

VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!

# South Plainfield Observer



Fall Behind!  
Daylight Savings Time  
begins Sunday morn-  
ing. Turn your clocks  
back one hour.

VOL. 8, NO. 9

50 CENTS

OCTOBER 29, 2004

## The Choice is Yours: VOTE!

### Residents Crowd Senior Center to Hear Candidates Debate Issues

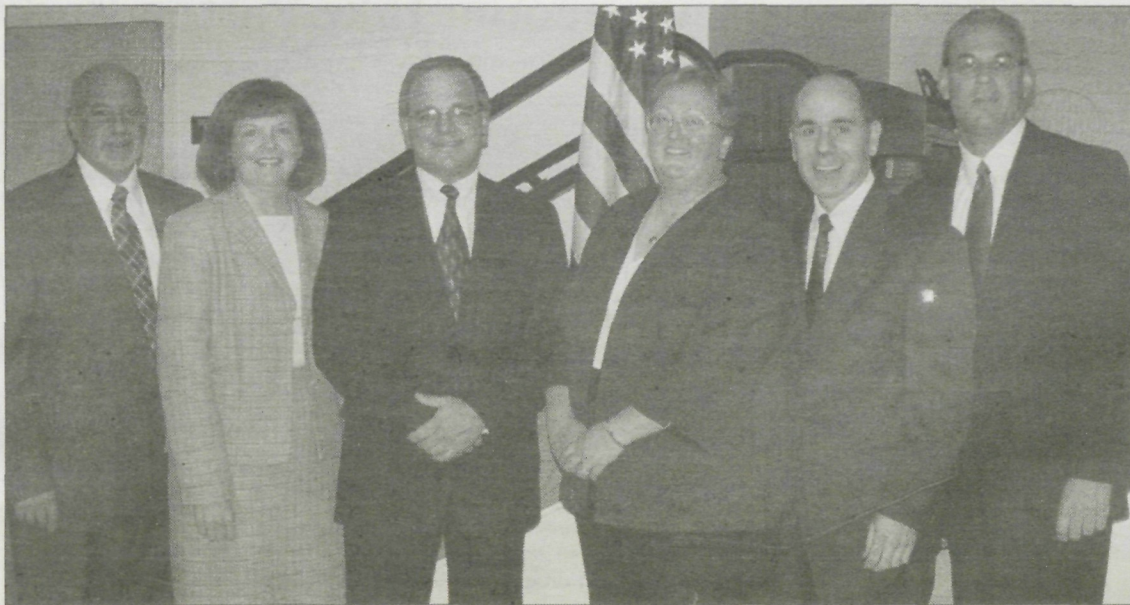
More than 175 residents attended Monday night's debate, and those attending agreed it was an informative evening for all involved. The debate was moderated by Ann Armstrong, from the League of Women Voters.

The debate featured six candidates running for council. Running this year for two-year terms are Democrats Charles Butrico and Dennis Cerami and Republicans Marge Reedy and Ray Rusnick. Kathy Thomas and Bob Jones are each running for a one year term.

The debate was co-sponsored by the South Plainfield Business Association and The South Plainfield Observer.

The debate began with opening statements from all six candidates. The candidates then spent the next hour answering a variety of questions, many on issues each side has been talking about during the campaign. The difference here was that each side had the opportunity to respond to each other's statements.

The Republicans state that the Borough had secret meetings and put the town in debt with the sewer



Six candidates for Borough Council discussed issues affecting the borough at Monday night's debate. From left are Dennis Cerami, Kathy Thomas, Charlie Butrico, Marge Reedy, Bob Jones and Ray Rusnak. Voters will decide their fate on Election Day, next Tuesday.

tax settlement. They also accused the council of spending the sewer surplus instead of saving the money needed for the settlement.

According to Glenn Cullen, last year there was a \$1.1M surplus in the sewer account and \$300,000 was put

into the general funds. He said this covers the borough's cost in sending out and collecting funds, as well as other sewer related expenses incurred. He added that the PARSAs agreement was on the agenda at a meeting earlier this year and Bob Jones even asked questions about it.

The site of the library was also a discussion. It is scheduled to be built on the property between Conroy Funeral Home and Unity Bank. The Republicans say we need a library, but there isn't enough parking there. The Democrats say if we need more parking, we can use the municipal parking lot.

Senior housing was also a topic of discussion. Building senior housing on the Tingley Rubber property was

brought up more than a few times. Both sides had very differing views and facts. One fact is that it will not be affordable senior housing, but a development with age restrictions and isn't yet a done deal, but still in the discussion stages.

The Republicans say senior affordable housing could possibly be built on Morris Ave., but the Democrats say the property is not environmentally acceptable and would over saturate the area.

Helping out with the debate were a dozen high school students who were either in the debate club or Mr. Spolarich's debate class. The students collected questions and brought them up front and were even the official time keepers. Helping were: Ashley Martin, Kim Galinsky, Andrew Brown, Tony Ja, Sara Sukenik, Kim Tran, Meghan Hartmann, Christina Martin, Pete Kelly, Matt Gigantino and keeping time were Harmeet Puar and Lason Lowe. We would like to thank them for their help and hope they learned something during the debate.

Cynthia Frank Gianccione, who was in charge of refreshment, outdid herself. Everything served was homemade and delicious. A special thank you also goes to Joann Graff, who spent the evening helping to make everything go smoothly.

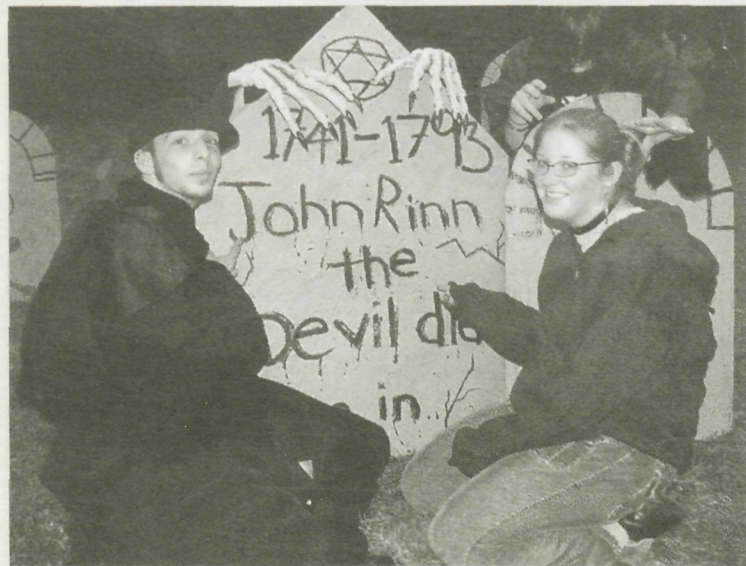
### Mayor Sets Trick-or-Treating Hours

Mayor Gallagher has issued hours for Halloween "Trick-or-Treating," on Sunday, Oct. 31. Trick-or-treat activities will be conducted between noon and 5 p.m. Young children should be accompanied by a parent or other responsible adult. Households can indicate their willingness to welcome children by keeping their porch or exterior lights on. Youngsters should only call on homes with their lights on.

A curfew has been set for Mischief Night on Saturday, Oct. 30-7 p.m.



### Haunted Woods Tour Set to Scare



Take a trip to Transylvania this weekend! Reserve your tickets for the last three days of the Almost Famous Players Putnam Park Haunted Woods Tour. The volunteer theatre troupe's 2nd Annual Putnam Park Haunted Woods Tour opened last weekend to rave reviews. Final days

are October 28, 29 and Halloween, October 31.

Join Professor Irena and Egor in old Transylvania, where danger lurks around each bend. The cast is ready for election season with an assortment of good-natured pokes at the world of politics. The 40-plus

cast and crew members are anxiously awaiting the opportunity to make you laugh and scare you silly.

Thurs., Fri., October 28, 29, 6:30-10 p.m. Tickets are adults-\$6, kids, accompanied by adult-\$4. The Halloween show on Sun., Oct. 31 runs 5:30 until about 9:30 p.m. Adults are \$7, kids accompanied by an adult are \$5. Reservations are strongly recommended for all shows. Halloween shows are expected to be sold out before the 31. The performance is suggested for ages seven and up. If you know your child scares easily, then this show is not for them. There will be no refunds after the tour has begun.

Celebrate Halloween at the Haunted Woods Tour. Refreshments will be sold. There will face painting and more for the younger set. Call (908) 756-8011 for advance tickets/info. Reservations are required for groups of six or more. Putnam Park is located on the corner of Park Ave. and Oak Tree Ave. across from the former Bradlees.



SPHS Junior Ariana Makoski, member of the SPHS Color Guard, participated in the Marching Band Festival on Oct. 17. See story on page 4.



Polls will open at 6 a.m. on Election Day, November 2, and close at 8 p.m. Check your sample ballots for polling places. Questions? Call the Municipal Clerk's Office at (908) 226-7606.

# Vote

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2 Your Vote Counts!

### Mark Your Calendars

Log on to  
southplainfieldnj.com  
for the latest meeting agenda

#### council meetings

Meets twice a month on the first and third Monday.

Borough Hall Council Chambers • Questions? 908-226-7605

Agenda Meeting      Public Meeting

Monday, November 8 ..... 7:00 p.m. .... 8:00 p.m.

All meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Avenue.

#### recreation commission

Meets once a month on the first Tuesday of the month, except July and August

PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7716  
Nov. 2 and Dec. 7

#### planning board

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641  
Nov. 16 and 30 and Dec. 14 and 28

#### zoning board of adjustment

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641  
Oct. 28, Nov. 4 and 18 and Dec. 2 and 16

#### board of education meetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted

Committee of the Whole meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m.—Nov. 9, Dec. 14,

Jan. 11, 2005, Feb. 8, March 8 and April 5

Regular Board Meeting held Tuesdays at 8 p.m.—Nov. 16, Dec. 21,

Jan. 18 2005, Feb. 15, March 15 and April 12

#### taxpayers advisory group

The Taxpayers Advisory Group (TAG) meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave. at 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-769-0786.

#### site plans sub-committee

Meets once a month on the third Tuesday of the month, 8 p.m.

November 16 and December 21

#### recreation commission

Meets once a month on the first Tuesday of the month, except July and August

PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7716

Nov. 2 and Dec. 7

#### environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)

Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7621

November 10, December 8 and January 12, 2005

#### business advisory group

Meets once a month (first Wednesday)

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 5 p.m. • Questions? 908-757-8100

#### traffic safety advisory commission

Meets once a month (fourth Wednesday) at 7 p.m.

in the Conference Room, Borough Hall (No Meeting in August)

#### board of education curriculum/technology meetings

Meets once a month on Mondays, (except where noted) at 8 p.m. in the 2nd floor conference room at Roosevelt Administration Building on Jackson Ave. (No meeting in October),

November 15, December 13, January 31, 2005, (No meeting February) and March 21

## South Plainfield Scouting



### Cub Scouts Take Part in Red Ribbon Week

The Cub Scouts of Pack 224 are taking a strong stand against drugs. Their goal is to get the message out to the community. Red Ribbon Week is celebrated throughout our school district during the week of Oct. 25 through 29. During the week, the students were educated on drug prevention. The Cub Scouts at John E. Riley Elementary School are well aware that drugs are bad.

As you drive through town you may notice red ribbons hanging at Borough Hall, the library, the PAL building, the fire department, rescue squad and John E. Riley School. Their goal is to provide a visual reminder used as an aid in getting the message against drugs out to everyone. So as you drive down the street and see these ribbons, please discuss this with your children. If you do, you

will help them reach their goal.

The Scouts who participated in hanging the ribbons are Anthony Auston, Trevor Abood, Dion Pender, James and Christopher Markey, Jason Lowery and John Michael

O'Sullivan. Also participating were family members Nichole O'Sullivan, Diana Diamond and Devon Pendor, leaders Marie Markey and Diane Pender and parents of scouts.

—Submitted by Marie Markey



### County Provides and Funds GED Testing Site

To meet the high demand of residents looking for a place to take the General Education Development (GED) test, Middlesex County is offering space and paying for staffing at its Community Learning Center in Edison.

The Perth Amboy Adult School will use its staff to operate the testing site and will offer the test one Saturday per month, starting on Nov. 13. The Community Learning Center, located in Roosevelt Care Center, will act as a satellite site to the Perth Amboy program, but residents from throughout the state may take the test in Edison.

“Right now, the waiting list to take the test is extremely long and we're hoping to alleviate some of the delay,” said Freeholder Jane Z. Brady, chair of the county's Human Services Committee, which oversees Employment and Training. “Though you can take the test anywhere in the state, Middlesex County residents will now have an additional testing place closer to home.”

Loida Noriega-Wilson, chairwoman of the Middlesex County Workforce Investment Board, said offering the site is a natural fit for the Workforce Investment Board, which offers a variety of educational and career services through its One-Stop System.

“Testing for and passing the GED is a major milestone for many of our clients,” Noriega-Wilson said. “Helping to decrease the waiting lists and make travel time shorter may make their experience easier.”

The One-Stop Career Centers in New Brunswick and Perth Amboy offer a broad range of services, including labor market information, job openings, resume preparation, career counseling, training opportunities and information on supportive services.

The Workforce Investment Board

formed a standing Literacy Committee in 2002, which seeks to identify and address literacy issues and needs in the county and opened the Middlesex County Community Learning Center at Roosevelt in Feb. 2003. The center offers adult literacy and

education instruction for adults.

For more information and to register for the GED test, call the Perth Amboy Adult School at (732) 376-6243. For more information on the One-Stop System and the Community Learning Center, call (732) 937-6200.

### Gas Powered Mini Bike Accident in Putnam Park

A 13-year-old and her 14-year-old passenger received minor injuries on Oct. 16 after losing control of a gas powered minibike they were riding that afternoon in Putnam Park. According to the driver, the 13-year-old came around a corner, went off the path and hit a tree, sending both girls off the bike.

The South Plainfield Fire Dept. arrived to clean-up the gas spill and the South Plainfield Rescue Squad treated the girls for minor cuts and scraps.

The mini bike driver was given summonses for having an unregistered vehicle, being an unlicensed driver and not wearing a helmet.

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#### SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

We look forward to hearing from all of you and encourage you to send in your stories and photos. The South Plainfield Observer is your paper. Please let us know what you would like to see in it.

To get an article published in the South Plainfield Observer:

1. Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.
2. Mail, fax or drop it at: South Plainfield Observer, Editorial Department, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or drop it in the box at Mohn's Flowers on Plainfield Ave., fax us at (908) 668-8819 or e-mail us at spobserver@comcast.net. Include your name, address, telephone number. You can subscribe or contact us at: spobserver.com.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters may be submitted by mail to South Plainfield Observer, Editorial Dept., 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, by email: spobserver@comcast.net or fax 908-668-8819. Letters should not exceed 400 words. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. It is the editor's discretion to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject. The opinions expressed in "Letters" do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Observer. All letters must be submitted with name and phone number, for verification.

**OUTSTANDING  
PEOPLE...**



**...OUTSTANDING  
RESULTS**

## **Next Tuesday, The Choice Is Clear...**

**Only one team has an outstanding record** of keeping taxes, spending and borrowing under control, building a new Senior Housing Complex & Recreation Center, upgrading our Parks & Sports Complexes, preserving Open Space and re-paving roads Pay-As-You-Go!

**Only one team has an outstanding plan for the future of South Plainfield** which includes the total Reconstruction of Hamilton Boulevard, widening Durham Avenue to four lanes from Route 287 to the Valley Bank, building a new, 15,000 square foot Library, preserving an additional 20 acres of Open Space, upgrading the Senior Recreation Center, and continuing to keep taxes, spending & borrowing under control!

# **BUTRICO - CERAMI - THOMAS**

## ***No Tax Increase For The 5th Time!***

# Marching Band Festival a Tremendous Success

by Michael Duquette

South Plainfield High School's artistic excellence has never been more evident than in the performance of the school's own Marching Tigers. On Oct. 17, the band hosted their 23rd Annual Marching Band Festival before an attentive audience. The festival, which carried the theme "Support Our Troops" this year, showcased the talents of SPHS' music department, the hard work and dedication of high school marching bands all over the state, and the performance of a very special guest.

The festival was opened by the South Plainfield High School Chorus, which sang the national anthem. Spectators observed the work of marching

bands from high schools in Dunellen, Warren Hills, Kearny, Iselin and Nottingham. The Tigers also showcased their new show for the season, under the guide of Drum Majors John Roesch and Scott Rann. The performance had very talented kids of South Plainfield's marching band and color guard shining at Jost Field to a tremendous reception.

However, the show did not end when the Tigers did. The Annapolis Naval Academy Marching Band was on hand to make a special appearance for delighted fans. Their show was an amazing spectacle that capped an extraordinary afternoon. Afterwards, awards were distributed to the visiting bands.

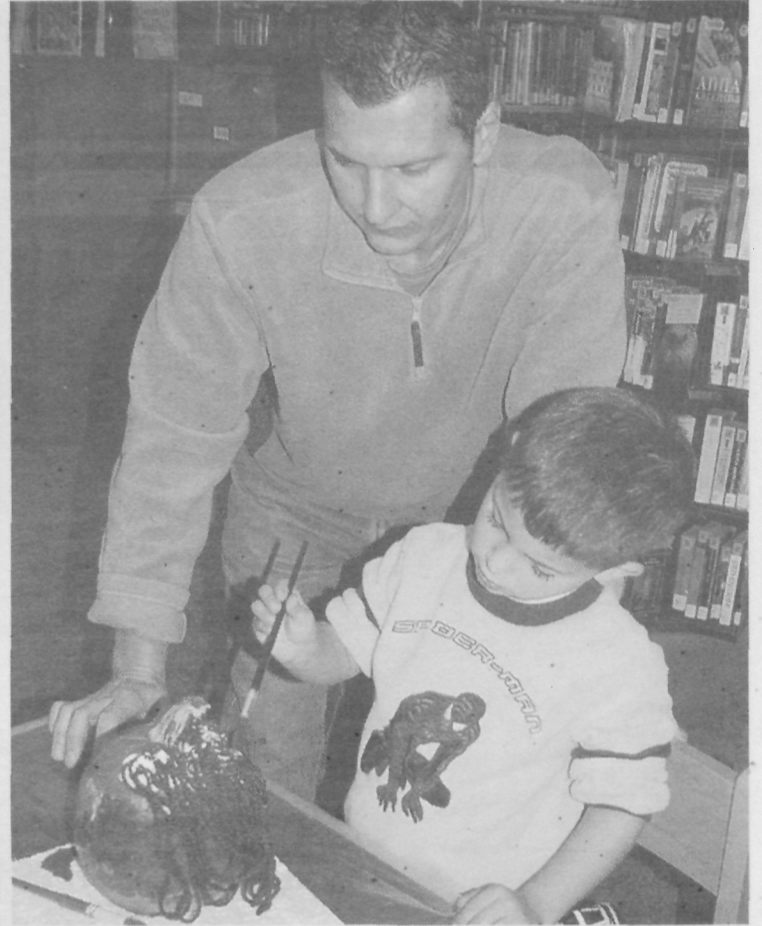
The credit for getting the Annapo-

lis Naval Academy to perform goes to Music Boosters President John Roesch, Sr., according to Band Director Mark Tweed. The band was invited at a convenient time—they were in the area, performing at a football game.

But Tweed believed that the real stars of the show were his dedicated performers. "Last year," he commented, "we graduated a tremendous amount of talented kids. Incoming students had big shoes to fill, but all in all I think they've done a great job of doing just that." Tweed added that the festival was also a financial success, saying, "Preliminary numbers indicated that we did very well." This will certainly benefit the hardworking kids of the SPHS Music Department.

The student leaders of the Marching Band were equally pleased. Drum Major John Roesch was proud of the fact that "the band was really pumped and gave it their all" on the field. Drum Major Scott Rann agreed that their presence at the festival was "one of our better performances, due to a lot of practice and support from the crowd." Color Guard Co-Captain Ashlen Udell added that the band and the guard "worked really hard and worked to their fullest potential...I'm always proud of them, no matter what." Additionally, performing before the Annapolis Naval Academy was "an honor" according to Rann. Marching Band Student Director Pat Cantarella agreed, calling their presence "a special treat."

The *Observer* congratulates our hardworking Tigers for another job well done, and wishes them best of luck in the remainder of the season. Keep watching the amazing talent that SPHS has to offer—you are guaranteed to enjoy it!



Ed Amato and son Alex, age 4

Photos by Chris Abbott

## Youngsters Interpret the Art Of Pumpkin Decorating

The Halloween season is not complete until you carve or decorate a pumpkin. The South Plainfield Library assisted in the tradition by offering a children's pumpkin painting session last Saturday.

Over 100 youngsters attended the event during the course of the morning. Each child chose a small pumpkin from a cart and set to work painting. The young artists had a wide variety of items at their disposal; in addition to the paint there were buttons, glitter, lace and other craft items.

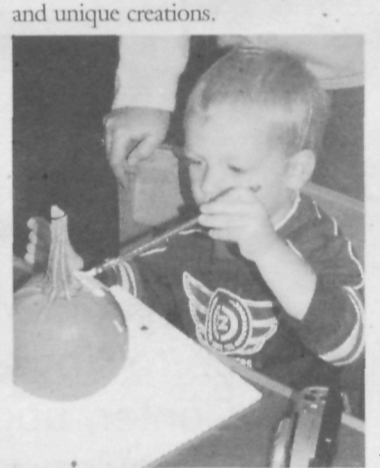
The final results were traditional jack-o'-lanterns to incredibly artistic and unique creations.



Amaya Moore, age 4



Erica Ewing, age 3



Aleks Slicner, age 2

## Make and Take at Library

The next "Make-n-Take" craft program at Public Library will be held on Monday, Nov. 8, at 10:30 a.m.

"Practical Crafting" instructing Rhonda Wisniewski will lead participants in making Victorian-style brooches called "ollage pins". Participants may bring in items including shells, beads and the like to add a personal touch to their pins. Class size is limited; pre-register by Nov. 1. There is a materials charge of \$1 payable upon registration.

For more information, call (908) 754-7885 or visit the library's website at [www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us](http://www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us).

## From the South Plainfield Library Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

We bill you welcome to this pre-Halloween edition of news from South Plainfield Library:

The Library will remain open both on Halloween (Sunday) and on Election Day (Tuesday). While you are free to come in costume on Sunday, you might want to reconsider doing it on Tuesday.

Turning to our children's programs, we'll follow our usual schedule of children's Storytime programs next week. For those who weren't taking notes, they're for children age 3 and over. No pre-registration is required. The programs are held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. Each program lasts about an hour and features stories and a craft activity. We also have our Books-N-Babies program for children under age 3. That program is held on Friday morning at 10:30. If you have any questions about these programs, please call us at (908) 754-7885 and ask for Miss Linda.

We've got a craft program for adults on the horizon. On Monday, Nov. 8, at 10:30 a.m., we'll hold our next "Make 'n Take" craft program. Participants will make Victorian-style "Collage Pins". Pins may be decorated using shells, beads and the like brought in by the crafters. Space is limited, so you must pre-register by Monday. There's a materials fee of \$1.00 payable upon registration.

We're between groups for both the CD Circuit and the Video Circuit today. The new group of videos will be available early next week, while the CD Circuit will return later in November. Unfortunately, listings of the new selections are unavailable at press time.

We have time this week to relay a request from one of our staff mem-

bers. It'd be greatly appreciated if you would refrain from dog-earing (that is, folding back the corners of pages) in our books to mark your place. Problem is, some of you will fold over nearly the entire page, which causes some problems. If you need a bookmark, we're happy to provide you with one from the wide variety we have available. Thanks for your help with this.

Here are a couple of notes regarding our notary service: First of all, please be advised that our Notary is not bilingual and can only notarize documents in English (and then only if they're very simple). If a patron doesn't speak English and needs something notarized, they should provide their own translator. The translator should bring their ID and be prepared to be sworn in. Second, in cases where documents need witnesses in addition to the Notary, patrons should provide the witnesses themselves. Again, the witnesses should have their IDs handy and be prepared to be sworn in.

One more request: We are in need of plastic shopping bags in good condition. We use them for packing when we have to ship delicate items to other libraries and we keep them handy for our patrons' convenience. Any bags that you could pass along would be appreciated.

Finally, we'd like to thank all of you who've attended our recent roster of special programs. The visit by antiques appraiser Alan G. Snyder was particularly well attended. If you're interested in holding a program here at the Library, please call us and we'll see if we can arrange something.

That's about all for this week. For more information, feel free to check our website at [www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us](http://www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us). See you next Friday.

Oh, one last thing...BOO!

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- Kosciusko Avenue
- Jankowski Court
- Delmore Avenue

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## policereport

• A Palmer Ave. resident reported that someone had attempted to remove the right front headlight assembly from his vehicle. A pry tool had been used causing damage to the fender, hood and the headlight.

• A Cady Ln. resident reported that the passenger side mirror on their vehicle had been cracked and was hanging off.

• On Oct. 21 William D. Grimes, 32, of Plainfield was arrested for driving while suspended and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

• Eckerd Drugs on Park Ave. reported a customer had been obtaining fraudulent prescriptions for Lorcet.

• On Oct. 22 Olabamiji C. Olabisi, 25, of Plainfield was arrested for possession of a controlled substance, and driving without headlights at a motor vehicle stop. Passenger Alexander Lanza, 24, of South Plainfield was also arrested for possession of a controlled substance.

• Edward Douglas Wade, 36, of Newark was arrested for possession of a controlled substance, controlled substance in a vehicle, driving while suspended, having no insurance, failure to inspect, having a fictitious inspection sticker and driving an unregistered vehicle during a motor vehicle stop. Also Germaine McEachern, 33, of Old Bridge was arrested for hindering ap-

prehension of another at the scene.

• A Morris Twsp. resident reported her Chase bank card had been fraudulently used at Radio Shack on Park Ave.

• Jersey Oil on Park Ave. reported that a customer left without paying for \$7 worth of gas.

• Bravo Food Market on W. 7th St. reported that a customer had attempted to pass a counterfeit \$10 bill.

• Harbor Lights on Kentile Rd. reported the theft of an empty cargo trailer.

• On Oct. 23 Cedric C. Holliday, 24, of Plainfield was arrested at Bravo Supermarket on W. 7th St. for aggravated assault, resisting arrested, obstruction of justice and two outstanding warrants.

• Jose L. Campos, 39, of Perth Amboy was arrested for having a fraudulent inspection sticker and an outstanding warrant during a motor vehicle stop.

• A South Plainfield resident reported the theft of two surfboards which were strapped to his vehicle in the Polish Home parking lot.

• On Oct. 25 Gaurav K. Patel, 22, of Piscataway was arrested for driving while intoxicated, reckless driving and failure to yield at an intersection during a motor vehicle accident.



### 2004 Sacred Heart Student Council

The 2004-2005 student council officers of Sacred Heart School were installed during a special mass held recently. Bottom left to right is Advisor Joanne Semon, Vice President Kaitlyn Salvatore, President Ryan Hohner, Recording Secretary Ashley Forbes and Advisor Robert Gillespie. Top left is Activities Chairperson Khaliah Douglas and Treasurer Michael Muglia.

### Suburban Woman's Club Meeting

"The Healing Harp" is the title of the program for November meeting of the G.F.W.C. Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield. The meeting will be held on Thursday, Nov. 4 at 1 p.m. at the American Legion Hall on Oak Tree Ave.

Speaker Barbara Jackson has always been interested in playing the harp. Also, she felt that because she had received many blessings she desired to give service to others somehow. Her daughter, a patient advocate at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, told her of the wonderful responses she had seen to harp music therapy at the hospital. Jackson was immediately interested and looked into the Healing Harp Therapy Program. She entered the certification program a year ago and has been training to play the harp in a variety of medical settings. She now brings the "message for the soul" on a regular basis.

Women interested in joining should call (908) 757-3527 for information.

### Boy Scouts Annual Food Drive

During the first weeks of November, Scouts from South Plainfield will be distributing bags for their annual Scouting for Food drive. Please leave only non-perishable items (canned food, boxed soups and cereals, baby food and formula, juice, tuna or anything else that does not have to be refrigerated and also household cleaning supplies and personal toiletry items) in the bags on your porch before 9 a.m. for pick up on the morning of Nov. 13.

If you do not receive a bag and would like to contribute, donations can be brought to Borough Hall.

# Reedy ■ Rusnak ■ Jones

## Fresh Leadership for Our Town



### Blueprint for South Plainfield

- ☑ **Make Town Services Convenient to Families**—Open compost and recycling areas for a few hours on Sundays.
- ☑ **Combat Overdevelopment and Traffic**—Develop a town-wide traffic plan. Extend Hollywood Avenue to steer truck traffic away from Roosevelt School. Stop selling land to developers.
- ☑ **Restore Financial Integrity**—Control leasing and borrowing. Stop using land sales to prop up the budget. Stop raiding the sewer fund.
- ☑ **Enact Ethics Reform**—End "pay-to-play" no-bid contracts.
- ☑ **Ensure Adequate Senior Housing**—Put senior housing near shopping, healthcare and other services seniors need—not in a noisy high-traffic industrial area. Include seniors in the decision.

# Take Back South Plainfield!

Paid for by So. Plainfield Republican Org., Anne Bucklew, Treas., P.O. Box 371, So. Plainfield, NJ 07080



# Events Around Town

## Troop 207 Car Wash October 30

Boy Scout Troop 207 will be hold their Fall Car Wash Fundraiser on Saturday, Oct. 30 at Sacred Heart Church, located on South Plainfield Ave., during the hours of 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the church parking lot. The cost is \$5 per car. This fundraiser will help purchase needed supplies and sponsor upcoming scouting events. We welcome your support and hope to see you there.

Don't forget! Our upcoming All You Can Eat Chili Dinner is scheduled for March of 2005. Further details will follow. Troop 207 thanks you for your continued support.

## Knights of Columbus Halloween Party October 30

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus and Columbiettes will be having their annual Halloween party on Saturday, Oct. 30 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Church cafeteria.

There will be pizza, drinks and other treats for the kids. There is no charge for this event. They will be also having a best costume contest and games for the kids to play. Parents can also dress up in costumes.

## OLC Election Day Dinner to be Held November 2

The Our Lady of Czestochowa Rosary Society is having an Election Day dinner on Tuesday, Nov. 2 from 4-7 p.m. at the Parish Hall on Hamilton Blvd. Ethnic foods will be served, stuffed cabbage, pierogies, kielbasa and sauerkraut. Adults are \$7, kids under 12 are \$5 and under five are free.

For pickup orders call the OLC Hall on Election Day at (908) 753-4077.

## Music Boosters Meeting Nov. 3

There will be a High School Music Boosters meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 3 at 7 p.m. in the chorus room. All chorus and band parents are invited.

## Lord of the Dance Trip November 4

The Senior Center is sponsoring a theatre trip to see the theatrical spectacle, Michael Flatley's *Lord of the Dance* on Thursday, Nov. 4. A mesmerizing blend of traditional and modern Celtic music and dance, features

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## What's happening in NOVEMBER

Daily Events  
9-11 AM Coffee & Cake  
9 AM-4 PM Cards & Pool  
(908) 754-1047

The Senior Citizen's Center is open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.  
**NOW OPEN SATURDAYS 9:00 AM-12:30 PM—CREATIVE PAINTING 10AM**

## Senior Center EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>ATTENTION: Flu Shots Have Been Cancelled Center Closed for Election Day Tuesday, Nov. 2</b>				
Knitting/Crochetting 9:30-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Drawing Class 11:30am <b>1</b>	Center Closed  <b>Election Day Transportation Available</b> <b>2</b>	Atlantic City 9 am Exercise Club 8:30am Line Dancing 10am AARP Crafts 1pm Computer Class 10am-11am-1pm Movie 11:30am <b>3</b>	Weekly Shopping Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10-11am Computer Class 11 & 1pm Fall Concert at High School <b>4</b>	Bingo 10am-2pm Pizza lunch available  <b>5</b>

TO SIGN UP FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER, VISIT THE CENTER.

more than 40 performers and is played out on a grand scale with precision dancing, dramatic music and vibrant costumes. The cost is \$50 a person, including transportation. For reservations, please call the Senior Center at (908) 756-4135 or stop in.

## Elks Spaghetti Dinner November 6

The South Plainfield Elks, located on New Market Ave. will be holding a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, Nov. 6 from 4 to 9 p.m. Dinner includes spaghetti, meatballs, sausage, salad, garlic bread, cake, coffee and tea.

Cost is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and children ages five to 12 are \$5. Children under five are free. Tickets are available at the door.

## VFW Breakfast to Benefit Veterans Hospital November 7

The VFW Post 155, located at 155 Front St., will be holding a breakfast on Sunday, Nov. 7 from 8 to 11 a.m.

The cost is \$5 per person and all proceeds will benefit the Lyons Veterans Hospital. For more information, please call (908) 668-9751

## Town History Day November 7

Town History Day II will be held at the South Plainfield Senior Center on Sunday, Nov. 7 from 1-5 p.m. On the schedule are: three guest speakers on the topics of town history, the local

grist mill and the Civil War casualties from New Brooklyn; exhibits; photographs; antique clothing; antique cars; Civil War Room dedicated to arms and personal effects of the soldier; entertainment; refreshments. Free admission. Doors open at 12:45.

## Harrar's Atlantic City Trip November 8

The Senior Center is running a trip to Harrar's Atlantic City on Monday, Nov. 8. The bus will depart the Senior Center at 9 a.m. and return around 8 p.m. Cost is \$5. There are only five seats left so call the Senior Center at (908) 754-1047. You do not need to be a senior to participate on any Senior Center trip.

## VFW Veterans Day November 11

The VFW Memorial Post 6763 will hold it's annual Veterans Day Observance on Thursday, Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. A buffet will be served after the service and the public is invited to attend. The VFW is located on Front St.

For more information call (908) 668-9751 after 3 p.m. daily and after 12 noon. on weekends.

## Class of 1979 Reunion November 13

A gala reunion is currently being organized for the South Plainfield High School Class of 1979 for Nov. 13. If you are a member of this class, please write to Reunions Unlimited, Inc., P.O. Box 150, Englishtown, NJ 07726 or call (732) 617-1000.

## VFW Country Western/50's Dance November 13

The VFW Post 6763, located on Front St., will be holding a Country Western/50s Dance on Saturday, Nov. 13 from 8 p.m. to 12 midnight. There will be a cash bar and light refreshments. For information, call (908) 668-9751.

## Fall Dinner Dance November 13

Reservations are now available for the Fall Dinner Dance to be held on Saturday, Nov. 13 from 6-10 p.m. at the Senior Center. The Al Smith & Assoc. Orchestra will provide the music and a full Thanksgiving style dinner is the menu for the evening's festivities. Cost is \$10 per person.

If you would like to join us, stop in the Senior Center or call (908) 754-1047. You do not need to be a member to attend this event. Come and see all we have to offer at the Center.

## Going to Atlantic City November 14

South Plainfield Recreation Department is sponsoring a trip to Atlantic City Resorts Casino on Sunday, Nov. 14. The bus leaves the PAL at 10:30 a.m. and returns at 8:30 p.m.

The cost is \$10 per person. Everyone gets \$15 in coins. There are only 55 seats available. Purchase tickets at the PAL building on Maple Ave.

## Lancaster Trip November 17 & 18

The Senior Center is sponsoring an overnight trip to Lancaster, Pa. on Nov. 17 and 18. The trip includes tickets to the Sight and Sound Millennium Theatre to see the breathtaking production of "The Miracle of Christmas," accommodations at the Ramada Inn, dinner at the Maple Shade Smorgasbord, buffet breakfast at the hotel and visit to the Farmer's Market and Kitchen Kettle Village. The cost is \$165 per person double and \$205 single. For reservations, please call the Senior Center at (908) 756-4135 or stop in.

## Longaberger Basket Bingo/Raffle November 20

The Sacred Heart Home School Association is sponsoring a Longaberger® Basket Bingo/Raffle on Saturday, Nov. 20. Doors open at 6 p.m. and games begin at 7 p.m. Admission is \$20 (\$5 for admission and \$15 for Bingo sheets). In addition to the Bingo prizes, Longaberger® baskets will also be raffled. To reserve tickets call Kathy Thomas at (908) 755-0891 or Sacred Heart School at (908) 756-0632.

**Send Us Your  
Around Town  
Events**

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South Plainfield, NJ 07080  
or fax (908) 668-8819  
email: spobserver@comcast.net

## — Out of Town —

## 2004 NJ Ski Council Jamboree October 29

The 2004 NJ Ski Council Jamboree will be held on Friday, Oct. 29 from 7:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2 Harmon Plaza in Secaucus, (201) 348-6900. Free admission, free parking, cash bar, DJ music and door prizes are just some of the highlights of the night.

Halloween theme, a costume contest, a Chinese Auction and Silent Auction proceeds going to Jimmie Heuga Center for MS. Visit our website at www.NewJerseySkiCouncil.org.

## Curves Hosts Health Wellness Fair October 30

Join Curves for a Health and Wellness Fair on Saturday, Oct. 30, at 299 South Ave. East in Westfield. Speak with practitioners representing many complementary services such as acupuncture, cupressure, aromatherapy, body fat evaluation, hypnosis, massage therapy, etc. Practitioners will demonstrate services and provide information. All our South Plainfield members and friends are invited to join us for an educational afternoon.

Enter our raffle and win a basket filled with Curves products and a one month gift certificate. Light refreshments will be served.

## Edison Arts Concert October 30

The Edison Arts Society is proudly presenting the Ann Jillian Concert with the Edison Symphony Orchestra on Saturday, Oct. 30 at 7 p.m. This concert will be held at the State Theatre in New Brunswick and all proceeds will benefit the Breast Center at JFK Medical Center in Edison. Underwriting opportunities are available for this event, call EAS at (908) 753-ARTS for more information.

Tickets cost \$150 for Gold Circle Seating, which includes a post-concert reception with Ms. Jillian, \$45, \$35 and \$25. Black tie is optional. Call the State Theatre now at (732) 246-7469 or toll free at 877-STATE11.

## Just4Pooches Howl-o- Ween Costume Contest October 30

Just4Pooches, the unique pet boutique in downtown Cranford, is pleased to announce its first annual Halloween pet costume contest. The contest will be held on Saturday, Oct. 30 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the store located at 8 North Union Ave.

Three costume winners will be selected at 4:30 p.m.

## Halloween Pro Wrestling Fundraiser October 30

Cub Scout and Boy Scout Troops 193 of Manville presents is Monster Mash Pro Wrestling Fundraiser on Saturday, Oct. 30 at the Manville VFW Post 800 at 600 Wshington Ave. in Manville. Scout troops will have all kids under 12 parade into the VFW in Halloween costumes as the Halloween Costume Giveaway Contest and a huge card of pro wrestling start off  
(Continued on next page)

# Around Town

*(Continued from previous page)*

WWF/ECW superstar Justin Credible will team up with Cheerleader Kara to battle former ECW standout Dastardly Danny Doring and Simply Luscious in an inter-gender showdown.

Tickets are available at the Midtown Deli, 111 So. Main St. and Krauzer's, South Main St. and Rt 623 in Manville and the Body Shop Total Fitness, 290 Rt 206 So. in Hillsborough. Adults are 15, children and seniors \$12. For more information call (908) 722-3717.

## Circle Players "Halloween Hair Raiser"

**October 30**

Circle Players, the community theater of Piscataway, presents "Halloween Hair Raiser"-featuring four short plays of thrills and chills-one night only on Saturday, Oct. 30 at 8 p.m.

Featured that evening will be *The Tell Tale Heart* by Edgar Allan Poe, *The Seer on East 7th* by Gordon Wiener (Edison resident), *The Specter* by Don Nigro and *Cannibal Masque* by Ronald Ribman. Following the show, join the cast for a Halloween Party.

Pricing for this event is \$10. Patrons showing up in costume will receive \$1 off the ticket price. Circle Players is located on Victoria Ave. in Piscataway. Reserve by calling (732) 968-7555. Please note that this event is not recommended for young children.

## Wows Fundraiser Dance

**October 31**

The Woodbridge Area Chapter of Widows or Widowers (WOWs) will hold an Open Fundraiser Dance/Social on Sunday, Oct. 31 from 7:30-11:30 p.m. at the Elks Hall, 665 Rahway Ave. in Woodbridge. There will be a live band with home baked refreshments. Tickets are \$8.

For information call (732) 297-1775.

## Halloween Candy Buy Back

**November 1**

Drs. Peter A. Wishnie, Robert P. Thiele and Amit K. Shah of Family Foot & Ankle Specialists are holding a "Candy Buy Back" program for the community.

For every pound of Halloween Candy your child brings to their office, we will give them \$1. The Candy Buy Back will take place on Monday, Nov. 1 from 4-6 p.m. at Family Foot and Ankle Specialists, 84 Stelton Rd. in Piscataway. For questions, call (732) 968-3833.

## Wine Tasting Dinner

**November 3**

The Rotary Club of Plainfield/North Plainfield is having a Wine Tasting Dinner on Wednesday, Nov. 3 at Giovanna's Restaurant, 1462 South Ave., Plainfield. Cocktail hour starts at 6 p.m. Gourmet five-course dinner with selected wines with each course. Tickets are \$65. Call Trish at (908) 756-6414.

## Woodbridge WOWs

**November 3**

The Woodbridge Area Chapter of Widows or Widowers (WOWs) will have a business meeting and social hour on Wednesday, Nov. 3 a 7 p.m. in the Main Public Library, George

Fredrick Plaza, Amboy Ave. in Woodbridge. Light refreshments will be served. For information call (732) 297-1775.

## HIV Health Services Council Meeting

**November 3**

The next monthly meeting of the HIV Health Services Planning Council of the Middlesex-Somerset-Hunderdon Eligible Metropolitan Area will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 3 from 2-4 p.m. at the Middlesex County Board of Social Services Building in New Brunswick.

For information, contact the staff at (732) 445-0512 ext. 107.

## Circle Players Present Twelfth Night

**November 5-20**

William Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* opens at Circle Players, the community theater of Piscataway on Friday, Nov. 5.

Performances are Fridays, Nov. 5, 12 and 19; Saturdays, Nov. 6, 13 and 20 at 8 p.m. Sunday matinees are Nov. 7 and 14 at 3 p.m.

Tickets for Friday and Saturday performances are \$5. Matinees are \$12. Seniors and students receive \$1 off with ID and group rates are available. For information, call (732) 968-7555. Circle Players is located at 416 Victoria Ave. in Piscataway.

## World Community Day 2004

**November 5**

"In faith, women shape the future for peace." Come and join us to celebrate peace. All are invited to remember those who have upheld and pursued peace. The guest speaker will be Rev. Dr. Doris Gray. World Community Day 2004 is sponsored by Church Women United.

The event will take place on Friday, Nov. 5 at 1:30 p.m. at the Rose of Sharon Community Church, 825 W. 7th St., Plainfield. For more information, call Margaret (Peggy) Stewart at (908) 755-0615.

## Tricky Tray Auction

**November 5**

There will be a Tricky Tray Auction on Friday, Nov. 5 at 6:30 p.m. at Koinonia Academy, 1040 Plainfield Ave., Plainfield.

The event costs \$8 per person and includes 25 tickets and desserts, coffee and tea. For more information, call (908) 754-8505. Tickets sold only at the door. Food will also be sold.

## St Joe's Grand Auction

**November 6**

The Fathers Club of St. Joseph High School is having their Grand Auction on Saturday, Nov. 6. Doors open at 6 p.m. Over 100 items will be available for silent and live auction. Fun and food for \$30 per couple.

For more information call (732) 549-7600 ext. 241.

## Robert Ross Duo to Perform

**November 7**

On Sunday, Nov. 7 from 7-10 p.m., the Robert Ross Duo will perform at Holy Wisdom Hall in Flanders for the first time. Robert Ross is the winner of the NY Music Award for Best Blues

Artist. This exciting singer, guitarist and song writer has seven recordings out under his own name in the US and Europe.

Holy Wisdom Hall, located at 197 Emmans Rd. in Flanders. Tickets are \$15 and children under 12 are free. For information call (973) 584-0414.

## Annual Walk For Mom

**November 6**

On Saturday, Nov. 6, the Sixth Annual Walk for Mom in Memory of Charlotte Dursee will take place at Nomahegan Park in Cranford. All proceeds from the walk benefit Cancer-Care of New Jersey. The walk will begin at 12 noon at the gazebo and walkers will follow a beautiful route through the park. There is a \$25 walker registration fee and each walker receives an event t-shirt.

If you would like further information, call CancerCare at (201) 444-6630, ext. 122 or log onto www.cancercare.org/walkformom.

## North Plainfield High 50th Class Reunion

**November 7**

North Plainfield High School Class of 1954 will have its 50th Class Reunion the weekend of November 5-7, 2004, with a Saturday dinner at the Plainfield Country Club in Edison. For information, call Al or Fran Ellis at (908) 755-8489 or Joyce Kemmerer Colucci at (732) 469-3741.

## Edison Arts Presents "Circles and Squares"

**November 7**

The Edison Arts Society is proud to announce the opening/reception of its seventh Exhibition, the Statewide "Circles and Squares" at our permanent Art Gallery at the Sheraton Edison Hotel on Raritan Center Parkway on Sunday, Nov. 7 from 3-5 p.m. and is free and open to the public. Refreshments and a cash bar and the John Asti Trio will entertain.

Call (908) 753-ARTS, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. for more information on this exhibit.


## Women's Club Membership Meeting

**November 10**

Please join the Metuchen-Edison Women's Club, an organization dedicated to benefiting our community since 1961, for our monthly membership meeting. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 10 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 17 Oak Ave. in Metuchen.

The Nov. meeting will include a Tastefully Simple Taste Testing by our club member, Cassie Dutka. We will also discuss upcoming events, such as the Metuchen-Edison Holiday Charity Auction, which is being held on Nov. 19 to benefit Amanda's Crossing. Please come join us and see what our club is about.

For more information about the Metuchen-Edison Women's Club meetings and membership, please call Cassie Dutka at (732) 985-7583.

Sending in ads, letters or copy? We have a new email address:  
spobserver@comcast.net  


## Father Alphonse Stephenson to Perform at Sacred Heart

The Sacred Heart Rosary Altar Society has announced that Father Alphonse Stephenson and his 45 member symphony orchestra, St. Peter by the Sea, will present a Christmas concert at Sacred Heart Church on Sunday, Nov. 28 at 3 p.m. This will be Father Stephenson's fifth appearance at Sacred Heart.

Father Alphonse Stephenson is well known for his versatility: part maestro, part comedian and part Priest.

Father Stephenson's first orchestra was formed in New York's Theatre District while he served at St. Malachy's, the Actor's Chapel. In 1980, Michael Bennett, the late Broadway director and choreographer, hired him as conductor and music director for his smash hit, *A Chorus Line*. He conducted nearly 3,000 performances of the famous musical.

His concert will consist of traditional Christmas music and other seasonal favorites. Father Stephenson also entertains his audiences with his good cheer and charisma.

His orchestra consists of 45 members who collectively have hundreds of years of study and have performed tens of thousands of concerts and re-



**Father Alphonse Stephenson** citals.

The Nov. 28 performance will take place at 3 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Church. The concert has proved to be a big hit with many, so purchase your tickets now.

General admission is \$25. Students and seniors will receive a reduced ticket price of \$20. Members of the Sacred Heart Rosary Altar Society are selling tickets after all masses. Ticket information is available by calling the Parish Center at (908) 756-0632 ext. 10. Additional concert information can also be obtained by contacting (908) 755-6416 or (732) 549-9633.

## Seniors are Learning Computers from Seniors

SeniorNet Learning Center at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County is offering computer and Internet training for Seniors 50 and older. The volunteer senior instructors and coaches at the Union SeniorNet Center in Union County are offering introductory computer classes starting in November for those over 50 who are interested in learning how to use a computer for word processing, searching the Internet and using e-mail to communicate with friends and family.

Classes being offered are: Computer Fundamentals (for seniors with no computer experience)-four session tryout course, Tuesdays and Thursdays, November 9, 11, 16 and 18 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Class fee is \$25.

Introduction to Computers (for seniors who have some computer experience)-Monday, Nov. 22, 29, Dec. 6, 13 and Jan. 3, 10, 17, 21, 2005 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Class fee is \$50.


Word Processing-Monday, Nov. 22, 29, Dec. 6, 13 and Jan. 3, 10, 17, 21, 2005 from 12:30-2:30 p.m. Class fee is \$50.

Learning the Internet-Wednesday, Nov. 25, Dec. 1, 8, 15, Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2005 from 12: 30-2:30 p.m. Class fee is \$50.

Learning Windows XP-Tuesday,

Nov. 23, 30, Dec. 7 14, Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2005 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Class fee is \$50.

There is a one time SeniorNet annual membership fee of \$40. For all classes a training manual is provided and there is a lab for supervised practice on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. There is ample safe parking with handicapped access. Coffee is served at break time. Classes are located at the Boys & Girls Club of Union, 1050 Jeannette Ave. in Union. For more information call (908) 687-2697.

**ALERT** 

**MEETING DATE CHANGE**

**Board of Education**

The Committee of the Whole Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. has been changed to 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Roosevelt Administration Building gym at 125 Jackson Ave.

Possible action may be taken on a student disciplinary matter.

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### Angels Have Wheels

All Medicare recipients should now be aware that if they suffer from conditions such as arthritis, cardiovascular disease and respiratory disorders and have difficulty walking or propelling a standard wheelchair, they may be eligible to receive an electric wheelchair paid for by Medicare.

For information on Medicare eligibility, contact Gregory, (800) 810-877.

### Recycling Center Election Day Holiday Schedule

The Recycling Center on Kenneth Avenue will be closed on Tuesday, Nov. 2 for Election Day. It will be open instead from 12 noon to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 3.

The Yard Waste Site is now on its fall/winter schedule, and is open only on Saturdays. Both facilities will be open as usual from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 30.



Brian Anderson of the South Plainfield Rescue Squad with Buddy Walk organizer Michele Both's husband Keith and son Kyle.

### Rescue Squad Doubles a Good Deed

On Oct. 11 Michele Both, organizer of the first annual Buddy Walk, attended a meeting at the South Plainfield Rescue Squad where she presented the squad with a check for \$3,500.

After the meeting, Michele was surprised to learn that the squad felt

the money should go back to the children and National Down Syndrome Society. The squad noted they were happy to be able to help with the walk. Michele said, "It's great to know there are people out there who are still willing to help and do not want anything in return."

### Lions Peace Poster Entries Coming to the Library

The South Plainfield Lions Club will exhibit entries for their Annual Lions International Peace Poster contest at the South Plainfield Library during the weeks of Nov. 8 to 15. Visitors to the library will be asked to vote on their favorite.

The entrants are students in the art

classes at the South Plainfield Middle School, ages 11 through 13. The children drew their rendition of the Lions International President's theme, "Give Peace a Chance."

Everyone is encouraged to stop by the library to take a look at the posters and vote for their favorite.

### New Contemporary Worship Service At Wesley Methodist Church

It is with great joy that we announce beginning Nov. 7 at 9 a.m. the addition of a Contemporary Worship Service at Wesley Church. The contemporary style of worship is innovative and there is a focus on the present times. We will share with you the message of the gospel of Christ in current, up-to-date language. This will include contemporary hymns and special music. The celebration of Communion will be held on the first Sunday of each month. The Contem-

porary service will be about 40 minutes in length. We welcome guests, friends and members of Wesley Church to join us other worship services at Wesley Church include traditional worship Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and Thursday evening Praise Service at 7:00 p.m.

Wesley Church is located at 1500 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield. Pastor Thompson can be reached at the church office (908) 757-2838 or email [WUMCSP@Juno.com](mailto:WUMCSP@Juno.com)

#### From the Republicans

### Reedy, Rusnak, Jones: Two-Party Government will Get Our Town Back on the Right Track

Next week's election will determine whether South Plainfield remains a one-party-controlled town, and according to council candidates Marge Reedy, Ray Rusnak, and Bob Jones, bringing back two-party government will be a positive step toward taking back South Plainfield and improving our town. The three candidates believe they can make a difference.

"The Democrats have absolute power, and nobody is looking over their shoulders," Reedy explained. "By electing the Republican ticket we can change that."

"When we walk door to door, people tell us South Plainfield needs change," she added. "They want something done about overbuilding, traffic, the ethical abuses at Borough Hall, and a whole list of other problems the other side isn't addressing."

"Two-party government can also bring fresh leadership," said Jones. "The other side keeps talking about the same tired plans each election. In contrast, we offer change and new ideas. Our blueprint for South Plainfield is a prime example. To see it, simply go to [www.spgop.com](http://www.spgop.com)."

According to Reedy, the Blueprint for South Plainfield includes more than a dozen things that will make life better for residents and that will make government more efficient. "We talk about opening the compost area on Sundays, making the compactor hours more convenient, and enacting 'pay to play' reform. These are some low-cost ideas that can be put into place quickly."

"We also have some bigger plans," said Rusnak. "We want to extend Hollywood Avenue so we can steer truck traffic away from Roosevelt School, and of course, we want to insure adequate senior housing in the right location, something that's near the services our seniors need. We shouldn't banish our seniors to a high-traffic industrial area."

"Our opponents have been in charge for a decade, and they've lost touch with voters," Rusnak added. "Think about it. Even though people want something done about overbuild-

ing, the Democrats have not said one word about this problem during the entire campaign. We want to address overbuilding by revamping the zoning ordinance. It's also important that we stop selling borough-owned land to builders."

"But we need to be honest with the public," Jones explained. "For example, we won't tell you we can set the clock back. The runaway building has already occurred, and we'd be less than truthful if we said we could do something about what's already been built. But we can take steps to prevent the problem from worsening. Plus, we can address congestion by developing a long-term traffic plan."

"We see the horrific results of one party being in control," added Rusnak. "A good example is the Helen Street Project. They are now saying that project won't be done until 2006 or 2007. Recently I found a campaign flyer where the Democrats promised completion by 1997. Yet not one ounce of concrete has been poured. Nevertheless, they tout the project as if it were a success. One-party rule simply isn't working."

"Voters see what's happened in Borough Hall and want change," said Jones. "Marge, Ray and I can play an important role on the Borough Council by constantly reminding the governing body about the issues that need addressing and by acting as watchdogs for the public."

Moreover, we can make sure the Democrats don't get away with some of their recent shenanigans, like squandering the sewer surplus, holding secret meetings, and giving no-bid contracts to campaign contributors."

With only several days to go until Election Day, Reedy summed up all three candidates' feelings: "We end this campaign where we began it, talking about getting a handle on traffic and overgrowth, making services meet the needs of families, and restoring open government. If we win, you will have a voice. And if you elect us, we will make sure that voice is heard. We ask for your vote on Tuesday. Let's Take Back South Plainfield!"

#### From the Democrats

### Butrico, Cerami And Thomas Thank South Plainfield Residents



Council members Charlie Butrico, Dennis Cerami and Kathy Thomas thanked the residents of South Plainfield for their courtesy and hospitality during this year's campaign season. Council President Dennis Cerami commented, "Charlie, Kathy and I have knocked on over 5,000 doors during the last eight weeks. I always knew that our residents were great people but campaigning door to door confirms how terrific they really are. Obviously everyone out there isn't a Democrat but, without exception, every person I spoke with was polite and open to our opinions about the future of our borough."

The best thing about running for political office is the opportunity to interact with people. I really enjoy the exchange of ideas. Charlie, Kathy and I learn more campaigning than from any other experience on the council. I really want to thank our residents for being so nice when we stopped at their homes."

Council member Kathy Thomas echoed her running mates sentiments. "This is my first campaign and I must admit I was a little uncomfortable when we started knocking on doors. That stopped after the first day. I can't stress strongly enough how nice people are. As a lifelong resident of South Plainfield I always knew that great people lived here but even I was pleasantly surprised with our reception. The best thing about walking our neighborhoods is being able to discuss particular areas of concern with the folks who live there. We then create a list of items that need attention. For example the new curbs, side-

walks and reconstruction of Maple Avenue and the new curbside pickup program were a direct result of residents input. In my opinion, those in public office should listen more to the people they represent. Campaigning is a great opportunity to accomplish that goal."

Council member Charlie Butrico summed up the Democrats thoughts. "Our party has always prided itself on running a positive, issue oriented campaign. We want the voters to know that we are proud of our record of open space preservation, improving every park and sports complex, building senior housing and a senior recreation center and of course "pay as you go" government, which has resulted in 130 roads being repaved, the borough debt being cut in half and no municipal tax increase for five of the last seven years. Visiting every home in the borough has given Dennis, Kathy and I the opportunity to also discuss our vision for the future of South Plainfield. I am so pleased with the support we have received for our plan to preserve another 20 acres of open space, put a new kitchen and lift in the senior recreation center and new restroom facilities and tennis courts at Putnam Park, complete the total reconstruction of Hamilton Boulevard and proceed with our plan to prohibit truck traffic on Hamilton Boulevard and Belmont Avenue. On behalf of the Democratic team, thank you for your hospitality and we promise to continue to listen to your concerns. Please give us the opportunity to continue to work for South Plainfield by voting for the team of Butrico, Cerami and Thomas next Tuesday."

2004 VOTE Get Out & VOTE ON NOVEMBER 2!

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Thanks for Making the Debate A Success! We would like to thank all those who helped with Monday night's Borough Council Candidate's Debate, especially the candidates, who did great jobs answering questions; the residents, who took time to come out and hear the candidates; also, Cynthia Guancione-Frank, who provided all of the delicious homemade food; Bob Longo and Jack Pedersen, who placed all of the debate signs around town; The South Plainfield Business Association, which co-sponsored the debate; Rich D'urso and the SPHS graphics arts students, who made all of the signs for the debate; Joann Graff, who helped set up, serve and clean up late into the night; Wayne Grennier, who directed the SPHS students who helped out at the debate and the students who collected questions and kept time.



# IN YOUR OPINION

Dear Editor,

This year's South Plainfield council election is probably one of the most important in a decade. At stake is whether we remain a one-party-controlled town or whether we stop one-party rule by electing some people who will put South Plainfield before party and politics.

Those people are Marge Reedy, Ray Rusnak and Bob Jones. These three want to bring two parties back to the governing body and they want to re-open borough government for the people of the town.

I like the ideas these three are offering, especially the one about opening the compost area on Sundays and making the compactor hours more convenient. It's also nice to see that they're not throwing out a bunch of big-money promises. It's refreshing to see people involved in politics who don't make promise after promise just to get elected.

SHARON ZIOBRO

To the Editor,

I am pleased to endorse Kathy Thomas as council person. She has proven to be a strong, organized and involved leader; a leader in touch with the needs of this community through various local projects and organizations. Kathy grew up in South Plainfield and has a genuine concern for the betterment of this town. Her husband Bill, along with their daughters, further compliment Kathy's strengths and provide her with unwavering support and love. They are terrific as individuals and wonderful as a family. Our community is fortunate to have the care and commitment of Kathy and her family.

I've always believed that an excellent candidate, particularly at the local level, is characterized by how well they live and manage their on-going, everyday lives; and not by their momentary campaign promises and slogans. For those of us who know Kathy, we can easily attest to the fact that she is an excellent role model in more ways than one - as a wife, mother and friend, involved resident and hardworking council person. Her focus on education is not just evident through her efforts in getting the new library built, but also in the way she raises her children. I usually vote Republican; in fact, I will do so

## Just Vote!!

For weeks the *Observer* has attempted to bring you, our readers, the information you need to select the best candidates. In the past few months, you have had the opportunity to read the literature, the letters, to ask questions and even to attend the debate which took place on Monday.

As far as endorsing a candidate, the *Observer* has never, and probably never, endorsed any particular candidate. We feel it would be an insult to our readers to tell them how to vote. The decision on how you vote is yours, and yours alone, and no publication anywhere should influence you in anyway. I can't imagine anyone voting a certain way just because we endorse a candidate; you are all smarter than that!

The important thing is to go out and vote! There are too many examples of what happens when there is voter apathy. Voting is the democratic way, and when we exercise our voting privileges, our town, state and country can't go wrong. Democracy is at its best when everyone, not just those that have a cause or a gripe, votes.

So go out and vote on November 2. The result will be a democratic choice made by the people.

Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Every registered voter will receive a sample ballot in the mail in the next few days. The front of your ballot will tell you the location where to cast your vote. If you have a problem or need information, call the Borough Clerk at (908) 226-7606.

for the upcoming presidential race. In our local arena however, I've had to reconsider. I perceive the level of organization, visibility and spirit of the local Republican candidates to be lacking. We have a good ally in Kathy Thomas. I have complete confidence in her vision for this community and her ability to get things done.

ELIZABETH R. VELEZ

Dear Editor,

This week marks the last week of my campaign for Borough Council. There's so much I'd like to say, but first and foremost, I ask for your vote on Tuesday. I believe I can do a good job, and in fact, since I'm running for a one-year term, you'll be able to judge me next November. If you're unhappy with my work, you can easily go back to one-party control. But I doubt you'll want to.

I think my background will be an asset to the council. I grew up in town, graduated from SPHS and then went to Rutgers in New Brunswick. I also graduated from Rutgers Law School, so as you can see my roots are in our town and our state. After living in other areas for a short time, I decided to come back to South Plainfield to buy a home. I think this is a great community and I

want to help make it a better one.

People ask why I'm running. Here's my answer: We need fresh leadership. Too many things are going in the wrong direction. The candidates I'm running against are good people, but I believe they're making the wrong decisions. That's why we need change. Marge Reedy, Ray Rusnak, and I will help make that change. Our campaign theme, "Take Back South Plainfield," reflects this. We want to take back our town from good people who are making the wrong choices.

I've worked hard over the past few months to earn your vote and I hope you will consider me when you pull the lever on Tuesday. Thank you ahead of time for considering my candidacy.

BOB JONES

To the editor:

I want to thank all of the people who have taken the time to write letters to the editor supporting me and my running mates, Dennis Cerami and Charlie Butrico. Your active involvement in our political process is a shining example to the rest of the world. I also want to thank the hundreds of residents who took the time to talk to me as I went door to door. I very much appreciate

hearing everyone's opinion. This campaign for Borough Council has confirmed what I learned from my parents growing up in South Plainfield and from raising my children here - our Borough is just not a collection of homes, but a collection of families and neighborhoods where children are nurtured, holidays celebrated and memories created. Even with over 20,000 residents, South Plainfield is still a small town where neighbors help each other when there is an illness or death in the family, where young people come back to buy houses and raise families after college and marriage, where you know many of the police officers, business owners and school teachers by name because they went to school with you or your brothers and sisters, where neighborhoods still have block parties and where every child in town either watches or marches in the Labor Day Parade. This is the South Plainfield that I know and love.

If the people of South Plainfield honor me with election to the Borough Council, my primary goals will be to build a beautiful new library on Plainfield Ave., control spending and property taxes and complete the infrastructure projects such as the Helen Street extension and the reconstruction of Hamilton Blvd. in order to provide relief from traffic congestion.

It has been an honor to serve as a member of the Borough Council this year and I respectfully ask for everyone's support on Election Day for the Democratic team of Kathy Thomas, Dennis Cerami and Charlie Butrico.

KATHY THOMAS

Dear Editor:

God is not a Republican nor a Democrat. Anyone of any faith must examine the foundations of that faith to determine the ethical and moral positions your faith calls you to support. Considering almost every religion I know of, I cannot think of one faith philosophy which has a one dimensional belief structure. People of faith should not consider themselves single-issue voters. Candidates should be measured by their policies within the complete range of ethical values and moral issues.

Leaders of religious right organizations have the mistaken belief that God

has taken a side in this Presidential election. "It doesn't make any difference what he does, good or bad... The Lord has just blessed him" (Pat Robertson, *AP/Fox News*, 1/02/04). Such mistaken claims of divine appointment and unexamined affirmation of the incumbent President's policies are simply bad religion and dangerous theology (*Sojourners*, 10/04).

*Pax Christi USA*, a division of an international religious-based organization, recently released a statement which said that it was incomprehensible to isolate one particular social doctrine as being the full measure of the common good for all. Religious leaders do a great disservice to religion and to our nation when they attempt to use one single issue as the benchmark for political conscience.

The late Cardinal of Chicago and American ethicist, Joseph L. Bernardin was noted for his advocacy of what he called a "consistent ethic." Our moral, political and economic responsibilities must be in support of the quality of life for the least among us: the old and the young, the hungry and the homeless, the undocumented worker and the unemployed family head (*The Catholic Spirit*, 10/07/04).

Ask yourself if the candidate you support has domestic policies that reward the rich and the self absorbed or policies that heal and help those most in need. Do the policies on the environment support and protect nature's creation or serve corporate interests? International issues of war and peace, fair trade and foreign aid are religious issues. Human Rights cannot be granted only to those who are politically correct; real religion does not distinguish between the worthy poor and the unworthy poor. Telling the truth is a religious issue, too.

In consideration of a greater calling to serve God by serving humanity, there is only one way to vote: To vote with your deeper conscience, the conscience that includes your soul.

WITH ALL DUE RESPECT,  
MARIA LA SALVIA-SELIGA

To the Editor

When I ran for borough council three years ago, I did it because I thought I could make a difference and

*Continued on page 11*

## Slim and Tone

30 Minute Workout for Women

To our friends in South Plainfield,

Thank you for your business. Slim and Tone has had a great first year anniversary and I am anticipating a wonderful second year. The most successful members in our Slim and Tone club are those that understand that exercise must become a way of life. Unfortunately, we live in a sedentary society which makes it essential to exercise on a daily basis. We encourage each of our members to come in as often as possible.

The 2004 presidential candidates will have much to say about health care. I believe that the best health insurance plan is the one you rarely have to use. We all need health insurance but we have more control over our wellness than we realize. Our pledge at Slim and Tone is to "Exercise more, Eat right, and Celebrate life". Exercise determines our quality of life as we age.

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Rosemary Holt, Owner



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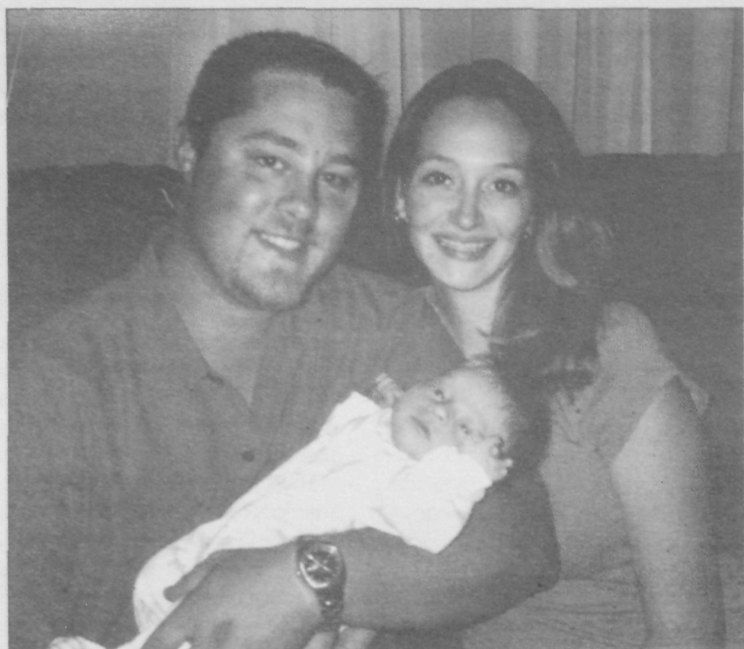
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# southplainfieldpeople Milestones



Colby Alan GaNun with parents Jason and Jessalynn GaNun

## GaNuns Welcome Birth of Son

Colby Alan GaNun was born to Jason and Jessalynn GaNun on Sept. 14, 2004. Jason is a 1997 graduate of South Plainfield High School.

The family now makes their home

in Easton, Pa. Proud grandparents are Alan and Cindy GaNun of South Plainfield and Ernie Dumont of Webster, Mass.

## Lt. Slicner Completes Air Force Career



Lt. Col. Nancy A. Slicner

Lt. Col. Nancy A. Slicner completed her Air Force career as Chief of the Criminal Investigations Branch, Headquarters Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI). This branch is responsible for oversight of all violent and non-violent criminal offenses in the Air Force. In addition, she served as Chief Command Psychologist for AFOSI.

Lt. Col. Slicner is a native of New Jersey and obtained a bachelor's degree from Douglass College, Rutgers University. She later obtained a master's degree from the University of Delaware and a Ph.D. from the University of Florida. She received specialized postgraduate training in child development at the Gesell Institute of Child Development of Yale University. Her postdoctoral internship in clinical psychology was at Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, where she was a distinguished graduate. Lt. Col. Slicner is also board certified in clinical psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology.

Before entering active duty, Lt. Col. Slicner worked in civilian mental health centers and child development residential treatment centers. Her initial military assignment was on the teaching staff at Wilford Hall Medical Center. She later moved on to become chief of psychological services, Homestead Air Force Base, Fla. before taking a remote assignment to Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, as chief of mental health services. On her return from Korea, she was assigned as chief psychologist and chief of forensic psychology at Eglin Air Force Base Re-

gional Hospital, Florida. She was assigned to AFOSI in 1993.

Lt. Col. Slicner is an adjunct associate professor at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland, the DoD Family Advocacy Staff Training Course and the DoD Polygraph Institute. She is a member of several professional organizations, including the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. Lt. Col. Slicner has served as an expert witness and consultant in numerous federal, military, state and local courts on a wide range of issues. Her military awards and decorations include the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal (3<sup>rd</sup> Oak Leaf Cluster), the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Air Force Achievement Medal (2<sup>nd</sup> Oak Leaf Cluster) and the Small Arms Marksmanship Ribbon.

Lt. Col. Slicner resides in Piscataway, Maryland.

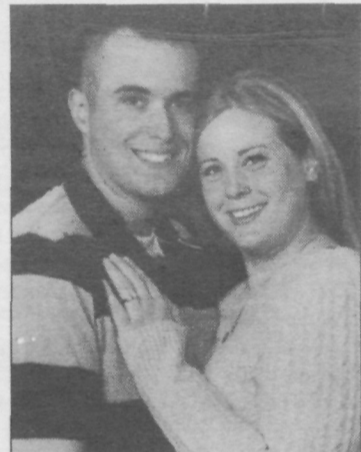
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## Erica McGrath Engaged to Gregory Weber

Peter J. and Linda McGrath of Elizabethtown Ct. in South Plainfield are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Erica Doreen to Gregory Scott Weber, son of Edward and Dora Weber of Waldwick, NJ.

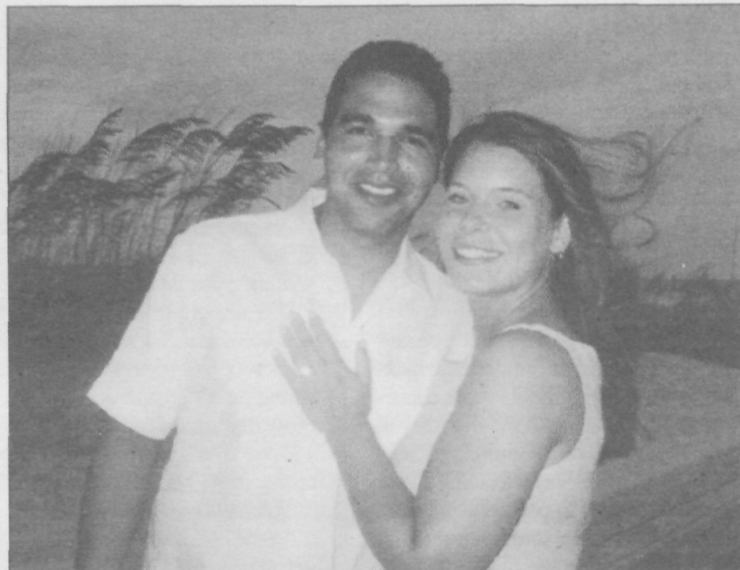
Erica graduated magna cum laude from Seton Hall University in 2003 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice. She is employed by the U.S. Department of Labor as an investigator of labor unions for New York City and NJ.



Erica Doreen and  
Gregory Scott Weber

Gregory is attending Seton Hall University majoring in criminal justice. He recently graduated from the US Army Airborne School at Fort Benning, Ga. He will be commissioned as an Army 2nd Lieutenant and receive a bachelor of arts degree in May 2005.

A military wedding will take place on Sunday, May 29 2005 in Ridge-wood, NJ.



Michele Wojcik and Raymond Gonzalez

## Michael and Victoria Wojcik Announce Daughter's Engagement

Michael and Victoria Wojcik of South Plainfield announce the engagement of their daughter, Michele, to Raymond Gonzalez of Philadelphia. Michele is a 1996 graduate of South Plainfield High School and a 2003 graduate of the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, where she earned a masters degree in occupational therapy. She is currently employed at MossRehab Hospital in Philadelphia and works with stroke

and spinal cord injury patients.

Mr. Gonzalez is a 2002 graduate of the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia where he earned his masters degree in pharmacology and toxicology. He is currently employed at Merck Research Laboratories as a biochemical investigational toxicologist. He is also attending the University of Pennsylvania to further his degree in pharmacology.

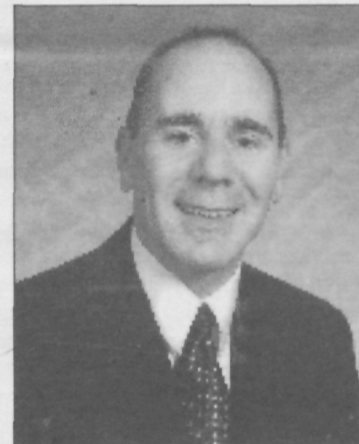
A fall 2005 wedding is planned.

## Jones Joins Lisitski Law Office

Attorney Clement Lisitski today announced that South Plainfield resident Bob Jones has been named counsel to his Ocean City law practice. Jones, who resides on Perry St., will handle appellate matters and will continue to work locally in Middlesex County.

"Until now Bob's consulted for my firm on several appellate matters, including a successful appeal to the New Jersey Supreme Court last year," said Lisitski. "That case was an important constitutional-rights appeal that set precedent for the entire state and Bob's work was integral in winning it. In fact, the Supreme Court's opinion adopted a key argument Bob developed."

According to Lisitski, he and Jones have also worked on several zoning and land-use matters, including a recent effort to save an historic building along the Jersey Shore. "Bob's one of the best legal writers I know," Lisitski said. "We're pleased he will be working with us."



Bob Jones

Jones grew up in South Plainfield and attended Rutgers Law School in Newark. After clerking for New Jersey Superior Court Judges Robert Longhi, C. Judson Hamlin and Jack L. Lintner, he practiced in a litigation firm before starting his own consulting firm in 1996. As a consultant he performs legal research and brief writing for law firms throughout the state.

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# Sports



By Lee Flanagan

## JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

Our monthly club meeting is coming up this Monday night, Nov. 1, at 7:30 p.m. in the clubhouse. Membership cards will be available for \$10. Come on out and see what's going on at the SPJBC.

I'm pleased to report at this time that over 200 kids have registered for our 2005 season. We had the same amount register this time last year. I would like to thank all the volunteers that helped out with registration two weeks ago from the Executive Board and Women's Auxiliary.

Our last early registration is on Friday, Dec. 3, 6 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 4, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This will be the last opportunity to receive the early discount. After those two dates registration will go up \$20 per kid. Also, numerous individuals have signed up to manage and coach our kids in the 2005 season. **Reminder to everyone: you must have your Rutgers certification and must be a member of the club in good standing.** Just signing up on a sheet of paper to manage and coach does not guarantee you anything. We could use your assistance on the maintenance of our complex before the winter sets in, visible at our club meetings and/or on a committee at the SPJBC. Your time is valuable to the kids of South Plainfield Junior Baseball.

Any questions, call Lee Flanagan at (732) 684-8347.

A big thank you goes out to the in-

dividuals supporting our efforts in the fall maintenance of the SPJBC Complex. We still need to work on the complex grounds and the clubhouse area. We're looking to have some new faces this Saturday, Oct. 30 from 8 a.m. to noon. I cannot stress enough those individuals that volunteer their time now will be given first consideration when selecting managers and coaches for the 2005 season.

We had the brand new Mercedes at the baseball registrations two weeks

ago. Tickets are now available. See Nancy Salici or any executive Board member for tickets.

This fall we will be revisiting the SPJBC Rules and Bylaws, Any recommended changes must be submitted by November 1. If you have a recommendation to the Rules and Bylaws committee please visit our website [www.spjbc.com](http://www.spjbc.com).



The Middle School Cross Country team.

## Middle School Cross Country Team Wins County Championship

The South Plainfield Middle School Boys Cross Country team won first place in the Middle School Varsity County Championship held on Oct. 23 at Thompson Park in Monroe.

Eleven schools competed in the varsity race with 84 runners. Seven boys from the Middle School team competed. Four of the runners came in the top ten overall with impressive results. Joseph Lacerda led the team with a first place win with Christopher Kedemenc in third, Robert Hoffman in fifth and Richard Szeliga in ninth place. Garrett Kelly, Michael Dezmin and Nicholas Pauls also participated with excellent results placing 19th, 46th and 55th respectively.

The Cross Country team also com-

peted in the Middle School County Championship Novice Race. Fourteen teams ran with 96 runners. South Plainfield placed second overall in the race. Dominic Papa placed fifth overall with teammates Steve Wiczorak, Kyle Kacka, Andrew Nguyen and Ryan Sacco all placing in the top 20. Other participants were Robert Pasternak, Michael Bumback, Tyler Driscoll, Taylor Curtis, Jake Butynski, Connor Keane and David Stogeski.

The entire team has had an outstanding season and so far has been undefeated. Coach Kevin McCann and the entire team were awarded the first place trophy. Middle School Principal Al Czech also came out to cheer the team on to a great victory.

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# Sports



## South Plainfield Football Eagles

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The South Plainfield Eagles Flag team has developed into a strong football team, the organization is looking forward to some of these boys moving on to instructional tackle at the Mitey Mite level next year, others because of age will remain on the Flag team another year and continue to build on the skills learned this season. The Flag team will play their last game of the season on Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at home followed by the Mitey Mites.

Showing great development and sportsmanship in Watchung Hills this week were: Brian Csober, Auston Fritze, Matthew Gallant, Anthony Gray, Jordan Handwerker, Dillion Harris and Caleb and Christopher Kuberiet.

The Mitey Mites played well against Watchung Hills. Matthew Gruver had a strong game at quarterback with a nice run up the middle for positive yards. Jared Jirari had many nice tackles with a fumble recovery. Erik Elsmann and Matthew Hurst both had a very strong game from the defensive line. Nick Brinks had a good game from the offensive line and had a fumble recovery. Joe Jakubik and Jeffrey Pellegrino each had a fumble recovery and Jeffrey had two pass receptions. Joshua Coupe and Jordan Mandel played well on the offensive line. All Mitey Mite players keep up the good work!

The Junior Pee Wee Eagles faced the Watchung Hills Wolverines this week-

end with a 25-7 lose ending their season with a 2-4-1 record.

The Eagles offense started off quickly with Troy Heilmann handing off to Jordan Gamble for a 50 yard run to the five yard line. When the Eagles' halfback fumbled into the endzone, Troy Heilmann and Claude Payne recovered the ball for the Eagles only touchdown with Mike Molinaro running in the extra point.

The offensive line consisting of Ryan Bors, Patrick Boyle, Tyler Calderone, James Cianfrocca, Justin Glover and Mike Tangorra all had a hand in blocking for their touchdown run.

The Eagles defense had a tough time containing the Wolverines. However, Eric Burnham was able to sack their quarterback while Anthony Torchia had a great tackle in the backfield.

Other defensive standouts came from Dylan Dorey, Raymond Perez, Stephen Petriello, Erick Rodriquez, Cory Stasenka and Mark Tomci.

The Junior Midgets faced the Watchung Hills Warriors winning the final game of the season 13-0.

Kyle Hughes led the Jr. Midgets as quarterback. Brandon Downes had a fumble recovery, John Wylam had a great run up the middle resulting in positive yards. Mike Wagner was responsible for the Eagles first touchdown run of the game.

Nick Heilmann had an excellent game running the ball and making gains in yards to move the ball up the field as well as breaking up plays in the backfield on defense. Tareek Wakins had a great 35 yard run and played aggressively on both sides of the ball.

Jimmy Gorman took them down in the backfield. The defense prevented Watchung Hills from scoring throughout the game with aggressive play from Pat Millard, Alex Lisewski, Anthonio Spalieri, Jarrell Wakins and Anthony Cianfrocca.

Matthew Cooper ran an end around and a 45 yard run for the Eagles second touchdown of the game. Mike Jefferys had the reception for the extra point. Contributing on the offensive line off were Frank Malecki, Brian Babinetz, Matt Quadrel, David Smith, Corey Hay, Marcel Counts, Shawn Gorman and Seth Yocum. Watchung Hills was the last official conference game of the season, Flag and Mitey Mites will play on Thursday beginning at 5:30 p.m.

The South Plainfield Eagles will kick off the first Friendship Bowl on Nov. 5 with our annual BonFire celebrating our players and their parents commitment throughout the season. Each player will receive a free hot dog or pizza meal with family and friends welcome at a cost of \$2 for pizza or hot-dog, soda and desert. The Procure Physical Therapy Friendship Bowl, under the lights, is sponsored by Procure and Raritan Valley Orthodontics who will supply a free hot-dog and soda to each player and cheerleader, the bowl games will begin at 6:30 p.m. with Mitey Mites.

A special thank you to each of the Eagle Reporters for supplying the weekly reports for their teams, John Pellegrino for Mitey Mites, Lisa Petriello for Jr. Pee Wee and Kim Gruver for Jr. Midgets.

## SPHS Football Tiger Football Victorious Over Monroe Township

by Michael Duquette

Last Friday's match-up at Jost Field between South Plainfield High School's Varsity Football team and Monroe Township ended well for Tiger fans. South Plainfield crushed the opposition with a score of 33-18.

Star players for the night included senior Darryl Jackson, who scored

two touchdowns in the first half, and senior Andrew Miller, whose incredible passing abilities—he completed twelve of eighteen passes in the game—led to three touchdowns. Despite an early lead by Monroe, South Plainfield ended up scoring 27 points before halftime. Monroe's best efforts could not keep victory from our Tigers, who scored another touchdown

in the fourth quarter for an impressive final score of 33-18.

With this win, South Plainfield's varsity football season stands at an impressive 4-3.

Look to the Observer for continuing coverage of this and other successful fall sports teams from the South Plainfield High School!

## South Plainfield Soccer Club Weekly Roundup

**U-8 Storm**—Lost to Watchung Hills Tornadoes by a margin of 2-1. The next game the Storm will play the North Hunterdon Gunners at North Hunterdon on Saturday, Nov. 6.

**U-9 Thunder**—had a busy weekend. On Friday evening the Thunder defeated the Berkley Heights Bulls 6-3 in an exciting night game at Kenneth Ave. Field 2. Saturday the Thunder defeated Middlesex Youth Soccer Hornets. On Sunday the Thunder lost to the Branchburg Crushers. The Thunder will play North Plainfield Jaguars at North Plainfield on Sunday, Oct. 31.

**U-9 Rockets**—Lost to a very close contest to Greater Flemington Vipers by a score of 2-1. The Rockets have a busy weekend coming up. On Friday, Oct. 29, the Rockets host their final home game of the season at 7 p.m. when the Middlesex Roadrunners come to Kenneth Ave. Field 2. On Saturday the Rockets travel to Linden to compete against the Linden Tigers. Game time is 1 p.m. at Linden's McManus field.

**U-10 Hotspurs**—Hosted Princeton AC Milan in an even match that ended in a 1-1 tie. Next match for the Hotspurs is Sunday, Oct. 31 at 1 p.m.

against the Hopewell Valley Hurricanes in Washington Crossing Park.

**U-11 Bullets**—The Bullets battled the Westfield Racing Club to a 1-1 tie on Friday evening, Oct. 22 under the lights at Kenneth Ave. Field 1. The next contest for the Bullets is when they host the Hillsborough Fire on Friday night at 8:15 p.m. at South Plainfield's Kenneth Ave. Field 1.

**U-12 Power (Girls)**—Were scheduled to play the Piscataway Stars. The next scheduled game for the power is on Sunday, Oct. 31 when the Power travel to North Brunswick to play the Hurricanes.

**U-12 Spirit**—Lost to the Carteret Ramblers 5-1. The next game for the Spirit is Saturday, Oct. 30 at Kenneth Ave. Field 1 at 7 p.m.

**U-12 Sonics**—Hosted the Monroe Storm on Sunday, Oct. 24. Despite a good effort the Sonics lost 6-1. The Sonics next match is on Sunday, Oct. 31 when they travel to Lawrence to

compete against the Lawrence Titans.

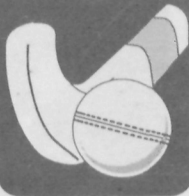
**U-13 Fire**—Defeated the Bridgewater Soccer Association Inc. Fire 3-1. In their next match, they will compete against the Xtreme on Sunday, Oct. 31 3 p.m. at the Monroe Township Junior Varsity Field.

**U-13 Ice**—Defeated the Montclair United Mustangs on the road by a margin of 3-1. The Ice will play the South Brunswick Cosmos next.

**U-14 Blast**—Lost a 1-0 match to Greater Flemington Phantoms on Oct. 22. Then on Sunday the Blast played the South Brunswick Astros to a 2-2 tie. The next game is Sunday, Oct. 31 when the Blast host the Delaware Valley Timberwolves, 1:30 p.m. at Kenneth Ave. Field 1.

Come out and support the Soccer Club at any of their future games. For more info on the South Plainfield Soccer Club, please visit our web site at: <http://www.soplfdsoccerclub.com>.

SPHS FIELD HOCKEY BY SHARON MILLER



## Field Hockey Corner

**Rankings**—The magic of this team goes on and on as they continue to be undefeated, are ranked No 1 in Middlesex County and are in the No. 7 spot in the state Group III rankings! (rankings as of 10/20)

### Weekly Wrap-up

Congratulations to the varsity team as they continue their spectacular season by adding another 2 wins to bring their record to 13-0-1 after defeating Monroe (6-0) and Piscataway (5-0).

**Game Schedule—Week of October 24**

Must see game of the week.....

Congratulations are again in order as the team has gained the top seed for the Greater Middlesex Conference Tournament (GMC's). The championship game will be played on Saturday, Oct. 30 in South Brunswick at 11 a.m. The rain date will be Sunday, Oct. 31 at 1 p.m. at the same site.

**Week of Oct. 31—Nov. 1—Home**

game against Johnson Reg-Clark at 3:45—It's hard to believe, but this is the last game of the regular season.

### Special Events

The team will be competing in the state sectionals for North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3. They are again expected to receive the No. 1 seed. Schedules for these games are not yet available.

Only three other GMC teams Sayreville, East Brunswick and Old Bridge qualified this year for the state tournament.

Please come out and support a wonderful team of players. There are only a few games remaining and you don't want to miss seeing this team play.

The best of luck to players and coaches in the GMC's and States. Go Tigers!

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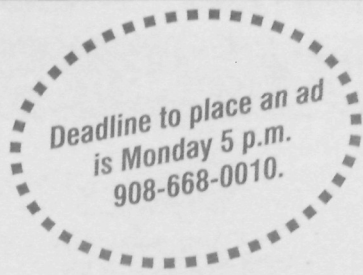
# Evening of Giving at Menlo Park

Kick off the traditional holiday shopping season by participating in a unique holiday experience. The Menlo Park Mall in Edison will host its annual "Evening of Giving." This event is a special evening of private holiday shopping being held on Sunday, Nov. 21 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. The general public will not be admitted to the Mall without a pre-purchased ticket.

Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit People for Animals, a non-profit animal welfare organization serving NJ, as well as other nonprofit organizations, local charities and the Simon Youth Foundation that has developed programs to help young people across the country.

The vent includes special entertainment for adults and children to reflect the warmth of the season. Guests will be able to take advantage of in-store offers, a silent auction and door prizes.

Ticket admission to this private event is a \$10 donation. Tickets may be purchased by calling People for Animals at (908) 688-1073 and press 5.



# Classifieds

Classified Rates: \$11 for 3 lines (min.) \$1 ea. add. line (10% disc. for 4 consecutive insertions)

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### HOME FURNISHINGS FOR SALE

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## Obituaries



### Phyllis (Santonastasio) Stewart, 47

Phyllis (Santonastasio) Stewart died on Tuesday, Oct. 19 at the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick, following a long illness.

Phyllis was born in Summit and grew up in South Plainfield, where she graduated from South Plainfield High School in 1974. She later lived in North Plainfield before moving to Dunellen, where she had resided for the past 16 years.

She had been employed as a supervisor by Sears Telemarketing's Service Agreement Division in Mountainside for over 20 years before retiring four years ago.

Surviving are her husband of 27 years, Jon A. Stewart; a daughter, Kimberly A. Stewart of Dunellen; a son, Andrew N. Stewart of Wallington; her mother, Mary Santonastasio of South Plainfield; two sisters, Anna Santonastasio and her fiancé, Ted Manning of St. Alban's, Maine and Rose Hearne and her husband, James of South Plainfield and by a niece and

nephew, Heather and James Hearne. Private arrangements are under the direction of the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

### Alfonso DeRosa, 94

Alfonso DeRosa died on Monday, Oct. 25 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Born in Naples, Italy, he immigrated to the United States in 1922 settling in New York City. He resided in Newark before moving to South Plainfield 70 years ago.

Al had been an amateur boxer before beginning his career as a barber. He was the owner/operator of Al's Barber Shop on Park Ave. in South Plainfield for over 60 years before his retirement.

Al was also a founding member of the South Plainfield Italian American Club.

His wife, Susan DeRosa, died in 1991.

He is survived by three children, Maryann Lacamera of Readington, Alfonso C. Jr. and his wife, Elaine of Holland Twp. and Peter C. DeRosa of Green Brook. Also surviving are his eight grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, Oct. 29 at 9:15 a.m. in the McCriskin Home For Funerals, 2425 Plainfield Ave., followed by a Funeral Mass at 10 a.m. in Sacred Heart RC Church.

Interment will follow in Hillside Cemetery, Scotch Plains.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, Oct. 28 from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. in the funeral home.

### William H. Oehler III, 82

William H. Oehler III died on Thursday, Oct. 21 in Kensington Manor, Toms River.

Born in Newark, he lived in South Plainfield for 33 years before moving to the Silver Ridge Park North section of Berkeley Township in 1985.

William was employed by New Jersey Bell Telephone Co. in Newark, where he worked for 26 years before retiring in 1981 as assistant manager.

He served with the Army Air Corps in the Italian Theater of Operations during World War II. He graduated as a pilot in 1944.

Mr. Oehler was a member of the

Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Elks Lodge, both in South Plainfield, the Silver Ridge Park Men's Club and the Telephone Pioneers of America. He was a former elder at the Grant Ave. Presbyterian Church, Plainfield.

Surviving are Marie, his wife of 57 years; two daughters, Karen Oehler Lavigne and Joanne Oehler Alfieri; a son, William L.; a brother, Robert and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the Timothy E. Ryan Home for Funerals.

### William Drumgould, 81

William Drumgould died on Wednesday, Oct. 20 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Newark, he had resided in Piscataway since 1963.

Mr. Drumgould was employed as a foreman and plumber for the Newark Board of Education for 40 years before retiring in 1993.

He served in the United States Navy during WWII and was also a coach for 10 years with the Piscataway Little League.

He is predeceased by a son, Patrick, who died in 1991.

Surviving are his wife, Elizabeth Drumgould; his long time companion, Barbara Carlisle; a son, William of Piscataway; two step daughters, Kim Florek of Piscataway and Patty Torres of Green Brook; two step sons, John Carlisle of Kentucky and Scott Carlisle of Hillsborough and seven grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Diabetes Association, 19 Schoolhouse Rd., Somerset, NJ 08873.

### Tacia Pisar, 80

Tacia Pisar of South Plainfield died on Saturday, Oct. 23 at the Hartwyck Nursing Home in Plainfield.

She was born in the Ukraine and came to the US in 1951 settling in South Plainfield where she has lived for the last 53 years.

Tacia was a member of St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in South Bound Brook.

She is survived by her beloved husband Pedro Pisar; three daughters, Mary McGinty of South Plainfield, Olga Ricart of Fords and Ana Sciarrino of Metuchen; two sons, Pedro Pisar of Woodridge and Walter Pisar of Keyport; a sister Vasselena Hywroluk of Omaha, Neb.; her beloved grandchildren Chris, Dawn, Tracy, Maria, David and Joseph and her great granddaughter Corey.

Funeral arrangements were made by the James W. Conroy Funeral Home.

### Gerald (Jerry) A. Courtney, 66

On Tuesday, Oct. 26, we mourn the loss of a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, brother and uncle, Gerald (Jerry) A. Courtney. Born in Englishtown on Sept. 28,

1938, he resided in South Plainfield since 1968. Jerry graduated from North Plainfield High School and served in the US Marine Corp from 1961-1954 during the Vietnam War. Prior to retiring from the Plainfield Police Department as Sergeant of the Detective Bureau after 25 years of service, he worked at Thul's Machine Shop in Plainfield.

He was a lifetime member of the NJ State PBA and was awarded "Outstanding Police Officer of the Year" in 1975.

He was predeceased by his mother, Freda Appgar.

He is survived by his loving wife of 43 years, Fran Wood Courtney; a son and daughter-in-law, Jeff and Colleen; a daughter, Sheri; three grandchildren, Amanda, Kyle and Nicole; a brother and sister-in-law, Jim and MaryAnn of Toms River; a sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Joan and Stanley Fila of North Plainfield and 10 nieces and nephews, Steve and Gary Fila, Jacki and Alex Hunderpfund, Jimmy and Carrie Courtney, Matthew and Joseph Karbowski and Debi and Ava Courtney.

An 11 a.m. Prayer Service will be held on Thursday in the McCriskin Home For Funerals, 2425 Plainfield Ave.

Interment will follow in Hillside Cemetery, Scotch Plains.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Jerry's memory to the South Plainfield Fire Dept., 123 Maple Ave., or to the South Plainfield Police Dept., 2480 Plainfield Ave., So. Plainfield, NJ 07080.

## Senior Health Fair to Include a Host of Screenings

The Senior Center, in cooperation with the Plainfield Health Center will, be holding an all day Senior Citizen Health Fair on Wednesday, Nov. 10 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Screenings will include cholesterol, blood pressure, diabetes, vision, hearing, foot, HIV and dental. A host of medical speakers will be on hand to lead discussions about such topics as hypertension, cholesterol and proper diet, dental care, urinary incontinence and HIV in the senior population. There will be a large selection of medical, pharmaceutical and health care vendor tables set up including Merck,

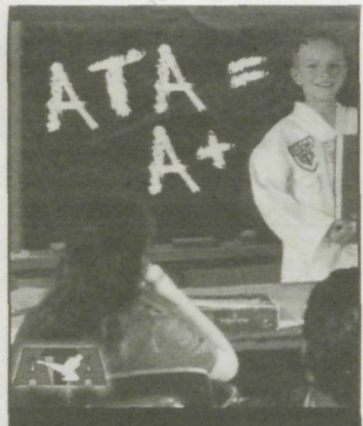
Pfizer, Bayer, Matrix, Twin City Pharmacy, The Diabetes Center, Solaris Health plus home health care providers, day care, etc.

Come and spend the day caring for yourself. Refreshments will be served throughout the day. For info, call the Senior Center at (908) 754-1047.

## Middlesex County Photo IDs for Seniors

If you are age 60 or older and need a government issued ID, the Middlesex County Passport Dept. will be at the Senior Center on Wednesday, Nov. 10 from 1-3 p.m. In order to get an ID you will need to register at the Senior Center and fill out an application. On Nov. 10 you will need to bring several forms of proof of identity. You will need either your certi-

fied birth certificate or U.S. passport. If you are a married woman, you will also need your marriage certificate. You will also need a social security card or voter's registration card. Finally, you will need proof of Middlesex County residency, such as a property tax bill, recent tax return, recent pay stub or recent business mail. The card is \$6 and is valid for 48 months.



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**In Memoriam**

**J. Donald Bechtle**  
20th Anniversary in Heaven  
10/30/04

Our two sons and four daughters have blessed us with 14 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. May God hold you in the palm of his hand. You are always in our hearts and minds.

Love, Joan