

# South Plainfield OBSERVER

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Member New Jersey Press Association

60 CENTS

MAY 4, 2012



Amy Antonides, pictured with Council President Ray Rusnak (left) and Mayor Matt Anesh, was sworn in as municipal clerk at Monday evening's Borough Council meeting. Antonides officially began her position on Monday.

## 100 Donate Gift of Life At Middle School Drive

The Middle School PTO held their fourth annual blood drive on April 19 in the high school gym with the help of the high school student council and advisor Tony Encinas.

Students were encouraged to pre-register to donate the "Gift of Life" for N.J. Blood Services. Young adults at least 16 years of age were allowed to participate with signed permission slips from their parents; those age 17 and older were able to donate on their own.

The public was also encouraged to participate. There were 100 blood

donors, including red cells, donating a total of 90 units of blood.

Police PBA #100 Vice President Det. Lloyd McNelly donated blood along with Board of Education President Jim Giannakis, board member Carol Byrne, high school Vice Principal Ronnie Spring, Athletic Director Al Czech and high school Administrative Assistant Debbie Czech.

The Middle School PTO will receive a \$500 voucher, which in turn will be donated to Project Graduation, held at The Club at Ricochet.



Approved Fire Protection President Douglas Pein demonstrates the procedure for extinguishing a fire at the company's Bring Your Child to Work Day last Thursday. For story and additional photos, see page 7.

## School Board Candidate Kit Available

Earlier this month the New Jersey School Boards Association advised that they published an online *Candidate Kit* with information for citizens interested in running for a position on their local board of education in November 2012.

Recent legislation allowed communities to move their school elections from the third Tuesday in April to the General Election in November. On January 18 South Plainfield approved their resolution to move the school board member election to November. Doing so places the district's school board candidates on the November ballot—but eliminates the need to present the proposed school budget to voters as long as it remains at or below the state's 2% levy cap.

Throughout the state, 468 school districts will have board member elections in November 2012, while 73 school districts retained April school elections.

The South Plainfield Board of Education will have three, three-year board member positions on the ballot in the November 2012 election. Members of the school board whose terms would have expired after the April 2012 election will continue to serve until the board's organization meeting, which will be held the first week in January 2013.

(Continued on page 6)



Women's History Month Essay Contest winners Jamie Quail, Croidy Veliz and Crystal Myles are recognized at the April 16 Borough Council meeting. They are pictured with the Women's Leadership Committee members Nina Rohrer, Nancy Stillman-Pender, Darlene Pinto, Debbie Boyle and Chrissy Buteas and Mayor Matt Anesh.

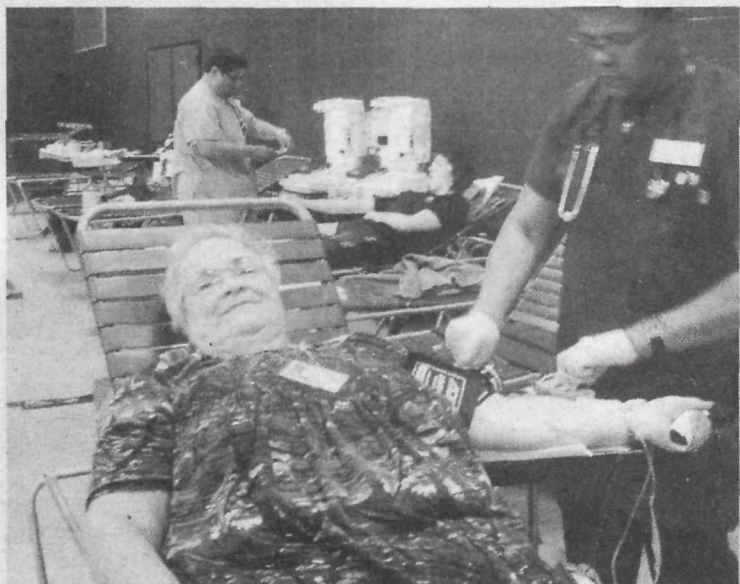
## Women's History Month Essay Contest Winners Honored Gloria Steinem Addresses High School Students

The South Plainfield Women's Leadership Committee recognized three essay contest winners at the April 16 Borough Council meeting. The winners of the essay contest are Jamie Quail, first place (\$250), Croidy Veliz, second place (\$150) and Crystal Myles, third place (\$100).

The women's committee is comprised of South Plainfield residents. Essay contest winners were chosen by Chrissy Buteas, chairwoman of the South Plainfield Women's Leadership Committee and former council-

woman; Nina Rohrer, vice president, Commercial Real Estate Lending of Columbia Bank; Pamela Stefanek, chairwoman, South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission; Nancy Stillman-Pender, member of the South Plainfield Suburban Woman's Club; and Debbie Boyle, South Plainfield Board of Education vice president.

(Continued on page 6)



BOE member Carol Byrne donates blood at the drive held at the middle school.

## High School Hall of Fame Candidates Selected

A "Hall of Fame" was established at South Plainfield High School to honor graduates for achievements in business, government, academics, community service and the humanities.

Acknowledging these successful graduates recognizes them as leaders in their fields and also provides current high school students with positive role models from their own

community. The candidates selected for 2012 are Michael Binder and Thomas Lanza.

The inductees will be honored on Tuesday, May 22 with a luncheon at Flanagan's in South Plainfield. An induction ceremony will take place at 7 p.m. that same evening in South Plainfield High School's Joseph A. Mondoro Auditorium preceding the annual academic awards.



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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.)

**councilmeetings**Meets twice a month on Mondays, \*except where noted.  
Borough Hall Council Chambers • Questions? 908-226-7605

<b>Agenda Meeting</b>	<b>Public Meeting</b>
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.

**planningboard**Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month, \*except where noted.  
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. Questions? 908-226-7641  
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**zoningboardofadjustment**Meets first and third Tuesdays of the month, \*except where noted.  
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. Questions? 908-226-7641  
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**boardofeducation**Meets Wednesdays at Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave.  
Committee of the Whole meetings (begin at 6:00 p.m.)  
May 9, June 6, June 18, Aug. 15, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 7, Dec. 12  
Regular Public Meeting (begin at 6:30 p.m.) except where noted\*  
\*May 9 at 8 p.m., June 13, July 18, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 17**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 (third Wednesday), 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)

SPHS CHOIR AND JAZZ Students from the South Plainfield High School Choir and Jazz Band performed with the NJAE Region II Jazz Choir at Princeton High School on April 22. The students auditioned on March 19 and were selected to be in the group which rehearsed at the Middle School and Princeton High School. The students had the opportunity to work with students from all over Central New Jersey and were able to get a chance to improvise or "scat." (L-R) Marc Stasio, Jonathan Reyes, John Delacruz, Rusty Teller and teacher Joan Stasio.

**In My Opinion**

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

**To the Editor:**

The Project Graduation Auction took place on Saturday, April 28. It was a successful and sold out event. This event could not have been a success without the dedication and help of SPHS PTA President Sharon Miller and auction co-chairs Mary Cargill and Renee Daubert.

The volunteers who helped set up and sell tickets at the auction are: Carolina Alvarez, Eric Aronowitz, Debbie Boyle, Kelly Butrico, Marianne Decker, Nancy Flannery, Felicia Hankerson, Linda Kelly, Norm Loenser, Carol Macchia, Caroline McVeigh, Barbara

Mennuti, Liz Morella, Sharon Padula, Lisa Petriello, Patricia Petronko, Patty Porzio, Donna Riccardi, Sharon Scudato, Bill Seesselberg, Kathy Skwiat, Karen Steingart, Lori Tangorra, Leslie Ufodu, Stephanie Walsh and Lagina Womack. Thank you so much; this event could not have run smoothly without your help!

Volunteers are needed for Project Graduation, which takes place on Wednesday, June 20 at The Club at Ricochet. If you are able to volunteer your time that evening, please contact Teri Pileggi at (908) 754-4620, ext. 248. We can always use your help!

**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: spobsobserver@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.

"Volunteers aren't paid, not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless."—Anonymous

Thank you again to the priceless parents and community members listed above. The Class of 2012 will truly benefit from your help and their Project Graduation celebration will be a success!

**SINCERELY,  
TERI PILEGGI,  
SPHS PTA VICE PRESIDENT**

**To My Neighbors in the Wickford Road Area:**

Thank you to all of my neighbors who answered my call for Easter ham donations. Your overwhelming generosity benefited our local parish food pantry with over 15 hams, two turkeys and monetary donations. Thanks to your help, our pantry was able to provide 35 area families with dinner baskets and hams.

Thank you again for your support in providing help to those in need. God bless you.

**DYLAN THOMPSON**

**Dear Editor,**

Some teachers are dedicated to their students; some are dedicated to their subject. The best ones are dedicated to both. Angela Green, biology and AP Environmental Science teacher at South Plainfield High School, exemplifies the best of the best. Her students encompass anyone who wants to learn—not just those in her classroom.

Just one example occurred last Friday when she volunteered her time to travel to Piscataway, directly from teaching a full day in South Plainfield, to inspire the staff of Piscataway Public Library to become more environment-friendly. Staff members were her students while she presented a program on recycling. Despite the fact that she was speaking right before dessert time, her audience was captivated and posed a lot of questions at the end of her presentation. She has made a difference in the library's recycling habits already and it has only been a few days after her program.

South Plainfield High School is fortunate to have a teacher like Mrs. Green, the environment is lucky to have such a committed advocate and the Piscataway Public Library is grateful to her for sharing her expertise and enthusiasm.

**MARY PIEKARSKI**

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

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

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

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

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.



## Johnny Cash Tribute Concert Will Benefit Fire Department

Performer Terry Lee Goffee brings Johnny Cash back to life on stage. He looks like Johnny, sounds like Johnny and moves like Johnny. Nobody does Johnny Cash like Terry Lee. The popular "Johnny Cash Tribute," sponsored by the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department, will be held on Saturday, May 12 at 8 p.m. at South Plainfield High School.

Among the 34 songs included in the tribute are Cash classics such as *A Boy Named Sue*, *Sunday Morning Coming Down*, *I Walk the Line*, *Ring of Fire* and *Folsom Prison Blues*.

Terry Lee's tribute act was performed in Nashville with Cash's brother and sister attending. Tommy Cash stated, "My brother would be proud." Joanne Cash Yates com-

mented, "It's a wonderful show, I would recommend it to anyone; you don't impersonate my brother, you pay tribute to him with honor."

States Mr. Goffee: "I wanted to make my show a little different and unique by portraying Johnny Cash in the first person, rather than just standing there singing the songs. Like an actor in a play, I literally become my character, Johnny Cash, from the moment I walk on stage until the end of the show."

Terry Lee's Tribute to Johnny Cash has taken him all across the U.S., Canada, Ireland and the U.K. In 2009 he was selected to provide the moves for the Johnny Cash character in Guitar Hero 5. Tickets are \$16 general admission and will be available at the door.



Suburban Woman's Club Fashion Show featured club members as models. Along with a few members, three members' granddaughters, one member's daughter and one prospective member assemble prior to going on stage.

## Tyler Place Attracts Two Businesses

By Libby Barsky

The Zoning Board of Adjustment granted approvals to two businesses located on two separate sites on Tyler Place during its April 17 meeting.

TFB Trucking LLC will build a 3,000 sq. ft. building containing a 225 sq. ft. office and 2,775 sq. ft. for storage space for trucks on a 31,141 sq. ft. lot at 90 Tyler Place. Zoning Board member David Miglis said that the architect's proposed drawing of the building looked "like a gigantic box," and did not vote for the application.

Olexion Hauling, Inc., a company owned by Mark Olexion, has leased the 2.3 acre lot at 75 Tyler Place with a 300 sq. ft. building to be used for truck repairs. Olexion's trucks are used to collect and transport recyclables and

garbage to transfer stations or landfills in Pennsylvania. Olexion also rents part of the property to landscaper Joe Bernanti, who provides landscaping service for Home Depot locations in Middlesex County.

Although Olexion received variance approval, he will be returning to the Board of Adjustment to resolve various site plan issues.

## Suburban Woman's Club Fashion Show

The Suburban Woman's Club annual Luncheon Fashion Show was held at the South Plainfield Senior Center last Sunday. Although the weather outside was stormy, the atmosphere within the center was warm and colorful. A delicious luncheon prepared by Imperial Deli was served. Desserts were baked by club members.

The fashion show featured outfits

from Coldwater Creek of Westfield. The models walked across the stage and then strolled around the tables where onlookers were treated to a close up look at the details described by Marge Reidy, the charming narrator.

After the fashion show, door prize and basket raffle winners were called and the gifts were carried to the lucky winners' tables.

Natalie C. Bergen and her fantastic committee worked very efficiently and everyone had a grand time.

The event was for the benefit of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs' 2011-2012 Special State Project which is The Cancer Support Community of Central New Jersey and the Suburban Woman's Club's Scholarship Fund.

## Join Riley School Community in Walk To A Cure

John E. Riley School invites everyone in the community to its fifth annual 39 Minute Walk To A Cure on Friday, May 18 at 1:30 p.m. at Riley School.

Bring friends and family to show support for Riley's students. Proceeds will benefit "Walking To A Cure for Breast Cancer."

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# events

## Around Town

### VFW Country Breakfast

May 6

South Plainfield VFW, 155 Front St., will hold a country breakfast on Sunday, May 6 from 8 to 11 a.m.

For more information, call (908) 668-9751.

### Historical Society Monthly Meeting

May 8

The next meeting of the South Plainfield Historical Society will be held on Tuesday, May 8 at 7 p.m. at The History Center located at the Roosevelt Administration Building, 125 Jackson Ave. Parking and entrance is on the Jackson Avenue side.

### 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.

### Schoolhouse Rock At Forum Theatre

May 11-13

The Forum Theatre, 314 Main St. in Metuchen, will present a stars on

stage production of *Schoolhouse Rock Live!* featuring Grant School students on Friday, May 11 at 7 p.m., Saturday, May 12 at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. and Sunday, May 13 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are available at [www.forumtheatrearts.org](http://www.forumtheatrearts.org). For more information, call (732) 548-5600.

### Elks Mother's Day Breakfast

May 13

The South Plainfield Elks #2298, 1254 New Market Ave., will host a Mother's Day breakfast on Sunday, May 13 from 8 a.m. to noon.

The menu will feature eggs made to order, French toast, pancakes, bacon, sausage, home fries, toast, juice and coffee. Cost: adults, \$7; seniors, \$6; children age 3-12, \$4; two and under, free. A carnation will be given to all mothers in attendance.

For more information, call (908) 668-9750.

### SPHS Class of 1962 Plans Reunion

May 16

South Plainfield High School Class of 1962 is holding a 50th reunion on Wednesday, May 16 at Resorts Casino on the boardwalk in Atlantic City. Banquet is \$65 per person and includes appetizers, Italian buffet, desserts and

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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.

### SP Fire Department Wine Tasting

June 9

The South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department will hold a wine and local food tasting fundraiser on Saturday, June 9 from 7-11 p.m. at the American Legion located at 243 Oak Tree Ave. In addition to a wide variety of wine, there will also be local micro-brewery beer and a selection of local restaurant food. Tickets are \$30 per person. The wine and beer sponsor is Oak Tree Discount Wine & Spirits.

For tickets and additional information, email Daryl Forster at [dforster@qualcomm.com](mailto:dforster@qualcomm.com).

### — Out of Town —

### Blackrose to Perform

May 5

Blackrose, a band performing classic rock and roll music and today's hits, will perform at the Sun Tavern, 15 South Ave. in Fanwood on Saturday, May 5 at 10:30 p.m. No cover charge.

### Open House at Morristown Airport

May 5

American Flyers Flight School at the Morristown Airport, 50 Airport Rd., will be hosting an open house

and lunch on Saturday, May 5 at noon. Free and open to the public.

For more information, call (973) 267-3223 or visit [www.americanflyers.net/about/aviation\\_seminars.asp](http://www.americanflyers.net/about/aviation_seminars.asp).

### Open House at Temple Sholom

May 6

Temple Sholom, a Reform Jewish congregation, will hold an open house for its religious school on Sunday, May 6 from 10:30 a.m. until noon in the lobby of Union Catholic High School, 1600 S. Martine Ave. in Scotch Plains. Children welcome; school-age children may sit in on age-appropriate classes. Drawing supplies available for younger children.

For more information or to RSVP, call (908) 889-4900, email Ellen Wolff at [ellenginzbursky@yahoo.com](mailto:ellenginzbursky@yahoo.com) or Michelle Shapiro Abraham at [educator@sholomnj.org](mailto:educator@sholomnj.org).

### Carnival at Green Brook Swim Club

May 9-12

The Green Brook Swim Club, 59 Greenbrook Road, will host a carnival on Wednesday, May 9, 6-10 p.m.; Thursday, May 10, 6-10 p.m.; Friday, May 11, 6-11 p.m.; and Saturday, May 12, 4-11 p.m. Free admission and parking. Rides, games of skill, food including sausage and peppers, hamburgers, cotton candy, Italian ice and more. Live entertainment; Somerset Patriot's mascot Sparkee on Friday night. Wednesday is Wristband Night and for \$20 you can enjoy rides all night!

For more information, visit [www.greenbrookswimclub.com](http://www.greenbrookswimclub.com) or visit us on Facebook.

### SENIOR CENTER Calendar

**May 17**—Bally's Atlantic City \$20pp Bus leaves 8:30 a.m. Sign up at Senior Center

**May 20-23**—Trip to Wildwood (trip is full)

#### MONDAYS

Zumba Gold ..... 9:30-10:30 am  
Crocheting ..... 9:30-11:30 am  
Yoga ..... 10:30 am  
Active Seniors ..... 10:45 am  
Art Class ..... 11:30 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, 1:00 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

### Middlesex East WOWs Open Dance

May 11

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

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

### International Olympic Horse Trials

May 12/13

The Horse Park of New Jersey is hosting the 10th annual "Jersey Fresh" International Olympic Horse Trials on Saturday and Sunday, May 12 and 13. The NJ Horse Park is located in Allentown, Route 524, exit 11 off Interstate 95. Open to the public, the competitions begin at 9 a.m. There will also be vendors, crafters, food, pony rides, 4H information, demonstrations and more.

Anyone interested in being a vendor or crafter can download the application form online at [www.horseparkofnewjersey.com](http://www.horseparkofnewjersey.com).



### Event Photos For Sale

Photographs of local events by South Plainfield Observer contributing photographer Louis Mormile are available for sale at [www.louismormilephotography.com](http://www.louismormilephotography.com).

The website has password protected photo galleries. To request the password, click on "Contact" at the bottom of the web page and fill out the form by providing the name of the event you are inquiring about, along with your name, address and telephone number.

Currently, available photographs include more than 150 shots from the April 8 Easter Egg Hunt at the PAL. Additional photos of various local sporting events, etc. are also available.

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## Upscale Singles Dance Party

May 12

Steppin' Out Singles is holding an upscale singles dance party on Saturday, May 12 at 8 p.m. at the Woodbridge Hilton, 20 Wood Ave. South in Iselin. Ages 40 and up. No jeans/t-shirts/sneakers/shorts. Admission: \$15.

For more information, call (732) 494-6200.

## Temple Shalom Hosts Casino Night

May 12

Temple Shalom of Fanwood/Scotch Plains, located in the Fanwood Presbyterian Church, 74 South Martine Ave., will hold a casino night fundraiser on Saturday, May 12 at 7 p.m. Roulette, poker and blackjack, and auctions for goods and services. Tickets are \$36 for \$100 worth of casino chips. Use chips for gambling and to buy tickets for prizes. Refreshments included. Benefits Temple Shalom's community, educational and religious programs.

For tickets or more information, call (908) 889-4900, visit [www.sholomnj.org](http://www.sholomnj.org) or email [office@sholomnj.org](mailto:office@sholomnj.org).

## Fish, Inc., Dunellen Area Meeting

May 14

The annual meeting of Fish, Inc., Dunellen Area will take place on

Monday, May 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the First Presbyterian Church, 218 Dunellen Ave. Open to all volunteers, donors and all others who have an interest in Fish, Inc. The public is encouraged to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information, call Lisa at (732) 356-0081 or visit [www.fishdunellenarea.org](http://www.fishdunellenarea.org).

## 'Paws4Laughter' Benefits PAHS

May 19

The first-ever 'Paws4Laughter' comedy show to benefit the Plainfield Area Humane Society will be held at The Dunellen Theater, 458 North Ave. in Dunellen on Saturday, May 19 at 8 p.m. Five comics; food and drink will be available at the theater, including pizza and beer. A 50/50 will also be held. Tickets: \$20, online or in advance at the theatre; \$25, at the door.

For tickets or more information, visit [www.brownpapertickets.com/event/245193](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/245193).

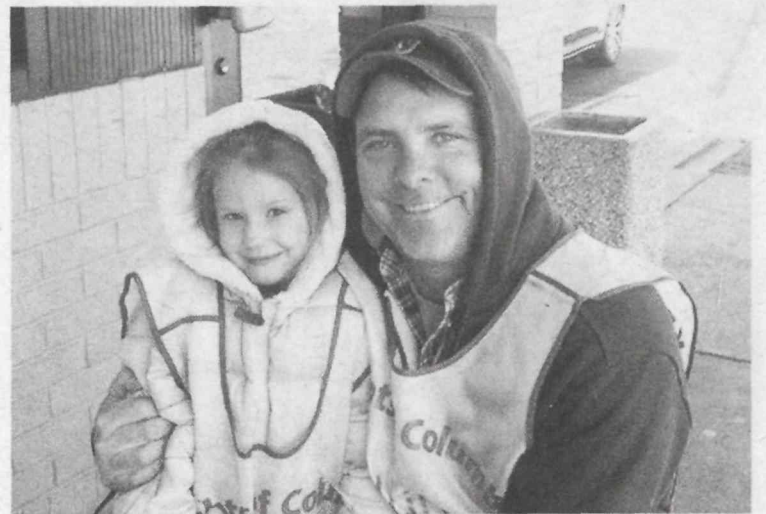
# Knights Special Citizens Drive Raises Over 12K for Local Charities

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus #6203 held the 2012 Special Citizens Drive from April 26-30. More than \$12,000 was collected during the four-day event from canning at local businesses and through donations. The Knights collected during 182 time slots over the four days; 135 Knights members covered the time slots.

The Knights would like to thank the following businesses for allowing the Knights to collect in front of their stores this year and in previous years: Quick Chek on Sampton and Durham avenues, CVS on Oak Tree Road and Plainfield Avenue, A&P, Super Stop and Shop, ShopRite, The Bagel Pantry, Shoppers World, Ciccio's Pizza, 7-Eleven, TD Bank, Dave's Stationary, Witty's Liquor Store and Oak Tree Discount Wine & Spirits.

The following local businesses have also allowed the Knights to have collection cans inside their stores all year for customers to make donations: The Corner Deli, B&C Deli, Sherban's Diner & Restaurant, Oak Tree Liquors and Mr. Subs.

All proceeds collected will be donated to three local special needs organizations, The Keystone Com-



**Knight Glenn Scrudato and daughter Anastasia collect funds during the Knights Special Citizens Drive.**

munity, The Midland School and The McCauley School. The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus also donate money to four local families that need financial support to send their children to Camp Sun N' Fun, a summer camp for the developmentally disabled.

Chairman and Grand Knight Joe Scrudato would like to thank all of the Knights members, Sister Columbettes, Squires and their family mem-

bers who collected for this drive. The Knights would also like to thank each and every South Plainfield resident who supported this drive.

Lastly, we would like to personally thank four people who came down each day to help count the money: Walter Kula, Theresa and Joe Bielinski and Irene Butrico. Walter, Theresa, Joe and Irene put in a lot of hours, and counted a lot of bills and coins over the weekend.

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## Women's History Month Essay Contest Winners Honored



(L-R) Nina Rohrer, Debbie Boyle, Nancy Grennier, Dr. Patricia DiCarlo, Chanta Hunter, Andrea Bocker, Chrissy Buteas and Kevin Hajduk.

(Continued from page 1)

Donations were submitted by Buteas, Rohrer, Darlene Pinto of Fulton Bank of New Jersey and Debbie Boyle of the Boyle Memorial Foundation. Special thanks to the *South Plainfield Observer*, the mayor and council and South Plainfield High School, especially Principal Dr. James Pedersen, Donna Timko, Fran Flannery and Pat Massey.

"The committee and I were extremely impressed with the outstanding work of Jamie, Croidy and Crystal. They truly recognized the contributions of Gloria Steinem's work towards achieving

equality for all women in the United States and across the world," said Buteas. "What was particularly exciting was the opportunity the students had to 'Skype' with Ms. Steinem this past week. What a wonderful opportunity for the students to speak directly to the woman they wrote about. Thank you again to all that participated and donated their time and effort to make this essay contest a success."

Essay participants were asked to discuss a significant specific event or accomplishment of Gloria Steinem's life and explain how her action impacted

the women's movement and if more advocacy should be done in that area and why. Essay submissions were between 500-750 words and the contest was open to South Plainfield residents in grades 9-12.

Gloria Steinem, writer, lecturer, editor and feminist activist, travels in this and other countries as an organizer and lecturer and is a frequent media spokeswoman on issues of equality. She is particularly interested in the shared origins of sex and race caste systems, gender roles and child abuse as roots of violence, non-violent conflict resolution, the cultures of indigenous peoples and organizing across boundaries for peace and justice. She lives in New York City, and is currently at work on *Road to the Heart: America As if Everyone Mattered*, a book about her more than 30 years as a feminist organizer.

In 1972 she co-founded *Ms.* magazine, remained one of its editors for 15 years, and continues to serve as a consulting editor. She was instrumental in the magazine's move to join and be published by the Feminist Majority Foundation. She had helped to found

*New York Magazine*, where she was a political columnist and wrote feature articles. As a freelance writer, she was published in *Esquire*, *The New York Times Magazine*, women's magazines and in publications in other countries. She has produced a documentary on

child abuse, a feature film about the death penalty, and been the subject of profiles on Lifetime and Showtime.

Women's History Month, now celebrated annually in the United States, is a month-long celebration of women's contributions to culture, history and society.

South Plainfield Women's Leadership Committee also hosted an event at the middle school to introduce young women to professionals in various careers. Special thanks goes to the speakers as well as Principal Kevin Hajduk and Vice Principal Tamekia Grier-Dupcihe. Speakers included Nancy Grennier, *South Plainfield Observer* publisher; Chanta Hunter, South Plainfield Police officer; Andrea Bocker, engineer of construction, Port Authority of New York & New Jersey; and Dr. Patricia DiCarlo, M.D., pediatrics and adolescent medicine.



Gloria Steinem "Skypes" with high school students.

## police report

• On April 19 Charles E. Woznick, 25, of Scotia, N.Y. was arrested for possession of a controlled substance and possession of a controlled substance in a motor vehicle.

• Mark A. Stevenson, 20, of Elizabeth was arrested for failure to inspect, failure to make a change of address on a license and an outstanding warrant.

• Stephen A. Lopez, 22, of South Plainfield was arrested for possession of a controlled substance, driving on a suspended license, speeding, failure to make repairs, possession of a controlled substance in a motor vehicle, failure to produce insurance and no insurance.

• Westley S. Moncada, 22, of South Plainfield was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.

• On April 20 Peter A. Boright, 31, of Rahway was arrested for possession of a controlled substance, possession of a controlled substance in a motor vehicle, careless driving and no insurance.

• Kimberly A. Miller, 43, of Plainfield was arrested at Rite Aid for shoplifting \$106 worth of gum and baby formula.

• On April 21 Amanda Jeanette Kolenski, 20, of Edison was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.

• Steven D. Miller, 34, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, reckless driving and failure to maintain lane.

• Domingo Cahuil, 30, of Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, no license, reckless driving, improper backing up and prohibited conduct.

• Kyle E. Dunn, 33, of Green Brook was arrested for driving while intoxicated, careless driving and driving on a suspended license.

• A Ledden Terrace resident reported that the rear passenger side window of their vehicle was broken.

• On April 22 George J. Medina, 48, of New Brunswick was arrested for driving while intoxicated and reckless driving.

• On April 23 Jessica Kijafa Richardson, 30, of Plainfield was arrested for maintenance of lamps (turn signal), maintenance of lamps (driver side headlight) and an outstanding warrant.

• A Park Avenue resident reported that their social security number had been used to file a federal income tax return on the Internet.

• On April 24 Karon A. Toney, 50, of North Plainfield was arrested at Marshalls for shoplifting \$113 worth of shoes.

• Lewis Charles Walker, 35, of New Brunswick was arrested for obstruction and hindering apprehension.

• A Chambers Street resident reported that their social security number had been used to open an account with Direct TV.

## Candidates Kit

(Continued from page 1)

### Nominating Petitions

To have their names placed on the November election ballot, candidates must submit a nominating petition to Middlesex County Clerk Elaine M. Flynn by 4 p.m. on June 5, not the local board of education office as in the past. Approximately 1,200 board of education positions, which are non-partisan, will appear on General Election ballots across the state.

Prospective school board candidates can obtain a "School Board Candidate Kit" online at [www.njsba.org/candidacy](http://www.njsba.org/candidacy). It includes directions on obtaining and filing a nominating petition, as well as information about legal qualifications for school board candidacy and the role of the school board member. Background about the New Jersey School Ethics Act and important dates in the school election process are also included in the kit.

The kit includes a county-by-county listing of nominating petition information and access to downloadable petition forms where available.

To contact the New Jersey School Boards Association, call (888) 88NJSBA.



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# Approved Fire Highlights Safety at Bring Your Child to Work Day



Approved Fire Protection CFO Lisa Reuter and President Douglas Pein distribute certificates of achievement with the help of Borough Administrator/CFO Glenn Cullen and Councilman Alex Barletta.

To celebrate "Bring Your Child to Work Day," Approved Fire Protection conducted a fire extinguisher training class for the children, parents and guests on April 26. Scott Huppert, a senior account manager, presented the class.

The children learned how and when to notify the fire department, the classes of fire, types of fire extinguishers as well as the limitations of a fire extinguisher. They also learned about home safety, emergency evacuation steps and smoke detectors.

Huppert gave instructions on the PASS (pull, aim, squeeze and sweep) method of using fire extinguishers and then the children took turns extinguishing a live fire. Upon completion, everyone received a certificate of achievement signed by Approved Fire Protection President Douglas Pein.

Approved Fire Protection would like to extend sincere thanks to the following for attending: South Plainfield Fire Department, Borough Administrator/CFO Glenn Cullen, Borough Council President Ray Rusnak, Councilman Alex Barletta, Girl Scout Troops #799 and #1211 Alexandria Township, Troop #2 Hillsborough, Boy Scout Troop #67 Piscataway, Fanwood Little League, SPF PAL Football, Huppert for his excellent training and Cecilia Baita for organizing the event with the help of Gloria Podpora and Pein.

Approved Fire Protection employees who are also firefighters include Glen Zehner-chief of Hillside Fire Auxiliary

for 37 years; Tom Bowlby-former fire chief of Finnerne/Bridgewater for 28 years; Scott Huppert-volunteer firefighter in Hillside for 23 years; Jimmy Monto-former chief of Manville, firefighter and rescue squad member in Manville for 23 years; Joe Inzirillo-former assistant chief in Edison, lieutenant and president in East Franklin for 21 years; Kenneth DiFrenza-former volunteer chief in Edison for 20 years; Todd Heath-EMT United States Navy for 10 years; Chris Sorrento-firefighter in Bound Brook, Piscataway and East Franklin for 10 years; Joey Larino-firefighter in Bayonne for eight years and Urban Search and Rescue Team for six years; Jason Zangara-firefighter EMT in Manville for eight years; and Johnathan Snow-firefighter EMT in Manville for eight years.

Company officers are Lisa Reuter-CFO, NFPA 10 certified and New Jersey Business and Industry Association member; Diane Pein-COO, president New Jersey Association of Fire Equipment Distributors, National Association of Fire Equipment Distributors executive board member, State Advisory Committee for Fire Equipment Distributors representative, National Fire Protection Association member, New Jersey Business and Industry Association member, Fire Suppression Systems Association member and committee member of American Fire Sprinkler Association and member of American Fire Alarm Association;



Approved Fire Protection Senior Account Manager Scott Huppert conducts a fire extinguisher training class for the children, parents and guests.



Visitors pose for a group photo with Approved Fire Protection employees.

Douglas Pein-president, NFPA 10 certified; qualifier for hand portable fire extinguisher, state licensed.

Approved Fire Protection is also a member of the South Plainfield Business Association.

Approved Fire Protection was started in 1930 by Roswell E. Bolen as a part time business refilling fire extinguishers for local fire departments and small businesses. The business operated in the

basement of the family home in North Plainfield. After World War II, the Bolen family and Approved Fire Protection moved to Greenbrook Road. In the early 1950s, Bolen built a new home for Approved Fire Protection on Route 22 in North Plainfield. This location soon became New Jersey's largest fire and safety sales and service facility. In 1982, Roswell Bolen's grandson, Bob Niper, along with two partners, acquired con-

trol of Approved Fire Protection Company and launched an allied company, Approved Fire Protection Systems Inc., to sell, install and service all types of fire alarm and suppression systems.

Today, both companies occupy over 12,000 square feet of industrial space in South Plainfield, operate 19 service vehicles and employ 50 people. Currently, Niper's two daughters oversee the company operations.

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# sports

By Gary Lampasona

## JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

We are almost three weeks into the season and there's been a lot of good baseball being played. Come on down and catch a game, and don't forget to visit our famous snack stand.

**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.

**Summer Camp:** Registrations are

being accepted for the Ninth Annual SPJBC Summer Camp, being held from June 25-28. For ages eight through 12, Mike Benak and his team are working hard to prepare another fun-filled learning experience for all who attend. For ages eight through 12 the cost is \$95. For 13 and 14 year olds, SPHS coach Guida and his staff will be running the camp. For ages 13 and 14 the cost is \$115. Registration forms are located in the snack stand or call the clubhouse at (908) 754-2090 to register.

**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 A Yankees and Pony B Thunder on Saturday and the Small Fry A Mets and Small Fry C Yankees on Sunday. Please report and sign in at 8 a.m. at the clubhouse.

All this information and more can be found on our website at [www.league lineup.com/spjbc](http://www.league lineup.com/spjbc).

*"I think about baseball when I wake up in the morning. I think about it all day and I dream about it at night. The only time I don't think about it is when I'm playing it."*—Carl Yastrzemski



Submitted By Bob Nilan

## Notes from the Jim Pomovets Memorial Golf League

### LEAGUE STANDINGS

American Division				National Division			
	W	L	T		W	L	T
2 Buds, 2 Dubs	3	0	0	Italian-American	2	0	1
Alfie's Boys	2	1	0	S. Plfd Funeral	2	1	0
McCriskin-Gustafson Fun	2	1	0	Sport & Social	1	1	1
KC's Korner	2	1	0	Dirty Harry & Friends	1	2	0
Unique Sports	2	1	0	Windows Plus	0	2	1
Twin City	0	2	1	Witty's Liquors	0	3	0

When all the bantering, teasing and needling had, at last, subsided, and Dale Dube and Jay Coppola had put their verbal darts away for the night, it was time for some serious golf. Dale Dube came through with a sparkling round of 35 highlighted by two birdies to lead his team to a thorough hammering of Twin City Pharmacy, 16-4. Jeff Orth made a nice contribution to the big win with his round of 37.

Twin City did not play poorly. In fact, they were quite good—it's just that they had a lot of strokes to give away. Guy Severini continued his splendid play with a lovely two-over 35, Joe Diller had a 37, and Jay Coppola left a few strokes out there but still posted a solid 38.

It's hard to believe this powerful team is still winless after three weeks. All the guys on Dirty Harry & Friends better be especially well-prepared for their match on May 8 against this fired-up, frustrated squad. Twin City is sure to come out smoking next week.

After notching two lop-sided victories over Alfie's Boys and Twin City Pharmacy, Dale Dube is now strutting around and hinting that maybe he—and not Danny Griffin or Guy Severini or Jay Coppola—is the fastest gun at West Nine. (It is rumored that last week he shot down two six-packs before blasting Twin City).

Some league members are urging Kevin Bickunas of Witty's Liquors to be sure to field a full four-man team for their week #4 match against 2 Buds, 2 Dubs. "Someone needs to put a halt soon to this blustering braggadocio," said Danny Griffin. "He's cutting into my territory with his peach shirts."

Unique Sports Accessories showed why they were the best team in the National Division last season by de-railing McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals, 16-4. Good "Old Reliable" Ted Stanik earned the medal for the victors with a 37, and Chris "The Hawk" Dillon pitched in with a 38. Mark "Mr. Steady" Chichvar had the best round for

McCriskin's with his 40 while his teammates struggled under the very cool and windy conditions.

KC's Korner played with one man short to make it very easy for Alfie's Boys to bring home a 14-6 win.

In such a relaxed competitive situation, the guys on Alfie's Boys had a fun night and everybody turned in good scores. Jeremy Szoc led the way with a superb display of power and finesse in firing a one-over 34 to earn the medal for the night. Szoc had three very impressive birdies along the way.

Bill "The Legend Killer" Tankiewicz and Bill Mann had 37s, and Mike Gokey completed the excellent team effort with a 39. Nick Vetusch registered a 40 for KC's Korner in a losing effort.

Over in the National Division, the first place Italian-American Club engaged in a high-scoring match with Sport & Social and emerged with a 10-10 tie to retain their hold on the top spot. Jeff Gross had a 41 for the Italian-American Club and Frank Matthews of Sport & Social had a 43 that was good enough to earn medalist honors. Next week in their match against McCriskin's, some of the golfers on Sport & Social will be sporting pretty hefty handicaps so Mark "Mr. Steady" Chichvar and his buddies better come to the course with their A-games.

Captain Kevin "Boom Boom" Bickunas of Witty's Liquors was in the unfortunate position of being able to field only two men, so South Plainfield Funeral Home waltzed to a 12-8 victory. Bickunas showed flashes of his old form in posting a 37 to win all his points and playing partner Kris Kirchofer had a 41 to earn all of his points as well.

John Dominic showed a much-improved touch on the greens and looked really sharp in carding a terrific 2-over 35. If a few putts had dropped, Dominic could have recorded the first sub-par round of the season.

With this win, South Plainfield Funeral (Continued on next page)

### SPHS

South Plainfield High School

### SPORTS SCHEDULE

**FRIDAY, MAY 4**

3:45pm V Golf-S. Brunswick (H)

**SATURDAY, MAY 5**

11am Fr Baseball-Bridgewater Rar (H)

2:30pm V & JV Baseball-Carteret (H)

V Lacrosse-GMC (A) bus TBA

GV Track-Montclair HS (A) bus TBA

**MONDAY, MAY 7**

3:45pm V & JV Softball-Old Bridge (H)

4pm V Golf-Snyder (A) bus 2:30

4pm V & JV Baseball-Carteret (A) bus 2:30

4pm V Tennis-JFK (H)

**TUESDAY, MAY 8**

3:30pm V Golf-Edison @Raritan Land-ing (A) bus 2:30

3:45pm Fr Baseball-Old Bridge (A) bus 2:30

3:45pm V & JV Softball-Carteret (A) bus 2:30

3:45pm V Lacrosse-JP Stevens (H) JV/5:15

4pm GV Track-Woodbridge (A) bus 2:30

4pm BV Track-Sayreville (A) bus 2:30

4pm V & JV Baseball-Old Bridge (H)

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 9**

3:30pm V Golf-Ranney School @Sun Eagles (A) bus 2:30

4pm V & JV Baseball-Immaculata (A) bus 2:30

4pm Fr Baseball-Immaculata (H)

**THURSDAY, MAY 10**

3:30pm V Golf-GMC (H) @W9

3:45pm V Lacrosse-Ranney JV/5:15 bus 2:30

3:45pm V & JV Softball-Bishop Ahr (H)

**FRIDAY, MAY 11**

3:30pm V Golf-Middlesex @W9 (H)

4pm V & JV Baseball-Metuchen (H)

### Golden Tee

### RESULTS

The Golden Tee program at the Plainfield West Nine saw two hotly contested tournaments.

In a three-club tournament on April 26 (players were only allowed to use three clubs for the nine holes), Jeff Orth came in first and Wayne Kelly finished second in the gross division, while Vince Powers and Don Hall finished first and second, respectively, in the net division.

In a blind partner tournament on April 30, Kelly and Hall won the gross and Bob Pero and Bob Kosovan won the net division.

Tournaments are held on Mondays and Wednesdays. For more information, call the West Nine at (908) 769-3672.

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## sports

### Eagles Offering Four Scholarship Opportunities—Apply Until May 14

The South Plainfield Eagles are pleased to announce that they will once again be offering four \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors who have participated in the Eagles program for a minimum of three years who are continuing his/her education.

Applications are available at the

guidance office at the high school or on our website at [www.leaguelineup.com/speagles](http://www.leaguelineup.com/speagles).

All applications must be returned to the South Plainfield High School Guidance Office no later than May 14.

—Submitted by Abra Hodge,  
Cheer Commissioner

### Calling All High School Senior Girls—It's Scholarship Time

The Parents' Ponytail Softball Association is sponsoring four \$500 college scholarships for girls. 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 returned 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 scoreboard.

### Hole-in-One Car Up for Grabs at SPEF/SPBA Golf Outing Sunday

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](http://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 McCriskin at (908) 561-8000 or Marge Reedy at (908) 561-5800, ext. 302.

### Jim Pornovets Golf League

(Continued from previous page)

Home moved into sole possession of second place.

Rounding out the night, Dirty Harry & Friends got nice performances from Kevin McCormack who had a 37 and from Charlie Oates who put together a 39 to drive their team to a 14-6 win over Windows Plus who have gotten off to a rough start. Dan Romano had a 41 in defeat for a team that will face another tough match next week when they go head-to-head with Unique

## Local Teen Trained as Tourette Syndrome Youth Ambassador

The national Tourette Syndrome Association, Inc. (TSA) hosted its fifth annual Tourette Syndrome (TS) Youth Ambassador Training Program in Washington, D.C. on April 18 and 19 for teens with Tourette Syndrome ages 13 to 17. After completing an application and submitting an essay regarding his intent and motivation to become a TS Youth Ambassador, Tommy Licato, 13 from South Plainfield was selected to participate in this elite training. Tommy has now returned to New Jersey to educate his peers and younger children with accurate information by going into classrooms, schools and clubs to teach understanding, sensitivity and tolerance of TS and its symptoms while dispelling the myths and stereotypes that are often attributed to and associated with this misunderstood and misdiagnosed disorder. Tommy was accompanied by his mother, Karen.

"I learned so much and I had so much fun on the trip and I can't wait to spread my knowledge to everyone I can!" said Tommy.

In addition to the comprehensive training, the newly trained Youth Ambassadors participated in a "Trip to the Hill" on April 19 during which they met with their local elected officials on Capitol Hill to inform them about how TS affects those living in their communities. A congressional luncheon briefing also took place that day, an event in which senators, congressmen and their aides hear first-hand about the struggles and issues faced from the Youth Ambassadors.

"I met with Leonard Lance directly who is so involved with the TSA that he got an award for his efforts. I also met with representatives for Senator Menendez and Lautenberg, but both popped in. I met with the representatives in a group of four including myself. All of the congressmen were extremely supportive of TSA. I'm so happy that our congressmen are so supportive of the cause."

Sports Accessories.

**Low scores for the night:** Jeremy Szoc, 34; John Dominic, 35; Dale Dube, 35; Guy Severini, 35; Bill Mann, 37; Bill Tankiewicz, 37; Jeff Orth, 37; Ted Stanik, 37; Kevin Bickunas, 37; Joe Diller, 37; and Kevin McCormack, 37.

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TS Youth Ambassador Tommy Licato with Congressman Leonard Lance

The TS Youth Ambassador program trains teens to advocate for themselves and for others and to educate their peers and younger children with accurate information. Youth Ambassadors also meet with local members of Congress and representatives, appear in the media and assist with awareness campaigns. Youth Ambassadors have found that there are many personal benefits, such as learning to work as team members and developing increased confidence in public speaking. Youth Ambassadors learn skills that they will use for the rest of their lives and at the same time are helping to enlighten our generation about TS.

Marked by involuntary vocal sounds

and physical movements called tics, TS is an inherited neurological condition frequently misunderstood and misdiagnosed, affecting more than 200,000 Americans. Founded in 1972, TSA is celebrating its 40th year as the only national, voluntary health organization for people with TS. The TSA has a three-pronged mission to identify the cause of, control the effects of, and to find a cure for TS through education, research and service. The TSA directs a network of 33 chapters and more than 150 support groups across the country.

For more information about TS, call 1-888-4TOURET or visit [www.tsa-usa.org](http://www.tsa-usa.org).

## Obituaries

### Emily (Stefanski) Sempervive, 89

Emily (Stefanski) Sempervive died on Wednesday, April 25 at the Hunterdon Care Center in Flemington.

Born and raised in the Wilkes-Barre, Pa. area, Mrs. Sempervive resided in Plainfield and North Plainfield for the majority of her life until recently moving to Flemington.

For 50 years Emily worked as a cocktail waitress throughout Central Jersey and was a former member of

St. Stanislaus of Koska RC Church in Plainfield.

She is predeceased by her husband, Joseph, who died in 1970; a son, Joseph, who died in 1993 along with all of her brothers and sisters.

Surviving are two sons, Dominick of Flemington and Richard of Clark; nine grandchildren, Kevin, Joseph III, Dawn, Gloria, Jennifer, Antoinette, Christina, Elizabeth and Vincent; and four great-grandchildren, Jake, Dylan, Kayla and Anthony.

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

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## Youngster Competes for Miss Jr. Pre-Teen



Jamani Perry

Jamani Perry of South Plainfield was recently selected to participate in the 2012 Miss Jr. Pre-Teen Newark pageant competition that will take place on Sunday, May 13. Jamani learned of her acceptance into this year's competition when the pageant announced their selections following interviews in the local Newark area. Jamani submitted an application and took part in an interview session that was conducted by this year's Newark pageant coordinator.

Jamani will be competing for her share of thousands of dollars in prizes and specialty gifts that will be distributed to contestants. Jamani will

be competing in the Miss Jr. Pre-Teen division, one of four divisions that will have young ladies competing in modeling routines, which include casual wear and formal wear. More importantly, Jamani will display her personality and interviewing skills during an interview with this year's judging panel. Personality is the number one aspect that each contestant is judged on during all phases of competition.

If Jamani were to win the title of Miss Jr. Pre-Teen Newark, she would represent Newark and the surrounding communities at the National Competition that will take place in Orlando, Fla.

Community businesses, organizations and private individuals will assist Jamani in participating in this year's competition by becoming an official sponsor to her. Through sponsorship, each contestant receives all the necessary training, rehearsals and financial support which will allow Jamani to become a very confident and well-prepared contestant in this year's Newark Pageant.

Any business, organization or private individual who may be interested in becoming a sponsor to Jamani may contact the Miss Jr. Pre-Teen Newark pageant coordinator, at 1-800-279-0976.



**GRAND OPENING AT EVEREST INSTITUTE SOUTH PLAINFIELD**—Campus President Robert Butterworth and South Plainfield Mayor Matthew Anesh cut the ceremonial ribbon on April 10. (L-R) Account Representative Tim Davis, Councilman Derryck White, Councilman Rob Bengivenga, Butterworth, Council President Ray Rusnak, Councilman Alex Barletta, Mayor Anesh, Regional Vice President of Operations Robert Johnson, Senior Vice President Chief Academic Officer Richard Simpson and Middlesex County Freeholder Charles Tomaro.



Students from Grant School recently participated in the sixth annual chess tournament at St. Joseph's High School in Metuchen. (L-R) First row: Rishi Bhalodi, Adithyan Menon, Devin Hastings, Branden Berardi, Xiann Guzman and Henrique Pereira; second row: Jayesh Mistry, Robert Lenau, Andrew Bisgaard (Middle School), Liam Glynn and teacher John Orfan. Special thanks to Mrs. Bisgaard for providing the photo.



Charlie Butrico works in the kitchen.

## Knights Host Don't Cook Night

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 held the popular "Don't Cook Friday" spaghetti dinner on April 20. The event is held several times each year. The \$500 proceeds from the dinner will be given to the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Scholarship Fund.

As at past dinners, the food was delicious, the Italian music set the mood and the atmosphere was friendly and relaxed.

Helping run this event were the following Knights: Past Grand Knight Bill Butrico; the kitchen was run by Joe McGeehan, Charlie Butrico and Chris McGeehan; manning the dishwasher was Mike Butrico. Servers for the dinner were Mike and James Butrico and Ryan Riccardi; bartender was Norman Chicarell and selling tickets at the door were Joe and Lucille Rea.

Running the salad and bread station was Kevin Keane and helping with set up was Tom Frantz.

The Knights would like to thank all of the residents who attended the spaghetti dinner. Without your support this event would not have been as successful as it was.

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From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

By Eve Pasternak

The start of May brings Cinco de Mayo, a day for celebrating Mexican culture. Whether you are looking for a guide book of Puerto Vallarta, a CD of Mexican music, or a cookbook of taco recipes, you'll find all sorts of library materials about Mexico. If you'd like to read a good story to connect you to the culture, Laura Esquivel, Gary Jennings, Barbara Kingsolver and Jack Higgins are among the many authors of fiction set in Mexico. You can even learn Spanish using the on-line lessons of Transparent Language (formerly byki)—get started from the library home page, where you will see an icon for "Learn a new language today!"

May brings many learning opportunities to the library. If you'd like to connect to the boundless information and entertainment that is available on the Internet, come to the workshop being held Wednesday, May 16 at noon. This is the first in a series of classes on basic computer use. The introductory session will cover accessing the Internet and suggest various websites to help you get started. The class is free but space is limited, so please sign up in advance. If you can't make the Wednesday session,

the program will be repeated Monday, May 21 at 10:30 a.m. and Thursday, May 24 at noon.

Keep your eyes out for more basic computer classes coming next month. You'll be able to get started with email and learn to use word processing and other important programs.

The library is presenting a new series of programs about genealogy. The first, offered Thursday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m., will offer tips on researching your family tree. You will be introduced to the latest digitized sources, including databases and websites available through the library. The class is presented free of charge; pre-registration is required. This program will be repeated on Tuesday, May 22 at 2 p.m.

If you missed the program on the 1940 U.S. Census, newly released and searchable online, ask Chris Grippo to fill you in. The government collected a lot of very detailed information and you can find out some fascinating things about life in the U.S. 70 years ago, and about your family.

Don't forget about Monday Nights at the Movies. Each Monday at 6:30 p.m., we'll be screening a recent DVD release, before it goes out on loan. Call the library or drop by to see what this week's feature is. No need to register and it's free.

Storytimes will resume their regular schedule this week. Tuesday, 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. and Thursday, 1:15 p.m. there will be Storytime and a craft for children ages three and older. Tuesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. is Time for 2s and 3s, with stories and fun chosen especially for two- and three-year-olds. Younger children, up to age two, will enjoy the songs, finger plays and more at Babytime on Friday at 10:30 a.m.

With so much going on, I'm sure we'll see you at the library soon!

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## Athletic Achievements Dominate BOE Meeting

By Libby Barsky

Recognition of the South Plainfield High School Wrestling Team continued at the April 18 Board of Education meeting, just two days after the team was honored at the Borough Council meeting.

The team was named number one in the state by the State Coaches Association as well as the *Home News Tribune*, the *Courier News* and the *Star-Ledger* for winning the Group II Wrestling Championship for the second time in three seasons. Each of the 39 members of the team and five managers were called up to receive their certificate by Head Wrestling Coach Kevin McCann with help from assistant coaches Matt Anderson, John Foscolo and Craig Salvatore. (Assistant Coach Steve Johnson was unable to attend.)

Wearing black shirts with the logo "Number One State Champions," each student shook hands with members of the board of education and the administrative staff.

Interest in wrestling has brought more youngsters into the sport, ac-

cording to parent Bill Ashnault of the South Plainfield Wrestling Club. This year there were 35 wrestlers in the middle school program. The PAL holds sessions for even younger students starting from the third grade. In all, there are approximately 170 youngsters from third grade and up in the wrestling club which meets on Monday and Thursday afternoons.

The board also recognized Don Panzarella, high school teacher and girl's softball coach for 31 years, for his 600th win against North Brunswick on April 4. Members of the softball team also received certificates.

Presiding over the meeting was the new Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Stephen Genco, whose background includes being head wrestling coach at Wall Township High School. He was inducted into the Region Six Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2011 for re-establishing the Wall Township wrestling program.

Football was also on the agenda, with Gary Cassio designated to be named head coach at \$6,829 starting August 15. Cassio, who is a South Plainfield police officer, was head

football coach at the middle school in 2011, as well as an assistant football coach in previous years. Before the board voted, former SPEA President Louise Mrusz questioned interim Superintendent of Schools Dr. Gary Bowen on why Cassio, who has a substitute teaching license, was selected instead of two applicants who are fully qualified teachers.

"He [Cassio] was the best choice," said Dr. Bowen.

Support for Cassio came from resident Ken Torchia, who was backed by students. "These students support Gary on so many different levels. They play hard for him and respect him."

Borough Council President Ray Rusnak also spoke in favor of Cassio saying, "His character will be great for the students."

The vote to appoint Cassio was unanimous. Also, before the presentations were made to the athletes, third and fourth grade students from Riley School played four musical selections on their recorders as part of the Recorder Karate Program directed by music teacher Tobie Baldwin.



The South Plainfield High School Winterguard competed in their final show of the season on April 21 at the Mid Atlantic Indoor Network (MAIN). In the class of Scholastic Novice, the guard took ninth place out of 14 with a score of 81.7. Their show this season was titled "Winter Song," and they performed to the song Winter Song by Sara Bareilles and Ingrid Michaelson. Pictured are members Desiree Jackson, Payal Sindha, Allison Wagner, Angela Spadavvechia, Bianca LoBosco, Christina Naphor, Joe Parillo, Patricia Cruz, Rowena Kanj, Tommy Olah, Sara Abdeljaber, Sarah Mott, Angela LoBosco, Rachael Pedersen and Dung Tran. They have been practicing since late November.

## The Salon Professional Academy to Hold Fundraiser

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

The 2012 walk is fast approaching, and will take place on Saturday, June 16. Tara's goal this year is to double what her team raised last year and

then, in turn, start her own charity for brain tumor awareness.

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

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

Brain tumors are the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in children (males and females) under

age 20 (leukemia is the first). Each year approximately 210,000 people in the United States will be diagnosed with a primary or metastatic brain tumor. There are over 120 different types of brain tumors.

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

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

## MCC to Offer Saturday Hours

Students and future students who need enrollment services at Middlesex County College may take advantage of special hours on Saturday, May 12. The offices will be open from 8:30 a.m. to noon. The college is located at 2600 Woodbridge Ave. in Edison.

In addition, the New Brunswick Center, located at 140 New St., will be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"This is a convenience for adult students and others who might work during the day and find it easier to

take care of enrollment procedures on Saturdays," said Marla Brinson, dean of enrollment and student support services. "Students can come in and register for summer or fall classes."

Offices that will be open on May 12 include the Enrollment Center, Cashier's Office, Admissions, Financial Aid, the Registrar's Office, the Testing Center, Counseling and Career Services, Student Activities, Academic Advisement and the College Bookstore.

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