, visit www.spba.biz.

For more information, call Shannon Jefferys at (908) 757-1055, Thom Lanza at (908) 753-6010, Bob Longo at (908) 753-7004, ext. 106, Rick McCrisky at (908) 561-8000 or Marge Reedy at (908) 561-5800, ext. 302.

Calling All High School Senior Girls - It's Scholarship Time

As you may not know, the Parents' Ponytail (Softball) Association is sponsoring four \$500 college scholarships. Applications are currently being accepted and can be obtained from the South Plainfield High School Guidance Office. To qualify for the scholarships, the applicant must be a high school senior graduating this June and a current resident of South Plainfield. To qualify for one of the two recreation scholarships, applicants must have played for a minimum of four years in the South Plainfield Recreation Department's Ponytail Softball League. To qualify for the Ponytail All-Star scholarships, applicants must have played recreation softball for a minimum of four years and Ponytail All-Stars for a minimum of three years. All-Star players may apply for both the recreation and All-Star scholarships; however, a player is only eligible to receive one scholarship. The application must be received no later than Monday, May 14.

All completed applications can be mailed to APPPA Scholarship, P.O. Box 441, South Plainfield, N.J. 07080 or return to the high school guidance office in a sealed envelope labeled SPPPA Scholarship. Verification of school enrollment is required prior to funds being awarded. Get your applications and submit them as soon as possible. Best of luck to all of you. You are all winners in our scorebook.

Middlesex County College Golf Classic Set for May 3

Middlesex County College will hold its 30th Golf Classic on Thursday, May 3 at Colonia Country Club. Organized by the MCC Foundation, Inc. as a fundraiser, the classic begins at 10 a.m. with lunch. The golf classic begins at noon.

"This is a great opportunity for golfers of all abilities to have a great time while supporting scholarship programs for students," said Patrick Madama, vice president for advancement at Middlesex. "And for those who don't golf, there's the reception and dinner that follow. Each year, the foundation sponsors events and seeks private donations to help the college fulfill its mission of accessible, affordable, quality education for Middlesex County residents. By participating in this event, you contribute to student success."

The golf classic is a shotgun start, scramble format, and includes contests on the golf course. Each participant receives a goodie bag of gifts and there is a silent auction at the reception and dinner.

"This is a great day for people who like to golf, as well as for people who want to have fun while helping our students," Madama said.

The cost for an individual golfer is \$295; \$1,180 per foursome and sponsorship opportunities are available.

For more information, call (732) 906-2564 or visit www.middlesexcc.edu/foundation.

Record Number of Golfers on Middlesex County Greens as the Season Officially Kicks-off

The season is officially underway, although Central Jersey golfers aren't too sure that it ever ended in light of this year's unseasonably warm weather. Spurred by a record-breaking mild winter, golfers teed-off at Middlesex County's most convenient greens all winter long.

Middlesex County Improvement Authority's four golf courses saw a total of 7,366 rounds of play in January and February. Logistically speaking, between the three sites Tamarack Golf Courses in East Brunswick recorded 4,510 rounds; the Meadows at Middlesex Golf Course in Plainsboro confirmed 1,331 rounds; and the Raritan Landing Golf Course in Piscataway acknowledged 1,525 rounds in that

two-month span.

Quite a difference a year makes, considering the opposite was true for the start of 2011, when a record-breaking winter in its own right, dumped more than 20 inches of snow and downed dozens of trees, all but halting play at county courses.

Rain or shine, the MCI's diligent staff members continue their maintenance schedules so the courses are well kept and open for play for the many loyal golfers that frequent them.

The most visible of these efforts includes the aerification of the tees, fairways and greens, a rarely interrupted reseeded routine and a supervised team of border collies at Tamarack, warding-off Canada Geese.

Of the three sites, Tamarack's two, 18-hole courses routinely attract central county golfers. In fact, a number of golf leagues, 10 high school teams and First Tee of Raritan Valley, an organization aimed at teaching children life skills through the game, all call Tamarack home.

In the south county region, Meadow's 18-hole bent grass course weaves through the area's town home and apartment communities, creating a park-like setting that's appreciated by residents and visitors alike. League play, high school golf teams and charitable outings that produce substantial donations for various organizations each year, are a common site on the course.

Raritan Landing's par-58 executive-style course is a destination point for many of the region's seniors, beginning and family golfers and women's foursomes. With its small greens and narrow fairways, this 3,300-yard, 18-hole golf course serves as a fairly precise barometer of a player's accuracy and skills.

For more on these golf courses, log on to the Middlesex County Improvement Authority's web site at www.mciath.com.

Ponytail Softball Travel Team Tryouts

The 2012 South Plainfield Tiger's Travel Team Tryouts (formerly known as the South Plainfield All-Stars) are open to all South Plainfield girls who play ponytail/recreation softball, ages eight to 16.

Tryout dates at Ponytail Park are:

• U10-Saturday, April 21 and Sun-

day, April 22, 3:30 p.m.

• U12-Saturday, April 21, 4 p.m.

• U14-Sunday, April 22, 4 p.m.

If you have any questions, please email Jul McCormick at sponnytailsoftball@gmail.com.

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Charlie and Debbie Kurland of Hometown Heros deliver dinner to Junior Journalist winner Javid Khan, pictured with his mom, Natalie.

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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

In My Opinion

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

(Continued from page 2)
grabbing the money if they don't use the card within two years.

The New Jersey Retail Merchants Association and the Retail Gift Card Association have released a study that estimates between \$64 million and \$94 million in sales tax revenue would be lost each year if shoppers in New Jersey stopped shopping with gift cards.

The governor was quoted as saying he's not worried. Maybe he isn't but both consumers and businesses throughout the state are. He should admit that this ill advised grab at gift cards to balance the state budget was a mistake. All that is needed to reverse it is his signature on my legislation.

ASSEMBLYMAN PATRICK
DIEGNAN JR. (D-MIDDLESEX)

Dear Editor,

The South Plainfield Middle School PTO hosted "In Brayden's Eyes," The Brayden Carr Foundation walk/run and Rutgers Men's Basketball coaches and alumni players vs. South Plainfield Police PBA #100 charity game, which funds scholarships for children and students with disabilities.

Thank you to Jim and Natalie Zeno Carr for all your work to ensure that this event would be a huge success, Chief of Police Jim Parker and PBA #100 President-Officer Lloyd McNelly and the officers who volunteered their time to map and man the run/walk route and participate in the basketball game, Middle School PTO officers Eileen Brady, Suzanne Butrico, Jen and Joey Falcone, Bill Butrico and Principal Kevin Hajduk for shopping and hosting

the snack stand, Debbie Czech, Andrea Gustafson, Nancy Flannery, Mickey Wrublewski, Vicki Uniacke and the student interns and staff from Rutgers University for all their support and help. The support of all the South Plainfield High School coaches and their team members, Coaches Guida, Zurka, Fish, Spolarich, McQuane, Panzarella, Boyle, Hughes, Hamilton, Uniacke, Danella, Peer Leaders, teachers and guidance staff and Athletic Director Al Czech was overwhelming.

The Rutgers players were Brad Wachtel, Tyre Greer, Marquis Webb, Corky McMullen, Mike Coburn, Grant Billmeier and Juel Wiggan and the PBA players were Daryl Strother, Pete Leonardi, Mike Sikanowicz, Joe Glowacki, Ken Parada, Gary Cassio, Jim Parker, Ahmad Stuckey, Jay Culver and Lloyd McNelly. Officials were Fred Leo and Tom Curtis, and clock/scorekeeper was Megan Boyle.

Attending were Council President Ray Rusnak and Councilman Rob Bengivenga.

SINCERELY,
DEBBIE BOYLE,
MIDDLE SCHOOL PTO PRESIDENT

To the Editor:

The school district issued its budget on March 28. Once again, as in several prior years, it includes a property tax increase. This in spite of the fact that for the 2011/2012 school year the district received \$1,120,805 in additional state aid, and for 2012/2013 received additional state aid of \$735,783. The audit report as of June 30, 2011 issued in December 2011 showed the

following:

Excess Surplus: \$1,343,401.54; Emergency Maintenance and Capital Reserve: \$1,197,613; Designated for subsequent year expenditure: \$600,000; Unassigned Fund Balance: \$348,924; Encumbrances: \$386,078; and Capital Projects Fund Balance: \$1,685,607.

When totaled, this results in an audit district balance of \$3,876,016 plus \$1,685,607 in the Capital Project Fund. The interim superintendent initially took the position that there was no excess surplus; however, in a press release dated February 14, 2012, he admitted that in fact a surplus of \$1,343,402 was available and also that there was \$678,309 in deferred state aid for use in the 2012/2013 budget.

In summary, the 2012/2013 budget does use the \$1,343,402 as revenue but makes no reference to the \$600,000 in the audit or the \$678,309 deferred state aid. We should be told how and where these funds were applied.

Also, if the \$1,685,607 in the Capital Project Fund Balance were used for roof repairs, there would be no need for the taxpayers to be asked to pay \$1,271,606 for the roof capital expenditure. This item is reported in the advertised 2012/2013 school budget published in the *Observer*.

By accounting for and reconciling all the financial funds and resources, and applying them accordingly, there would be no increase in school property taxes.

FRANK A. MIKORSKI

To the Editor:

I am responding to Joseph Sorrentino's letter printed in the April 13 edition of the *Observer*.

Joe, while I applaud you for standing up last year and running for the BOE, I need to address your comments from last week. Please check your facts before sending lengthy letters to the editor. Yes, Councilman Rusnak asked for money back from the BOE to be used for the tax appeals. He did this because property values are down and

the businesses and homeowners in town have received tax credits after their properties were reevaluated. He asked for 57% of the total amount appealed. I don't think this request is unreasonable because 57% of our taxes goes to the schools in the first place. Also, 57% represents \$159,000. This is a lot better than requesting the \$1.3M surplus that the BOE is holding. At a recent BOE meeting, you thought it was better to hold this surplus money so that it could be used for the children because you thought it would only amount to \$20-30 relief to the average household. Thankfully, Councilmen Bengivenga and Rusnak were there to correct you. The actual relief would have been about \$120 per household or two percent of your tax bill.

You mention in your letter that the governor cut state aid over the last three years. This is correct, he cut state aid the first year he was in office. However, you failed to mention that since then, he increased it last year by more than \$600,00 and again this coming year by about \$750,000. Plus, South Plainfield is getting an additional \$600,000 in aid which is not reflected in your budget.

Now let's talk about the condition of the school roofs. After all this talk started about the roofs being unsafe and costing millions of dollars to fix, our town engineer has deemed them safe. An independent roofing contractor along with a BOE member inspected the roofs and estimated that the cost to fix them would only run in the thousands, not millions. I believe that if the company that the BOE hired to maintain the grounds and buildings did their job, this problem wouldn't have materialized.

You state that the council has been raising money by taking money from the library. The money that they were asking for from the library is money that came from the borough and was sitting in a reserve account. If you check the records, the library did not return the original amount that was requested of them. They chose to return a small portion of it.

While it is great that you want to always put the children first, do you feel that at this time, with the way the economy is, that it's prudent to have a budget that's in the range of a 3½% increase?

RESPECTFULLY,
ALFRED LEPORE

Dear Editor,

The South Plainfield Education Foundation Wine and Spirit Tasting took place on April 13 at the South Plainfield Senior Center.

We would like to thank all those who attended this fourth annual event, which supports our high school scholarship program, gold card picnic and many other events hosted by the South Plainfield Education Foundation. Thank you to Dan and Jen Ratti of Oak Tree Liquors and the 17 vendors who participated in our event; John from Flanagan's Restaurant for the donation of various food and sandwiches; April who set up and served; Charlie and Debbie from Hometown Heros for the salads and sandwiches and the Boyle Memorial Foundation for the donation of food from Paulo's Barbeque; Angelo's Ice for the bags of ice and Jim Gustafson for ensuring delivery. We encourage everyone to patronize our sponsors.

Thank you to Marjorie Reedy, Shannon Jefferys and Michele Fugazzi for all the help setting up and cleaning up. We had over 75 people who attended our event, along with the mayor and members of the council. Thank you to Senior Center Director Tree Olano and staff members Linda and Angelo for all their help. Thank you CFO Glenn Cullen and Darlene Pinto, Mayor Anesh, Council President Ray Rusnak, Councilmen Tim McConville, Rob Bengivenga, Derryck White, Alex Barletta and Dick Frank for attending.

We look forward to our fifth event in 2013.

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LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, 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 adopted after a Public Hearing and Final reading were conducted on Monday, April 16, 2012 at the Public Meeting of The Governing Body which began at 7:00pm in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 and is being advertised in The Observer on Friday, April 20, 2012.
Amy Antonides, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk
\$28.50 April 20, 2012

LEGAL NOTICE
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE 1962
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW ORDINANCE OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
This ordinance shall take effect immediately after final passage and publication according to law. This Ordinance published herewith was introduced and passed upon first reading at the regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield held on April 16, 2012. It will be further considered for final passage after a public hearing to be held on May 7, 2012, at the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, NJ at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, at which time and place any persons desire to be heard upon the same will be given an opportunity to be heard. Copies are available free of charge at the Municipal Clerk's Office prior to the public hearing.
Amy Antonides, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk
\$30.86 April 20, 2012

LEGAL NOTICE
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE No. 1954
CALENDAR YEAR 2012
AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCE AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK WHEN THE COLA IS EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN 2.5 PERCENT (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14) IN BUDGET CALENDAR YEAR 2012 was adopted after a Public Hearing and Final reading were conducted on Monday, April 16, 2012 at the Public Meeting of The Governing Body which began at 7:00pm in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 and is being advertised in The Observer on Friday, April 20, 2012.
Amy Antonides, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk
\$28.50 April 20, 2012

LEGAL NOTICE
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, 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 adopted after a Public Hearing and Final reading were conducted on Monday, April 16, 2012 at the Public Meeting of The Governing Body which began at 7:00pm in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 and is being advertised in The Observer on Friday, April 20, 2012.
Amy Antonides, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk
\$27.56 April 20, 2012
LEGAL NOTICE
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, 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 adopted after a Public Hearing and Final reading were conducted on Monday, April 16, 2012 at the Public Meeting of The Governing Body which began at 7:00pm in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 and is being advertised in The Observer on Friday, April 20, 2012.
Amy Antonides, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk
\$27.56 April 20, 2012

LEGAL NOTICE
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, 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 adopted after a Public Hearing and Final reading were conducted on Monday, April 16, 2012 at the Public Meeting of The Governing Body which began at 7:00pm in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 and is being advertised in The Observer on Friday, April 20, 2012.
Amy Antonides, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk
\$27.56 April 20, 2012

LEGAL NOTICE
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, 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 adopted after a Public Hearing and Final reading were conducted on Monday, April 16, 2012 at the Public Meeting of The Governing Body which began at 7:00pm in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 and is being advertised in The Observer on Friday, April 20, 2012.
Amy Antonides, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk
\$27.56 April 20, 2012
LEGAL NOTICE
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, 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 adopted after a Public Hearing and Final reading were conducted on Monday, April 16, 2012 at the Public Meeting of The Governing Body which began at 7:00pm in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 and is being advertised in The Observer on Friday, April 20, 2012.
Amy Antonides, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk
\$27.56 April 20, 2012

LEGAL NOTICE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY ORDINANCE 1961 NOTICE OF PENDING BOND ORDINANCE AND SUMMARY			
The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the governing body of the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, on April 16, 2012. It will be further considered for final passage, after public hearing thereon, at a meeting of the governing body to be held at the Municipal Building, in the Borough on May 7, 2012 at 7 o'clock p.m. During the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting, copies of the full ordinance will be available at no cost and during regular business hours at the Clerk's office for the members of the general public who shall request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:			
Title: "Bond Ordinance Providing for Road and Resurfacing Improvements in and by the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey, Appropriating the Aggregate Amount of \$608,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$376,000 Bonds or Notes of the Borough to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof."			
Purposes:	Appropriation and Estimated Cost	Estimated Maximum Amount of Bonds or Notes	Period of Usefulness
a) Road and resurfacing improvements, including, but not limited to, Sampton Avenue, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	\$468,000 (Includes the State Grant)	\$243,000	10 years
b) Road and resurfacing improvements, including, but not limited to, West 8th Street, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	\$140,000	\$133,000	10 years
TOTALS	\$608,000	\$376,000	
Appropriation: \$608,000 Bonds/Notes Authorized: \$376,000 Grant Appropriated: \$225,000 from the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation Section 20 Costs: \$175,000 Useful Life: 10 years			
Amy Antonides, RMC/CMC Municipal Clerk This Notice is published pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:2-17. \$54.96 April 20, 2012			

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD,
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
An appeal has been filed by Gul Sanzar requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit a fireplace. Proposed fireplace encroaches into required 20' rear yard setback; 18' is proposed-requires a 2' variance; and any other variances that may be required, said property being located at 209 Harvard Avenue, Block 404.03, Lot 1.04, R-10 zone on the South Plainfield Tax Map.
For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 1 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at 7:00 p.m.
The files and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Planning/Zoning Office in Borough Hall between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
\$38.50 April 20, 2012

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Obituaries

Ida Mae Benak

Ida Mae (Janowisk) Benak passed away peacefully on Friday, April 13.

Born on November 30, 1933, she grew up in Pennsylvania before settling in South Plainfield in 1959. She relocated to Spring Hill, Fla. in 2003.

She is predeceased by her husband, Frank, in 2008; her parents, John and Ellen; and a brother, John, in 2011.



Ida Mae Benak

Surviving is a daughter, Hannah and husband George Wragg of Spring Hill, Fla.; three sons, Dean and wife Eileen of Hernando Beach, Fla., Frank and wife Marie and Steve and wife Rose, all of South Plainfield; four siblings, Lois Decker of South Plainfield, Sibbie and Carol of Pennsylvania and Dean of Ohio; five grandchildren, Christine, Michael, Rose, Nicole and Mark; and several nieces and nephews.

Cremation was privately held in Florida.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association: (800) 342-2383.

Joseph A. Pfeiffer, Jr., 42

Joseph A. Pfeiffer, Jr. passed away on Tuesday, April 10 at home.

Born on August 28, 1969 in Edison to Joseph A. Pfeiffer, Sr. and Eleanor E. (Mosakowski) Pfeiffer, he lived in Woodbridge before moving to South Plainfield in 1970.

Mr. Pfeiffer was a graduate of South Plainfield High School where he played the trumpet in the marching band. He also attended Middlesex County College and the Art Institute

of Philadelphia. Joseph worked as an electrician and liked boating, hunting and skeet shooting.

Mr. Pfeiffer is survived by his loving parents, Joseph and Eleanor; and by two beloved brothers, Jason L. Pfeiffer and wife Mary of Dunellen and Allan J. Pfeiffer and wife Michele of Tinton Falls. He is also survived by a nephew and two nieces, Everette James Pfeiffer and Madelynn Rose and Catherine Marie Pfeiffer.

Funeral services were held at South Plainfield Funeral Home.

Yolanda A. (Esoldo) Diana, 85

Yolanda A. (Esoldo) Diana passed away on Wednesday, April 11 at Hunterdon Medical Center in Flemington.

Born and raised in Plainfield, Yolanda resided in the city for many years before moving to North Plainfield for a short time and then to Kingwood Township with her son five years ago.

Yolanda was a hardworking and devoted wife, mother, sister and grandmother. She began a long career at the former Samoset Laundry in Plainfield at the age of 18 and the completion of high school. Her job began in the laundry room and she moved up the ranks to become the head bookkeeper and assistant to the owner. She retired from Samoset at the age of 62 only to open a well-known and popular luncheonette in Plainfield known as "Yolanda's Place" which she owned and operated for five years.

She was a faithful member of the Redeemer Lutheran Church in Westfield and was active in the Plainfield Pop Warner Football Program while her children were younger. She was very instrumental in their fundraising efforts to better the organization. In addition, her luncheonette was the sponsor of her sons' recreational softball teams.

She is predeceased by her husband, Benny, who died in 1991; a daughter, Brenda Goddard, who died in 2003;

and by four siblings, Rose Verini, Margaret Alexander, Lawrence Esoldo and James Esoldo.

Surviving are two sons, Louis and wife Helen and Michael and wife Bonnie; a sister, Jean Ciardello; and five grandchildren, Louis Diana Jr., Gabrielle Diana, Jennifer Diana, Kimberly Settles and William Goddard Jr.; and many extended family members and friends.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Adrienne (Keltch) Blaustein, 83

Adrienne (Keltch) Blaustein passed away on Thursday, April 12 at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Adrienne was born December 30, 1928 in the Bronx, N.Y. to Benjamin and Shirley Keltch.

A brilliant student, she was accepted as one of the first women to attend The City College of New York. She earned a bachelor of science in education and after graduating, with honors, received one of the top scores on the N.Y.C. Teacher Placement Exams. She began teaching third grade at P.S. 20 in the Bronx, where she herself had attended elementary school. After tenure, she was promoted to the coveted position of teacher leader.

Adrienne married Marvin (Lee) Blaustein in 1951, and later moved to South Plainfield, where the family still resides. Adrienne and Lee raised three daughters and one son. Adrienne was an active member and former president of the Plainfield Chapter of Deborah Hospital, where she directed and wrote special fundraising shows for the local chapter events.

Adrienne, a dynamic and dedicated teacher, taught for a short time as a supplemental basic skills teacher

at Quibbletown Middle School in Piscataway. She later followed with a successful career of more than 10 years, until her retirement, as senior certified property and casualty trainer of Prudential Insurance Company of Central/Northern New Jersey.

Adrienne loved life to the fullest, and cherished the wonderful memories of times she spent with family and friends throughout the years. Adrienne and Lee enjoyed folk dancing, country line dancing and time in the Catskills with their close-knit circle of friends, who also shared their passion for music and dance.

Adrienne is predeceased by her loving parents, Benjamin and Shirley Keltch; and by a sweet niece, Lori (Abramowitz) Tobin.

Adrienne is survived by her devoted husband of more than 61 years, Lee Blaustein; three daughters, Karen Dolci, Elyne Foscolo and Bonnie Blaustein; and a son, Neil Blaustein.

Adrienne will be lovingly remembered by five grandchildren, John, Melanie and Tina Foscolo and Benjamin and Evan Dolci; two sons-in-law, John Foscolo and Tony Dolci; a sister, Florinne Abramowitz and a niece, Nancy Abramowitz.

Adrienne will be remembered with love and fond memories by her dear friends, Ruth and John Goldstein.

Funeral services were held at Higgins Home For Funerals in Watchung.

No flowers, please. Donations in Adrienne's memory may be made to JFK Medical Center Foundation, The Cancer Fund, 80 James St., Edison, N.J. 08820.

Ann (Gagliardi) Diana, 86

Ann (Gagliardi) Diana passed away early Saturday morning, April 14 at JFK Medical Center in Edison with her family at her side.

Born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, Ann married in the late 1940s, moved to Plainfield for a short time before settling in South Plainfield over 50 years ago.

She had been employed for a number of years as a sales woman for the former Stands Department Store in Plainfield before her retirement at age 62. Although she had a career for a number of years, Ann was a devoted homemaker for most of her life. She was a dear and loving grandmother and great-grandmother who enjoyed cooking for her family and taking family trips to Atlantic City.

She was predeceased by her husband, Anthony "Tony" Diana Sr.; a daughter, Connie Diana; and a son-in-law, Robert Bukovec.

She is survived by four daughters, Barbara Pender and husband Scott, Rose Bukovec, Anna Diana and Donna Sable and husband Ken; a son, Anthony "Tony" Diana Jr. and wife Beth; 11 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Homeside Hospice/Butterfly Wishes, 67 Walnut Ave., Clark, N.J. 07066.

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Sadly Missed by Linda & Chris

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Project Graduation Auction Apr. 28

Auction time is only a week away! We have many great prizes this year—a 55" Toshiba LED LCD TV, Dell laptop, Apple iPad, a night out for two in NYC (theatre tickets to any Broadway show and dinner), a Kindle Fire and so much more. Where can you find these great prizes? Only at the SPSHS Project Graduation Auction on Saturday, April 28 from 7 to 11 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.) at South Plainfield High School.

To obtain tickets, see details below. This year will mark the South Plainfield High School and the PTA's 24th year of providing graduating seniors with a Project Graduation celebration.

Auction Volunteers—South Plainfield High School parents, volunteers are urgently needed. We need your help for a few hours on April 28. To be an auction volunteer (set-up noon to 3 p.m.; ticket sales, 6 to 7 p.m.) or to help move prizes from the homes where they are being stored to SPSHS at 11:30 a.m., please 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 next week as a reminder.

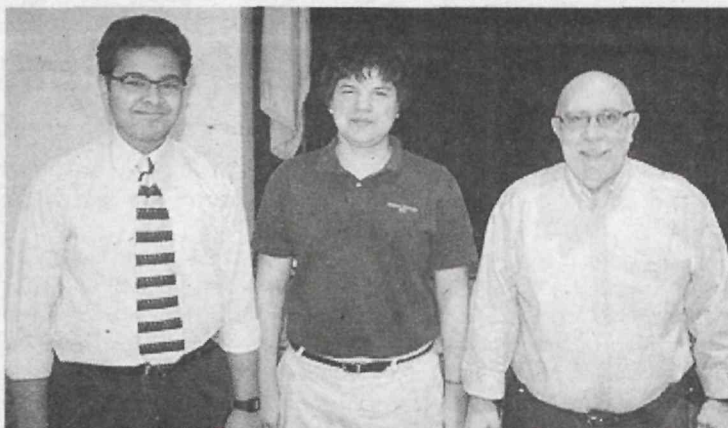
Auction Ticket Sales—For ticket information and to reserve a table, contact Tracey Hartmann at (908) 750-6194. Please provide your name, phone number and the number of people you would like at your table.

Class Of 2012 Parents—This year's Project Graduation celebration is for your children, so get some of your family and friends together and come join us for a fun night at the auction.

South Plainfield Community—It is not too late to help! Please support this worthwhile cause. Only gift card or monetary contributions can be accepted. They can be sent to South Plainfield High School, 200 Lake St., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

Auction Info—The auction begins at 7 p.m. Doors will open at 6 p.m. Tables will be reserved for all door ticket holders. Reservations will be in the name of one person from your group. There will be paper products on the tables (plates, cups, napkins). You may want to bring extras as well as utensils. As far as food goes, the sky is the limit. You can bring anything from snacks and desserts to complete dinners. Non-alcoholic beverages only are permitted. We will have a small amount of water, soda and cookies for sale, as well as coffee and tea (at no charge). Plastic bags to hold your tickets and program will be provided at the door. Please remember no one under the age of 18 will be admitted. Please contact Sharon Miller at (908) 754-6461 for any additional auction info you may need or with any questions you may have.

The Class of 2012, the SPSHS PTA



Jay Raval of South Plainfield and Matt Handzy of Westfield join Roland Marionni after being announced winners of the eighth annual science fair at The Wardlaw-Hartridge School.

—Photo courtesy of Rudy Brandl

Wardlaw-Hartridge Students Show Innovation at Science Fair

Jay Raval of South Plainfield and Matt Handzy of Westfield were the winners of the eighth annual Science Fair at The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison on April 12. Upper School students presented some of their most innovative work and gave judges Roland Marionni, Barbara Drake and Tom Gilbert plenty to ponder.

Jay and Matt won for their reaction time study project called, "Don't Text and Drive."

Other students recognized included: second place-Divya Mehta of Edison and Michael Olano of South

Plainfield for "Pinhole Photography," and tied for third place-Zubin Mulji of Edison and Aditya Dalal of Scotch Plains for "Modeling Harmonics Using Pendulums" and Pierre Bouley of Edison for "How Sight Impacts Smell."

In addition, 10 projects were awarded honorable mention, including Roshun Menon of South Plainfield for "Impact of Colored Light on Plant Growth."

Congratulations to all of the students for a terrific job at the science fair.

County Sponsoring Birthday Parties for Residents Age 90+

Middlesex County Office of Aging & Disabled Services will once again hold birthday bashes for seniors age 90 and over as part of its National Older Americans Month celebration.

All county residents who are 90 and older are invited to celebrate their lives and accomplishments.

Traditionally, about 150 seniors age 90 and over attend each lunch. Each celebrant is invited with one guest. A few spots remain for this year, but registration is required.

This year's luncheon will be held on Thursday, April 26 at 11 a.m. at the Edison Senior Center and will honor residents of Carteret, Dunellen, Edison, Highland Park, Metuchen, Middlesex, New Brunswick, Piscataway, South Plainfield and Woodbridge.

Seniors wishing to attend who need transportation to the event should check with their local senior centers or with the facility in which they reside. They also may call Middlesex County Area Transit at 1-800-221-3520 to make a reservation.

For information or to register, call (732) 745-4267.

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Sat. & Sun., April 21 & 22

9 a.m.-4 p.m.

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Sat. & Sun., April 21 & 22

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Ponytail Softball Opening Day Ceremony Kicks Off New Season



Megan Boyle throws out the first pitch; Recreation Director Kevin Hughes looks on.



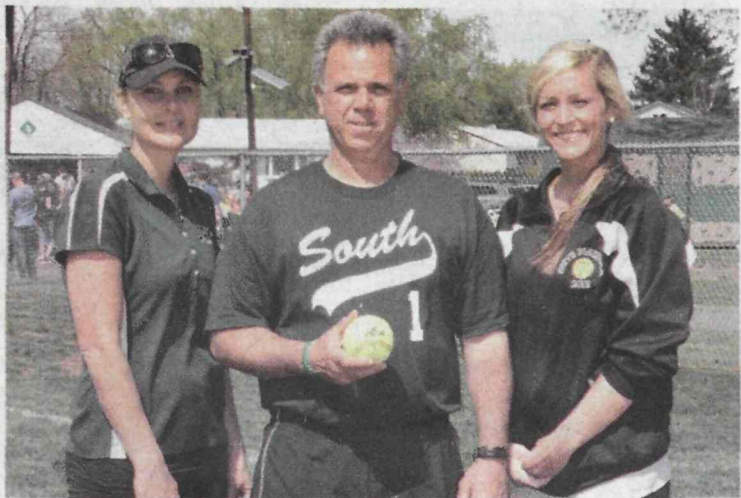
Laine Harris performs the National Anthem.

South Plainfield Ponytail Association, along with the South Plainfield Recreation Department, held annual opening day ceremonies last Saturday. One hundred seventy girls in 17 teams will compete this year.

The ceremonies began with the introduction of every girl in the league. Recreation Director Kevin Hughes welcomed the crowd, followed by Laine Harris singing the National Anthem.

SPHS Softball Head Coach Don Panzarella was recognized for winning his 600th game this season, and Megan Boyle was afforded the honor of throwing out the first pitch. Megan, who played in the Ponytail Softball league for six years, went on to play high school softball. She also played four years of college softball and was captain during her senior year. Megan has since joined the staff of the South Plainfield High School Softball program.

Every player was treated to a hot dog and soda courtesy of the South Plainfield Ponytail Association.



South Plainfield High School coaching staff (L-R) Coach Cheryl Hughes, Head Coach Don Panzarella, Assistant Coach Megan Boyle.



The Mayor and Council recognized the South Plainfield High School Wrestling Team for their outstanding year at Monday's Borough Council meeting. In attendance were seniors Sam Bermudez, Marcus Garcia, Tyler Hunt, Alex Lundy and Mike Molinaro; juniors Anthony Ashnault, Brandon Bisnauth, Tyler Calderone, Scott DelVecchio, Rayvon Garvin, Troy Heilmann, Bobby Kolvites, Dylan Panton, Erick Rodriguez, Tory Russell, John Sottiriou and Corey Stasenke; sophomores Lucio Avelar, Louie Gerardi, John Giron, Ray Jazikoff, Rahul Kahn, Colin Lynch, Scott Quiroga, Mike Reim, Inan Sikel and Tyrone Wilburn; freshmen Joe Bermudez, Javier Cruz, Tommy Dunn, Frank Ferraro, Jordan Handwerger, Dakota Pauls, John O'Sullivan, John Restrepo, Sarmad Rizvi, Matt Szeman, Ryan Walsh and Xavier Wilson; coaches Kevin McCann, John Foscolo, Steve Johnston, Matt Anderson and Craig Salvatore. Not pictured are Athletic Director Al Czech and managers Asia Acevedo, Malina Mohtadi, Wiktoria Blazeyowicz, Brooke Barry and Samantha Pereira.

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