

# South Plainfield OBSERVER

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60 CENTS

DECEMBER 7, 2012



## STORM CLEAN UP

### Borough's Sandy Clean Up Concludes

Mayor Matt Anesh has announced major cleanup operations regarding Super Storm Sandy are coming to an end. He would like to thank the residents and borough employees regarding South Plainfield's response to the storm.

The borough will continue to pick up leaf bags throughout December, but debris cleanup, such as branches and limbs, will no longer be picked up after December 14. The Yard Waste Site compost drop off center will continue to be open six days a week until Christmas. Additionally, the site will be open this Sunday, Dec. 9 from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m.

## Residents in Clamor Over Noise Ordinance

### New Rules Allow for Noise Exemptions

By Jane Dornick

Residents living in the area of the Department of Public Works (DPW) located on Spicer Avenue came out in opposition to the new addition to the Borough's Noise Ordinance that was up for final adoption at the council's Monday evening meeting.

Revised Borough Ordinance Section 300-4 entitled, "Exceptions and Variance" contains a new "Emergency Exception" which will include work being performed by DPW employees around the clock. Section 300-4 (a) currently states: "The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to the emission of sound for the purpose of alerting persons to the existence of any emergency or the emission of

sound in the performance of emergency work."

Noise Ordinance Section 300-5 (a) (1) states that "no person shall cause, suffer, allow or permit sound from any industrial, commercial operation or residential property, which when measured at any residential property line, is in excess from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.," however, DPW workers will now be exempt from that time constraint.

The revision was prompted by a lawsuit filed by one of the neighboring residents. CFO Glenn Cullen said that the current ordinance as it stands should be enough for the borough to prevail, but the council wants more specificity.

Resident and attorney Renato Biribin does not see a need to exempt the DPW, and he felt the revised ordinance is not specific enough.

"What is going to be accomplished with this ordinance exempting all these people from doing whatever they want, because it's not specific?" said Biribin, who claims to have received complaints from 20 to 30 residents about the noise emanating from the public works lot at 3 and 4 a.m. "The ordinance should be tabled."

Borough attorney Jeff Lehrer spoke about the current ordinance being "as rigorous as the state law" and one that has never been challenged.

"The ordinance is to protect the department from responsible operations of the borough DPW," said Mayor Matt Anesh. "I have no questions or qualms about that," said Biribin. "It is my understanding that there have been complaints, calls and issues about trucks backing up, equipment testing and beepers that are way above the state decibel levels and borough ordinance. This is totally unacceptable. It will give the borough carte blanche."

Mayor Matt Anesh replied, "There will be no other activity that is going on in the future than what is occurring

(Continued on page 16)



HOME COMING SERVICE AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH—Pictured (L-R) are Assistant Pastor Michele Lewkow (FBCSP), Mayor Matt Anesh, Pastor Tamara Davis (FBCSP), Regional Minister ABCNJ Churches Rev. Verynl Mattson, Rev. Dennis O'Neil (Calvary Baptist Church, Hopewell) and Councilman Derryck White.

## First Baptist Celebrates 220 Years of God's Faithfulness

First Baptist Church of South Plainfield celebrated its 220th anniversary on November 18 with a special homecoming service that included a pot luck lunch and a display entitled, "Visual Expression of Faith."

The service included special music, a sermon by former pastor, Reverend Dennis O'Neil, and a special proclamation and plaque presented by

Mayor Matt Anesh and Councilman Derryck White on behalf of the Borough of South Plainfield.

Also, a special Sunday service took place on December 2 at 10:30 a.m. at the Hillside Cemetery of Samptown on New Market Avenue. Local historian Larry Randolph spoke along with Reverend Tamara Davis, current interim pastor at First Baptist.

## Infamous NYC Shoeless Man A Former Borough Resident

By Jane Dornick

The heartwarming photo and story of New York City Police Officer Lawrence DePrimo offering a pair of shoes to a barefoot homeless man that went viral worldwide on November 14, recently took a turn when it was discovered that the man had spent his youth in South Plainfield.

Jeffrey Hillman, 54, who attended schools in the borough, graduated in 1976 from South Plainfield High School. He was a former basketball player who also served as the Tiger's mascot. He later went on to join the Army, and has resided in New York City for the past 10 years.

According to a recent *NY Daily News* article, Hillman is not, in fact, homeless, and according to officials he has had an apartment for the past year in the Bronx, paid for through a combination of Federal Section 8

rent vouchers and Social Security disability and veterans benefits. It was also stated that he has been refusing help from loved ones who live in Nazareth, Pa.

Not true, said Rev. John Graf, a former classmate and friend of Hillman's. According to Graf, Hillman is indeed homeless, and the story about him having an apartment in the Bronx is all "media hype" and "false."

Graf referred to Hillman as a class clown and someone who would "give you the shirt off his back." Graf and Homeless Services of New York are trying to locate Hillman so that they can get the veteran into a VA hospital for help.

After the story of DePrimo's generosity gained worldwide attention, Hillman was spotted on the streets again and was still shoeless. He told a reporter that he hid the boots that set DePrimo back \$75 so they would not be stolen.

## McCriskin to Honor 101st Airborne Tree Damage Causes Lighting Cancellation

Due to the severe effects of Hurricane Sandy, McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals regrets to inform borough residents that the annual tree lighting for this holiday season is unfortunately canceled until next year.

As a result of the powerful winds experienced during the hurricane, the tree suffered extensive damage. Numerous branches were broken and the star at the top of the tree, along with several hundred lights, were destroyed.

With respect to the 101st Airborne ceremony, they will still pay homage to the 248 paratroopers of Task Force 3-502 101st Airborne Division who were tragically killed on December 12, 1985, with a tribute ceremony to be held on Saturday, Dec. 8 at 1 p.m. on the front lawn of the McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals. The ceremony is open to the public.

The tree lighting and holiday event will resume next year.



Congratulations to the South Plainfield Junior Pee Wees, who took third place at the Pop Warner National Cheer Championships at Disney's Wide World of Sports in Orlando, Fla. on December 3.

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& BOE

Council meetings air on Comcast  
Channel 96 Mondays at 7 p.m.  
BOE meetings air on Thursdays at 7 p.m.

#### councilmeetings

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

**Agenda Meeting**  
Monday, December 17

**Public Meeting**  
Monday, December 17

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  
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  
Dec. 18

#### boardofeducation

\* **Organization Meeting Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2013-6:30 p.m. \***  
Meets Wednesdays at Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave.  
Committee of the Whole meetings (begin at 6:00 p.m.) Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Feb. 13, March 20, April 10, May 1, June 5, July 17, Aug. 21, Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 13, Dec. 11  
Regular Public Meeting (begin at 6:30 p.m.) \*except where noted Dec. 19, Jan. 16, Feb. 20, March 20, April 17, May 8, June 12, \*July 17-7:00 p.m., \*Aug. 21-7:00 p.m., Sept. 18, Oct. 16, Nov. 20, Dec. 18

#### BOEcurriculum/technology/student activities

Meets once a month at 4:30 p.m. in 2nd floor conference room,  
Roosevelt Administration Building on Jackson Ave.

#### BOEbuildings & grounds

Meets second Monday of the month at 7 p.m., 2nd floor conference room,  
Roosevelt Administration Building

#### culturalarts commission

Meets the third Tuesday of the month at the PAL at 7:30 p.m.  
Dec. 18

#### libraryboard of trustees

Meets once a month on the second Tuesday, at the library at 7 p.m.

#### recreationcommission

Meets once a month on the second Tuesday of the month, except July and August  
PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. Questions? 908-226-7716  
Dec. 11

#### taxpayersadvisorygroup

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.

#### siteplansub-committee

Meets once a month (third Wednesday), 7 p.m.  
Dec. 19

#### environmentalcommission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday) Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m.  
Questions? 908-226-7621  
Dec. 12, Jan. 9

#### businessadvisorygroup

Meets once a month (first Wednesday) Borough Hall Council Chambers, 6:30 p.m.

## In My Opinion

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

Dear Editor,

I'd like to compliment our town on doing an excellent job with the cleanup after last month's hurricane. Driving through nearby towns highlights the difference. Towns like Plainfield, Piscataway, Scotch Plains and Edison still haven't cleaned the piles of debris off many of their main roads, let alone the side streets. Here, most, if not all, of the roads are clear. The day of the storm I saw one of our garbage trucks out picking up limbs and branches, and they've been working hard ever since. Great job everybody; thank you for your dedication.

DAVID MIGLIS

Dear Editor,

With the plan to renovate and expand the current library building now having been proposed, I must share my serious reservations. The current library building is located in a flood zone and suffered significant damage during 2011's Tropical Storm Irene flooding, shuttering the library for several months. Understanding that there is very little we can do to combat Mother Nature and that these "hundred year storms" seem to be occurring every year now, I can't help but think that it would be unwise to expand on the existing site.

I will soon have the great honor of serving South Plainfield and its residents on the Borough Council

and will be able to voice my opinion regarding this and many other topics. While representative democracy is the bedrock of our government, it's important for all public officials to always remember that their views are no more important than those of the individuals who elected them. With that in mind, I propose that the unique South Plainfield tradition of "Democracy Day" be revived for the issue concerning the library. Let's put our options in front of the residents and seek their input. For example: (1) Should the proposed expansion on the existing site be adopted? (2) Should a new library be built on the land next to Unity Bank previously purchased by the borough for this purpose? (3) Should an entirely new location be pursued? All proposals should have a price tag attached to them.

The library is an important asset for our children and for South Plainfield's future; the residents of South Plainfield deserve to be heard before such an important decision is made with their tax dollars.

COUNCILMAN-ELECT C.J. DIANA

To the Editor:

The South Plainfield Education Foundation began the annual telethon the week of December 3. Students from several groups in the high school will be making phone calls to the parents of every student in South

#### Submit Your Letters to the Editor

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

Plainfield. The students will be asking for pledges for donations to the Education Foundation. You will have the ability to designate where your pledge money will be directed.

This is our most important fundraiser of the year. Through this fundraiser, we are able to continue to give out scholarships each June. We are also able to continue our Gold Card program at the high school. There are several perpetual scholarships that we would like to continue as well.

The South Plainfield Education Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. We have been in existence since 1994. Please be advised that the South Plainfield Education Foundation is not associated with the South Plainfield Board of Education. We are not funded by your local tax dollars. We rely on private donations through our fundraisers.

If you would like further information on the foundation, please log on to our website, [www.vision2001.org](http://www.vision2001.org).

This year we will be including a letter regarding a fundraiser for our Alumni Association. The Alumni  
(Continued on page 19)



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# Four to Ride in Unity Tour for Fallen Police Officers

By Jane Dornick

Four South Plainfield residents will be participating in the Police Unity Tour bicycle ride in May 2013. Lifelong resident Eric Milstein, a three-time tour veteran, has recruited his wife, Jill, along with Keely Loria, a 911 dispatcher for the borough, and Bobby Mulligan, a police officer in Keansburg, to participate alongside him next year. Coincidentally, Mulligan resides on Conklin Street, which is named in honor of deceased borough Police Officer Richard Conklin.

Milstein is employed by the N.J. Department of Corrections at East Jersey State Prison in Rahway and has been employed as a senior corrections officer for the past 10 years. His wife is an EMT for the State of New Jersey and is also a volunteer with the borough's Office of Emergency Management.

In addition to his full-time job as a corrections officer, Milstein works part-time as a 911 dispatcher for the Borough of South Plainfield. In the past, he has been a member of the rescue squad and volunteer fire department.

The primary purpose of the tour is to raise awareness of law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty and to raise funds for the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial and Museum in Washington, D.C. On average, one law enforcement officer is killed in the line of duty somewhere in the United States every 53 hours. Since the first known line-of-duty death in 1791, more than 19,000 law enforcement officers have made the ultimate sacrifice.

Last year, Milstein was among some 1,800 members nationwide who made the 300 mile journey from East Hanover to Washington, D.C. in just three days. Through their efforts, the



NJ DOC Officer Eric Milstein, his wife, Jill, Station 97 Rescue Squad; borough 911 Dispatcher Keely Loria and Keansburg Police Officer Robert Mulligan.

Police Unity Tour has raised over \$12M for the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund and were able to completely restore the memorial.

The tour, which was organized in 1997 by Officer Patrick P. Montuore of the Florham Park Police Department, had 18 riders who raised \$18,000. The tour begins on May 9 of each year, and it arrives in Washington, D.C. on May 12. On May 13, bikers participate in a candlelight vigil for nearly 20,000 fallen officers throughout the country whose names are engraved on the wall of the memorial.

"When I ride through the memorial, I do take a minute to remember the South Plainfield Police officers [Cady and Conklin] and leave pictures," said Milstein, who thought he would never complete the entire ride. He does, however, consider it an accomplishment that he has, and refers to the ride as a "life changing experience" for him. "It's not about me. I ride for all officers who were killed in the line of duty," explained Milstein.

Officer William Cady died at the age of 29 on April 19, 1975 when he was struck by a car while on foot at a

traffic stop. Officer Conklin, who was 27 years old at the time, was shot with his own gun during a struggle with a patient he was transporting on January 21, 1972. Because of this incident, borough police officers and state corrections officers operating procedure dictates that they must place their

weapons in a secure lockbox inside an ambulance.

As a fundraiser, participants purchase a special memorial bracelet with the name of a fallen officer for whom they are riding. The four South Plainfield riders will wear bracelets bearing the names of Cady and Conklin.

In order to participate in the upcoming Police Unity Tour next May, Milstein and his three fellow riders are seeking tax-deductible donations from local businesses to fund \$1,750 per person needed for the trip.

For more information on how to sponsor the riders, contact Milstein at (732) 921-4962, email [eric.milstein@gmail.com](mailto:eric.milstein@gmail.com), or visit his team's website at [ridingwithhonor.com](http://ridingwithhonor.com).

To learn more about the tour or the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial and Museum, go to [policeunitytour.com](http://policeunitytour.com) or [nleomf.org](http://nleomf.org).

Corrections officers are sworn law enforcement officers and have the same authority as all police officers in the state.


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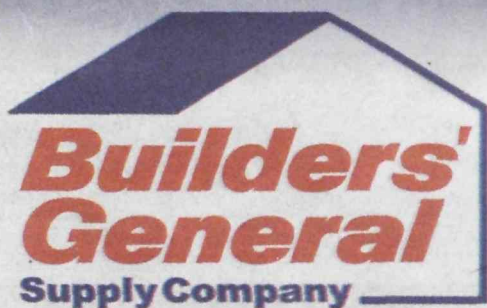
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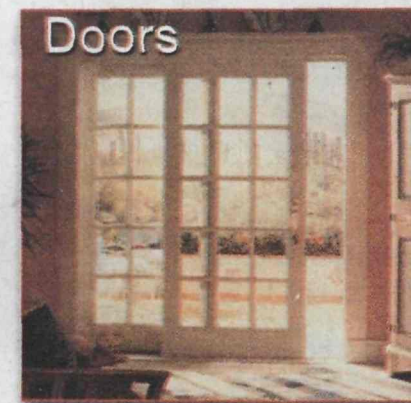
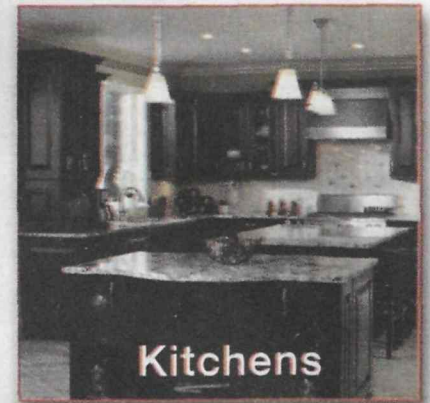
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# events

## Around Town

### SENIOR CENTER Calendar

**Dec. 18-Christmas Luncheon**, noon-3pm; \$10 pp; sign up by December 14

#### MONDAYS

Zumba Gold ..... 9:30-10:30 am  
Crocheting ..... 9:30-11:30 am  
Yoga ..... 10:30 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  
Zumba Gold ..... 10:15 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

### Zumba Classes

Zumba classes are being held at the Senior Center on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Cost is \$7 per class or \$56 for 10 classes. Must be 18 years old.

For more information, call (908) 754-1047.

### Fundraiser For Shirley Thompson at Mr. Subs

**December 11**

Come out to Mr. Subs, 100 South Plainfield Ave., on Tuesday, Dec. 11 from 4 to 8 p.m. A portion of the sales during the above times will be donated to Shirley Thompson to help with the cost of purchasing food to cook Christmas dinners for seniors, disabled and less fortunate families in South Plainfield. They will also be collecting new toys and clothing for Thompson to distribute to less fortunate children.

### Doolan's Radio City Spectacular

**December 11**

A trip to see the Radio City Spectacular at Doolan's in Spring Lake on Tuesday, Dec. 11 is open to all. \$68 per person includes transportation, show and lunch. Bus departs 9:45 a.m. from the South Plainfield Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave. Must purchase tickets by December 7.

For more information, call Grace McGinnis at (908) 755-5716 or the senior center at (908) 754-1047.

### Historical Society Monthly Meeting

**December 11**

The next scheduled meeting of the Historical Society will be on Tuesday,

Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. at Sherban's Diner. Join us for coffee and dessert.

The 2013 officers' slate will be announced by the nominating committee (voting will take place at the January 8 meeting). Present and prospective members are reminded that annual dues must be paid before voting. Single membership, \$10; family, \$15; life member, \$75. Dues can be paid in person at the History Center in the Roosevelt Administration Building on Jackson Avenue on Tuesdays from 2-4 p.m. or by mail to: P.O. Box 11, South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

Happy holidays from the guardians of your town's history.

### The Story of Jesus At Cedarcroft

**December 14**

Cedarcroft Bible Chapel, 1715 Kenyon Ave., will present the story of Jesus in a live nativity scene on Friday, Dec. 14 at 7 p.m. Rain date: December 16. All are invited to attend.

For more information, please call (908) 757-7598.

### Breakfast with Santa At the Elks Club

**December 16**

The South Plainfield Elks #2298,

1254 New Market Ave., will host Breakfast with Santa on Sunday, Dec. 16 from 8 a.m. until noon. Santa will be there to greet the children and to take pictures.

Menu: pancakes, eggs made to order, French toast, bacon, sausage, home fries, toast, juice and coffee. Cost: \$6, adults; \$5, seniors; \$4, children ages four to 12; free for children age three and under.

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

### Breakfast with Santa At American Legion

**December 16**

The American Legion, 243 Oak Tree Ave., will host a buffet style breakfast with Santa on Sunday, Dec. 16 from 8 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$7 for adults; \$4 for children ages 6-12. Kids five and under are free.

### Senior Center Christmas Luncheon

**December 18**

The Senior Christmas Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 18

**Send Your Community Events to:**  
spobserver@comcast.net

from noon to 3 p.m. Cost: \$10 pp. Must sign up at the Senior Center by December 14.

For more information, call (908) 754-1047.

### Franklin School PTO Fundraiser at Friendly's

**December 18**

Franklin Elementary School PTO will be holding a fundraiser on Tuesday, Dec. 18 from 5 to 8 p.m. at Friendly's Restaurant, 1060 Stelton Rd. in Piscataway. Come and "dine out with Santa!" and a portion of the proceeds will go to the PTO. Flyers will be sent with your child from the school.

For more information, please email pto.franklinschool@gmail.com.

### Free Spaghetti Dinner at Cedarcroft

**January 5, February 2, March 2, April 6**

Cedarcroft Bible Chapel, 1715 Kenyon Ave., will hold a free spaghetti dinner on Saturday, Jan. 5 at 5 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 2, Saturday, March 2, and Saturday, April 6. All are invited to attend.

For more information, please call (908) 757-7598.



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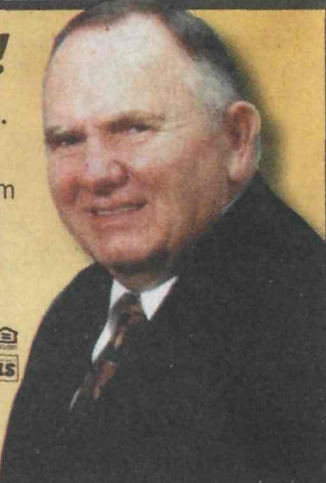
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# events

## Around Town

### — Out of Town —

#### Singles Dance Party

December 8

Steppin' Out Singles is hosting an upscale singles dance party on Saturday, Dec. 8 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 the 24-hour hotline at (862) 397-4723.

#### Medical QiGong Meditation Class

December 8

Medical QiGong, a course of meditation exercises, is being offered at Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, 1961 Raritan Rd. in Scotch Plains on Saturday, Dec. 8 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. The class is free and open to everyone. Please be on time; we will not be able to interrupt the session.

For more information, call (908) 232-5678.

#### Schwabischer Sangerbund

December 8

Deutscher Club of Clark presents the 25th annual Christmas concert on Saturday, Dec. 8 at 5 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church, Mountain Avenue and East Broad Street in Westfield. Tickets in advance: \$20; \$22 at the door.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call (732) 574-8600 or Linda at (908) 753-7008.

#### Christmas Concert

December 9

Plainfield Gesang- und Turn-Verein, Inc., 220 Somerset St. in North Plainfield, will hold a Christmas concert on Sunday, Dec. 9 at 3 p.m. The chorus, along with talented music director Johanna Teubner Prussak, invites you to come and listen to wonderful Christmas music and the voices of many soloists with selected pieces of music. After the concert there will be coffee and stollen served by the singers. Donations are \$17 in

advance, or \$20 at the door. Children under 12 are free.

For more information, call Victor at (908) 276-8572.

#### Casino Night

December 14

Casino Night, sponsored by Middlesex County Habitat for Humanity, will be held at Raritan Center Expo Center, 97 Sunfield Ave., Edison on Friday, Dec. 14. Doors open at 6 p.m. Casino night runs from 6:30-11 p.m. Tickets are \$40 prior to December 14; or \$50 at the door.

For tickets or information, call (732) 634-5360.

#### Upscale Singles Dance Party

December 22

Steppin' Out Singles is hosting an upscale singles dance party on Saturday, Dec. 22 at 8 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Clark, 36 Valley Rd. Ages 40 and up. No jeans/t-shirts/sneakers/shorts. Admission: \$15.

For info, call the 24-hour hotline

at (862) 397-4723.

#### Upscale Singles Pre-New Year's Dance

December 29

Steppin' Out Singles is hosting a pre-New Year's Singles Dance Party

on Saturday, Dec. 29 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 info, call the 24-hour hotline at (862) 397-4723.

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- Grilled Chilean Sea Bass in a Béarnaise Sauce accompanied by Roasted Asparagus
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## milestones

### Local Author Publishes Debut Book

Kristen Dabrio, a 2006 graduate of South Plainfield High School, is excited to announce the release of her debut novel, *Lionhead*. It has been published under the pen name "Kris Noel" and the paperback is available to order online through Amazon.com or the publisher's website at Neverland Publishing.

The book follows the 13 year-old main character, Riley Bale, who discovers she has the power to "shift" into a

fox, and is the first in a series of young adult fantasy novels.

Kristen is also a graduate of Montclair State University with a degree in anthropology and a minor in film. She is hard at work writing and has also recently signed another contract for her second young adult book, *The Serenity Compound*.

More information about her writing, including ordering information, is available at krisnoel.com.

### Lamastro Promoted to Senior Airman

William Lamastro Jr., a graduate of South Plainfield High School Class of 2009, was promoted to Senior Airman at Buckley Air Force Base in Aurora, Colo. on October 5. He is currently stationed in Kunsan, Korea for a one

year position as a cable and antenna specialist.

William is the son of Bill and Kathy Lamastro and the brother of Theresa Kuhn. Submit milestones to [spobserver@comcast.net](mailto:spobserver@comcast.net) or mail to: 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

## Oasis Church Will Celebrate Christmastime Service at Regal Hadley Theater

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Come join Oasis-Church-NJ.com on Sunday, Dec. 9 at 10 a.m. as we celebrate Christmastime church services for the whole family at this fun and unique location at the Regal Hadley Theater Stadium, 1000 Corporate Ct. This worship experience will be only the second time Oasis has been at the Regal Hadley Theater as it builds up toward weekly services here in 2013, and it will be an awesome time for everyone of all ages.

According to Dave Butler, lead pastor at Oasis, "We figured if Walmart and Target and NJ radio stations like 98.3 FM can start getting in the holiday spirit this early in the season, we could too! With all the bad news of Hurricane Sandy, the economy and war in the Middle East, people need a little bit of hope and joy. So this a great time for our community to come together and celebrate the holiday season in a fun, warm place. There will be awesome contemporary worship with a holiday feel, a heartfelt message on how God can renew the mess in this world, hot cider, cinnamon donuts, Christmas treats and a chance to meet new friends



Members of Oasis Church at benefit car wash.

in a new and growing church. Nursery will be provided and our Oasis Kids program is awesome and safe. We will even be renting two theaters (#4 and #5) just for them."

Oasis is a Bible-believing New Jersey contemporary Christian church that seeks to make a positive influence in our surrounding communities. For example, Oasis has been very involved in Hurricane Sandy relief and cleanup

and has attracted multiple dozens of volunteers through the church and its Internet presence.

Oasis also recently sponsored a benefit car wash at the Piscataway Applebees, with all donations going to Fish, Inc., an area non-profit that helps to feed and house needy families in our area. At the December 9 service Oasis will be collecting non-perishable goods for all those in need this holiday season. Please feel free to take food donations to our worship experience with you, and leave off at our welcome center where you will also receive a welcome gift.

While the Regal Hadley Theater location will begin weekly Sunday services sometime in 2013, Oasis also meets weekly on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. at its first location at Hotel 304 West, 304 Rt. 22 West in Springfield.

For more information about Oasis, visit us online at [www.Oasis-Church-NJ.com](http://www.Oasis-Church-NJ.com) or call Pastor Dave Butler at (732) 406-7821.

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"Sharpen Your Skills" is a tutoring program for children in 1st-5th grades. Our tutors are New Jersey certified teachers who are passionate about encouraging children with positive feedback. We offer small groups: 2-4 children per tutor, or the option of 1-to-1 individual tutoring at an affordable rate and very personalized instruction. Our tutors request input from classroom teachers and work with children and parents toward academic goals. Classes take place in a friendly, comfortable environment. Children may request homework help as well.

Managed by Three Bridges LLC, the program is held at Pilgrim Covenant Church, 3121 Park Avenue, South Plainfield. Tutoring is available Mon./Tues./Wed. evenings from 5:45-7 p.m. Fees: \$30/per session for Small Group Tutoring, 2-4 children per tutor, or \$40/per session 1-on-1 tutoring: 1 child/1 tutor. For your convenience we offer open enrollment. Parents have the freedom to choose 1-3 times per week and may pick a different schedule each week or each month.

For more information or to register your child, please email [threebridgesllc@gmail.com](mailto:threebridgesllc@gmail.com) or call 732-662-8277.

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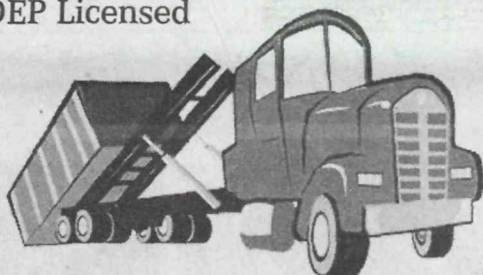




Veterans, students and state and county officials dedicated an American Eagle sculpture on November 26 that was created by students of the Piscataway campus of the Middlesex County Vocational and Technical High School. The spectacular sculpture has been installed in front of the NJ Veterans Memorial Home-Menlo Park. Joining the vocational-technical students were (L-R) Joseph Brandspiegel, CEO of the NJ Veterans Memorial Home; Raymond Zawacki, deputy commissioner for Veterans Affairs; Brigadier General Michael L. Cuniff, adjutant general of New Jersey; Middlesex County Freeholder Charles E. Tomaro; Joseph Gess, instructor of Welding and Metal Fabrication; Edison Mayor Antonia Ricigiano; Middlesex County Freeholder Deputy Director Ronald G. Rios; Middlesex County Freeholder Director Christopher D. Rafano and NJ State Assemblyman Patrick J. Diegnan Jr.

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## 22nd Annual Holiday Pet Food Drive

The Plainfield Animal Hospital is collecting pet food donations to be distributed to pets affected by Hurricane Sandy. Bring canned or dry pet foods to the drop off box at the animal hospital, 2215 Park Ave., Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sundays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Monetary donations will also be gratefully accepted and used to purchase

pet food for those in need.

Thank you for your generosity and may you have a happy and healthy holiday season.

For information or directions to the hospital, please call (908) 755-2428.

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Tommy Licato (center) is presented with the "Knight in Shining Armor" award by the Rutgers Scarlet Knights Mascot. (L-R) Jeff Licato, Jr., Jeff Licato Sr., Tommy Licato, Scarlet Knights Mascot, Debbie Boyle and Karen Licato.

## Licato Receives Knight in Shining Armor Award

South Plainfield Middle School student Tommy Licato was presented with the Rutgers University/Johnson and Johnson "Knight in Shining Armor Award." Tommy, along with his parents Karen and Jeff, brother Jeff and Debbie Boyle, were invited on the Rutgers football field at halftime to receive the prestigious award given by the Scarlet Knights Mascot. Also in attendance were South Plainfield Schools Assistant Superintendent Nicole Pormilli, along with her husband and sons; Middle School Interim Assistant Principal Paul Rafalowski and his wife, Michelle, Grant School teacher; Megan and Patrick Boyle, representing The Boyle Memorial Foundation; and 40 family members, classmates and friends.

Johnson & Johnson and Rutgers

Athletics partnered to recognize and reward young people who, like a knight in shining armor, have cared enough to go "above and beyond" and help others in their community. The "Knight in Shining Armor" program invites local organizations to submit nominations on behalf of a child (kindergarten through eighth grade students) who has shown substantial courage, commitment and/or compassion by selflessly helping others in their community.

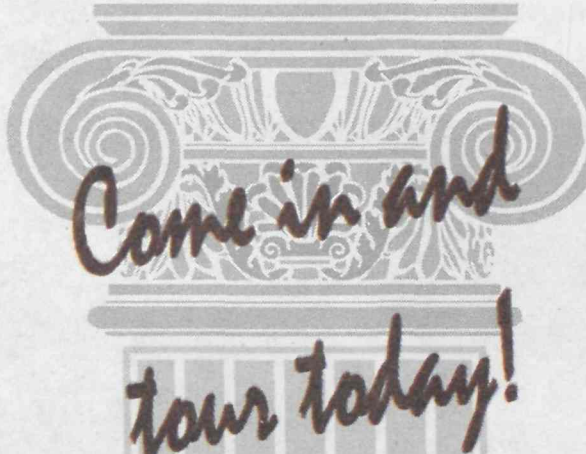
Tommy, who was chosen from hundreds of nominees to receive this award, attended the Tourette Syndrome Association conference in Washington, D.C. in May where he received training to become an advocate for Tourette Syndrome awareness and to learn how to produce a PowerPoint presentation

that would help him to enlighten his classmates about the challenges of the disorder.

Through the encouragement of school principal Kevin Hajduk, Tommy, who suffers from the disorder, exhibited the PowerPoint presentations at Grant and Roosevelt schools as well as the middle school. At the request of former school board member Debbie Boyle, Tommy offered the presentation at a Board of Education meeting in October.

In September, Middle School PTO President Debbie Boyle submitted Tommy's name for consideration on behalf of the PTO and The Boyle Memorial Foundation. The Knights of Columbus Squires, Boyle and the PTO donated the funds for Tommy to attend the conference.





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## MCC to Host Session on Veterans Benefits

The Middlesex County College Center for Veterans Services will offer an information session at the college's New Brunswick Center. It will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 12 at 2 p.m. The New Brunswick Center is located at 140 New St., at the corner of Joyce Kilmer Avenue.

David Brimmer, the Veterans Services coordinator, said the program will provide an overview of the educational entitlements available to military veterans, current service members and eligible dependents while studying at Middlesex County College.

"This information session will be an opportunity for veterans who would like a college education to find out what Middlesex County College can do for them," he said. "We have a dedicated staff who provide outreach services, on-campus advocacy and award-winning service. Plus, we are part of the Department of Counseling and Career Services, so students have easy access to even more. If you are thinking about going to college or upgrading your skills, I'd highly encourage you to attend this event."

## Quick Chek Gains Approval to Add Gas Pumps to Site

By Libby Barsky

Quick Chek gained approval on its application to upgrade the convenience store site located at 317 Durham Ave. at the November 20 Board of Adjustment meeting. Plans call for a fueling operation at the existing site to include six gas pumps and 12 fueling positions, a canopy and seven additional parking spaces, for a total of 48 parking spaces. Access to the Durham Avenue site will continue to be right in and right out only, with no left turns in or out permitted.

Quick Chek will be investing approximately \$7M to develop the site. The expansion also includes erecting a separate 228 square foot "bump out" for utility storage for the existing 5,122 square foot building. Property purchased for the new site includes four homes, two on McKinley Street and two on Durham Avenue, totaling 2.7 acres. Any remaining land not used will be held in reserve as a separate lot for future development.

Under the fueling island, four underground double walled fiberglass tanks will be installed with two tanks, each containing 20,000 gallons of regular gasoline, and one tank each of diesel and high test gasoline, each containing 12,000 gallon tanks.

The application was challenged by attorney Edward Liston representing Gary Eisenbud, owner of Luk Oil, an existing gas station located across the street at 318 Durham Avenue. Liston brought in planner Jordan Gemma of Oceanport, who immediately brought up the issue of zoning use for the additional gas pumps and who stated that the board isn't enforcing the existing laws. When Quick Chek applied in 1999, the property was zoned M-1 industrial, but shortly after the building was completed the area was rezoned to OPA-1.

"What is proposed as a combined use is not a permitted use. The permitted uses in an OPA zone are business offices, professional services and schools. What you are replacing by removing

the residences does not advance the proposed use—to make a gateway for South Plainfield," said Gemma. "With two gas stations so close to each other, it has a negative impact of a gasoline alley."

After praising the board members for "the great public service you render," Liston added, "(You) are not here to rezone property where it is justified by fact of existing zoning."

"The applicant's attorney should be going to the council to ask for a rezoning to put a gas station at the entrance to the town," said Liston. "These four residential areas" (referring to the four residential lots Quick Chek has purchased on contract), "are creating a development lot that will be appealing to the town. This is vast rezoning, not

a use (variance)."

Liston also noted, "There will be a traffic nightmare at a place that's already difficult. There's a bottleneck at the peak hour of 5:15 p.m. Don't do that to your fellow citizens."

"Now people can make a right turn (coming from the exit from 287 onto Durham) to get gas. I don't need to make a left turn," said board member Marie Campagna, who introduced Quick Chek's proposal as "aesthetically pleasing," and called for the board to approve and grant Quick Chek's application to add gasoline pumps to its food operation as an expansion of a non-conforming use and subdivision approval. Robert Hughes seconded the motion and all seven members voted to approve.

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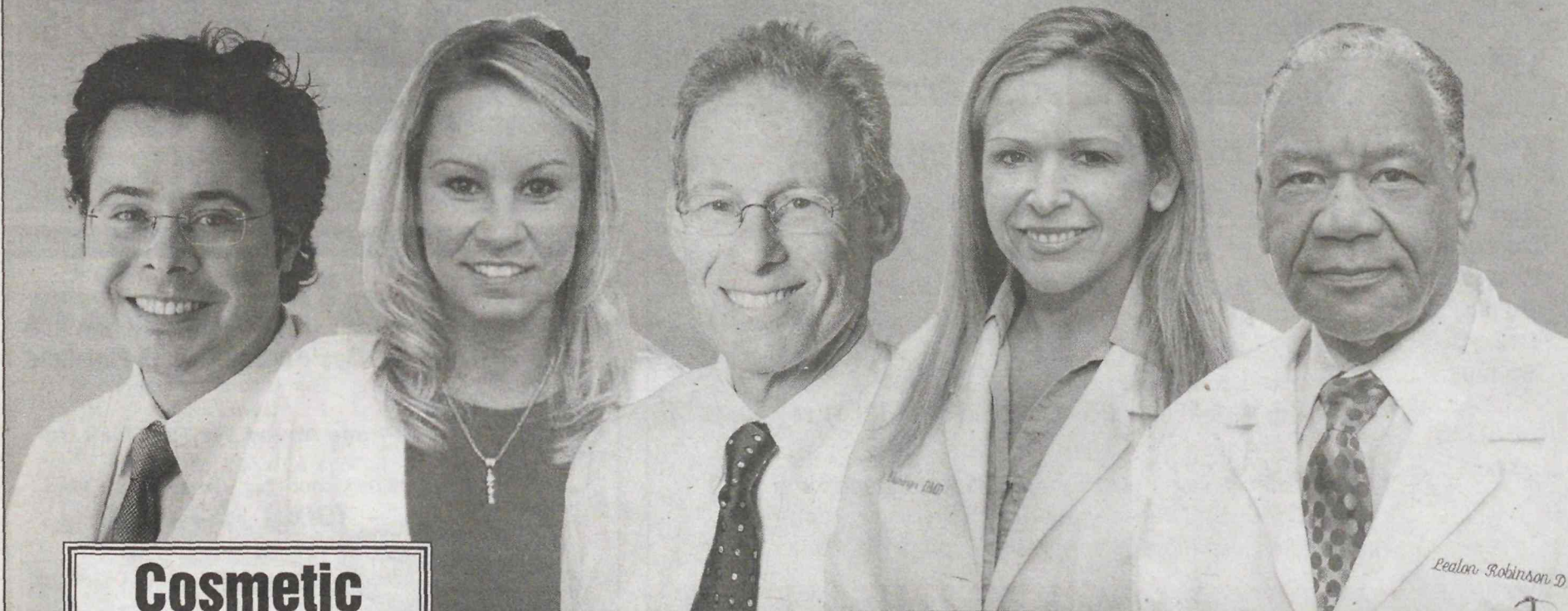
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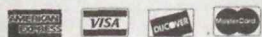
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# Czech Gets Stuck in Catch a Canuck

By Patricia Abbott

South Plainfield High School started a new tradition during this year's Homecoming activities as part of the prelude to the annual Thanksgiving Day football game that pits the Tigers against the North Plainfield Canucks.

The newest fundraiser, "Catch a Canuck," was intended to put the 'fun' back in fundraiser. A Canuck is described as a slang for a Canadian.

Participants included football players, cheerleaders, faculty and alumni, who arrived in force to help "Catch a Canuck"—in this case, Athletic

Director Al Czech decked out in a lumberjack's red plaid shirt, coat, hat, frizzy hair and beard. For a one dollar donation, participants could purchase a piece of duct tape and tape Czech to the wall.

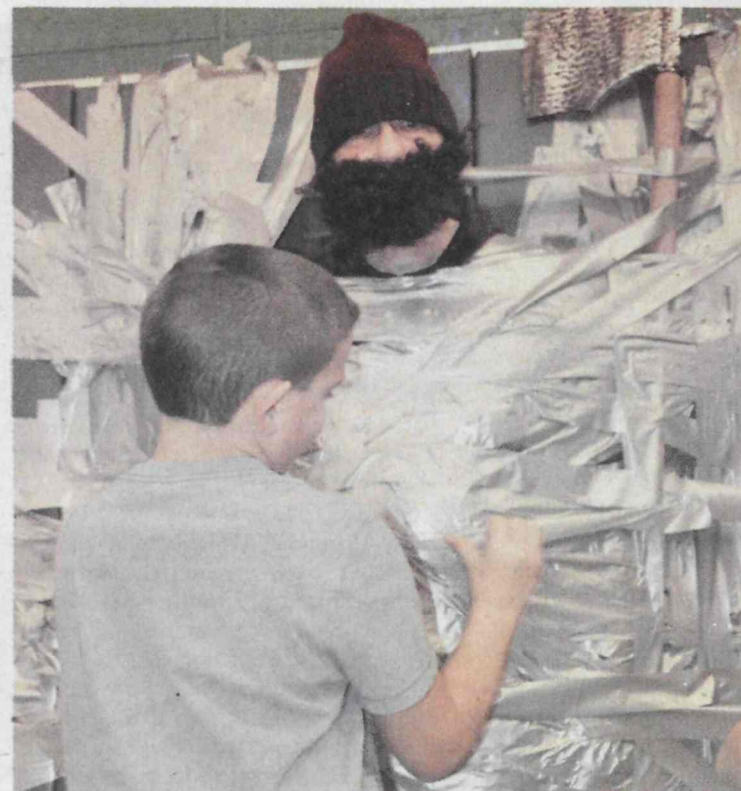
In a short time, the stool Czech was standing on was no longer required as the "Canuck" was securely suspended to the wall by yards of tape.

Freeing up Czech from the sticky prison were SPHS Principal Dr. James Pedersen along with a few assistants. Czech grabbed his cardboard axe and made a hasty retreat.

The event raised more than \$250 to

support the SPHS holiday toy drive.

The idea for the "funtastic" fundraiser came from Czech. A former principal at Kennedy and Riley schools, Czech was well known for his share of outlandish stunts after challenging his students and losing. Among them are Czech shaving his head and dying his hair green with the letters "SP" shaved out. He sat on the Kennedy School roof, was tarred and feathered, and had pies thrown at him, all in the name of Read Across America. He was also taped to the Riley School gym wall for a fundraiser.



A youngster adds a strip of duct tape to secure South Plainfield High School Athletic Director Al Czech in the "Catch a Canuck" fundraiser.



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# Three South Plainfield Police Officers Promoted at Ceremony

Three of South Plainfield's finest were promoted in a council ceremony on Monday evening. Police officers Charles Siedenburgh, John McConville and David DeLair were promoted to the ranks of captain, sergeant and lieutenant, respectively, in the presence of their family and friends.

The advancements were awarded as the result of a civil service promotion process. All three officers will receive pay upgrades in accordance with the borough's estimated pay scale.

Captain Charles Siedenburgh is a 24-year veteran of law enforcement. Prior to becoming a police officer, Siedenburgh was a volunteer fireman in South Plainfield. Subsequently, he began his law enforcement career with the Plainfield Police Department in 1988, where he served in the Patrol Division and Narcotic Unit. In January 1993, he joined the South Plainfield Police Department. Siedenburgh has served as the department's training coordinator for 10 years and watch commander for the past two. Additionally, Siedenburgh has worked in the Criminal Investigation Division, Special Problems Unit and Patrol Division. Siedenburgh serves as instructor for Firearms, Active Shooter, Use of Force and Pursuit. He is also the department's range master, OEM liaison and Middlesex County Terrorism Task Force liaison.

Siedenburgh was promoted to sergeant in September of 2000 and lieutenant in November of 2004.

Siedenburgh, who has been married to wife Amy for six years, has five children, Adrianna, Dina, Kevin, Kerri and Christopher. He is the son of Charles and Doris Siedenburgh, and has two sisters, Debbie and Donna.

Sergeant John McConville is a 17-year veteran of law enforcement; he joined the South Plainfield Police Department in August 1995. He has served his entire career in the Patrol Division. He currently serves as a department field training officer and firearms instructor.

McConville, a lifelong borough resident, is married to wife June, and has a son, Mark, and two stepchildren, Jimmy and Samantha. He is the son of Joe and Rose McConville. He has two brothers, Councilman Tim McConville and South Plainfield Police Officer James McConville, and a sister, South Plainfield Police Dispatcher Kelly McConville.

McConville is a 20+ year United States Marine, having served three tours in Iraq during Operation Desert Storm in 1991, Operation Enduring Freedom in 2003 and Operation Iraq Freedom in 2009.

Lieutenant David DeLair is an



Lieutenant David DeLair is sworn in as wife, Mary, and three daughters, Sarah, Holly and Catherine, look on.

11-year veteran of law enforcement, having joined the South Plainfield Police Department in July of 2001. He previously served as a supervisor in the Patrol Section of the Operations Division, and is currently supervisor of the Criminal Investigations Division as a detective sergeant. He has served as a field training officer and a range instructor for the police department.

DeLair was promoted to sergeant in October 2006.

DeLair is a lifelong resident of South Plainfield, having graduated from South Plainfield High School in 1986.

He is a six-year veteran of the United States Marine Corps, where he served in Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. Before becoming a police officer, he worked in the aviation industry as an aircraft mechanic.

DeLair has been married to his wife, Mary, for 19 years. They have three daughters, Sarah, Holly and Catherine. DeLair is the son of Robert and Linda DeLair, and he has three brothers, Mark, John and Andrew. Mark was also a police officer in South Plainfield; he passed away in 2000.



Chief James Parker swears in Sergeant John McConville in the company of his wife June, infant son Mark and stepson, Jimmy.



Captain Charles Siedenburgh is sworn in by Chief James Parker in the presence of his wife Amy and five children, Adrianna, Dina, Kevin, Kerri and Christopher.



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## police report

• On Nov. 22 Robert Jude Gentile, 23, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, reckless driving and failure to maintain a lane.

• Castor T. Bustamante-Collan, 64, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, tailgating and refusal to submit to breath testing.

### Music of the Heart

The Sacred Heart Music Ministry, under the direction of Dan Mahoney and accompanied by Jack Bender, recorded their first CD on October 7. The CD features the Adult Choir, Middle Choir, Children's Choir and Alumni Youth Bell Choir.

CDs will be on sale after all weekend Masses through December 23. The cost of the CD is \$12.

• On Nov. 23 Rannade J. Amin, 35, of Clark was arrested at Kohl's for shoplifting assorted merchandise valued at \$250.

• Brandy L. Lake, 18, of Plainfield was arrested at Kohl's for the theft of cash from customers by not placing it in the register.

• On Nov. 24 Christian W. Callejas, 21, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated and reckless driving.

• Wilfred Berrios, 34, of North Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license and two outstanding warrants.

• On Nov. 25 Lamar W. Bracy, 30, of Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, reckless driving, failure to exhibit an insurance card and no insurance.

## Kathy's Hair Studio & Spa Holds Grand Opening

By Jane Dornick

Kathy's Hair Studio & Spa at 1903 Park Ave. held a grand opening celebration on November 25. The full-service shop includes haircuts, hair styling, texturizing, updo's, relaxers, doobies, makeup, bridal services, color and highlights, hair extensions, waxing, facials, eyelash extensions and you can even treat yourself to a massage. Men's hair coloring is also available.

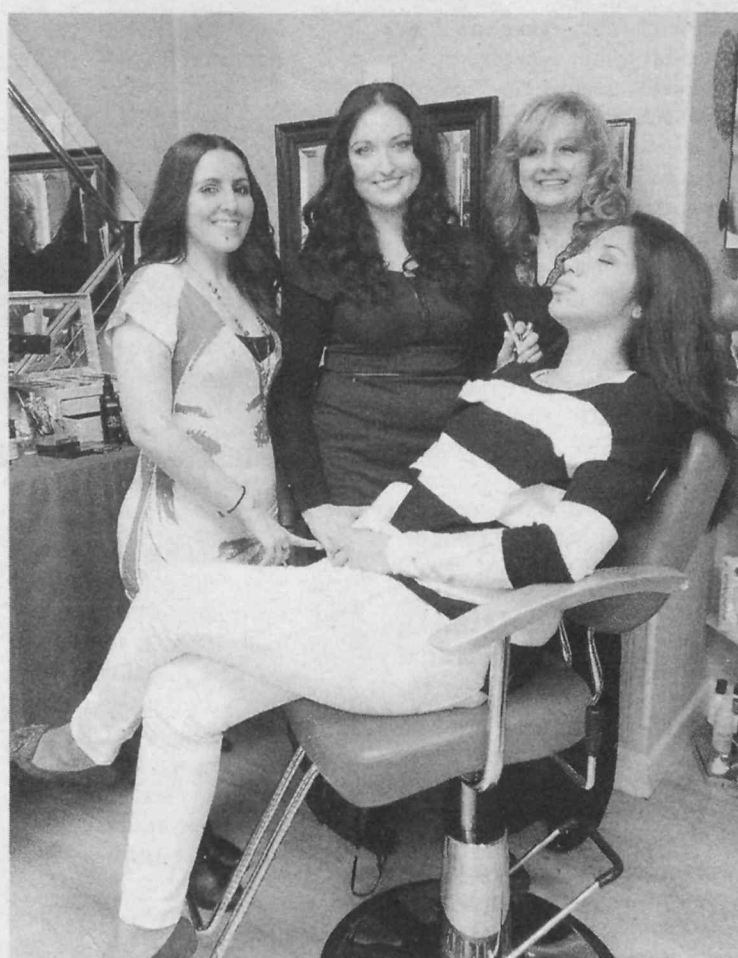
Owner Kathy Abril has 25 years of hair styling experience and currently owns Flawless on North Broad Street in Elizabeth which she has run for the past 15 years. She is also a master hair stylist and the shop's masseuse.

On board with her are a master makeup artist Karina Pietras and hair stylist Diane Amorim, who specializes in giving Keratin hair treatments. Pietras' portfolio of work can be viewed on her website, makeupbykarina.com.

Kathy's Hair Studio & Spa, where you can enjoy the comfort of their warm, inviting atmosphere to make you feel relaxed and refreshed, offers a variety of hair conditioning and scalp treatments, beaded, bonded and clip hair extensions and wigs and deep tissue, Swedish and stone massages. They also specialize in wedding hair and makeup trials and applications and have on-site services available.

The salon carries hair products by Paul Mitchell and GKhair as well as mineral makeup products by CURES.

"I'm excited to serve the community of South Plainfield," said Abril.



Pictured (L-R) is hair stylist Diane Amorim, master makeup artist/esthetician Karina Pietras and owner master hair stylist/masseuse Kathy Abril.

The shop is located next to Rita's Italian Ice. Their hours are Tuesday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For an appointment, call (908) 222-0030. Holiday gift cards are available and walk-ins are welcome.

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From the South Plainfield Library

# Bookmarks

By Eve Pastemak

It's December, and everyone feels busy. Be sure to save time in your schedule to take advantage of the great materials and programming your library offers.

We've gathered two holiday collections at the front of the library: music and movies. You'll find carts near the circulation desk with plenty of Christmas music from all your favorite artists and with seasonal movies galore, both classic and new, for children and adults. The children's room has a big cart full of holiday books and more are added all the time.

Speaking of music and movies, did you know that the library has been building a collection of all the great movies of the 1980s? *Back to the Future*, *The Breakfast Club*, *Risky Business*—they're all here. And if you love the music of that era, there's plenty of that, too. The subject heading "Rock Music 1981-1990" brings up over 80 CDs. "Popular music," "blues music," and "jazz music" add more titles to the list.

We're not celebrating the holidays just with our collections. There are some special events coming up this month as well.

Holiday Kidcraft returns on Monday, Dec. 10 at 6:30 p.m. Children ages three and older will have the chance to make and take home a special craft project that evening if they have registered in advance. There is a \$1 materials fee per child. The program will be at the library and space is limited. Monday Night at the Movies returns December 17.

On Wednesday, Dec. 12, there is a special Holiday Sing Along with the ever popular Mr. Kurt. Come prepared to join in on all your holiday favorites when Kurt Gallagher starts to play at the library at 6:30 p.m. There's no pre-registration required and no admission charge, but please bring a new, unopened non-perishable food item for each person attending. Donations will be given to the South Plainfield Food Pantry. Come early, sing loudly, leave happy.

Jeffrey Cupo will continue his series of lectures and discussions on the History of Ancient Philosophy at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 13 at the library. This week's topic is the thought of the Aztecs, Incans and Mayans. As always, there is no fee for this program, but we would appreciate it if you would sign up in advance. You do not have to have heard the rest of the series to join in.

Looking ahead, join us on Thursday, Dec. 27 at 6:30 p.m. for a special treat: Rizzo's Reptile Show. Dominic Rizzo will be bringing a variety of live animals to the South Plainfield Senior Center including lizards, snakes, turtles and frogs for kids to see and touch. Rizzo's Reptiles strives to teach everyone about the wonder and joy that nature has to offer. The show is for children ages four and older; they must know how to sit still. Admission is free, but we will be collecting donations for the South Plainfield Food Pantry.

If that's not enough, there's the regular complement of children's programs this week. Readers ages three and over will have stories and crafts on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. Come to Mr. Kurt's sing along at the library instead of the regular Wednesday night story time at 6:30. Two- and three-year-olds have Toddler Time at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday and Thursday, and babies under two should come Friday at 10:30 a.m.

The week ends with Friday Fun at 3:30 Friday afternoon. Children ages seven to 10 never know what they will be doing when they come, but it's sure to be fun. They'll be busy until 5:30.

The Book Club will not be meeting this month, but plan ahead for the next meeting. It's on Thursday, Jan. 31. The group will be discussing *A Game of Thrones*, by George R.R. Martin. If the library copies are already checked out, ask Chris to get you one from another

library. That same service is available for any item you are interested in that the library does not have.

If you are interested in a book discussion group that would meet during the day, please let us know. What day and time would you like to meet? What types of books do you like to read?

Other events to look forward to in January are the continuation of the ancient philosophy lectures, as well as an expanded series on Tuesdays focusing on ancient Chinese philosophy. The first meeting is on Tuesday, Jan. 8 at noon. The night time lectures resume on January 10 with a special guest speaker (me!) on the topic of Jewish Philosophy from Ancient Times through the Middle Ages.

January will also bring more Saturday morning craft classes, Monday night movies, and all the storytimes and special events you've come to know and love.

Hanukkah starts this weekend, the night of December 8. The holiday celebrates a fight against tyranny. In honor of that fight, exercise your freedom—read a banned book. Happy Hanukkah!

For more information, call the library at (908) 754-7885.

## Mary Had a Little Lamb

Mary had a little Lamb;  
He came on Christmas night.  
She laid Him in a manger bed,  
This King of life and light.

He ate with poor and sinful folk;  
He claimed He was God's Son.  
It made the leaders plot His death,  
This holy, sinless One.

He came to give us joy and peace,  
To take away our sin.  
He heals the sick and calms the storm  
And ushers justice in.

What makes the Lamb love Mary so  
And all the world beside?  
By grace alone He chose His own;  
For them He lived and died.

And we must love the Lamb you know;  
His blood will wash us clean.  
Our words must show that we are His;  
Our lives by all are seen.

One day this Lamb will come again,  
More Lion than a Lamb;  
Defeat His foes, reward His own.  
O, praise the day He came!

—Author Unknown

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## Advent, Christmas Worship and Classes at Willow Grove Church

In the season of Advent when Christians prepare their hearts and homes for Christmas, Willow Grove Presbyterian Church invites the community to worship and to adult classes during the month of December. Sunday morning worship services at 10 a.m. include Christmas carols, a time for children, lighting the Advent wreath, classes for all ages and special music. Rev. Cynthia Cochran-Carney will be preaching a series of sermons based on the book, *God is in the Manger: Reflections on Advent and Christmas* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Childcare is provided for young children. After worship there is a time for refreshments.

On Sunday, Dec. 16 the children and youth of the church will present a modern Christmas pageant at 10 a.m. The story of Jesus' birth will be told with a modern twist.

In addition, the choir will be singing special anthems, including *O Holy Night*. The Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols will be held on Monday, Dec. 24 at 7:30 p.m.

The Sunday Adult Forum Classes held after worship in Kiep Lounge, will focus on the themes in Bonhoeffer's book. Rev. Cochran-Carney will lead discussions on this collection of writings by this great Christian writer. Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a German Lutheran pastor, theologian and dissident anti-Nazi in the 1930s.

During the week, the community is invited to the Thursday Morning Bible Study for a series entitled, *Rejoice! A Study of Four Christmas Carols*. Christmas carols are some of the most evocative parts of the season for many. The four hymns will be *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, *Silent Night*, *Holy Night*, *O Little Town of Bethlehem* and *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*. Study group meets on Thursdays at 10 a.m. in Kiep Lounge.

Willow Grove Presbyterian Church is located in Scotch Plains at 1961 Raritan Rd. For more information, call the church at (908) 232-5678 or visit [www.willowgrovechurch.org](http://www.willowgrovechurch.org).

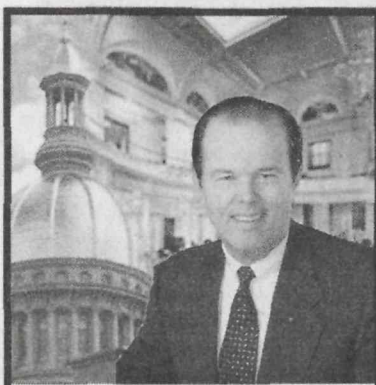
## Restoring Our State After Hurricane Sandy

Every resident of New Jersey has been affected by Hurricane Sandy. Although thankfully South Plainfield was spared the worst of the storm, we all know someone whose life has been devastated by this natural disaster.

I must commend Governor Christie for his leadership during this challenging time. Congratulations on a job well done to our borough police, fire, public works and emergency management departments. The Middlesex County Office of Emergency Management and Middlesex County Fire Marshall were also a tremendous asset to residents throughout our county.

When you look at cable TV you come to believe that government is hopelessly divided. I am happy to report that during this crisis no one in Trenton cares if a proposal comes from a Democrat or a Republican. Everyone is working together to give whatever relief we can to those who have suffered losses. President Obama is working with the governor, senators Menendez and Lautenberg and our congressional delegation, led by Congressman Pallone, to direct the necessary federal money to begin the process of restoring our damaged infrastructure. Simultaneously FEMA has set up regional offices to expedite claims of property owners who suffered damage or loss of their homes or businesses.

If anyone has any questions about what programs are available or has any suggestions as to legislation that can bring some relief to those in need please contact me. We are all in this together. My phone number is (908) 757-1677 and my email address is [Asmdiegnan@njleg.org](mailto:Asmdiegnan@njleg.org).



**News**  
**From The State House**  
**Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan**

## Knights of Columbus Coat Drive

This year the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 will be collecting monetary donations, gift cards and Kohl's Cash\* to purchase new coats and blankets. In the past, your generosity has helped many who were in need. The Knights hope you can assist even more families this year! Here is how you can help:

Monetary donations to purchase coats can be dropped off Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall located at 334 Hamilton Blvd.

For your convenience your donation can be mailed directly to: South Plainfield Knights of Columbus #6203, Coat and Blanket Drive, 334 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

Future collections will be taken after masses at Sacred Heart Church and Our Lady of Czestochowa. Check your church bulletin for the collection dates. Donation envelopes will also be available at the South Plainfield Library.

If you are a local business owner or head a community organization, we hope you would encourage donations in your office and participate as a group!

If you have slightly used, clean coats or blankets, you can drop them off at Fish Hospitality Program located at 456 New Market Rd. in Piscataway.

Please bag your donations and label each bag with "Knights of Columbus, South Plainfield." All proceeds will be used to purchase coats and blankets for this very special cause.

Contact Michael Piersanti at (908) 616-3588 for more details.

If you would like more information about the Knights of Columbus or are interested in joining the Knights of Columbus, please call Greg Gaydos at (908) 753-4952.

\*Kohl's Cash with expired dates will also be accepted!

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(L-R) Maria Dominguez of New Brunswick, an EMPOWER participant and a student at New Brunswick Health Sciences Technology High School; Celis Benko and Lindsay Benko.

## Local Girl Creates Non-Profit Organization to Help Homeless

When Lindsay Benko of South Plainfield heard about another young girl who started her own nonprofit organization, she was inspired. The 12 year-old decided she wanted to start one, too: a program to help homeless children. Her organization, called "Hope," was born.

Now, with help from students in the Empowering Mentoring Peers On Work and Education Readiness

(EMPOWER) program at the Middlesex County College New Brunswick Center, she is creating 50 bags for children served by Elijah's Promise, the soup kitchen.

EMPOWER, a mentoring program for college-bound Latino youth from New Brunswick, has a community service component. She is also being helped by her mother, Celis Benko, a 2008 alumna of MCC.

The Borough Council approved the following at the December 3 meeting:

- Ordinance #1971 entitled "Noise" received final approval.
- Four ordinances were introduced: #1974, a bond ordinance in the amount of \$307,500 for various capital improvements including a new garbage truck, rescue squad radios, tandem dump truck, police sport utility vehicle, computer software and a fingerprint machine; #1973, to vacate a portion of Chelsea Place; #1975, to create a new field representative position (assessing), and #1972 authorizing new rental fees for the Senior Center. These ordinances will be formally adopted at the December 17 council meeting.
- Promote Lt. Charles Siedenburgh to Captain, Sgt. David DeLair to Lieutenant, and Patrolman John McConville to Sergeant.
- Authorize the purchase of a 2013 Dodge Grand Caravan SE for the senior center using funds from the 2011 Community Development Block Grant in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.
- Authorize T&M Associates to perform engineering services to provide and administer a bid for recycling services and for a garbage truck for the borough.

## borough notes

- Authorize the waiver of a Games of Chance Permit fee in the amount of \$750 for the American Legion Post #243.
- Release of Performance Bond in the amount of \$4,677, release of engineering escrow in the amount of \$787.85 and a Surety Bond in the amount of \$42,093 for Berg-N-Pitt Development LLC at 154 Martin Dr. for wetland permit work only.
- Renewal of a junk yard license for Gene's Auto Wreckers for the year 2013.
- Transfers in the amount of \$75,000 for the current fund.
- Award an emergency contract with Stilo Excavating for tree debris removal due to Super Storm Sandy in an amount not to exceed \$45,000.
- Temporary employment of Adeline Gebauer and Dawn Hutchinson in the building department with permits and various other duties on an as needed basis for December and

- January.
- Hire Richard Rotella as part-time seasonal help for the municipal offices.
- Authorize Northeast Integrated Technologies to provide information technology consulting services at a cost not to exceed \$1,410 related to the borough's various computer networks and related equipment; to provide infrastructure management as needed on a monthly basis at a cost not to exceed \$1,362.50; and provide business continuity and disaster recovery services on an as needed basis at a cost not to exceed \$1,229.
- Authorize the purchase of two rack mount BDR devices from Tactical Public Safety at a cost not to exceed \$5,998.

Read the entire text of pending borough ordinances online at [www.southplainfieldnj.com](http://www.southplainfieldnj.com).

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## Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.  
South Plainfield, NJ

Rev. John Paul Alvarado, Pastor

### Mass Schedule:

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

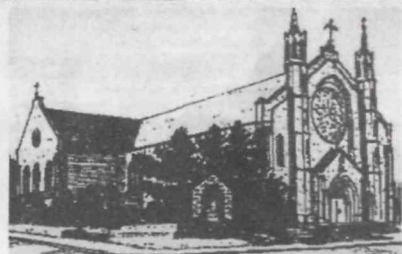
Sunday 9:00, 11:30 a.m.

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

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

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

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



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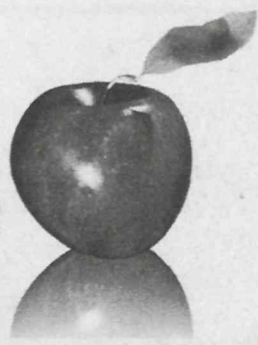
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Not valid with other offers. Expires 3-20-13



# Residents Clamor Over Noise Ordinance

(Continued from page 1)  
today. Any complaints should be brought forward to the superintendent of the DPW, CFO and mayor and council. If they feel that this work is not necessary nor an emergency, we will have those conversations with the responsible personnel."

George Zereconski of Kenneth Avenue told the council that they were "completely clueless" and went on to say that he has lived 173 ft. from the DPW for over a year and his nine month old son is awakened at 4:30 a.m. due to the noise from the yard. He stated that he has spoken with the State Attorney General's office and Joe DeFilippo from the Middlesex County Health Department, along with councilmen Tim McConville and Rob

Bengivenga with regard to his issue. "I have more videos on my phone that can disprove the DPW right now than you can prove that this is for the good of the town," shouted Zereconski.

Waving his cell phone in the air, Zereconski went on to say that his phone contains a calibrated decibel meter that recorded a reading of 83 decibels at 6 a.m. on a Saturday morning. Section 300-5 (a)(2)(a) states that noise levels from an industrial, commercial operation or residential property from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. should not exceed 50 decibels and 65 decibels in the opposing hours.

"The absurdity of the matter is out of control," said Zereconski, who asked for a "little humility from the council." Anesh reiterated that the ordinance was

to "ensure normal and efficient operation of public works."

Bhargav Jani, who lives on Fulton Street, a side street across from the DPW, complained about the parking, noise and idling of trucks on the street. He said "weekends are terrible" and his children are also awakened by the noise at 5 a.m. and would like some help. Kakar Deepak stated that he lives on Spicer Avenue and is impacted by the noise level.

"I have worked with the DPW and a lot of what we are trying to deal with is all of the traffic," explained Borough Engineer Len Miller. "We should actually be thanking the superintendent for coming in so early and trying to get things done to avoid truck traffic and shutting down major roads." He went on to say that the DPW is involved in road repairs, such as paving and potholes along with sewer and catch basin repair and cleaning. The superintendent works closely with the police Traffic Safety Department to configure the best way to impact the least amount of residents, not to get work done early in the day.

Resident Darlene Cullen, who lived on nearby Hopkinson Street for many years, "sympathized" with the residents' complaints. "I moved there knowing what I was getting into,"

said Cullen. She also noted that her ex-husband, owner of Pinto Brothers Disposal located across from the DPW, also has trucks leaving his site at 4 and 5 a.m.

"I can't sit here and see Superintendent Bobby Capparelli's character demolished here," said Cullen. "He is an upstanding citizen, he travels from the shore to this town and he is honest and hardworking. This noise is not simply from the DPW." She also urged the council to support the ordinance revision.

In his defense, Capparelli noted that there are garbage trucks that travel Spicer Avenue early in the morning and that B & C Deli on Belmont Avenue across from the DPW receives newspaper and other deliveries very early. "While sitting in my office, the trains alone are enough to throw you out of your seat," explained Capparelli. "To single out public works while all of these other operations are going on is ludicrous."

The council voted 5-0 in favor of the ordinance revision. Councilman McConville was not present at the meeting. On Wednesday, Dec. 12, Zereconski will appear in South Plainfield Municipal Court with regard to his noise complaint against the borough. He is being represented by Biribin.

# SPORTS

## SPHS South Plainfield High School

### SPORTS SCHEDULE

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

3:30pm G & BV Bowling-Sayreville  
@Carolier (A) Bus 2:30pm  
4pm V Swimming-East Side (A) Bus 2:30pm  
4pm GV Basketball-Dunellen  
JV/5:15pm Bus 2:30pm

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

9am V Wrestling-W. Hills, SPlains, Millburn (H) @PAL  
10am BV & JV Basketball-Jonathan Dayton (A) Bus 8:30am  
10am B Fr Basketball-Jonathan Dayton (A) Bus 8:30am

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11

3:30pm B & GV Bowling-Colonia @ Carolier (A) Bus 2:30pm  
4pm BV & JV Basketball-Dunellen (S) (A) Bus 2:45pm

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

6pm GV & JV Basketball-Perth Amboy (A) Bus 4:15pm

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13

3:30pm G & BV Bowling-St. Joes @ Carolier (A) Bus 2:30pm

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14

3:45pm G Fr Basketball-Bishop Ahr (H)  
6pm BV Basketball-Spotswood  
JV/4:15pm Bus 3pm  
7pm G V Basketball-Bishop Ahr  
JV/5:15 pm (H)

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15

9am V Wrestling-Morris Knolls (A) Bus TBA



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## Obituaries

### Ramrati Harnarain, 66

Ramrati Harnarain died on Tuesday, Nov. 27 at Arista Care at Cedar Oaks in South Plainfield.

She is survived by three children, Indira and Krishmati Persaud, both of Dunellen, and Khemraj Persaud and wife Nirvani of Piscataway; and two grandchildren, Ajay and Gavin Persaud. Also surviving are numerous extended relatives and friends.

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

### Carmela Importico, 96

Carmela Importico died on Wednesday, Nov. 28 at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born and raised in North Plainfield, Carmela settled in South Plainfield 32 years ago.

She worked as a seamstress for the former Star Dress Factory in Plainfield. In addition, Miss Importico was a communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church and a member of the South Plainfield Senior Citizens.

She is predeceased by four brothers, Frank, Thomas, Nicholas and Louis Importico.

Surviving are a sister, Lucy DeFillipo and husband Vincent of Lakewood and two sisters-in-law, Mary and Julia Importico. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

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

### Gertrude M. (Stopera) Niemczyk, 92

Gertrude M. (Stopera) Niemczyk died on Thursday, Nov. 29 at the McCarrick Care Center in Somerset after a long battle with dementia.

Born in Toledo, Ohio, Gertrude grew up in Linden and settled in South Plainfield in 1941.

Gertrude had been employed by the former Teppers Department Store in Plainfield, DeMert Mfg. in South Plain-

### American Legion to Sponsor Oratorical Scholarship Competition

Six South Plainfield High School students will compete for the first step in a national scholarship program, sponsored by the American Legion, on Thursday, Dec. 13. Speakers are: Alyssa Adamson, Kevin Belanger, Patricia Cruz, Matthew McCue, Devynn Nolan and Jonathan Reyes.

The event will be held at the SPHS Information Center at 7 p.m. Chaumont Post #243 Adjutant Richard Doerr commented, "After this event, intermediate competitions will be held, leading to the New Jersey finals in March. The state winner will compete in Indianapolis, In. in April for the top prize of an \$18,000 scholarship, as well as other scholarship awards."

The theme of the competition is the United States Constitution. Each student will have 8-10 minutes to speak without notes. The winner for South Plainfield will be announced at the close of the competition.

Although seating is limited, the event is open to the public.

field and also worked for her brother in-law at the former George's Cleaners and Formal Wear in South Plainfield.

She was a longtime communicant of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church in South Plainfield and a member of the Altar Rosary Society. In addition she was a member of the Polish National Home and had been active with her children in the Sacred Heart PTA.

Gertrude enjoyed sewing and ceramics, as well as spending time with her family.

Her husband of 65 years, Edward Niemczyk, a local icon of youth sports, died in 2006. Also deceased are her siblings, Tilly, Sophie, Stella, Dottie, Walter and Steve.

Surviving are two children, Arlene Hayeck and husband John of South Plainfield and Dr. Edward V. Niemczyk and wife Rosemary of Cream Ridge; four grandchildren, Jennifer Campbell, Edward and Daniel Niemczyk and Allison Ricco; and three great-grandchildren, Taylor, Drew and Colette, along with many nieces and nephews.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Edward A. Niemczyk Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o 2425 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

### Gerardine G. (Masino) Fisco, 67

Gerardine G. (Masino) Fisco entered into eternal rest on Friday, Nov. 30 at St. Peter's University Hospital in New Brunswick.

Born in Teaneck, Gerardine graduated from Mt. St. Mary's Academy in Watchung.

She was a longtime and highly active communicant of St. Mary's RC Church in Plainfield.

In addition, Mrs. Fisco was dedicated and devoted to spending time

with her granddaughters.

Mrs. Fisco is predeceased by her husband, Frederick, who died in 2001; and a son, Gabriel, who died in 1983.

Surviving are a son, Matthew Fisco of Highland Park; two adored granddaughters, Carlee and Emily; a sister, Lyne Masino of Lawrenceville; and many beloved cousins, family members and friends.

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

### Irene P. (Blaszczak) Puha, 84

Irene P. (Blaszczak) Puha died on Friday, Nov. 30 at JFK Medical Center in Edison with her family at her side.

Born in Newark to the late Stefan Blaszczak and Czeslawa Kwiatkowski, Irene resided in South Plainfield for 55 years before moving to Toms River in 1984.

Irene was a very diverse person who was active in the South Plainfield PTA, volunteered as a Brownie leader and was devoted to her church. She was a longtime communicant of Our Lady of Czestochowa RC Church in South Plainfield and their Rosary Society with a special devotion to the Blessed Mother and Rosary. Irene and husband Charles were members of the Polish National Home in South Plainfield.

She was best known for her home-made potato salad; as a gourmet cook, Irene passed on traditional Polish cooking to her daughters and grand-

daughters. She was also known to be a fashionista and an avid doll collector. Irene also enjoyed reading, following NASCAR, and rooting on the N.Y. Yankees and N.Y. Giants. As a talented painter and artist, she enjoyed showing her paintings in Juried Art shows.

Additionally, she was a gifted seamstress and gracious host, but most importantly will be remembered as a loving wife, mother and grandmother. "Renee" will be sadly missed by her many family and friends because she was thoughtful, inspiring and lots of fun.

She is predeceased by three brothers, Peter, Frank and Chester Blaszczak.

Surviving are her devoted husband of 65 years, Charles; five children, Diane M. Phillips (Stephen J.), Marilyn Choshan (Josef), Stefanie Demico, Charles M. (Carol) and Jane Sheedy (Robert); and four grandchildren, Stephen C., Catherine Marie, Kaitlyn and Kimberly. She will be missed by numerous neices, nephews, cousins and godchildren.

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

Donations may be made to the charity of your choice in Irene's memory.

### Donald W. Borchers, 89

Donald W. Borchers died on Saturday, Dec. 1 at his home in South Plainfield.

Born and raised in Spring Valley, N.Y., Mr. Borchers resided in South Plainfield since 1952.

Prior to retiring, Mr. Borchers was employed as a technical engineer for Bell Labs for 35 years.

He served in the United States Army during World War II. Mr. Borchers was a member of the United Church of Christ Congregational in Plainfield. He enjoyed spending his vacations at the family's lake house in the Adirondacks.

Mr. Borchers is predeceased by his wife, Marguerite; and two sons, Douglas and Richard Borchers.

Surviving are two brothers, Robert Borchers of Spring Hill, Fla. and Ted Borchers of Virginia Beach, Va.; a son, William Borchers and wife Rita of Walpole, N.H. and their children, Allison, Jonathan, Melani, Kevin and Steven.

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In My Opinion

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

(Continued from page 2)

Association was created to continue to fund our annual Hall of Fame, which honors former students of South Plainfield High School. We are ready to go with our "buy-a-brick" program. Look for the insert in your letter and also on our website. We are anticipating beginning the project in the spring of 2013.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the community of South Plainfield for your continued support of the South Plainfield Education Foundation.

SINCERELY,  
MARJORIE M. REEDY, PRESIDENT,  
SP EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Dear Editor,

The South Plainfield Board of Education holds its annual reorganization meeting on January 2, 2013. At this meeting, the BOE members elect a president and vice president. Over the past four years our board has had the same president, Jim Giannakis. I believe that the time for a change in the leadership for the betterment of the South Plainfield School District has undeniably arrived.

I have volunteered my time on the board for the past year and a half with Mr. Giannakis as board president. He is conflicted in two different ways: Mr. Giannakis works for Sodexo, a

company which has a multi-million dollar contract with the South Plainfield Board of Education, and his wife is employed as a secretary at one of our schools. One of the main jobs of all BOE members is to evaluate the superintendent, but because of the conflict of interest, Mr. Giannakis cannot even complete one of our main responsibilities. The board president should not, under any circumstances, have any conflicts of interest that could possibly compromise their judgment. I believe that a changing of the guard needs to take place this upcoming year, or I believe the winds of change are going to be necessary to correct this egregious oversight.

In light of Mr. Giannakis's conflict of interest, I recently brought forward a policy to all the BOE members that stated, "In order to avoid the appearance or reality of a conflict of interest, and to protect the reputation of the school board for integrity, no member of the School Board shall serve as Board President, Vice President or as Chair of the Personnel Committee, if they have a relative employed by the district. The definition of relative shall be the regular definition in State education law and regulation on nepotism, set forth at N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.2 ("accountability regulations") and N.J.S.A. 52:13D-21.2."

In 1951, the United States ratified the 22nd amendment which affirms that no person shall be elected to the office of the president more than twice. If the Constitution of our country does not allow someone to be in power more than two terms, why should a BOE president of a municipality be able to keep this seat year after year, and especially when this new information is added for consideration?

As we all know, Board of Education members are elected by the public, which means that the conundrum I've described in this letter is to be left in the capable hands of South Plainfield's residents. I am urging all residents to come forward and ask your BOE members to support this policy that is meant only to serve our schools and children better and that will avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest by presiding board members. If you agree with what I've stated, please come to the next BOE public meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 19 at 6:30 p.m. and make your opinion and/or concerns known.

These views are mine alone and not from other members of the South Plainfield Board of Education.

RESPECTFULLY,  
JOE SORRENTINO,  
BOARD OF ED. MEMBER

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LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD,  
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY

NOTICE OF ADOPTION

"ORDINANCE NO. 1971

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 300  
OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH  
PLAINFIELD ENTITLED: "NOISE".

The ordinance #1971 read by title upon second reading herewith has been adopted at the meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, held on December 3, 2012, and the 20 day period of limitation within which a suit, action or the validity of such ordinance can be commenced, has begun to run from the date of the publication of this notice.

Amy Antonides, RMC/CMC  
Municipal Clerk

\$28.50

December 7, 2012

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD,  
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY

NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION

This Ordinance #1973 published herewith was introduced and passed upon first reading at the regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield held on December 3, 2012. It will be further considered for final passage after a public hearing to be held on December 17, 2012, at the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, at which time and place any persons desire to be heard upon the same will be given an opportunity to be heard. Copies are available free of charge at the Municipal Clerk's Office prior to the public hearing. This ordinance shall take effect immediately after final passage and publication according to law.

ORDINANCE NO. 1973

AN ORDINANCE VACATING THE BOROUGH'S  
AUTHORITY AND OVER A PORTION OF CHELSEA  
PLACE IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAIN-  
FIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

WHEREAS, there exists within the Borough of South Plainfield, Middlesex County, New Jersey a street which is a "paper street" known as Chelsea Place, and shown on the Official Tax Map of the Borough of South Plainfield as being a vacant, unimproved right-of-way situated between Block 370, Lot 2 and Block 371, Lot 1; and

WHEREAS, the adjoining property is owned by the same owner, Anda Builders, LLC, which has requested the Borough to vacate its rights to a portion of said property; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has had the portion of the property appraised, and the Borough appraiser, Russell K. Sterling, has opined that the portion of the property over which the right-of-way exists does not meet the minimum lot size requirements, and cannot be developed on its own, and the highest and best use is assemblage of the portion of the property with an adjacent parcel of property; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sterling has opined that the value of a portion of the property to be vacated is \$35,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Anda Builders, LLC has agreed to pay said amount to the Borough as the Borough vacates its rights; and

WHEREAS, Anda Builders, LLC agreed to the assemblage of the entire vacated street bed with Block 371, Lot 1 so that the vacated property will merge with the property of Block 370, Lot 2; and WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40:67-19 authorizes the Borough to release and extinguish public rights, and the rights of the Borough arising from the dedication of the street;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey as follows: The rights of the public and the Borough of South Plainfield in and to a portion of Chelsea Place located between Block 370, Lot 2 and Block 371, Lot 1, as described more particularly in Schedule A annexed hereto and made a part hereof are hereby extinguished and vacated, and such portion of Chelsea Place shall merge with and become a part of the property located at Block 371, Lot 1 creating a conforming building lot without the requirement or necessity of any further subdivision. The property shall remain subject to all other requirements for development set forth in State statutes and the Municipal Code.

At least one week prior to the time affixed for the consideration of this Ordinance for final passage, a copy thereof, together with a Notice of Introduction thereof

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY  
NOTICE OF PENDING BOND ORDINANCE 1974 AND SUMMARY

The bond ordinance 1974, the summary terms of which are included herein, was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the governing body of the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, on December 3, 2012. It will be further considered for final passage, after public hearing thereon, at a meeting of the governing body to be held at the Municipal Building, in the Borough on December 17, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. During the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting, copies of the full ordinance will be available at no cost and during regular business hours at the Clerk's office for the members of the general public who shall request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:

Title: "Bond Ordinance Providing for Various Capital Improvements of the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey, Appropriating the Aggregate Amount of \$325,000 Thereof and Authorizing the Issuance of \$307,500 Bonds or Notes of the Borough to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof."

Purposes:

Purpose	Appropriation and Estimated Cost	Estimated Maximum Amount of Bonds or Notes	Period of Usefulness
a) The acquisition of rescue squad radios, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$25,500	\$24,200	10 years
b) The acquisition of a garbage truck, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$52,000	\$49,300	5 years
c) The acquisition of a tandem dump truck, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$75,000	\$71,000	5 years
d) The acquisition of a police sport utility vehicle, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$65,000	\$61,500	5 years
e) The acquisition of computer equipment and software, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$27,500	\$26,000	5 years
f) The acquisition of a finger print machine, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$45,000	\$42,500	15 years
g) The acquisition of miscellaneous equipment, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$35,000	\$33,000	15 years
TOTALS	\$325,000	\$307,500	

Appropriation: \$325,000  
Bonds/Notes Authorized: \$307,500  
Grant Appropriated: N/A  
Section 20 Costs: \$6,000  
Useful Life: 7.84 years  
Amy Antonides, RMC/CMC  
Municipal Clerk

This Notice is published pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:2-17.

\$61.58

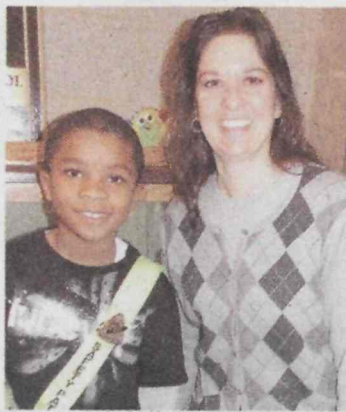
December 7, 2012





This Week's Junior Journalist winner is...

## Samar Abdullah



Samar Abdullah with teacher Doris Sepkowski.

Samar Abdullah, Roosevelt School fourth grader, is this week's winner in the Junior Journalist program. His poem, "Over In and Under," has earned Samar dinner for his family, courtesy of Hometown Heros.

The program, which encour-

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

At the end of the school year in May, Hometown Heros and the *Observer* host a banquet celebrating all the weekly winners and their families. Students are recognized by the mayor and the state assembly. A \$1,000 U.S. Savings Bond is awarded to one student by Hometown Heros; additional prizes are also awarded.

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

## Over In and Under

By Samar Abdullah

The bird is over the pole.  
The pole is over the tree.  
The tree is over me.

The fly is in the frog.  
The frog is in the pond.  
The pond is in the ground.

The worm is under the ground.  
The ground is under the ant.  
The ant is under the cat.  
The cat is under the dog.  
The dog is under the poem.  
The poem is under the tree.  
What good there is to see.

By Libby Barsky

The following took place at the November 14 Board of Education meeting:

- Hurricane Sandy closed the district schools for five school days. Two of those days have already been made up when the teachers convention was canceled November 15 and 16. To make up the other three days, the BOE approved a revised school calendar eliminating three days that had been scheduled to be closed. Classes will be held on Friday, Feb. 15, Tuesday, May 28 and Friday, June 21.

- The results of the school board election held in November were announced. Board President Jim Giannakis was elected to a third term, Bill Seesselberg a second term and newcomer Kimberly DeAngelis Anesh to a first term. Debbie Boyle was elected to fill her unexpired one year term. The BOE organization meeting will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 2 at 6:30 p.m. at the Roosevelt Administration Building.

- Bus aide Virginia LaSpata, who retired in October, was replaced by Charlotte Mowrey who started on December 1.

- To improve student skills in English Language Arts Literacy and math prior to students taking the next NJASK tests in the spring, the board appointed teachers to work with students after school. The high school class will be taught by Jae Han, middle school by Samia Guirguis and Grant School by Barbara Boyer. Two hour classes start January 14 with two sessions a week for 16 weeks until March 1. All four elementary schools will have one hour of instruction a week from February 25 to May 3.

## BOE Notes

English as a Second Language instruction will be split between two teachers, Peggy Regan-Monagle at Kennedy/Riley and Amy Ross at Franklin/Roosevelt.

All tutoring at Grant, Riley, Franklin and the middle school will take place after school two sessions a week from December 12 to April 26.

Middle School eighth graders will have two math teachers, Kathy Zoda and Donna Tierney. Michelle Hottendorf will teach eighth grade language arts. Robert Goman will instruct seventh grade math and Kristin Bennett and Barbara Jewkes will teach seventh grade language arts.

Grant School instructors Colleen Montgomery and Carolyn White

will teach sixth grade math; Paula Genovese and Stacey Diana will teach sixth grade language arts; Kathryn Boyle and John Orfan will cover fifth grade math and Kathryn Boyle and Kenall Ribar will teach fifth grade language arts.

At Fanklin School, Kiley Squier will teach fourth grade math and Kim Broggi fourth grade language arts. Third grade language arts will be taught by Lara Kensey and Jane Bishop will teach third grade math.

At Riley School Christine Dispenziere and will teach fourth grade language arts and Catherine Bonanno fourth grade math. Beth Giakas will teach third grade language arts and Mary Sikanowicz third grade math.



Junior Journalist winner Hannah Barbaza receives dinner from Charlie and Debbie Kurland of Hometown Heros. Hannah is pictured with her parents, Joy and Paul; brother Lorenzo and grandfather Rogelio.

Send in your entries now!!!

For the past 3 months the love and support has been enormous and I truly appreciate it. Thank you all.

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