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South Plainfield OBSERVER

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Member New Jersey Press Association

60 CENTS

JULY 13, 2012



SPHS Principal Dr. James Pedersen and Allison White

White Named Outstanding Student of the Year

Allison E. White was named South Plainfield High School's Outstanding Student of the Year by the Middlesex County Principals and Supervisors Association at an event held June 6 at the Pines Manor in Edison.

Allison has been an active student at South Plainfield High School, participating in softball, field hockey, and winter track while balancing a 4.3 GPA and AP classes. She also volunteered numerous hours with local charities and worked parttime.

Allison is a member of the Juniors, Student Leaders, Heroes and Cool Kids, Spanish Honor Society and National Honor Society. She has volunteered for the Valerie Foundation, Foster and Adoptive Family Services, Catherine's Closet Foundation, Special Olympics and Children's Specialized Hospital. She is a Keystone Community Residence volunteer.

Allison will pursue a degree in nursing this fall at The College of New Jersey.

What's All the Bark About?

By Kelly Stashko

There's a New Jersey law on the books that's got a lot of people around the state howling. The statute, which has been in effect for more than 15 years, states that a driver may be cited if he or she is found improperly transporting a pet.

The law reads: 4:22-18. "A person who shall carry, or cause to be carried, a living animal or creature in or upon a vehicle or otherwise, in a cruel or inhumane manner, shall be guilty of a disorderly persons offense and punished as provided in subsection a. of R.S.4:22-17."

What that means is about as clear as mud. Common sense would rule not to transport a pet loose in the back of an open pick-up truck, or don't drive with the window wide open leaving Fido the opportunity to jump out.

So why are we hearing a lot about this law now? The growling started on May 30 during a public event held by the New Jersey Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (NJSPCA) with the N.J. Division of Motor Vehicles. The event centered on educating motorists, specifically focusing on driving distractions, and in particular, unrestrained pets in a vehicle.

Several statements were made that day by Col. Frank Rizzo, superintendent of the NJSPCA. "Some people tell us they like to let their pets hang their heads out the window to take in the fresh air," Rizzo said. "But dogs and cats become projectiles in a crash." Rizzo went on to say that while dogs are the most commonly unrestrained pets, other cases have involved birds on drivers' shoulders or cats sleeping on the dashboard.

As explained at the event, the message was that the NJSPCA does have the authority to file animal cruelty charges if and when animals are observed being transported in an improper manner. That's right—an officer of the NJSPCA can ticket you. The fine? Let's go back to the law and subsection 'a' of R.S. 4:22-17. "...for every such offense shall be fined not less than \$250 nor more than \$1,000, or be imprisoned for a term of not more than six months, or both, in the discretion of the court."

"That's for each offense," Rizzo told reporters. "So, if you have more than one animal loose in your car, just do the math..." Seems pretty steep, compared to a \$47 fine if you don't buckle up your child.

Due to the lack of clarity in the message of that day—and the law—most people interpreted it as a pet must be restrained. And what exactly does that mean? There are many devices sold at various pet retailers, including carriers, harnesses, clips that attach to a leash then are "clipped" into seatbelts, etc.; however, there are no defined recommendations or suggestions as to what exactly to use.

Since the event and the howls of the masses that followed, the NJSPCA has issued a statement emphasizing that the message they were trying to convey was one of safety. The statement went on to say that they are not patrolling the streets looking for an unfastened Fido. Owners who unsafely cart Spot around in the back of their pickups are the ones they are on the lookout for—and rightfully so.

Just how were people supposed to interpret the statements made that day? For example, if you are pulled over for failure to use a blinker when turning and Fluffy is found unbuckled in your car, could you be facing an even stiffer penalty?

This particular New Jersey law still has some scratching their heads... and it's not because of fleas.



Pat De Santis

De Santis Announces Bid for Council

South Plainfield resident Pat De Santis has announced that she will seek election to the Borough Council this fall. De Santis is running as an independent on the platform of working toward a common ground and balancing the community.

De Santis is a 20-plus year resident of the borough. She and husband, Nick, who has lived in South Plainfield for 40 years, have three children, Tom, 39; Michelle, 27; and Angela, 18. Both daughters have gone through the local school system and De Santis feels that they are better women for having been part of this community.

De Santis has had the opportunity to serve the community in a variety of ways. She was a member of the Board of Education, Public Celebrations Committee and served as president of the Field Hockey Association. She coached softball and chaired the finances for the Ponytail Softball Association. She served Sacred Heart Church as a teacher, music ministry member and was a member of the Pastoral Council. She also worked as an aide at South Plainfield High School.

"I believe in this community," said De Santis. "And by serving on the council I want to facilitate and support measures that will benefit the community that has embraced me. I decided to adopt South Plainfield as my home 21 years ago, and did so because of its diversity, its common goals and its sense of community which I feel has been deterred in the past years."

"I don't pretend to have all the answers, but I would like the chance to speak for the people who are not heard. This community is challenged, and we can pull in opposite directions or we can determine in what single direction we can move."

De Santis can be reached via email at Patds@hotmail.com.

Tiger Sharks Dive Team Host Meet

The South Plainfield Tiger Sharks Dive Team hosted a meet on June 28 at the South Plainfield Community Pool. The results are as follows:

Boys (8 and under): first place—Chris Spadavecchia; second place—Joey Padovano; third place—Nelson Whalen; fourth place—Aiden McKenzie.

Girls (8 and under): first place—Nicole O'Sullivan; second place—Sarah Flemming; third place—Jillian McConville; fourth place—Cassie Oshaughnessy; fifth place—Olivia Glynn; sixth place—Jenna Betyeman; seventh

place—Kylie Nieradka; eighth place—Torrie Reed; ninth place—Jordanna Venetucci.

Boys (9/10): first place—Tyler Berardi; second place—Brandon Berardi.

Girls (9/10): first place—Caitlin McConville; second place—Kristina Kuchinski; third place—Danielle Bythel.

Boys (11/12): first place—Ryan Berardi; second place—Justin Bell; third place—Ed Wilinski; fourth place—David Gross.

Girls (11/12): first place—Briana Spadavecchia; second place—Chelsea Alers; third place—Kristi Maher; fourth

place—Vanessa Cifuentes.

Boys (13/14): first place—Croidy Veliz; second place—Justin Spry; third place—Ben Shaeffer; fourth place—Nick Spadavecchia; fifth place—Salvatore Dente.

Girls (13/14): first place—Nicole Settirou; second place—Nicole Cifuentes; third place—Ashli Bell; fourth place—Alyssa McKenzie.

Boys (15-18): first place—Ed Shaeffer.

Girls (15-18): first place—Miranda Garcia; second place—Valerie Cecchetti; third place—Nicole Croce.

—Submitted by Gina McConville



Members of the Tiger Sharks Dive Team display their ribbons.



OUTDOOR CONCERT SERIES

Concert Series Continues With Sandy Sasso's Swingin' Big Band

The Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders' free summer concert series continues with Sandy Sasso's Swingin' Big Band in the Spring Lake Park gazebo on Sunday, July 15 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. All concerts are free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.co.middlesex.nj.us.



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 meetingsMeets twice a month on Mondays, *except where noted.
Borough Hall Council Chambers • Questions? 908-226-7605**Agenda Meeting**Monday, July 16
Monday, August 13**Public Meeting**Monday, July 16
Monday, August 13

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 boardMeets second and fourth Tuesday of the month, *except where noted.
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. Questions? 908-226-7641
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
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.)
Aug. 15, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 7, Dec. 12
Regular Public Meeting (begin at 6:30 p.m.) except where noted*
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.
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.
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
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.
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
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)

Scholarship winners with Grand Knight Joe Scrudato and Scholarship Chairman Gerry Butrico. Not pictured are Joe Zipp, Andrew Cuttic, Austin Jenkin, Kevin Flanagan, Albert Vill and Alexis Cargill.

Knights of Columbus Award Scholarships

South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 held a Communion breakfast on June 24 where they presented the end of year awards and scholarships.

Throughout the course of the year, the Knights raised more than \$6,000 by manning the Somerset Patriots concession stands.

College scholarships were given to the following members' children and grandchildren: Joe Zipp, son of Knight Joe Zipp, will attend High Point University; Andrew Cuttic, grandson of Knight Ron Cuttic, will

attend Boston College University; Amanda Pesta, granddaughter of Knight Joe Rea, will attend Catholic University; Christina Butrico, daughter of Knight Vinny Butrico, will attend Catholic University; Austin Jenkins, a former Squire, will attend Rutgers University; Ryan Bundy, former Squire and son of Knight John Bundy, will attend Montclair State University; Kevin Flanagan, former Squire and son of Knight Pat Flanagan, will attend Coastal Carolina University; Brendan Berry, former Squire and son of Knight Tom

Berry, will attend NJIT; Albert Vill, Jr., former Squire and son of Knight Albert Vill, Sr., will attend Gettysburg College; James Butrico, former Squire and son of Past Grand Knight Bill Butrico, will attend Rider University; Alexis Cargill, daughter of Knight Brian Cargill, will attend Syracuse University; Gina Longo, daughter of Knight Bob Longo, will attend Springfield College; and Rachel Scrudato, daughter of current Grand Knight Joe Scrudato, will attend York College of Pennsylvania.

In My Opinion

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

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your article on R&C Auto Body. My family has been bringing our cars there for a number of years and have always been very happy with the results.

Carl Jr. and Sr. are wonderful people. It is not often you can find a business that you know will do a good job and you know will treat you fairly. Their success is a result of quality workmanship and the pride they take in satisfying customers. They are really nice people, doing good work for a good price. Congratulations for 50 years of outstanding business success and may there be many years to come.

RITA ENGLISH

To the Editor:

I just received my quarterly tax bill

and I am happy to see that the town reduced our taxes again. While the overall figure is higher than last year, it is due to expenses entirely out of the control of our mayor and council, such as county, school and library. This is no surprise. We will now have the usual diatribe from people seeking to replace them on election day.

Senator Buono will now write an article on how great Obamacare will be. Most of the damage will not be inflicted until after the November election. I am curious if Senator Buono's doctor husband will accept Medicare patients after bureaucrats are deciding fees and allowable care. I hope she keeps us informed.

While there may still be uninformed people waiting for the hope and change they voted for, I think the majority of South Plainfield citizens real-

Submit Your Letters to the EditorSend 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.

ize what just happened to America.

For those people covered by so-called Cadillac medical policies, which may include government workers in New Jersey, they will be assessed 40% of the cost of the policy. This goes into affect in 2018.

There was a \$500B reduction in Medicare payments and that, of course, has already been implemented. Medicare patients must now wait 10 years between each colonoscopy. Breast cancer screenings are being phased out by Obama's minions. There are some worthy provisions in Obamacare but overall, the people that benefit the most were people that don't pay for medical care presently. I am still waiting to see the damage he will do to the veterans' medical care.

BILL MCCARTHY

CORRECTION

• In the June 29 article, "KC's Korner Wins Glitter Award," the name of the artist who painted the murals in the restaurant was reported incorrectly. Her name is Chelsea Soisson, not Sasone. We regret the error.

South Plainfield OBSERVER

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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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South Plainfield, NJRev. John Paul
Alvarado, Pastor**Mass Schedule:**Saturday Mass 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
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Councilman Alex Barletta before and after losing 50 pounds.



Council Gets Behind Mayor's Wellness Campaign... Big Time

When Mayor Matt Anesh started the Mayor's Wellness Campaign, the goal was to encourage healthy lifestyles. Mayor Anesh asked committee members to come up with ideas to promote healthy eating and to encourage people to replace sedentary lifestyles with healthier, more active ones.

Little did the mayor know his idea would be a big hit so close to home.

Since the mayor announced the campaign earlier this year, three South Plainfield council members have climbed on board the healthy-eating train and are trimmer as a result. Chief among them is Councilman Alex Barletta, who lost 50 pounds and seven inches off his waist in 16 weeks.

"I was 236 pounds in February, and now I'm down to 186," said Barletta. "I feel great."

After seeing Barletta's success, two other councilmen decided they'd also give it a go. Councilman Tim McConville started a healthy-eating regimen in May, and so far has lost 26 pounds. In addition, Councilman Rob Bengivenga lost 18 pounds, as well as two inches from his waist, which was his goal.

McConville says healthier eating hasn't been easy, but he knows it's something that pays big dividends. "Already I've started to feel better and see the results."

The Mayor's Wellness Campaign is a statewide program promoted by the New Jersey League of Municipalities. More than half the towns in New Jersey are taking part, and the goal is to get the entire state involved. Activities vary from town to town. For

example, several mayors joined with their communities to lose weight with Biggest Loser contests. Some towns have competed in a stop-smoking program called, Kick Butt. Others have incorporated wellness into their yearly schedules, including activities such as fitness classes, health fairs, running clubs, walking clubs and races.

Even though the South Plainfield committee has just gotten started, members have already worked with several community groups to support the Relay for Life that took place on June 15. The committee is also looking to host a health fair in the fall and possibly sponsor a Biggest Loser South Plainfield contest.

"These are just some of the ideas. We'll also be supporting healthy events hosted by other groups," Anesh said.

According to the mayor, the idea is to make it a community effort. "It's always easier to eat right and exercise when you have a group of people sharing the experience. That's where the committee comes in. They're there to get things started."

police reports

Clarification: The June 29 police report stated that a Maple Avenue resident reported the theft of her credit card at Zen Nail Salon on Hamilton Boulevard. The report by the victim to the police indicated that the card was discovered missing on June 12 and was last used at Zen Nail Salon on June 8.

- On June 23 Parimal M. Patel, 35 and Champaben M. Patel, 56, both of Somerset were arrested at Kohls for shoplifting clothing worth \$414.

- Mohammed A. Yusuf, 44, of Sewaren was arrested for driving while intoxicated and reckless driving.

- Jerome A. Lewis, 20, of Piscataway was arrested for disorderly conduct, obstruction and resisting arrest.

- A South Plainfield resident reported the theft of a wallet, iPod Touch and watch from their vehicle that was parked on Smith Street.

- On June 24 Paul Gwaldis, 26, of South Plainfield was arrested for receiving stolen property and an outstanding warrant.

- Kurt S. Brown, 36, of Elizabeth was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia.

- Alexander Drake Knight, 20, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, reckless driving and driving while intoxicated under the age of 21.

- On June 25 Levarr A. Molina, 23, of Somerset was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.

- On June 27 Tieyese V. Brown, 41, of Manville was arrested at Kohl's for shoplifting \$327 worth of clothing.

- Salah Mohamed Abdelhalim, 56, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license, failure to exhibit insurance, no insurance and an outstanding warrant.

- Ricardo A. Meyers, 20, of Brooklyn, N.Y. was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.

- A Piscataway resident reported that two of his vehicle's tires had been slashed while parked at MJM Designer Shoes on Hadley Road.



(L-R) Standing: Xiann Guzman, Catherine DeLair, Olivia Leonardis, Kathryn Berry, Chloe Wilson, Grace Metz. Bottom: Sarah Gwiazda, Brielle Sankan, Arianna Clark, Gianna Sacco, Taylor Santamaria. Not pictured: Saadia Daoud.

Spotlight on Dance Students Perform at Patriots Ballpark

Spotlight on Dance students were featured May 25 during the pre-game festivities at the Somerset Patriots game. Dancing to *It's My Party*, the girls, ages 9 to 13, performed at field level. Many of the students also danced last year at a Patriots game.

Director Carolyn Stefanchik said, "This is a great opportunity for the kids to get out and perform for the community and have a fun night with

their families and classmates outside the dance school. They loved it last year and said they want to come back every year. Since the dancer's spring studio recital is held prior to Memorial Day, by the time they get to do this it's all fun and laughs."

The evening wrapped up with a win for the Patriots and a crystal clear night for some terrific fireworks afterward.

SPSDW Presents Thoroughly Modern Millie

This year's Summer Drama cast will take their audience back to the Roaring 20s with the production of *Thoroughly Modern Millie*! Thursday through Saturday, Aug. 2-4 at 7 p.m., and on Sunday, Aug. 5 at 2 p.m. Performances will be held in the South Plainfield High School auditorium. Ticket prices are \$12 for adults and \$10 for seniors and students.

The play, which takes place in New York City in 1922, tells the story of young Millie Dillmount, who has just

moved to the city in search of a new life. It's a New York full of intrigue and jazz—a time when women were entering the workforce and the rules of love and social behavior were changing forever. Filled with frisky flappers, dashing leading men and a dragon-lady of a villainess audiences will love to hate, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*! is a perfectly constructed evening of madcap merriment.

For tickets, call (908) 561-5255 or visit www.spsdw.com.

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events

Around Town

Back Yard BBQ at NAPA Auto Parts

July 14

Join the Eastern Conference Champion New Jersey Devils, the Devils cheerleaders, mascot and street team for the New Jersey Devils Back Yard BBQ on Saturday, July 14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at NAPA Auto Parts, 1770 Durham Ave. Open to the public.

Sign up for NAPA's preferred discount card and receive \$5 off every \$50 spent, \$10 off every \$100; buy one get one free wipers and washer fluid.

Crossroads Calvary Vacation Bible School

July 16-20

Crossroads Calvary Chapel, 104 New Era Drive, will host a free vacation bible school, Monday-Friday, July 16-20 from 6:45 to 9:15 p.m. Children and youth (nursery through teens) are invited to join us during our "Amazing Wonders Aviation."

For more information, call (908) 757-2270, email ed@crossroadscalvary.com or register online at www.crossroadscalvary.com/Crossroads/VBS.html.

Healthy Cooking and Eating for One Seminar

July 17

The South Plainfield Senior Center will host a Healthy Cooking and Eating for One seminar on Tuesday, July 17 at 9 a.m. Guest speaker is dietician Tonja Werkman. Light snacks will be provided.

Sign up at the senior center or call (908) 754-1047.

Katie Mott Stars in Musical Comedy

July 19-August 12

Former South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop actor Katie Mott will star in the production of *Nunsense*, a musical comedy by Dan

Goggin, at the Morristown Museum/Bickford Theater, 6 Normandy Heights Rd. from July 19-August 12. Tickets: \$40, general; \$36, seniors; \$20, students (18 or under with valid school ID).

For tickets call (973) 971-3706 or email info@bickfordtheatre.org.

Summer Drama Yard Sale and Car Wash

July 21

South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop will hold its annual yard sale and car wash at the Middle School on Saturday, July 21.

Cast members and their parents will be selling a variety of household items while others will be cleaning cars, trucks and SUVs. Refreshments will be available to purchase. All monies raised will defray the cost of this year's production of *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Stop in to find a bargain and drive home in a clean vehicle!

Car/Motorcycle Cruise Fundraiser

July 21

Street Dreams Car Club will hold a car/motorcycle cruise fundraiser for Kathy Regenye on Saturday, July 21 from 5 to 9 p.m. at Veteran's Park. Rain date: Saturday, July 28. Kathy recently had her third surgery for brain cancer and we hope to help her with her mounting bills through this event.

In addition to the cars and motorcycles, there will be music and crafters/vendors. Vendors are needed.

For more information, please contact Ron at (908) 482-0008.

Elks Pancake Breakfast

July 22

The South Plainfield Elks, 1254 New Market Ave., will host a pancake breakfast on Sunday, July 22 from 8 a.m. until noon to benefit the South Plainfield High School Marching Band, Chorus and Orchestra's 2012

Disney trip.

The menu includes pancakes, eggs made to order, French toast, bacon, sausage, home fries, toast, juice and coffee. Cost: \$6, adults; \$5, seniors; \$4, children ages three to 12; children two and under are free.

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

American Legion Post 243 Picnic

July 28

The American Legion will hold its annual picnic on Saturday, July 28 from 1-6 p.m. at the Chaumont Post, 243 Oak Tree Ave. Cost: \$18, adults over 21; \$12, children age six and over; free for children under six. Picnic food, DJ Aldo Velez, a horseshoe tournament and a water slide for the children will be available. Auxiliary members will again have their spectacular dessert room. Tickets will be available at the Post after July 13.

SPSDW Thoroughly Modern Millie!

August 2, 3, 4 & 5

South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop presents *Thoroughly Modern Millie!* on Thursday, Aug. 2, Friday, Aug. 3 and Saturday, Aug. 4 at 7 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 5 at 2 p.m. Performances will be held in the auditorium at South Plainfield High School. Ticket prices: \$12, adults; \$10, seniors and students.

For tickets or more information, call (908) 561-5255 or visit our website at www.spsdw.com.

Vacation Bible School at First Baptist

August 6-10

First Baptist Church of South Plainfield, 201 Hamilton Blvd., will hold vacation Bible school for children entering kindergarten through eighth grade Monday-Friday, Aug. 6-10, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. All Aboard the VBS Express! features fun, games, crafts, songs and Bible stories. Registration: \$5 per child.

For information or to pre-register,

Send Your
Community Events to:
spobserver@comcast.net

call (908) 753-2382 or visit www.fbc-southplainfield.com.

Trip to Bally's/Air Show in AC

August 17

The Senior Center is offering a trip to Bally's on Friday, Aug. 17. Cost is \$20pp (\$25 return) and includes the spectacular Atlantic City Air Show, "Thunder over the Boardwalk." Bus leaves at 8:30 a.m.

Sign up at the senior center or call (908) 754-1047.

Annual Sacred Heart Golf Outing

September 12

Sacred Heart Church will host its third annual golf outing on Wednesday, Sept. 12 at the Cranbury Golf Course in West Windsor. Shotgun start at 9 a.m. Prizes for closest to the pin, longest drive and hit the green. Snacks at the turn and a luncheon buffet.

Register online with a credit card at www.churchofthesacredheart.net.

— Out of Town —

Damn Yankees at Plays-in-the-Park

Through July 21

Plays-in-the-Park, located at Roosevelt Park in Edison, presents *Damn Yankees*, the second show of the season, through Saturday, July 21 (no show July 15). Purchase tickets the night of performance; box office opens at 5:30 p.m.; show begins at 8:30 p.m. Cost: adults, \$7; seniors, \$5; children 12 and under, free. Bring your own lawn chairs; chair-back cannot exceed 40 inches.

For more information, visit us online at www.playsinthepark.com.

Middlesex East WOWs

July 13

Middlesex East Widows Or Widowers, Carteret Chapter, will hold an open dance on Friday, July 13 from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, 1155 Roosevelt Ave. in Carteret. Everyone is welcome. Refreshments. Admission: \$10 members; \$12 guests.

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

SENIOR CENTER Calendar

July 17—Healthy Cooking and Eating for One seminar 9 a.m.

August 1—Taj Mahal \$20pp. Bus leaves 8:45 a.m.

August 17—Bally's \$20pp. (Includes Atlantic City Air Show) Bus leaves 8:30 a.m. Sign up at Senior Center

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
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

Free Community BBQ

July 18

Oak Tree Presbyterian Church, 445 Plainfield Rd. in North Edison, will host a free community barbecue on Wednesday, July 18 at 6:30 p.m. Food and fellowship; brief Taize service of meditation and song afterwards. All are welcome.



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Egg Salad Greek Salad • Shrimp Salad
Lobster Salad • Whole Jumbo Shrimp
Seafood Salad • Sea Legs Salad
Caesar Salad with Grilled Chicken
Salad w/Grilled Salmon • Salad w/Broiled Tilapia
Salad with Sliced London Broil
Salad with Grilled Chicken

Grilled Chicken Caesar Wrap
Tuna Salad Wrap • Chicken Greek Salad Wrap

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onions & peppers, melted American cheese
Grecian-sliced tomato & feta cheese
Italian—roasted peppers & fresh mozzarella
Texan—crisp bacon & melted cheddar
Cordon Bleu—ham & melted Swiss

PANINI SANDWICHES

Grilled Chicken Panini—Sliced chicken breast, mozzarella, basil & roasted red peppers, balsamic vinaigrette
London Broil & Mozzarella Panini—Sliced london broil, mozzarella, sauteed mushrooms & fried onions
Turkey & Swiss Panini—Sliced turkey topped w/swiss, grilled tomato & romaine, served with side of honey dijon mustard
Eggplant Parmigiana Panini—Pan-fried chicken

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Depression/Bipolar Support Meeting

July 25

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

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

Pushcart Players "Red Riding Hood"

July 25

Pushcart Players presents "Red Riding Hood and other stories" on Wednesday, July 25 at 11 a.m. in the Wilkins Theatre at Kean University, 1000 Morris Ave. in Union. Tickets are \$15; discounted rates for groups of 20 or more.

For more information, visit www.kean.edu/premierestages or call the box office at (908) 737-7469.

Authentic German Biergarten/Car Show

July 27

Deutscher Club of Clark, 787 Featherbed Lane, will hold an authentic German biergarten and Mercedes car show on Friday, July 27 from 5:30-10 p.m. Open to the public. Admission: \$2 per person. Rain or shine. Picnic tables, live music, German and American food and beverages available. No outside food/beverages. No bikes, skates, skateboards, scooters or glass containers. No pets allowed.

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

Upscale Singles Dance Party

July 28

Steppin' Out Singles upscale singles dance party will be held on Saturday, July 28 at 8 p.m. at the Woodbridge Hilton, 120 Wood Ave. in Iselin. Ages 40 and up. No jeans/t-shirts/sneakers/shorts. Admission: \$15.

For more information, call (862) 397-4723.

St. Helen's Caregiver Support Group

August 6

St. Helen's Church Caregiver Support Group, for those caring for elderly or chronically ill loved ones, will meet on Monday, Aug. 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Center on Lamberts Mill Road in Westfield. Informational and sharing sessions.

For more information, call Marilyn Ryan at (908) 232-1214.

St. Luke's Trip to Woodloch Pines

September 10-12

The Leisure Club of St. Luke's Church in North Plainfield will be sponsoring a two-night trip to Woodloch Pines in the Poconos, September 10-12. The all-inclusive package price is \$395pp, double occupancy. Includes bus transportation, two nights accommodations, six meals, all taxes and tips, and baggage handling.

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

BOE Hires Kedra Gamble

By Libby Barsky

Kedra Gamble was hired as the K-12 Supervisor of Language Arts/Social Studies and English as a Second Language at the June 6 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Gamble will be coordinating the state's new Core Curriculum standards and see to its implementation in all of the district's schools.

One of 17 applicants, Gamble has been a classroom teacher, reading specialist and instructional coach in the Plainfield and Piscataway School Districts. She told the board that she is "very excited to be part of the district."

Gamble received all of her degrees from Rutgers, with a B.A. in English and psychology and a master's degree (EdM) from Rutgers Graduate School of Education in early childhood and elementary education. She is currently working towards a PhD from Rutgers Graduate School of Education which she expects to receive in October.

"My specialization is literacy," Gamble said. Her thesis topic is, "How Districts Assess Professional Development Needs."

Gamble says she is very committed to the professional development of teachers especially the teachers' involvement in the process.

"Schools discuss this but don't give guidance to how to do it," she said. "How do teachers' voices get heard? Do teachers' voices actually come into play in the policy developed?" are questions she is posing. "I'm doing a case study of a district using several different needs assessment methods and what needs are actually assessed and how it got negotiated," she said.

Other BOE Actions

To strengthen the district's emphasis on the language arts program, the board transferred Mary Rodgers from Grant School and Teresa Luck from Kennedy School to be literacy coaches. The board also transferred Laura McCresh from Kennedy School to be the gifted and talented teacher for all elementary schools.

Four non-tenured teachers will be returning. Lauren Haus will teach kindergarten at Kennedy School, Shannon Boyles will teach third grade at Roosevelt School, Kristen Kunie will teach kindergarten at Roosevelt School and Nicole Wrublewski is slated for first grade at Riley School.

The board also approved Desiree Noland as the computer and math teacher at Roosevelt School and Amy Leso will teach third grade at Kennedy.



Retiring Riley School Speech Therapist Martha Klink receives a plaque from Principal Leo Whalen at the June 3 Board of Education meeting.

Athletic Booster Club Holds Dinner

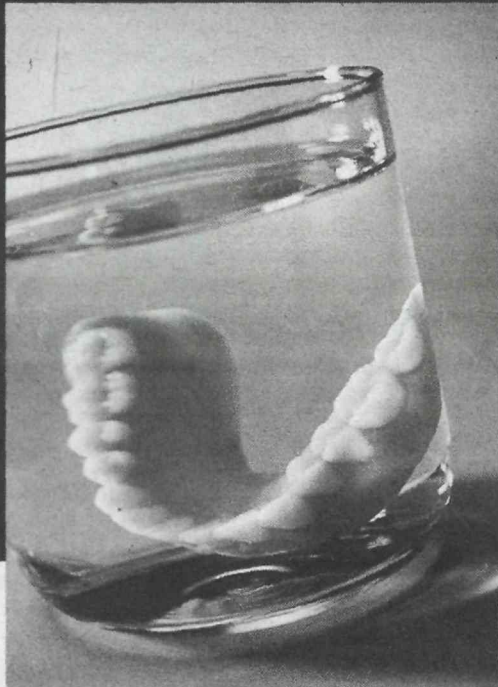
The South Plainfield Athletic Booster Club Senior Letter Winner's dinner was held on June 7 at the Italian-American Social Club of North Plainfield.

The master of ceremonies was former middle school principal, Steve Novak. Athletic Director Al Czech, high school Principal Dr. James Pedersen, Board of Education Vice President Debbie Boyle and board members Gary Stevenson and Carol Byrne attended the dinner.

Athletic Booster Club President Barbara Whitefleet greeted the audience and an invocation was read by

GMC scholar athlete Casey Butrico. The guest speakers were Catherine Krawiec, Class of 2009 and Carly Ashnault, Class of 2011. Duke Baxter, an instructor at the Zoned Sports Academy in Bridgewater and former professional baseball player, also addressed the audience.

Mike English presented Jessica Bohn and Shawn Gorman with the Athletic Booster Scholarships. The rest of the athletes received Tiger blankets and canvas bags as gifts for their participation. The evening ended with a benediction by GMC Scholar Athlete Albert Vill.



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milestones

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Erica L. Bowden

Erica Bowden Graduates from Rutgers University

Erica L. Bowden, a 2008 graduate of South Plainfield High School, graduated from Rutgers University in New Brunswick on May 13. Erica earned a bachelor of arts degree in communication with a minor in organizational leadership.

Erica was named to the dean's list for the Spring 2012 semester. To be eligible for this honor, a student must be registered for at least 12 academic credit hours and earn a semester GPA of 3.50 or higher.

Erica is employed as a marketing administrator for Mack Boring & Parts Company, located in Union. The company is a leading provider of power products, primarily diesel engines for the boating and motorcycle industries. With this position, Erica will have the opportunity to travel and have hands-on involvement with trade events and customer relations.

Erica is the daughter of Bill and June Bowden of South Plainfield.

Butrico Kaplan Graduates From Seton Hall Univ.

Alison Butrico Kaplan graduated from Seton Hall University School of Law on May 25 with a Juris Doctor degree. While attending classes in the evening, Alison worked full time as a legal assistant at King & Spalding LLP in New York City, working with the firm's intellectual property group.

During her final semester, she worked as a law clerk at Carella, Byrne, Cecchi, Olstein, Brody & Agnello, P.C. in Roseland, where she will resume employment upon completion of the bar exam.

Alison is a 2001 graduate of South Plainfield High School and a 2004 graduate of the University of Miami.

Alison is the daughter of Billy and Sue Butrico, and she resides in Roselle with her husband, Jay.

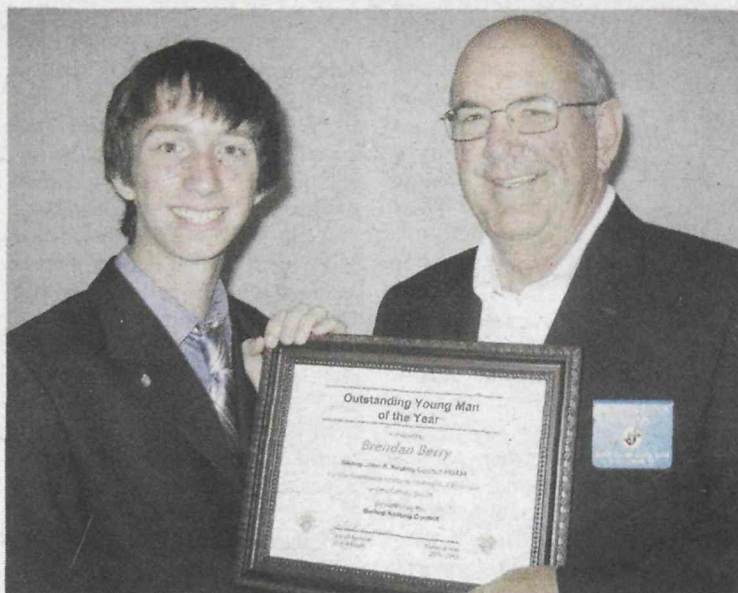
Noonan Graduates From DePaul

Katie Noonan, a 2007 graduate of South Plainfield High School, graduated with distinction from the DePaul University Advanced Standing Program with a master's degree in social work on June 10. Her family is incredibly proud of her.

Joseph Cupo Named To Dean's List

Joseph Cupo of South Plainfield was named to the dean's list for the Spring 2012 semester at Clarion University of Pennsylvania.

Students must earn a grade point average of 3.5 for placement on the dean's list.



Brendan Berry accepts the Outstanding Young Man of the Year Award from his grandfather and sponsor, James Berry.

Brendan Berry Honored by Knights

South Plainfield High School senior Brendan Berry was recently honored as "Outstanding Young Man of the Year" from the Bishop John R. Keating Council 12434, Knights of Columbus, in Spotsylvania, Va. The award is based on a combination of academics, athletics, community service and a written essay. Brendan received a college scholarship, a framed certificate and inclusion in the

Virginia State Knights of Columbus "Young Man of the Year" selection to be held at a later date.

Brendan will attend New Jersey Institute of Technology in the fall, where he will major in mechanical engineering.

Brendan is the son of Thomas and Colleen Berry of South Plainfield, and grandson of Past Grand Knight James Berry of Fredericksburg, Va.

Local Students Awarded

Adele DeLeeuw Scholarships

Twenty-four students received scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$3,000 at an awards dinner held on June 14 at the Spain Inn in Piscataway. In total, \$40,000 was distributed by the Adele DeLeeuw Scholarship Fund, a fund of the Plainfield Foundation. These awards bring the Fund's 17-year total distribution to \$994,500.

The scholarships are financed by a bequest from Adele DeLeeuw, longtime Plainfield resident, author of 75 books, journalist and arts activist.

Five college seniors who won the competitive scholarships for four consecutive years were honored as Adele DeLeeuw Senior Scholars. Zane P. Lesky of South Plainfield High School, Karthik Kumar of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School and Alan Hong of J.P. Stevens High School were each awarded \$1,000; Bridget E. McManus of Mount St. Mary Academy was awarded \$2,500 and Jonathan Valencia of North Plainfield High School was awarded \$3,000.

Winners from the South Plainfield High School Class of 2012 were Hailey Carone (\$1,000) and Sofia Abd Edlhady and Sabrina Del Piano, and were each awarded \$2,500. Ding Yang Lin from J.P. Stevens High School was awarded \$3,000. Tristin J. Marshall from Bishop Ahr High

School was awarded \$1,000. Brianna C. Blake from Watchung Hills Regional High School was awarded \$1,750. From Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, Isabel Crystal and Daniel McMillan were each awarded \$1,500, and Chloe Thomas was awarded \$2,000.

Repeat scholarship winners now in college were Chanelle T. Sears from Plainfield High School (\$2,000); Nicholas J. Salvemini from North Plainfield High School (\$3,000); and Kyle Pompilio from South Plainfield High School (\$1,000). Watchung Hills Regional High School recipients were Connor J. Blake (\$1,750) and Zachary Zareva (\$2,000).

Repeat winners from J.P. Stevens High School were Dawn A. Barcelona, Ellen Shi and Byron Zhang, who were each awarded \$1,000. Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School recipients were Zachary Cohen and Aleksandra Szczuka, who each won \$1,000.

Applications for the 2013 Adele DeLeeuw Scholarships will be available from high school guidance offices in Plainfield, North Plainfield, South Plainfield, Warren, Watchung, Edison, Scotch Plains and Fanwood in January 2013.

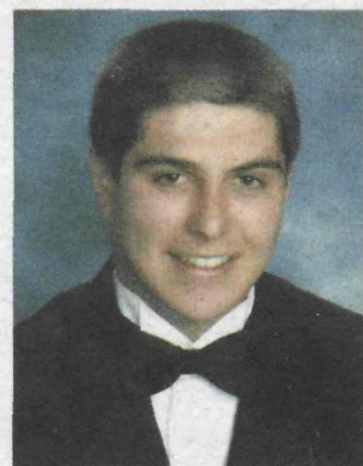
For more information, call Johanna Salvemini, scholarship administrator, at (908) 755-8098.

Crilley Earns Distinguished Honors at FDU

Kristie Crilley, a resident of South Plainfield, just completed her second year at Fairleigh Dickinson University, College at Florham in Madison.

For the 2012 Spring semester, Kristie made the honors list. To qualify for the honors list, students must attain a grade point average of 3.5 for the semester in order to be eligible. She achieved this while competing on the FDU Devils Softball team. In addition, Kristie also made the Middle Atlantic Conference Academic Honor Roll.

Kristie will begin her junior year in the fall at Fairleigh Dickinson University with a degree in history while in the QUEST Education Program.



Stephen Petriello

Stephen Petriello Awarded Scholarship

Stephen Petriello has been awarded the Zoned Sports Academy Scholar-Athlete Scholarship for the 2011/2012 academic year. Scholarships are given to athletes in recognition of their athletic accomplishments, educational success and community service work.

In order to be eligible, athletes must be of outstanding character, integrity and leadership on their baseball team as well as their communities.

"These scholarships recognize athletes who have succeeded in far more than baseball," said Duke Baxter of Zoned Sports Academy. They recognize each of these athletes as well rounded individuals whose accomplishments reach well beyond the diamonds they play on. They are true champions in their schools, homes and communities. These scholarships provide a way for us at Zoned to recognize and give back to these young role models as well as for those who will follow in their footsteps in years to come."

Stephen has a 4.58 GPA and will be attending Rowan University and playing for the baseball team in the fall.



Brenda Vallecilla

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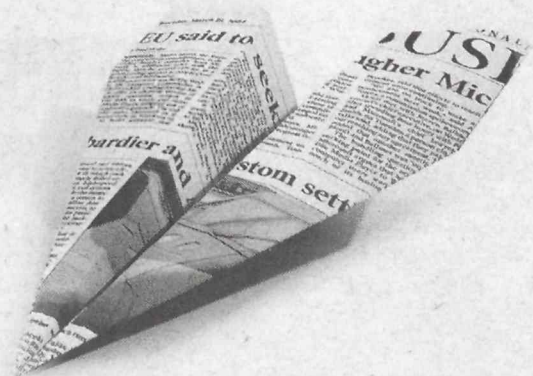
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milestones



Dr. Cheryl Hoh

Dr. Cheryl Hoh
Honored

Army Captain, Dr. Cheryl Hoh, received recognition for her outstanding service to the soldiers and veterans at Dwight D. Eisenhower Medical Center at Fort Gordon Military Base in Augusta, Ga. She is a 2002 graduate of South Plainfield High School.

Captain Hoh is currently the chief of Outpatient Pharmacy Services, where she oversees 50 employees and 3,500 prescriptions daily.

Captain Hoh received a doctorate of pharmacy from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, University of the Sciences in Philadelphia in 2008 and had achieved academic excellence.

Captain Hoh joined the armed forces in 2009, attending the officer leadership course at Fort Sam Houston in Texas. Thereafter, she was assigned to Fort Gordon.

Captain Hoh plans on continuing to serve veterans while attaining her Georgia Pharmacy license.

She is the daughter of proud mother, Antonia Hoh, who resides in South Plainfield. Her father, Charles Hoh, resides in Verona.

Christian Payne
Graduates from
FDU

Christian Payne of South Plainfield graduated from Fairleigh Dickinson University's College at Florham in May.

FDU's College at Florham is located on the former Vanderbilt-Rwombly estate in suburban Morris County. Its focus is on providing outstanding on-campus and residential living opportunities, hands-on-learning experiences, strong graduate and professional school preparation and customized educational options, all framed by a global perspective.



Megan Boyle

Megan Boyle
Graduates

Megan Boyle received a bachelor of arts degree in creative writing and master of arts degree in teaching at the 69th commencement ceremony at Fairleigh Dickinson University. Megan graduated cum laude.

While at FDU, Megan served as captain of the Devils Softball Team.

Megan is the daughter of Robert and Debbie Boyle of South Plainfield.



Nicole Miglis and Jonas McGaha

Miglis, McGaha
To Wed

Charisse and David Miglis, Sr. of South Plainfield are excited to announce the wedding celebration of their daughter Nicole to Jonas, the son of Tracey McGaha and of Michael McGaha of Charlottesville, Va.

Nicole is a 2007 graduate of South Plainfield High School. Nicole and Jonas are 2012 graduates of Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va.

A sunset beach wedding will take place on July 29.

Keri Gould Named
To Dean's List

Keri Gould of South Plainfield has been named to the Spring 2012 dean's list at Buffalo State. She is an art education major.

To qualify, students must earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher and complete a minimum of 12 credit hours.

Founded in 1871, Buffalo State is the largest comprehensive college in the SUNY system offering programs in the arts, sciences, professions and education. Each year nearly 12,000 students choose Buffalo State for its superb academic programs, applied learning opportunities, affordable tuition and metropolitan location.

Jamie Okosko Graduates From Rutgers

Jamie Okosko, a 2008 graduate of South Plainfield High School, has received a bachelor of arts degree in history from Rutgers University-New Brunswick. She completed the History Honors Program and graduated with high honors while also attaining membership into the National History Honors Society, Phi Alpha Theta.

Jamie currently works at the Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum in New Brunswick and will attend graduate school next year in the hopes of attaining a future career as a collegiate history professor.

Jamie is the daughter of proud parents and longtime South Plainfield residents Lester and Joanne Okosko.



Jamie Okosko

Two Earn Degrees from Univ. of New Haven

Theresa Huber received a B.S. in forensic science and Leslie Samayoa received a B.S. in criminal justice from the University of New Haven. Both are from South Plainfield.

The University of New Haven is a private, top-tier comprehensive institution recognized as a national leader in experiential education. Founded in 1920 on the campus of Yale University in cooperation with Northeastern University, UNH moved to its current West Haven campus in 1960. The university provides its students with a unique combination of a solid liberal arts education and real-world, hands-on career and research opportunities. UNH enrolls approximately 6,400, including nearly 1,800 graduate students and more than 4,600 undergraduates, the majority of

whom reside in university housing. Through its College of Arts and Sciences, College of Business, Henry C. Lee College of Criminal Justice and Forensic Sciences, Tagliatela College of Engineering and University College, UNH offers 75 undergraduate and graduate degree programs.

Boyle Named to
Dean's List

Michael Boyle was named to the dean's list at Pace University in New York City for the Spring 2012 semester. Boyle is a junior majoring in biology. He was recently awarded the Pforzheimer Honors College grant to fund his research project with Dr. David Zuzga titled, "The Role of Myosin 1E in Colorectal Cancer Metastasis."

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Sports

Tiger Sharks Beat the Gators at Cranford Pool

The South Plainfield Tiger Sharks Swim Team had their first win of the season on June 27 defeating the Cranford Gators in Cranford with a score of 151-124.

Starting the meet with a clean sweep in the 10 and under individual medley were Matt Chen, Samuel Zhang and Tyler Wu placing first, second and third. The 13-18 year-old boys did the same with Daniel Wang, Bryce Uzzolino and Anthony Gurrieri also taking a first, second and third. Andrew Galarza placed second for the 11/12 year-old boys in the same event.

Freestyle first place winners were Darlene Fung (11/12), Matt Chen (11/12), Daniel Galarza (13/14) and Anthony Gurrieri (15-18). Taking second place ribbons were Samuel Zhang (9/10) and Peter Zakrevski (11/12). Third place winners were Shannon Yan (10 and under), Samantha Soto (13-18), Ethan Tam (8 and under) and Bryce Uzzolino (15-18).

Tracy Lu (first) and Faith Best (third) received ribbons for the backstroke for the eight and under. Once again Darlene Fung placed first in her age group. Kristy Tam (9/10), Jenna Yan (11/12) and Maggie Valentino (15-18) placed second while Stephanie Chiu (11/12) placed third.

Ethan Tam was the only eight and under to place and he succeeded in taking first for butterfly. Tyler Wu

(9/10), Peter Zakrevski (11/12), and Marcel Green (15-18) also placed first in the butterfly stroke. Brothers Andrew Galarza (11/12) and Daniel Galarza (13/14) placed second.

Ryan Park (9/10), Enzo Butrico (13/14) and Joe Cornelius (15-18) placed third.

Finishing the individual events were the girls with breaststroke. Placing first were Tracy Lu (9/10), Grace Chung (13/14) and Samantha Soto (15-18). Aubrey Marish (11/12) was the only South Plainfield swimmer who placed second in the event. Placing with third place ribbons were Hope Best (8 and under), Kaitlyn Kwan (9/10), Stephanie Chiu (11/12) and Jenna Yan (13/14).

The only girls' free relay to take home the blue ribbons for first place was the 8 and under team of Amanda Hernandez, Tracy Lu, Faith Best and Hope Best.

The boys 9-12 and 13-18 medley relays placed first. Swimming for the 9-12 age group were Andrew Galarza, Peter Zakrevski, Tyler Wu and Samuel Zhang. The older boys group was Daniel Galarza, Enzo Butrico, Bryce Uzzolino and Anthony Gurrieri.

The Tiger Sharks thank their coaches, parents and supporters who helped them claim this victory over the Gators of Cranford.

-Submitted by Cheryl Nagel-Smiley



Submitted By Bob Nilan

Notes from the Jim Pornovets Memorial Golf League



LEAGUE STANDINGS

American Division				National Division			
	W	L	T		W	L	T
Alfie's Boys	8	3	0	Italian-American Club	8	1	2
KC's Korner	7	3	1	So. Plainfield Funeral Home	6	5	0
2 Buds, 2 Dubs	7	4	0	Sport & Social	4	5	2
Unique Sports Accessories	4	5	2	Windows Plus	4	6	1
McCriskin-Gustafson	3	7	1	Dirty Harry & Friends	4	7	0
Twin City Pharmacy	2	8	1	Witty's Liquors	3	8	0

When first-place Alfie's Boys took on KC's Korner, their closest rival in the American Division, both teams were on a roll: Alfie's Boys were coming off a huge shut-out win over the Italian-American Club while KC's Korner had a run of six straight matches without a defeat.

KC's Korner won a close one, 12-8, and extended its run to seven, thanks to the solid play of Dan Conti who came off the disabled list to fire a 37; Nick Vertuschi who carded a 38; and the seasoned veteran, Rich Steele, came through with a 39.

Alfie's Boys got some fine performances from Dan "The Man" Griffin, the leading contender for POTY honors, who posted a nifty 34; Bill Mann added to his string of good rounds with a 36; and Dan "The Other Man" Picciottoli contributed a 39.

Chris "The Hawk" Dillon sounded a lot like Guy Severini, wondering just how low his team has to shoot in order to win a match. Dillon had his best round of the season, a sparkling 1-under 32; Ted Stanik, using his new elongated Ping putter in the league for the first time, drained a 30-footer on the seventh hole for birdie and then made another bird on the eighth hole on his way to a 1-under 32 gem of his own; and Jay "The Sexy One" Bertleson had a couple of birdies himself and shot a very impressive 35. But all that superlative play could do was earn Unique Sports Accessories a tie with McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals. Steve Shock put together a

nice round of 36 (a net 28) for McCriskin's; Mark "The Golden Bird" Chichvar was solid as usual, and shot a 38; and Wally Heinzer looked really sharp in registering a 39 (for a net of 27).

Before the match began, Heinzer took one look at his captain, Mark Chichvar, who was sporting a chartreuse shirt, multi-colored plaid shorts that subtly picked up the color of the golf shirt, and a chartreuse and white belt buckle. Not quite the take-your-breath-away look of his canary yellow outfit, but it was enough to convince Heinzer that they would prevail in the match against a very tough opponent so Heinzer lit up his victory cigar on the first tee. They didn't quite achieve the victory they sought, but McCriskin's had to be satisfied in coming away with a tie after the way Unique Sports lit up the course.

Week after week, it's the same old story for Twin City Pharmacy—they play well, sometimes extremely well, and still lose their match. Captain Guy Severini earned the medal with a fine round of 36; Frank Gaspari chipped in with a 38; and Jay Coppola left a few out there but still managed to finish with a 39. But all that good golf was not enough as 2 Buds, 2 Dubs came away with a close 11-9 victory. Dale Dube and Jeff Orth shared the medal with a pair of 37s.

Severini says he finds no consolation in knowing that his squad is the best last-place team in league history.

Over in the National Division, the

golfers on Sport & Social were delighted to be informed there had been a secretarial error in the scoring and they actually won their match last week against Twin City Pharmacy. Perked up with this good news, Scott McDonald went on to lead his team to a 10-10 tie with the first place Italian-American Club. McDonald had two terrific birdies on the second and seventh holes on his way to a lovely 2-over 35 to earn medalist honors. Lou Colicchio was the low-man for the division leaders with his round of 40.

A couple of weeks ago, when he came off the course, Matt Ward of the South Plainfield Funeral Home was muttering to himself about his wayward drives and his inconsistent short-iron play and his inability to sink so many makeable putts. What a difference getting some help from brother John can make: Ward was his old jovial self as he came charging through the parking lot on his newly acquired horse, Thunder and Lightning, crushing some mammoth tee shots and hitting a lot of greens in regulation as he spearheaded his team to a thumping of Witty's Liquors, 16-4. Ward's fine round of 35 could even have been a few strokes lower if some putts had dropped, and Wayne Laverdier continued his excellent play with a solid round of 36.

For Witty's Liquors, Kevin "Boom Boom" Bickunas shot a 39; and making his league debut, Tony Franczak, Jr. whose father once played regularly for Witty's with his partner Joe Di Quollo, looked good in also carding a 39.

Charlie Oates of Dirty Harry & Friends knew his team was going to enjoy a completely pressure-free round when Windows Plus, unfortunately, was only able to field two men for their match. Under such relaxed conditions, Oates cruised around the course and played beautifully, making birdies on the fifth and ninth holes as he shot a 35 to lead his team to an easy 19-1 triumph.

Dirty Harry & Friends will have quite a different experience next week when they go head-to-head with all the bombers from Alfie's Boys.

Low scores for the night: Chris Dillon, 32; Ted Stanik 32, Dan Griffin, 34; Jay Bertleson, 35; Scott Mac Donald, 35; Charlie Oates 35; Matt Ward, 35; Bill Mann, 36; Steve Shock, 36; Wayne Laverdier, 36.

Golf Tournament to Benefit HS Golf Team

The 18th annual South Plainfield Golf Association's South Plainfield Open will be held on Thursday, Aug. 2 at Gambler Ridge Golf Club. This tournament is held for the benefit of the SPSHS Golf Team.

Registration and payment is due by July 23. Register for the tournament at www.spga.org, or print out and mail the entry form.

For more information about the tournament, sponsorships and entry forms, players can contact Mike Alvarez at (732) 259-0591; Dick DeAndrea at (908) 755-1700; Matt Ward at (908) 754-4766; or visit www.spga.org.

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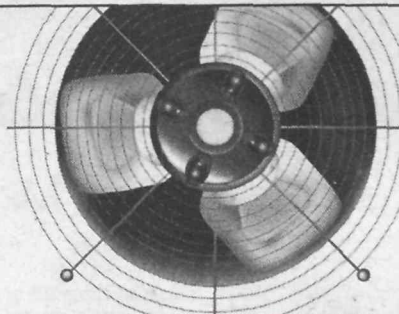
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Business Association Renews Adopt-A-Spot Contract

South Plainfield Business Association (SPBA) has renewed its Adopt-A-Spot agreement with South Plainfield Clean Business Association. The SPBA will provide litter removal services on the Lakeview Avenue Overpass for the next two years.

The overpass serves as a gateway to the borough's civic center. The SPBA first adopted this spot in 2009, believing it to be important to keep this stretch of roadway clean so as to provide a good first impression to people entering the complex of municipal and county buildings and parks. Much of

the area has been adopted by individual businesses and families that volunteer their time and work to remove litter. The SPBA is promoting awareness of local environmental issues within the business community.

The CBA is looking for more adopters for commercial areas such as Hamilton Boulevard, Church Street, South Plainfield Avenue and Oak Tree Avenue.

For more information about the Adopt-A-Spot program, contact the Clean Communities coordinator at (908) 226-7621.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Eve Pasternak

July is National Picnic Month, National Hot Dog Month, National Baked Bean Month, National Pickle Month, and my favorite, National Ice Cream Month. In between enjoying all that delicious food, stay cool at the library. July is also Air Conditioning Appreciation Month.

Summer reading clubs are in full swing. This year it's not just for children. Come and sign up for our new Adult Summer Reading Program. There are rewards, raffles and lots of special events. Why should the kids have all the fun?

A special summer event for adults (and children over 12) takes place Wednesday, July 25 at 7:30 p.m. They will enjoy an origami workshop. Nancy Avella will lead the class for beginners and more experienced folders alike. The program will be repeated in August. We ask that you sign up in advance.

Fans of film noir are finding our ongoing series dark and mysterious. On Thursday, July 26 there will be another cynical feature at 6:30 p.m. Call to find out what's showing; slouch has not required.

The series of genealogy workshops continues on Thursday, July 19 at 6:30 p.m. Learn some of the ins and outs of tracking down immigration information. To know who we are, we must (literally) know where we came from.

This month's computer classes for adults introduce Microsoft Word. On Wednesday, July 18 or Thursday, July 26 learn how to create, edit and save documents, as well as some of the tools and features in the latest version of Word. The class is offered at noon on both days and participation is free, but please pre-register because space is limited.

Kids of all ages are welcome at the "Fun on a String" puppet show, Thursday, July 19. The show will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave. There is no need to sign up in advance and there is no fee, but you can bring a new, unopened, nonperishable food item for the food bank.

Lots of other age-appropriate things are going on at the library. Monday mornings finds everyone at the movies. Children of any age can join us for a movie at 10:30. To learn what's being shown, call the library or ask at the desk.

The youngest readers, up to two years old, are introduced to the library at Babytime, Fridays at 10:30 a.m. Babies and their caregivers sing songs,

learn finger plays and have fun for 15 to 20 minutes of structured time, and 15 to 20 minutes of free play.

Two and three year olds, in addition to the puppet show this Thursday, can attend to their own storytime, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. The program, which toddlers and their caregivers will enjoy together, is 35-40 minutes long, and includes stories, songs and a craft.

Artists three years or older should put on their berets and come to Kid-craft on Monday nights at 6:30. Create something different each week. Space is limited and they need to sign up. There is a \$1 materials fee.

The popular storytime delights three to six year olds on Tuesday mornings at 10:30, Wednesday evenings at 6:30 and Thursday afternoons at 1:15. They'll hear stories, sing songs, recite silly rhymes and do a small craft project. There is no need to register in advance.

Wednesdays are for games for children six and older. Chess Club meets at noon and Pokemon Club at 1 p.m. Signing up for chess lets us partner you with someone of similar experience, from absolute beginners to very experienced players. If you've got a chess set to bring with you, everyone will be able to play at once.

For 7-10 year-olds (entering second grade in September) the library is the place to be on Tuesday and Friday afternoons. Travel around the world at Tuesday Tales, 1 p.m. Stories, crafts, and food combine in a fun way to learn about different countries. As with all travel arrangements, reservations must be made before departure.

End the week with Friday Fun. Starting at 3:30 p.m., there will be an hour of stories, games, crafts, and surprises. The program is free and pre-registration is not required.

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William F. "Billy" Koonz Jr., 53

William F. "Billy" Koonz Jr. was killed at his home in South Plainfield on Thursday, July 28.

Billy was born in Summit and raised in Springfield. His education included Oratory Prep in Summit; Lafayette College in Easton, Pa., and Seton Hall University in South Orange where he graduated with a B.A. in business. He earned an M.B.A. from Phoenix University, Phoenix, Ariz.

Billy was the owner of WilPat Irrigation LLC, originally based in Springfield, now located in South Plainfield.

Billy was a former professional firefighter with the Springfield Fire Department and an active volunteer firefighter with the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department.

He was a motorcycle and race car enthusiast and enjoyed playing ice hockey and golf. He was a past member of the Baltusrol Golf Club.

Billy had no greater passion than fighting fire, to help those in need. He had great respect for the people he served and great loyalty to his brother firefighters.

Billy was the son of Marlene and William E. Koonz, Sr. of Melbourne, Fla.; father of Maggie Koonz of South Plainfield and Molly Koonz of Allentown, Pa.; brother of Patricia A. Kolb of Berkeley Heights and Barbara J. Koonz of Chesterfield; and nephew of Frances Pat Lee, William and Barbara Detrick, Kenneth Pinney and Catherine McFall.

Also surviving are many cousins. Funeral services were held at Bradley Smith & Smith Funeral Home in Springfield.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department, 123 Maple Ave., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080, or to the New Jersey Crime Victims' Law Center, 113 Parsippany Rd., Parsippany, N.J. 07054.

Virginia (Cross) Goldstein, 70

Virginia (Cross) Goldstein died on Sunday, July 1 at the Green Brook Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Green Brook.

Born in the Bronx, N.Y., Virginia was raised in Carlstadt prior to settling in South Plainfield in 1970.

Mrs. Goldstein worked as a secretary for the South Plainfield Board of Education for many years. She also served as the secretary to the Middle School principal and during her children's youth, she was active with their elementary school activities.

Surviving is her husband, David; two sons, Craig and wife Stacy of Hampstead, Md. and Brian of Secaucus; a sister, Ruth Higgins of Pt. Pleasant; two brothers, Ken Cross of North Carolina and Ricky Cross of Massachusetts; and

Obituaries

a granddaughter, Genevieve.

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

Donations can be made to the Green Brook Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, 305 Rock Ave., Green Brook, N.J. 08812.

Frederick "Rick" Arend, 57

Frederick "Rick" Arend of South Plainfield passed away on Monday, July 2 in his home.

Rick was born in Bethesda, Md. and lived in Plainfield before moving to South Plainfield 26 years ago. He worked as a bank examiner for the Office of Thrift Supervision in Jersey City for 10 years before his disability retirement in 1996.

Rick received a B.A. degree in theater from Franconia University and had a great love for music and theater. He was also very passionate about history, politics and animals, especially his dogs.

Rick was a devout Christian and loving family man.

He was the beloved husband of Diane (Baake); loving father of Kimberly Porter and husband Michael V. of Fort Drum, N.Y.; dear brother of James Arend and wife Veronica of Columbia, Md.; and cherished grandfather of Jesarose and Michael E. Porter. Rick was also a loving brother-in-law, uncle and cousin to many.

Funeral services were held at Paul Ippolito Berkeley Memorial.

In lieu of flowers please make donations in Rick's name to the American Liver Foundation, 39 Broadway, Suite 2700, New York, N.Y. 10006.

James N. "Jim" Buchanan, 70

James N. "Jim" Buchanan died on Monday, July 2 at home surrounded by his family.

Jim was born and raised in Pennsylvania and lived most of his adult life in South Plainfield prior to settling in Flemington two years ago.

He worked for the Jersey Tab Corporation in Union for 29 years and later worked for Bayway Refinery in Linden

for 15 years prior to his retirement.

Jim is survived by his beloved wife of 43 years, Kathy; three loving children, Christine McGuire and husband Leon of Lansdale, Pa., Kelly Schaffer and husband Cameron of Shrewsbury, Pa. and Jay Buchanan and wife Jennifer of South Plainfield; and six grandchildren, Collin, JJ, Katie, Allison, Mac and Charlie who adore their Pop-Pop.

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

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in his memory may be made to The Paul R. Nardoni Foundation, www.prnfoundation.org, or the Livestrong Program at Hunterdon County YMCA by contacting Beth Carpenter at (908) 782-1044, ext. 661 or email livestrong@hcymca.org for more information.

Rose Previte, 90

Rose Previte died on Friday, June 29 at Inova Loudoun Hospital in Loudoun, Va.

Born and raised in Elizabeth, Rose moved to Roselle in the 1970s, prior to settling in Leesburg, Va. to reside with her daughter.

She is the daughter of Anthony and Filomena (Janelli) Acocella.

Throughout life, Rose enjoyed sewing, baking and crocheting for her family. She was a wonderful baker and was loved by everyone. Rose was active in the Loudoun Senior Center where she made many friends. She was also a member of St. Johns the Apostle Church in Leesburg.

Rose is predeceased by her loving husband, Charles; a son-in-law, Thomas F. Quinn Jr.; and five siblings, Ralph Angelo Acocella, Anne Chirichillo, Frank Acocella, John Acocella and Nancy Marczak.

Surviving is a daughter, Rosemarie Quinn of Virginia; three grandchildren, Kelly Quinn Bauer (Brad) of Pennsylvania, Thomas Quinn III (Kelly) of Virginia and Michael Quinn (Danielle) of North Carolina; nine great-grandchildren, Thomas F. Quinn IV, Logan Rose Quinn, Brooke Bauer, William Quinn, Allison Bauer, Brady Quinn, Sawyer Quinn, Camryn Quinn, Kenna Quinn and a baby girl due in November; as well as many nieces, nephews, brothers- and sisters-in-laws.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Heart Association, www.heart.org.

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South Plainfield Mayor Anesh and members of the Borough Council (above left) help Todd Sacco and his father-in-law, Tony Damiano, cut the ribbon at the grand opening of Uncle Louie G located on Hamilton Boulevard. Pictured above right (L-R) are Joe and Davey Sacco, Andrea Sacco, Victoria Sacco, Todd Sacco, Alexandra Sacco, JoAnn Damiano, Tony Damiano and Anthony Damiano, Jr.

Uncle Louie G Italian Ice and Ice Cream Celebrates Grand Opening

Uncle Louie G, featuring Italian ice and ice cream, held its official grand opening last month. The store, located at 228 Hamilton Blvd., has been open since May 14. The grand open-

ing event featured free Italian ices for all, a balloon artist and glitter tattoos by Danna Fraser and Anissa Jones.

Uncle Louie G is co-owned and operated by Todd and Andrea Sacco and

Andrea's parents, JoAnn and Tony Damiano. Todd and Andrea have two daughters, Alexandra and Victoria.

Todd, a lifelong resident of South Plainfield, has dreamt of opening an ice cream store for years. When the popular Bandy's ice cream shop closed many years ago, South Plainfield no longer had any ice cream stores. Judging by the great response by the public, Uncle Louie G will be an asset to the town.

Most Uncle Louie G stores are

located in Brooklyn, with a few stores operating in New Jersey and Florida. The South Plainfield location will be the only store in New Jersey open year round. They carry 33 ice cream flavors and 47 Italian ice flavors, and will soon be featuring ice cream cakes.

When they opened in May, they found an enormous amount of support from everyone in town. The lines were literally wrapped around the store during the first few weeks and they continue to do a brisk business.

They are planning to offer birthday parties in the near future and have already hosted ice cream socials.

The Saccos and Damianos would like to thank all who attended the grand opening ceremonies for their continued amazing support.

For Uncle Louie G's hours or more information, call (908) 756-5665 or visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/unclelouiegofsp.

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Peter Eddy, Joanne Salvemini and Jack Pedersen at the tri-county networking event held at the Vermuele Mansion in North Plainfield. The event was co-sponsored by Salvemini and Pedersen. Attending the successful event were members of the North Plainfield Business Association, Plainfield Chamber of Commerce and South Plainfield Business Association.

BOE Hires Firm to Raise Funds for Turf Field

By Jane Dornick

The Board of Education approved a two-year contract with School Sports Media, LLC (SSM) of New York City at the June 13 meeting.

Through advertising and sponsorships, SSM will receive a 35% commission and the board will retain 65% of the revenue. The funds raised are intended to be used by the high school

athletic department for the purchase of a new turf field.

SSM National School Network offers exposure for brands through uniform logos, game banners, scoreboards, refreshment stands, on-site display giveaways, broadcast spots, social media, public relations, E-newsletter and team website sponsorships.

Launched in 2010, SSM's goal is to build a national network of school

districts interested in securing sponsor revenue for their school sports programs. They work with brands that are safe and relevant for the educational environment. Owners of a leading advertising representation firm, Winstar Interactive Media of San Francisco, the SSM team has spent the better part of the past 20 years working closely with top brands.

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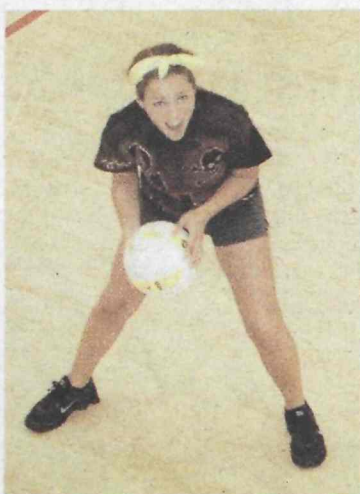
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NOW AND THEN—Members of South Plainfield High School Class of 2012 (and former Kennedy Elementary School classmates) are pictured just prior to commencement exercises (above left) and eight years earlier while students at Kennedy School (right). The bond that these students have is one that began in Kennedy and has lasted all these years.



Photos by Christopher Abbott

High School Graduates Enjoy a Final Celebration With Classmates

By Patricia Abbott

The excitement of South Plainfield High School graduation didn't end with the awarding of diplomas. After hugs, cheers, teary-eyed smiles and long rounds of congratulations from family and peers, the graduates went home for a chance to celebrate with family and to change into casual attire before heading to The Club at Ricochet to attend the ultimate graduation party: Project Graduation.

The graduates began to arrive about 10 p.m. They passed through a police check point where bags were searched and car keys were confiscated for the night. They were then greeted by committee members, parents and other Project Graduation volunteers as they entered.

The fun began almost immediately. The first decision was a difficult choice—where to begin—with the huge array of mouthwatering food lining the hallway, the numerous activities available or just sit and gab with

friends and sign yearbooks. Many opted for the food and activities.

Students lounging in the lobby took the opportunity to have their yearbooks signed by classmates and teachers. History teacher Fran Flannery, who attends each year, was on hand to support her students. Yearbook signing was an ongoing activity all night, keeping teachers busy throughout the event.

Artistically-inclined graduates enjoyed temporary henna tattoos, with the opportunity to create their own design or sit for caricatures. They were able to swim, play volleyball, basketball, racquetball, ping pong or nok hockey, or attempt rock wall climbing, enjoy a game of chance with Texas Hold'em, or test their reaction time with the fast-paced Catch the Cash box. Contests included a mummy wrap and dance and singing competitions. Winners took home gift cards from local businesses.

The seemingly never-ending array of food was a big part of the party,

and offered a variety of six foot subs, hamburgers, hot dogs and the necessary fixings, pizza, salads, desserts and all kinds of beverages. Tables lining the lobby held dishes of assorted candy as well.

In the morning, breakfast was available for the tired, yet happy, new graduates. Upon their departure students' car keys were returned along with a little something extra—the keys were attached to the end of a long sleeve SPHS t-shirt proudly proclaiming them the Class of 2012. The shirts had the names of the entire class listed on the back.

Dave Knar served as emcee until about 3 a.m.

Among those on hand were Principal Dr. James Pedersen, assistant principals Ron Spring and Kelly Richkus, BOE Vice President Debbie Boyle, Joe Blondo, Bill Mosca, Officer Lloyd McNelly, Al and Debbie Czech, BOE member Bill Seesselberg and several middle school teachers. A fire department official arrived for a fire

drill at 11 p.m. and stayed most of the night. Several members of the rescue squad also paid a visit.

Project Graduation is not a school-sponsored event, but is hosted by the SPHS PTO. The Project Graduation Committee works hard year round publicizing and fundraising for the event. The celebration is a substance-free event, and has grown in popularity with both students and

parents. Some of the volunteers were former students.

The generosity of South Plainfield businesses plays a major role in the continued success of the event.

To volunteer or donate for the 2013 Project Graduation celebration, please contact the South Plainfield High School PTO.

Event Photos For Sale:

Photographs of local events by South Plainfield Observer contributing photographer Louis Mormile are available for purchase at www.louisormilephotography.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 more than 270 pictures from the SPHS Gold Card Picnic and Spring Concert are available. Additional photos of various local sporting events, etc. are also available.



LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE the South Plainfield Public Schools of the State of New Jersey has received notification from the Division of Archives and Records Management of the Department of State of the State of New Jersey that a review and evaluation of the image processing system currently in use for school records maintained in the office(s) South Plainfield Public Schools has been completed and an application for certification of said image processing system for the keeping of public records has been submitted, per P.L. 1994, c.140 and N.J.A.C. 15:3-4 and 5, for approval by the State Records Committee, as established under N.J.S.A. 47:3-20.

Per N.J.A.C. 15:3-5.4, stakeholders and other members of the public have 23 working days to register written comments with the State Records Committee before consideration of the aforementioned application at the next regularly scheduled public meeting of the Committee to be held at the Library for the Blind and Handicapped and State Records Storage Center, 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue, Ewing Township, Trenton, New Jersey on Thursday, the 16th of August, 2012, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Copies of the completed application are available for viewing and examination by the public at the offices of the South Plainfield Public Schools, located at the Roosevelt Administration Building, 125 Jackson Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080 during regular business hours, Monday through Friday (excluding State holidays) between 9 AM and 2:30 PM. Ask to view the application.

Written comments should be mailed to Karl Niederer, Chair, State Records Committee, P.O. Box 307, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0307 or delivered to the same at the Library for the Blind and Handicapped and State Records Storage Center, 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue, Ewing Township, Trenton, New Jersey 08861.

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