

Get ready to pack away the shovels.... Spring starts in 16 days!

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 8, NO. 26

50 CENTS

MARCH 4, 2005

TIGERS DO IT AGAIN!

SPHS Nips St. Joe's to Nab Greater Middlesex Conference

Wrestlers Undefeated In GMC

By Michael Duquette

South Plainfield High School's Wrestling Team has ended another excellent season, finishing undefeated with a victory at the Greater Middlesex County Championships, their 21st District 12 Championship in a row, and a win in the Group III State Championships. The Tigers further enhanced their reputation by placing thirteen of their wrestlers in individual competitions.

Coach Bill Hamilton expressed much pride for the team's accomplishments throughout the season, which totaled 18 wins and no losses. He praised a very "talented group" that "worked real hard this year." When asked what
(Continued on page 8)



The SPHS Boys Basketball Team edged out St. Joseph High School 66-65 to nab the Greater Middlesex Conference Championship title in a heart-stopping finish last Friday night in front of a 4,000 plus crowd at Rutgers' Louis Brown Athletic Center. The winning basket by Marquis Jones (right) came with only 14 seconds remaining. The title is the second for the Tigers in two years.

Photos by John E. Separa

23 Say No to Drugs Sacred Heart Graduates DARE Students

By Jane Dornick

Last Thursday afternoon Sacred Heart School graduated 23 fifth grade students from the South Plainfield Police Department's DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program.

DARE is a collaborative effort by certified law enforcement officers, educators, students, parents and the

community to offer an educational program in the classroom for the prevention and reduction of drug abuse and violence among young people. The emphasis is on helping students recognize and resist the many direct and subtle pressures that influence them to experiment with alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, inhalants or other

(Continued on page 6)

Six Vie for BOE Spots

Six candidates have announced that they will run for the three open seats on the South Plainfield Board of Education.

Candidates running include three incumbents: Timothy Morgan, Kenneth LaFreniere and Dan Smith. Also running are former board members Jeffery Sieder, John Markham and Carol Byrne.

This year's school board election will be very interesting to watch. The financial difficulties that have plagued the board during the past year are sure to be a topic of debate during the campaign. The board has been struggling to find extra money this past year after a shortfall was found during the last audit. Each month the board has transferred money from one account to another in order to fill the gap in accounts which had shortfalls. The board has also entered into

(Continued on page 7)



Left to right: Kennedy School Student Council Vice President Emily Skula, SPHS Asian Culture Club representative Sara Sukenik, SPHS FCCLA representative Alissa Davis, SPHS Habitat for Humanity Club representative Gerry Butrico, Grant School Bake Sale Representative Sarah Hageman, Middle School Student Council President Kathryn Paterek, Riley School Student Council President Patrick Boyle and Franklin School Student Council President Nick Graves.

Students Collaborate to Aid Others

by Patricia Abbott

The South Plainfield High School Leadership Club is once again on the move. Their latest endeavor reaches out to the victims of the tsunami disaster by fundraising for the relief

efforts of Habitat for Humanity International. The club has had an ongoing interest in this organization since the start of the current school year. They were anxious to begin a

(Continued on page 7)



DARE poster contest winner Roger Maiure with Darren the Lion.

Merchants Oppose Truck Detour Route

Several downtown merchants attended last week's Traffic Safety Advisory meeting to present a petition signed by both the merchants and their customers objecting to the proposed detour of truck traffic through the downtown area during the upcoming reconstruction of Hamilton Blvd.

Curves owners Jerri Hochron and Elissa Bennett presented the petition to Sgt. Kevin Murtagh, chairman of the Traffic Advisory Group. According to

the latest plans all traffic on Hamilton Blvd. will be one way, heading north into town and no traffic from Metuchen Rd. and Belmont Ave. will be allowed to travel south on the boulevard during the reconstruction of Hamilton Blvd. Traffic heading south toward Rt. 287 would be directed to go north on Front St., left onto Maple Ave., left onto Lakeview, over the overpass and then right on New Market Ave. and left on South Clinton Ave.

Downtown merchants are against truck traffic going down Front St., saying it will take away business, cause a major traffic nightmare in the area and create a dangerous condition for the children walking to Sacred Heart School, as well as the residents of the Keystone Community. They also feel the increased trucks will make it difficult if not impossible for those who park to get in or out of the parking

(Continued on page 7)

Mark Your Calendars

Log on to southplainfieldnj.com for the latest meeting agenda

councilmeetings

Borough Hall Council Chambers
 Meets twice a month on the first and third Tuesday
 Borough Hall Council Chambers • Questions? 908-226-7605

| Date | Agenda Meeting | Public Meeting |
|----------|----------------|----------------|
| March 15 | 7:00 p.m. | 8:00 p.m. |
| April 5 | 7:00 p.m. | 8:00 p.m. |
| April 18 | 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.

planningboard

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month, *except where noted.
 Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

March 8, March 22, April 12, April 26, May 10, May 24, June 14, June 28, July 5*, July 19*, Aug. 16*, Aug. 30*, Sept. 13, Sept. 27, Oct. 11, Oct. 25, Nov. 29*, Dec. 13, Dec. 27.

zoningboardofadjustment

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month, *except where noted.
 Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

March 10, March 24, April 14, April 28, May 12, May 26, June 9, June 23, July 14, July 28, Aug. 11, Aug. 25, Sept. 8, Sept. 22, Oct. 13, Oct. 27, Nov. 10*, Dec. 8, Dec. 22.

boardofeducationmeetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted
 Committee of the Whole meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

March 8 and April 5
 Regular Board Meeting Tuesdays at 8 p.m.—March 15 and April 12.
 2004/2005 Budget Working Meetings—March 3 and 7 at 7 p.m.—Introducing the Budget on March 8 at 7 p.m.—Final Adoption of the Budget on March 29 at 8 p.m.

taxpayersadvisorygroup

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

sifeplan sub-committee

Meets once a month on the third Tuesday of the month, 8 p.m.
 March 15, April 19, May 17, June 21, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Dec. 20.

recreationcommission

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

March 22, April 26, May 24, June 28, Sept. 27, Oct. 25, Nov. 7 and Dec. 13.

environmentalcommission

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

businessadvisorygroup

Meets once a month (first Wednesday)
 Borough Hall Council Chambers, 5 p.m. • Questions? 908-757-8100

trafficsafetyadvisorycommission

Meets once a month (fourth Wednesday) at 7 p.m.
 in the Conference Room, Borough Hall (No Meeting in August)

boardofeducationcurriculum/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.
 March 21

Board of Education Tops Meeting Agenda

The Senior Men's Forum of South Plainfield has been carrying a priority on its monthly agenda, which should be of interest to all residents, especially those paying Borough taxes.

FROM THE Senior Men's FORUM

It is doubtful that any resident would be reluctant to pay his share of the cost of educating our children. However, it is becoming very clear that the Board of Education's decisions, methods and questionable activities are becoming an increasing concern to more and more residents who are responsible for paying the tab that allots considerably more for school appropriations than for operating the township. For this reason, the Men's Forum has been looking into this matter. It is our hope to assure residents that the Board's decisions, methods and activities are readily recognizable. We expect nothing less since it is not only our funding that is involved, but even more important is the quality of education to our children. South Plainfield's comparative SAT scores when matched with other schools do not

reflect favorably. It is the plan of the Men's Forum to provide periodic information that will point out any deficiency or questionable process or procedure we believe pertinent to the interests of our residents, the taxpayers. Primarily, we intend to make known specific facts that have recently warranted an investigation for the mis-handled accounting procedures and record keeping. We will include more present indications of unsatisfactory accountability of expenditures that have become a routine procedure, unquestioned, something apart from normal and accepted methods of those Boards during years gone by.

Know citizens, that we do not promise a "witch" hunt, but we will make every effort to encourage honest and competent activities by a Board of Education we can once again be proud of. No backward step will be taken by our Forum to make this a reality. We believe we have the competency, the desire and the initiative to succeed in this endeavor. Look for our reports to you in future issues of this newspaper. It is our hope that all residents, especially those with children attending schools, will make a better effort to attend future Board of Education meetings. In that way, you will aid the Men's Forum's efforts by just being there to show your interest and support.

**2005-06
 School Budget Meetings Set**

The South Plainfield Board of Education will be introducing and adopting the 2005/2006 budget at a meeting held on Tuesday, March 8 at 7 p.m. A special business meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 29 at 8 p.m. to formally adopt the 2005/06 budget. All meetings take place in the gymnasium at the Roosevelt Administration Building on Jackson Ave.

IN YOUR OPINION

Dear Editor,

Last Tuesday I attended the council meeting about the Tingley rezoning. Like all of us, I'd like to get to more of these meetings, but with personal and business responsibilities, it's difficult. The meeting was an eye-opener.

The council repeatedly avoided questions and gave stock answers, usually just rephrasing a prior answer rather than addressing the real question. Basically, all they kept saying was that the rezoning was the "best use" of the property. What's worse, they responded with borderline annoyance.

It's a shame more people can't attend these meetings. I know it's difficult. We all have lives, and for some, the meetings are hard to get to because they are on the same night as Board of Education meetings (a coincidence?). If residents saw the conniving and back patting that went on, I have a feeling more would attend to put a stop to it.

Here are some of my observations. I could not believe how enraged the mayor became when people pointed out how much money Jack Morris gives to Democrats. People have a right to point this out and question whether Morris is getting special favors because of this. Morris's name keeps coming up like a bad penny. Maybe it's because the mayor and the council keep shining the penny.

The worst part of the discussion was when Councilwoman Thomas claimed the Democrats never took money from Morris. Bob Jones, a member of the public, responded by listing dates and amounts of contributions. So much for not receiving money from Morris, right? Don't these people realize contributions are part of the public record and can be checked? I was disappointed in Councilwoman Thomas. Her answer made me distrust everything else the council said.

It got worse. When the president of one of the senior groups, Walter Passacrita, got up to leave, Councilman Petronko yelled at him: "Walter, stay, we have other things to talk about that you might want to hear. We listened to you..." It was apparent that Walter, a senior, was upset by the council's decision and wanted to go. When Walter tried to answer, Petronko kept badgering him, even after he was out the door.

I also found the way the mayor and council were commenting and snickering among themselves when they thought nobody was listening was rude and disrespectful. I overheard one of them making comments about Bob Jones because Bob had revealed the money connection with Morris. I guess they figured nobody would bother to check and were mad someone had.

Years ago, when my lifestyle was different, I attended council meetings often. The people on the council were mostly blue collar and while there were disagreements, I did not see the type of arrogance I saw last week.

Submit Letters to the Editor:

Letters may be submitted to the Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or fax 908-668-8819 or by email: spobserver@comcast.net. Deadline is Monday, 5 p.m. Letters must be accompanied by a name and telephone number for verification. Limit letters to no more than 400 words. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. We reserve the right to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject.

My advice to the mayor and council is something my father said years ago. I especially direct this to Mr. Petronko. My dad's education was cut short because of an illness in the family, but he still had manners and respect for people. I remember him telling my brother during a father-son talk, "If you want to be a good person, there are things you should remember. Be honest. Respect your elders and women and when you have children, teach them the same." The mayor and Councilman Petronko should think about their lack of respect for Walter and the others.

**YOURS TRULY,
 LOIS SNOWFIELD**

P.S. By the way, Mr. Gallagher, if you're concerned about eliminating eyesores in South Plainfield, take a ride down Park Ave. and look at some of the businesses and their signs. Do we have an ordinance to conform size and type of signs? If we do, maybe it should be enforced. You might not remember, but a few years back when we spoke about similar problems in town, you said we are not Summit or Westfield. Can you explain why, even though "you" think of us as a Dunkin' Donut Town, can't we be afforded higher standards and remove all eyesore, not just select ones?

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South Plainfield Observer

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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.

Junior Journalist Corner



Tara O'Day, Grant School Sixth Grader, Named "Junior Journalist"



Junior Journalist Tara O'Day with Language Arts teacher Camille Deutsch.

Tara O'Day, Grant School sixth grader, is this week's winner in the

Observer/Hometown Heros Junior Journalist Program. Her poem "As the Years Go By," has won dinner for her family, courtesy of Hometown Heros.

Students are encouraged to submit their original poetry, articles, opinion pieces or essays to their teacher, school principal, Hometown Heros located on Hamilton Blvd. or the Observer office.

Winners and their families will receive a catered dinner from Hometown Heros and will be honored at a year end banquet to be held on May 25.

For more information, call the Observer at (908) 668-0010 or Hometown Heros at (908) 755-4376.

As The Years Go By - To Mom and Dad

By Tara O'Day

I am getting older
 And you watch me grow right by
 You make me laugh and have fun
 And help me when I cry.
 I go through lots of changes
 And always learning something new
 Soon I'd be getting old
 Just as old as you!
 First I went to Preschool
 With you holding my hand on the way
 Blowing out the candles
 To my 5th birthday.
 Next I went to kindergarten
 Not wanting to let you go
 Walking straight but funny
 On my little tippytoes
 Then came elementary
 Seems like it went so quick
 Good grief! Six years!
 You could really get homesick
 Soon will be middle school
 I'm not in a hurry
 It's because I'm a little scared
 But it's okay. Don't worry
 Then I'll be in high school
 Four years could take forever
 I'll show off my intelligence
 And tell them that I'm clever.
 Next I'll be in college
 Studying who knows what!
 But I will get a scholarship
 So no ifs, ands or buts
 Last I'd get married
 To a wonderful hubby
 We will have a baby
 So small and chubby
 All these things will happen
 I'd be growing with great pride
 But one thing that will stay the same
 Is the love we share inside.

Cahal Dunne to Entertain at Sacred Heart

Singer, songwriter and pianist Cahal Dunne will be performing at Sacred Heart Church on Sunday, April 17 at 3 p.m. Dunne possesses that certain quality that entertainers rarely have. He transcends talent and training and has something that comes from deep within a great entertainer and washes over an audience captivating them.

Born in Cork, Ireland, his extraordinary talent surfaced at age three, when he was already picking out melodies on the family piano. After music lessons as a child, his teacher advised his parents to enroll him in the College of Music in Cork, where he studied until age 21. As he earned a reputation as an entertainer, he was able to help his parents pay for his musical and general education.

His choice to pursue the unpredictable life of an entertainer came easy. He says, "Music has always been an important part of my life. I have found that through my songs, I have been able to reach people, touch them and



Cahal Dunne

hopefully give them something of myself."

He won many song contests and represented Ireland in Tokyo and Bulgaria. His big break came when he won an Irish national song contest with "Happy Man." He subsequently won the right to represent Ireland at the International Eurovision Music

Contest in Israel. "Happy Man" became the number one hit in Europe with sales topping the charts at 250 thousand records sold.

His first album in American was in 1982, followed by a nationwide tour. He then became a permanent resident of the US and wrote many songs, including *Life The First Time*, *Peace In My Land*, *Take My Hand*, *The Journey* and *Angel For Sarah*. He performs year round along the East Coast and the Mid-western states.

As a composer, pianist, comedian and story-teller, he combines his talents to bring an atmosphere of audience participation and laughter. He can sing an Irish ballad, go to a Billy Joel song and then to a Mozart concerto. He resides in Pittsburgh, Pa. with his wife, Kathleen and son, Ryan.

The concert will take place in the church. Tickets cost \$20, seniors and students are \$15. To purchase tickets call (908) 756-0632, ext. 10, (732) 549-9633 or (908) 755-6416

Developer is Suing Borough for Planning Board Application Denial

By Libby Barsky

Northeast Developers, whose Nov. 14, 2004 application to build a 30 ft. tall office building on Shevchenko Ave. was denied by the Planning Board, filed a complaint and summons with the Middlesex County Superior Court of New Jersey.

Mayor Daniel Gallagher said the Planning Board denial was based on "too much building on too little space. There was too little setback with the building only seven feet from the property line and not enough room for fire safety equipment. If a fire truck had to turn around, it wouldn't be able to."

The board voted to have Chris Nelson, the attorney for the Planning Board, represent the board in Superior Court. Nelson said that a decision by the court would be made in three or four months.

No other action was taken by the board. Postponed was the hearing for the application of Colorful Story Books to erect a two story addition to its building at the corner of Hollywood Ave. and Hollywood Court. In granting an extension until the next Planning Board meeting March 8, Chairman Bob Ackerman noted that this was the fifth consecutive postponement of Colorful Story Books. "If it happens again, it will be dismissed for lack of prosecution and they will have to re-notice," Ackerman said.

The board discussed the need for a timetable to help enforce the clean up on properties that have been cited

with violations, but no recommendations were made.

The board also addressed the issue of having builders meet all the conditions of their application before any portion of the bond is dispersed. Cur-

rently builders have asked and received 60% of the bond before work was completed. The board is seeking to amend that so the builder will not receive any portion of the bond until 100% of the work bonded for is complete.

South Plainfield Below State Average in Pupil Cost

According to the latest *Home News Tribune* Report Card, South Plainfield spends \$9,188 per pupil, which is below the state average of \$10,403. In addition, all South Plainfield scores were above average across the board.

One fact that did show up on the report showed that spending more money doesn't always result in higher

test scores. The highest cost per pupil in Middlesex County was New Brunswick, who spent \$13,935 per pupil and Perth Amboy with \$11,832 per pupil. Both of their test scores were some of the lowest in the area.

Test scores for our district showed that South Plainfield students all tested in the top half on all test results.

Future Stars Registration Underway

Registration for Future Stars Preschool, which is a tuition-based program, is underway for the 2005/2006 school year. We still have openings in all of our classes. Classes are available for children ages two, three and four.

We also have openings in the Inclusion Preschool Program, which is for four-year-old children who reside in South Plainfield. This program is for children who are developing typically to serve as role models for children with special needs. There is no cost for this program, after the initial \$125 registration fee. Selection for the program will be by lottery and

will take place at the end of March. We offer two sessions: morning sessions, Monday-Thursday, 8:45-11:15 a.m. and afternoon sessions, Monday-Friday, 12:15-2:45 p.m.

We are also offering the Early Launch to Learning Initiative—ELLI Program—which is a free preschool for low income families of four-year-olds. This program will meet five afternoons a week and will be an expansion of the Future Stars Preschool Program.

Applications and information may be obtained for the following programs by calling the Adult School Office at (908) 754-4520, ext. 215.

Glitterbugs Cleanup Postponed To April 10

The South Plainfield Glitterbug Club will meet at the Highland Avenue Woods Nature Reserve (Sylvania Pl. gate, off South Clinton Av.) on Sunday, April 10 at 1 p.m. to take a

hands-on approach to improving the environment. Club members will see how much litter they can clear from the Woods in the course of an hour. Dr. Emile DeVito, the Science and

Land Stewardship Manager for the New Jersey Conservation Foundation, will be on hand to show them how to look for wildlife and explain how litter can hurt forest animals. Gloves, bags and refreshments will be provided. The cleanup, originally scheduled for March 6, was postponed due to the heavy snow cover on March 1.

The Glitterbugs Club is a newly-forming club that is open to children aged five and over. At club meetings, the children learn how litter hurts the environment. They see how they can act as individuals and with others to make a real difference and improve the quality of life for everyone in town. Anyone interested in joining the Club, or just in joining this cleanup, is welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information, contact Marie Markey at (908) 755-3123, or Alice Tempel at (908) 226-7621.

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Around Town Events

VFW Breakfast

March 6

VFW Post #6763 will hold a breakfast on Sunday, March 6 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. The VFW is located on Front St. Proceeds benefit Lyons VA Hospital. All are welcome.

Send-Off Mission at Wesley Methodist

March 6

Wesley Methodist Church invites you to attend the send-off of the Mission Volunteers to tsunami victims in India on Sunday, March 6 at 12 noon. The service will include lighting memorial candles for the 165,000 who perished in 12 countries.

Paper Quilting Program at Library

March 7

A craft program featuring "paper quilting" will be held at South Plainfield Library on Monday, March 7 at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.

"Practical Crafting" instructor Ronda Wisniewski will lead the class. Participants may sign up for either the morning or evening session and are requested to bring a pair of scissors and a roll of transparent tape. Space is limited, so pre-registration is required. A materials fee of \$2 payable at registration.

For information, call (908) 754-7885, or visit the Library's website at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us.

Historical Society Meeting

March 8

The next meeting of the South Plainfield Historical Society is Tuesday, March 8 at 7:30 p.m., Senior Center on Maple Ave.

If weather is inclement, call Dot at (908) 754-3073 for status of meeting.

AARP Drivers Courses

March 10 & 11, 12 & 19

The South Plainfield Chapter of AARP is holding two Safe Drivers courses, completion of which gives a three-year discount on automobile insurance, as well as a reduction of two points.

First course is Thursday and Friday, March 10 and 11, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Piscataway Kennedy Library. The second course is Saturday, March 12 and 19, at Muhlenberg Hospital from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. You must complete both sessions to receive certification. There is no age restriction. Fee is \$10. Call Mary at (732) 752-3764 to register.

Education Foundation Annual Art Auction

March 11

The South Plainfield Education Foundation will be holding its rescheduled annual Art Auction at the high school on Friday, March 11. The January auction had to be rescheduled due to snow. Preview begins at 6:30 p.m.; auction starts at 7:30 p.m. This year's

Send Us Your Around Town Events

South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B South Plainfield, NJ 07080
or fax (908) 668-8819
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What's happening in MARCH

UPCOMING EVENTS

Knitting/Crocheting 9:30-11:30am 7
Yoga 10:30-11:30am
Drawing Class 11:30am

March 19-St. Patrick's Dance
Corned Beef and Cabbage
6 to 10 p.m. tickets \$5

April 7... Oklahoma at NJPAC
\$40 Includes Transportation

Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social 10am 8

Exercise 8:30am Line Dancing 10am AARP Crafts 1pm Computer Class 10 am 11:30 am 1 pm 9

Weekly Shopping Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11 & 1pm 3

Weekly Shopping Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11am & 1pm 55 ALIVE-AARP 10

Bingo 10am-2pm Pizza lunch available 4

Bingo 10am-2pm Pizza lunch available 11

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

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

Honorary Chairman is South Plainfield Police Officer Joe Papa, who was a DARE officer for many years.

The price is \$5 per person. For tickets and information, call (908) 561-3951. Hors d'oeuvres, coffee and cake will be available and there will be a door prize.

Knights Annual St. Patrick's Day Party

March 12 (Corrected Date)

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus will be holding their annual St. Patrick's Day Party. The event takes place on Saturday, March 12 at the Knights Hall on Hamilton Blvd. from 8 to 12 p.m. Cost is \$20 pp and includes corn beef and cabbage dinner, an open bar (beer, wine and soda) and a DJ, who will play classic Irish music.

Contact Jim Shea at (908) 756-0478 or (908) 755-6203 for tickets. Seats are limited.

Corned Beef and Cabbage at Elks

March 12

The South Plainfield Elks Veterans Committee is sponsoring their annual Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner on Saturday, March 12, from 4:30-9 p.m. The dinner is all-you-can-eat, including beverages. Adults are \$10 and children are \$5. Come on down and celebrate St. Patrick's Day—a day when everyone's Irish! For information, contact Lou Peralta at (908) 756-6406.

SPHS Auction/Raffle

March 12

South Plainfield High School annual Auction/Raffle on Saturday, March 12, sold out. Call Pat Anderson (756-6572) or Ellen Melanson (756-3731). No one under 18 admitted.

Sixth Annual Chili Fest

March 13

Boy Scout Troop 207 will hold their Sixth Annual "All You Can Eat" Chili Fest on Sunday, March 13 from 3-7 p.m. at the high school cafeteria. Tickets are \$5 each. There will also be games and prizes. For more information, call at (908) 753-2562.

Columbiettes Annual Easter Bunny Brunch

March 13

The South Plainfield Columbiettes will hold their annual Easter Bunny Brunch on Sunday, March 13 in the

Sacred Heart School cafeteria. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. Cost is \$10 per person, regardless of age. All children in attendance, ages seven and under, will receive a basket full of goodies from the Easter Bunny.

Because of the earlier admittance time this year, the menu will consist of breakfast, as well as luncheon and will be served as an all-you-can-eat buffet. Reservations must be made in advance by calling Christine at (732) 968-4257.

VFW to Hold Dinner

March 18

The VFW Post 6763, located at 155 Front St., will be holding a dinner on Friday, March 18 from 5-8 p.m. The public is welcomed. For more information, call (908) 668-9751.

Franklin School PTA Auction/Raffle

March 19

The Franklin School PTA is sponsoring their Ninth Annual Auction/Raffle Night on Saturday, March 19, at the high school gym. Prizes include a 52" TV, 7-day trip to Disney, electronics, gift certificates and door prizes. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10.

For tickets, call Dorothea at (908) 753-7117 or Terry at (908) 753-2864. No one under the age of 18 will be admitted. A complimentary ticket for the grand prize drawing will be given with every advanced ticket sale.

Lions Palm Sunday Breakfast

March 20

The South Plainfield Lions will hold their very popular Gourmet Palm Sunday breakfast on Sunday, March 20 from 8 a.m. until noon in SPHS cafeteria. Tickets are \$6 and are available from any Lions Club member or by calling (908) 755-2289.

— Out of Town —

MCCRC Economic Forecast Breakfast

March 4

The MCCRC Eighth Annual Economic Forecast Breakfast will be held on March 4 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Sponsored by DeVry University, it is free to members, non-members are \$2.

To register call Debbie Miller at (732) 821-1700 x202.

World Day of Prayer

March 4

A World Day of Prayer will be held at Church Women United of Plainfield Area on Front St. in Plainfield. Services will be held at 1:30 p.m. For information call Margaret Steware at (908) 755-0615.

Circle Players Present Proof

March 4-19

Proof, by David Auburn, opens at Circle Players on Friday, March 4. Circle Players is located at 416 Victoria Ave. in Piscataway.

Performances are Friday and Saturday, March 4, 11 and 18; Saturdays, March 5, 12 and 19 at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are March 6 and 13 at 3 p.m. Tickets for Friday and Saturday are \$15. Matinees are \$12 for seniors and students receive \$1 off with I.D. and group rates are available.

For information, call (732) 968-7555.

Concert at Crescent Presbyterian Church

March 5

The Chinese American Cultural Association in Middlesex County will present a concert of classical music by the Young Players Philharmonic at the Crescent Presbyterian Church in Plainfield on Saturday, March 5 at 4 p.m. The church is located at the intersection of East 7th St. and Watchung Ave.

Art Works Reception

March 5

An artist's reception will be held at Metuchen Art Works on Saturday, March 5, from 7 to 10 p.m. Metuchen Art Works is located on Station Place in Metuchen. Featured artist is Linda Jacobs.

For information, contact Madeline Tolins-Schlitt: (732) 662-7403.

PKD Foundation Meeting

March 5

The New Jersey chapter of the PKD Foundation for Research in polycystic Kidney Disease will meet Saturday, March 5 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the conference room at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick. The meeting is free and open to the public.

To reserve your place, call (732) 274-0850 or email NJPKD@aol.com.

Chinese Auction

March 6

The Resurrection of Christ Church, located at on Bound Brook Rd. in Dunellen is holding a Chinese Auction on Sunday, March 6 (snow date is March 13). Doors open at 12 and drawings begin at 1:30 p.m. Prizes include baskets, gift certificates and more. For more information or for tickets, call (732) 873-1731, (732) 752-5741 or (732) 968-1369.

Women's Club Meeting

March 6

Please join the Metuchen-Edison Women's Club for their meeting on March 6 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 17 Oak Ave. (on the corner of Rt. 27) in Metuchen. Edith Pletzer will be appraising antiques during the meeting. Attendees can bring up two items. Light refreshments will be served. No fee to attend.

For information, call Diana Degnan at (732) 548-0925 or log on to: metuchen-edisonwomensclub.org.

Boating Skills Course

March 8-April 26

The US Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 4-5 hold a spring Boating Skills and Seamanship Course beginning March 8. The eight week course will be held Tuesday nights from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Middlesex County College.

For information, contact Joseph Scalera at (908) 757-8359.

Sacred Heart Parish Lenten Mission

March 6-9, 2005

Preacher and Director - Rev. Paul Ruttle, CP

Love Is Ingenious

The mission theme will be introduced at the weekend Masses. The mission services on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday begin at 7:30 p.m. and are not Masses. The themes for the four evenings will be

Listening (1 Kings 20: 9-13),
Compassion (Luke 10: 25-37),
Forgiveness, Journey (Jonah 3: 1-4:11),
Faith (Matthew 15:21-28)

Fr. Paul is a Passionist priest who has been involved in Preaching and Retreat Ministry for more than twenty years, traveling, studying, and presenting nationally and internationally.

Mark your calendars and invite your family and friends to join us for this event. All are welcome!

Note: Our Parish Lenten Penance Service will be on Tuesday of the Mission.

southplainfieldpeople Milestones



Tiffany Lewis and Ryan Mulford.

Lewis and Milford Announce Their Engagement

Tiffany-Elizabeth Lewis of Alexander, Ark. has become engaged to Ryan Mulford. Tiffany is the daughter of Joseph and Jacalyn Lewis of Hamilton. Ryan Mulford, also of Alexander, is the son of Walter and Joyce Mulford of Elmer, Miss.

Miss. Lewis, a 1995 graduate of South Brunswick High School, is a tournament event coordinator for the American Taekwondo Association (ATA) in Little Rock, Ark.

Her fiancé, a 1999 graduate of Woodstown High School, is a photo/connection center manager for Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., in Benton, Ark.

A July 15, 2006 wedding is planned.

Elizabeth Levine Garners Honors



Elizabeth Levine

The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison recently recognized Elizabeth Levine of South Plainfield for her notable academic successes and honors.

She consistently maintains grades that place her on the independent school's Honor Roll with Distinction; she has been named a Bloustein Scholar for the State of New Jersey and earned an AP Scholar with Honor status through her high scores on Advanced Placement tests in May.

According to her college counselor Lisa Lentz, "Elizabeth is much brighter than even her impressive transcript, induction into Cum Laude, and placement at the top of a very academically talented senior class indicate."

For example, two of her six major courses this year are lab sciences, even though that meant not pursuing AP Spanish, because she wanted the foundation in Physics and wanted to explore her passion for Environmental Science with one of her most inspiring and stimulating teachers.

She has taken on AP Calculus in this her senior year to ensure the strongest foundation and knowledge base. She earned one of the highest grades in biology class last year and went on to score a five, the highest score, on the AP Biology exam in May. She has already sat for four AP exams and earned three five's and a four, in addition to scoring well over 700 on three out of four SAT IIs.

In history, her greatest academic love, teachers place her in a category well above other top students.

"It is not surprising that she was elected to perhaps the most respected position in Wardlaw-Hartridge's student government, that of Chairperson of our Judiciary Committee. Not only is it in keeping with her interest in due process, but also it reflects the tremendous amount of respect she commands and receives from her classmates," said her counselor.

Local Chiropractor Participates in Milestone Chiropractic Study

Anthony J. De Costa, D.C., chiropractor practitioner in the South Plainfield area, recently participated in a milestone research project for the chiropractic profession.

De Costa was among approximately 10 percent of the nation's full-time licensed chiropractors selected to represent the profession by providing information for a "Survey of Chiropractic Practice." Working in conjunction with state licensing board members, educators and other practitioners, the survey was developed and conducted by the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners (NBCE). The survey allows those in the profession to reflect the tasks, duties and professional responsibilities common to their every day practice. This comprehensive study relies entirely on responses from these individual practitioners; therefore, their participation is critical to the report's success.

The results of the surveys have been summarized in the *Job Analysis of Chiropractic 2005*. The job analysis plays

an integral role in informing and education state boards, associations and legislators and insurance companies on the practice patterns of full-time chiropractors in the U.S. The information contained in the job analysis provides the chiropractic profession credible bargaining power to improve coverage and reimbursement.

Information collected from the most recent survey is consistent with previous survey results in reports of the types of conditions doctors see and the treatment procedures used. Additionally, the survey results show a slight upward trend in the number of patients of ethnic minorities seeking chiropractic care. The *Job Analysis of Chiropractic 2005* discusses recent research findings, as well as studies documenting the effectiveness of chiropractic care in treating low back pain, neck pain and headaches and chiropractic treatment of other disorders such as asthma, infantile colic, premenstrual syndrome, fibromyalgia and carpal tunnel syndrome.



Gladys Cruz and Thomas Morton were married on Feb. 12 in the company of family and friends.

Cruz and Morton are Married

On Saturday, Feb. 12, Gladys Cruz and Thomas Morton, along with family and friends, exchanged wedding vows.

Mayor Gallagher performed the

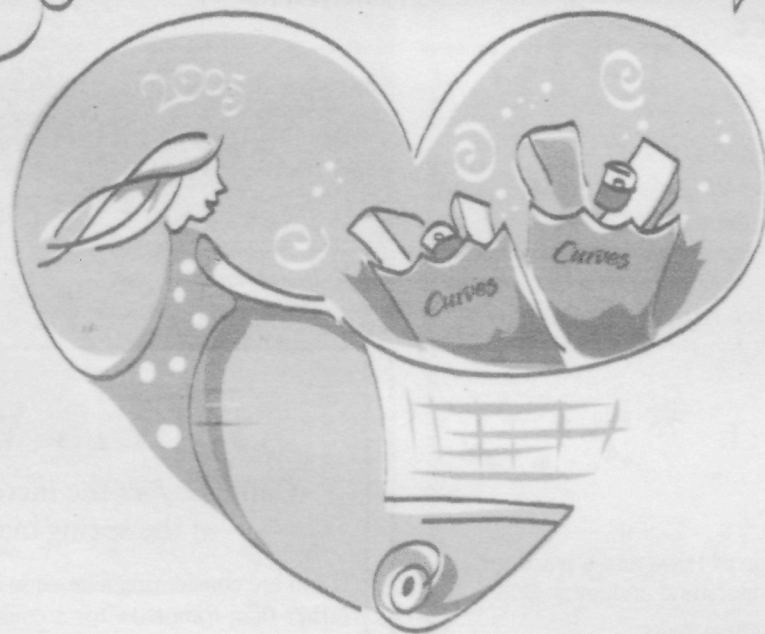
ceremony at Sherban's Diner. The Cruz family, the Garcia family and the Morton Family would like to thank Mayor Gallagher and Sherban's Diner for a wonderful wedding day.

Share Your Good News... Send us your Milestones!

Email: spobserver@comcast.com or fax: 908-668-8819

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DARE essay winner Amanda Joe with Darren the Lion.



Twenty-three Sacred Heart DARE Graduates Say No to Drugs

(Continued from page 1)
drugs or to engage in violence.

The program offers preventive strategies to enhance those protective factors-especially bonding to the family,



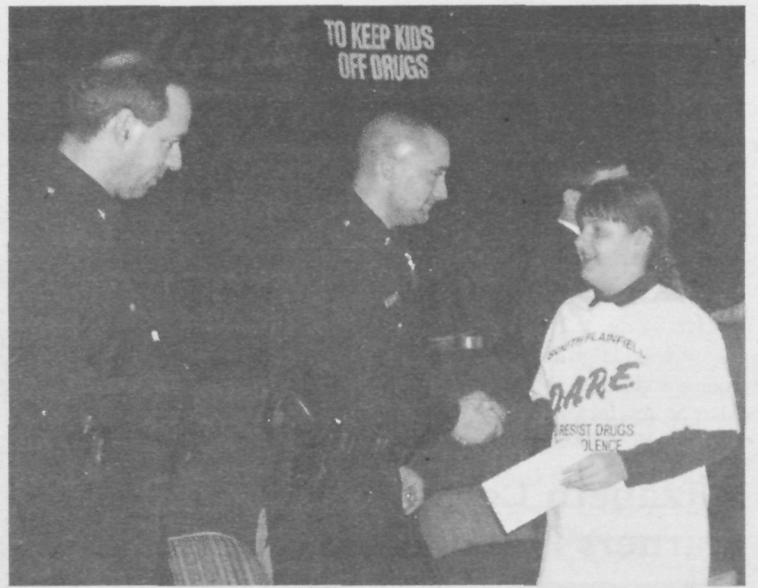
Father Timothy Lambert gives his blessing.

school and community-which appear to foster the development of resiliency in young people who may be at risk for substance abuse or other problem behaviors. Researchers have identified certain protective and social bonding factors in these groups which may foster resiliency in young people which makes for healthier independent growth in spite of adverse conditions. These strategies focus on the development of social competence, communication skills, self-esteem, empathy, decision making, conflict resolution, sense of purpose and independence and positive alternative activities to drug abuse and other destructive behaviors.

DARE Police Officer's Dave Franchak and Allen LaMonda spent approximately an hour conducting

weekly lessons for a semester at the school. In attendance at the graduation were Police Chief John Ferraro, Lt. Chuck Siedenburg, Sacred Heart Church Business Administrator Jim Vokral and special guest Darren the Lion played by Jeff Kertes. The DARE essay winner was Amanda Joe and winner of the poster contest was Roger Maiure.

This year's graduates are: Alejandra Aguilar, Anthony Aguilar, Zaire Ali, Ivan Altamirano, Antonio Cardoso, Amada Caruso, Kevaughn Charles, Janea Clark, Taylor David, Allen Eke, William Gerlitz, Amanda Joe, Marta Komisar, Rhel Lapitan, Roger Maiure, Kaitlynn Moctezuma, Andrea Muglia, Carla Palma, Christina Pokorny, William Saffold, Eberechi Uche, Zuleima Vielm and Kyle Whitaker.



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Corporate Accounts Welcome

Local Students Collaborate to Aid Tsunami Victims

(Continued from page 1)

local chapter. The students recognized an opportunity to increase their tsunami fundraising and develop interest in creating a district chapter of Habitat for Humanity at the same time. They invited the grade schools, Grant 5/6 School and the Middle School to join them. Each school held their own event. Kennedy School students gave up lunch snack money and Riley collecting used cell phones.

Franklin, Middle and Grant Schools raised a considerable amount using the strategies of the SPHS Leadership Club. Grant School's Penny War led the students to outstanding results. Several students took the initiative to do more. Sixth grader Sarah Hageman went a step further and had a baked goods sale at the school and during a Board of Education meeting. Nick Pasternak, grade five, generously donated a jug of pennies that contained over \$100. Principal Janis Burchell said, "I was elated and proud of the accomplishments of my students. They loved the competition, but they also learned the most valuable lesson—the joy of giving to others."

Joe Blondo, Middle School Student Council advisor, helped the students organize their own "Penny War" for the district wide fundraiser. The eighth graders were the victors in this positive spin on a 'war.'

Franklin School's Penny War was organized by the student council and advisor Louise Mruz. Principal Nancy Erickson said, "We are very proud that our children understand the importance of caring about others. Their kindness and dedication in raising funds for the victims of the tsunami were exemplary."

The student leadership program has

over 50 members. Advisors are Tom Baker, Mary Ellen Martko, Marla Vandermark, Tammy Zurka, Kevin Hadjuk and Tony Encinas. The club is an offshoot of a group started by Tom Baker nearly 10 years ago. R.A.R.E., Respect All Races Everywhere, was formed in 1996 to counteract an incident that occurred during a pep rally. Tom met with students and realized that they had little knowledge or understanding of other's backgrounds, cultures and viewpoints. R.A.R.E. worked to educate students and mediate problems before they could escalate. Students were trained in peer mediation. Mary Ellen noted that over the years the club has taken on leadership qualities and became a group that promotes tolerance, compassion and understanding

of all peoples.

Community service became an important part of their agenda. They held a Thanksgiving dinner and a holiday luncheon for the town's senior citizens and adopted an abused family through the Abuse Network. Their most recent project was a very successful Penny War raising money for Special Olympics. The young leaders hold a breakfast meeting once a week.

Their work with the club has made a definite impact on the students. Member Christina Sa said, "The Student Leadership Group has not only changed me for the better but has truly helped me to grow and to become the person I want to be." Jeremy Rodas said, "Because of the Student Leader Program, I truly understand the meaning of 'it is better to give than receive.'

I have grown as a man and as a leader. In the continuation of my life I will use what I have learned, and cherish it."

The Leadership Program received kudos many SPHS staff members. Martko said, "The Leadership Group has grown into an organization that I am proud to belong. This group is made up of great students, great advisors and a great group of high school administrators who support all of our efforts. These kids are driven to help others. Whenever I turn around, they have another idea. They touch my heart and soul each day—how lucky am I to be a part of this."

Assistant Principal Kelly Panuzzo stated, "As usual, the students of the South Plainfield High School have amazed me. The leadership group has

worked on so many phenomenal projects this year and have done so much to help the South Plainfield Community and any one else in need. I couldn't be more proud of each and every one of them. I have to offer a special thank you to the advisors as well."

The Leadership Club's district-wide fund drive raised \$11,017.10. Riley School will add to that figure with money from their used cell phone collection. Baker is especially happy with the growth of the club. He said, "Working with this group makes me proud. The kids are phenomenal! They want to participate in anything that promotes assisting other peoples. Through their volunteer efforts, they have raised more in one year than ever in the history of the high school."



BOE Spots

(Continued from page 1)

an agreement to lease the districts student books, gaining more than \$900,000. It will have to be paid back with interest during the next five years.

The board will be introducing the 2005/2006 budget at a special meeting next Tuesday, March 8 at 7 p.m. Just what the new budget will entail is still not known considering the shortfalls the board faced this year. It could include cuts in staff and programs or both. The budget will be formally adopted at a special meeting held on Tuesday, March 29 and then voters will be asked to approve the budget as well as elect three members to the board for three year terms. The election is scheduled to be held on April 19.

Truck Detour

(Continued from page 1)

lots. They also questioned if the road can take all the heavy traffic.

The downtown group asked if traffic could be detoured on to Oak Tree Ave. and left on Park, then left on Maple Ave., thus bypassing the downtown area all together.

Sgt. Murtagh went over the planned detour with the group, but could not promise them if the route could be changed. He said he would meet with the planners from Middlesex County who are in charge of the re-construction project to discuss the merchants worries and get back to them.

Hamilton Blvd. will be re-constructed in two phases. Phase one will include the area between Durham and New Market avenues. The road will be widened and a light will be installed at the intersections of Ryan St. and St. Nicholas. Also the intersection of New Market and Hamilton will be rebuilt completely. The entire road will be completely rebuilt, with curbing and sewers installed. Construction is slated begin in late Spring.

Watch the *Observer* for updates on construction and detours.

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Sports

Wrestling News

By Bob Hunter

Tigers Win 21st Consecutive District 12 Title; Conroy Collects 100th Career Victory

South Plainfield High School Wrestling Team won its 21st District 12 Tournament this past weekend in convincing fashion with 270½ points, nearly 100 points over second place Watchung Hills with 176. New Providence was third with 167½ and North Plainfield was fourth with 71½. The Tigers now hold the state's longest current streak for consecutive District titles with 21, but Paulsboro had 25 before their string was broken two years ago.

South Plainfield will be well represented in this week's Region 3 tournament with 13 wrestlers advancing to the finals. Freshman Patrick Hunter (103) got the Tigers going when he defeated top seeded Anthony Priore of AL Johnson 6-5, who was 26-0 heading into the finals.

Sophomore Billy Ashnault (112) kept things going when he pinned Adel Afzai of New Providence at 3:41. Ashnault dominated from the opening whistle, before scoring the fall.

Junior Jimmy Conroy (119) won his third consecutive district title, while earning the 100th victory of his career. Conroy, 31-0, is on pace to break the all time win record held by Matt Anderson, with 127. Conroy wasted little time with Dave Phimsipason of North Plainfield, pinning him 19 seconds into the second period.

Senior Viet Vo (125) had his work cut out for him, facing three time dis-

trict champion Ross Baldwin of New Providence. Vo hung in there before getting pinned at 4:40.

At 130, sophomore Nick Dorey fought a war with Tyler Riccio of Watchung Hills. Riccio scored first, but Dorey battled back before losing by decision 8-4.

Junior Ed McCray (135) kept his season perfect scoring, with a fall at 3:17 over Larry Peotter of New Providence. McCray is now 30-0 on the season.

Senior Pete DeAndrea (140) came up short against Shane Riccio of Watchung 2-0. It appeared that DeAndrea scored a takedown on the edge of the mat with less than 30 seconds left, but the officials conferred with each other and ruled it out of bounds.

Senior Paul Ritchey (145), who has been dominating as of late, continued in the finals when he pinned Marc Neuwirth of New Providence at 1:55.

Sophomore Mike Jakubik (152) had the toughest task of the night when he faced Alex Caruso of Watchung. Caruso, a fourth place finisher in last year's state tournament, thought he would go out and pin Jakubik,

but that was not meant to be as Jakubik battled back throughout the match before dropping a 17-6 decision.

Sophomore Sam Martin (160) was also in a battle, dropping a 3-2 decision to Cary Aldrich of Watchung Hills.

Junior Kevin Crilley (189) had the task of knocking off Shane Mallory of New Providence. Mallory pinned Crilley in last year's final. Crilley, who started out slow, got going in the second period and had Mallory nervous when he closed the gap to 7-6 as time ran out.

Senior Rob Maistickle (215) was in a scoreless match heading into the second period when he turned Bryan Reilly of Middlesex to his back to take a 3-0 lead. Maistickle went on to win his second consecutive district title 4-2.

Preston Johnson, heavyweight, who has been out weighted all year, was out weighted again this time by Watchung Hills heavyweight Steve Reif by at least 70 pounds. But that did not faze Johnson who appeared to get a takedown late in the third period, but officials ruled it out of bounds. Johnson lost by decision 4-3.

Wrestlers Undefeated in GMC

(Continued from page 1)

motivated the team to such heights of success, Hamilton noted that South Plainfield's tradition plays a large factor. "Having a winning tradition helps build a winning attitude," Hamilton said.

Among the team's stellar players are juniors Ed McCrea and Jimmy Conroy, who both went undefeated this past season, and junior Kevin Crilley and senior Rob Maistickle, who

scored a majority of pins for their team. Conroy has especially had a great season: the returning State Champion scored his 100th career win this past weekend. "I think [things are] going pretty good for me and the team," Conroy said.

Once again, South Plainfield High School's winning tradition continues for another season. Congratulations to a successful team on a job well done!



Top row right to left are Crystal Carlucci, level 5; Alexis Alba, level 7; Julianna Bryan, level 9; Renee Henderson, level 7; Michelle Stoeckel, level 5 and Bobbi Spiegel, level 5. Bottom row right to left are Emily Berman, level 4; Nicole Sottiriou, level 5; Lindsay Scarmozzino, level 5 and Alyssa Fernandez, level 5.

Henderson's Gymnasts Hit the Jackpot in Las Vegas

Henderson's Gymnastics team, LaGymnastique, attended the Lady Luck Invitational on Jan. 21-23 in Las Vegas. The meet was held at the Tropicana Hotel and Casino.

The girls competed on the uneven

bars, balance beam, vault and the floor. All gymnasts received a medal.

The girls are coached by Mark and Ann Marie Henderson, Beth Campbell and Victoria Taylor. Way to go, girls!

Register for Pop Warner Football And Cheerleading

Walk in registration for Pop Warner Football and Cheerleading will take place at the Eagles Field House on Kenneth Ave. Friday, March 4, from 6 to 8 p.m. and Saturday, March 5, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Visit our website at www.SPEagles.com for details!

Registration forms were mailed out in February. Forms will also be available at that time at the PAL and online at www.SPEagles.com.

Please avoid the lines and return all forms by mail to SPFE, P.O. Box 7, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

COMING SOON...

A new and improved website for the South Plainfield Observer. Watch for details.



Charlie and Debbie Kurland from Hometown Heros present dinner to this last week's Junior Journalist contest winner Holly McDede, pictured here with her mom Barbara, and Hometown Heros employee Wally Carmone.

Congratulations Jessica!

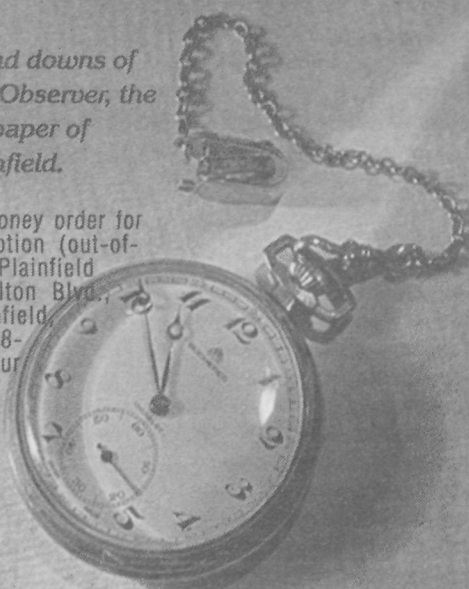
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Business Assoc. Plans May Golf Outing

The South Plainfield Business Association is sponsoring the 7th Annual Golf Outing May 3 at Cranbury Gold Club in West Windsor.

Entry fee includes the 18-hole event; use of locker room, green fees and cart; continental breakfast; complimentary beverage cart; hot dog and chips "at the turn," open bar (beer, wine and soda) and a BBQ luncheon. Casual attire. No metal spikes may be worn on the greens.

Prizes will be awarded for hole-in-one prize, the longest drive, closest to the pin (two holes), low gross, low net and the most honest golfer.

The day starts with registration and a continental breakfast from 8 until 8:45 a.m. The shotgun start will begin at 9 p.m. and the open bar begins at 2 p.m. The BBQ luncheon starts at 2:30 p.m. and the day comes to a close with the 3:30 award ceremony.

The entry fees are: Corporate-Eagle (includes foursome/flag/tee) \$1,000, Birdie (includes twosome/tee) \$500; Corporate Underwriter: Breakfast Sponsor \$250, Beverage Cart Sponsor \$250, Flag 1st and 18th Green \$175, Flag 2nd-17th Green \$125 and Tee Sign \$100.

RSVP by April 22. For information, call Bob Longo at (908) 753-7004 or Ed Koznowicz at (908) 754-8900.

Obituaries

John A. Butrico Jr., 53

John A. Butrico, Jr. died suddenly on Sunday, Feb. 27 at home in South Plainfield.

Born in Plainfield, John was a life-long resident of South Plainfield.

A proud father of two sons, John M and Michael Butrico of South Plainfield. John was an avid Yankee fan.

For many years he was a coach in the South Plainfield Jr. Baseball Club and was very active in the South Plainfield Men's Recreational Softball League.

He was employed, along with his two brothers, at Butrico's Auto Body in South Plainfield. A friend to many, John enjoyed Atlantic City and playing the lottery.

He is pre-deceased by his father, John A. Sr., who died in 1998.

In addition to his sons, also surviving are the mother of his two children, Michelle Butrico of South Plainfield; his mother Ann Butrico of South Plainfield; his son's fiancé Jessica Cerami of South Plainfield; four sisters, Barbara Stahlin and her husband Frank of South Plainfield; Mary Jane Finnerty and her husband Jim of Middlesex, Joanne Staats and her husband Randee of Dunellen and Nancy Robshaw and her husband Artie of Piscataway; three brothers, Frank and his wife Ann Marie Butrico of South Plainfield, Tommy and his wife Maria Butrico of Naples, Fla. and Peter and his wife Patricia Butrico of Somerville. Also surviving are his mother and father-in-law, Elaine and Michael Adorna of Toms River, brother-in-laws, Joseph Adorna and his wife Lucy and Michael Adorna and his wife Maria, both of South Plainfield; his special friend Ann Lammi of South Plainfield and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Mary Lukacsina, 93

Mary Lukacsina died on Wednesday, Feb. 23 at her home.

She was born in 1911 in Passaic and had lived in South Plainfield since she was eight-years-old.



John A. Butrico Jr.

Mary had worked as the supervisor of catalog sales for Sears, Roebuck & Co. in Plainfield and later in the Watchung store. She was with Sears for almost 50 years before she retired nearly 30 years ago.

She was a longtime member of St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church in Perth Amboy.

She was predeceased by a brother, George Millovich and by two sisters, Pauline Enos and Elizabeth Miller.

Surviving are four sisters, Anna Morgan of Piscataway, Helen Leach, Margaret DeRose and Bertha "Happy" Hylkema and by a brother, John Millovich, all of South Plainfield. She is also survived by several nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Ray E. Stoner, 93

Ray E. Stoner died on Tuesday, Feb. 22 in his home.

Born in Chambersburg, Pa., Ray retired in Edison and Colonia before moving to South Plainfield in 2003.

He was employed as a screw machine operator for the former Millar & Frey Co. of Green Brook for many years before his retirement.

Ray was an avid bowler and had bowled for over 70 years before giving the sport up at the age of 91.

He was a member of the New Dover Methodist Church in Edison.

Surviving are his wife, Eleanor J. Stoner; two daughters and sons-in-law, Janis and Rob Nietzer of South Plainfield and Dorothy and Cliff Smith of Ft. Mill, SC; a son and daughter-in-law, Keith B. and Julie George of Albrightsville, Pa. and a brother, Marlin Stoner of Pt. Pleasant. Also surviving are seven grandchildren, Kristen, Jesse, Kyesha, Ginny, Elaine, Cliff and Lea and a great granddaughter Kimberlee.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations to First Baptist Church Organ Fund, or Haven Hospice at JFK Medical Center, 80 James St., Edison, NJ, would be appreciated.

Martha (Barnosky) Cvetko, 84

Martha (Barnosky) Cvetko died on

Thursday, Feb. 24 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield surrounded by her family.

Born in Tamaqua, Pa., she resided there until the age of 16, when she moved to South Plainfield where she had resided for most of her life before settling to Plainfield's Cedar Brook apartments in 2002.

A quality control specialist, Mrs. Cvetko had been employed by the former Cornell-Dubilier in South Plainfield, RCA in Avenel and lastly, Gulton Industries of Metuchen before her retirement in 1989.

She was a member of the South Plainfield Senior Citizens, a communicant of Sacred Heart Church and their Altar Rosary Society and the KSKJ Slovenian Lodge, New York Chapter.

She also loved BLTs, Edy's butter pecan ice cream, a good murder mystery and an honest game of solitaire.

She is predeceased by her husband, Andrew, who died in 1983; two sisters, Mary Cannon and Ella Allen and three brothers, John, Steve and Mike Barnosky.

Her love for her children can never be measured and will live on forever. Surviving are two sons, Bruce J. of Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. and Gerald A. Cvetko of Ormond Beach, Fla.; three sisters, Anna Urban of Pa., Jennie Yurinko of South Plainfield and Elizabeth James of Pa.; a brother, Ted Barnosky of Calif. and a beloved niece, Helen Spisso of South Plainfield.

Also surviving are three grandchildren, Lisa, Michael and Christopher and three great grandchildren, Brendan, Lauren and Steven and a soon-to-be-born fourth great granddaughter in April.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Stella Fitzgerald (Rzucidlo), 84

Stella Fitzgerald (Rzucidlo) died on Saturday, Feb. 26 at home in South Plainfield.

Born and raised in Shanondoah, Pa., Stella lived in Brooklyn, NY and Scotch Plains before moving to South Plainfield in 1967.

Mrs. Fitzgerald was a member of Sacred Heart RC Church and she was an avid Mets fan.

She is predeceased by her first husband, Walter, who died in 1956; by all of her brothers and by a sister.

Surviving is her husband, Richard of 45 years of South Plainfield; a daughter, Maryann Rooney and her husband, Gerald of Fla.; a son, Joseph Honorowski and his wife, Carolyn of South Plainfield; five grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Stella's name to the American Cancer Society, 846 Main St., Fords, NJ 08863 or to The American Heart Association, 2550 Rt. 1, North Brunswick, NJ 08902.



Keri Gould of South Plainfield and Jodie and Lorie Young of Piscataway recently received the 4-H Clover Award.

4-H Environmental Club Members Receive Awards

Ecomaniacs, an Environmental Science 4-H Club based out of Piscataway, earned several honors at the recent Middlesex County 4-H Association annual awards ceremony on Sunday, Jan. 9 in East Brunswick. The Club Leaders Ellie and Dave Bronovick received "Leader of the Year" honors for their hard work and dedication to the members of the two-year-old club. The Club won top honors as the Outstanding Environmental Club of the Year. From a field of more than 20 4-H clubs, it was chosen as the Overall Club of the Year.

In addition to several members of the club earning individual awards for their involvement in 4-H, South Plainfield resident Keri Gould received the Clover Award, 4-H's highest individual award for her involvement not only in her project area, but also Club and county activities. In addition, she received a County Award for Environmental Science. Two other members of the club were awarded the same honors. They are Jodie Young and Lorie Young, both residents of Piscataway. Kristina Kraft of Edison,

Jodie Young and Lorie Young were given special awards for their public speaking presentations at the State competition. Jodie Young also won a special award for Personal Development, as well as an additional County Award for Dog Care and Obedience.

4-H National Youth Development Program is part of the US Department of Agriculture through the Rutgers Cooperative Extension. 4-H programs are offered to all youth grades K-13 on an age-appropriate basis, without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or disability. Within Middlesex County, there are several clubs, each based on a particular interest area. Some examples are Small Animals, Foreign Cultures, Crafts, Cooking, Radio Control Racing Cars, Dancing and Shooting Sports, to name just a few. Ecomaniacs have business meetings once a month to plan their field trips and service projects. For more information about the 4-H program or any of the clubs within Middlesex County, please contact the 4-H office at (732) 745-3446.

Curves Supports Communities Nationwide with Annual Food Drive

Curves 30 Minute Fitness and Weight Loss Center in South Plainfield will be joining the Curves International Inc. "Curves Food Drive" to benefit local food banks.

Last year, the Curves food drive collected over 4,000 tons of food for local communities.

Anyone joining Curves the week of March 7 may bring a bag of groceries and have the normal service fee waived. Anyone may drop off non-perishable food items at Curves Monday through Friday during business hours during the month of March.

"The Curves Food Drive promo-

tion allows us, the franchisees, to help more women reach their fitness goals, while giving back to the community simultaneously," explained Jerri and Elissa, the owners of the South Plainfield club.

With over 8,000 locations worldwide, Curves is the world's largest fitness franchise and the fastest growing franchise in history. Currently, Curves helps over four million women realize their fitness and weight loss goals every day.

Curves is located at 27 South Plainfield Ave. in South Plainfield.

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Father/Daughter Dances Held at Kennedy and Riley

Editors Note: On page 9 of last week's Observer, we inserted the incorrect story with the photos of the Father/Daughter Dances Held at both Riley and Kennedy. Following is the correct story.

The month of February marked the arrival of a much-anticipated event for the girls in Riley and Kennedy Elementary Schools. On Feb. 4 the young ladies of Kennedy School stepped out for a night on the town with their best beau, daddy. The event was the Kennedy Annual Father Daughter Dance. The dainty debutantes, many sporting corsages courtesy of their dates, were dressed to the nines with makeup, heels and hairdos. Most of the dads dressed for the occasion as well.

One week later the adorable scene was repeated. Love was in the air on the night of Friday, Feb. 11 as excited young ladies from Riley School entered the dance on the arm of their Valentine. Daddy's little girls looked quite sophisticated decked out in gowns and glitter.

After registering at their respective dances, the couples entered the gym which was transformed into a ball-

room. The girls temporarily abandoned daddy and dashed for the dance floor. Riley School had brought in a DJ, while Kennedy utilized the expertise of gym teacher Al Hook. They danced their hearts out with moves of their own or copied from a favorite video. Despite their formal attire the girls indulged in long lines whipping across the room. The few spills which resulted produced giggles not tears. Dads were encouraged to join the girls for the chicken dance, hookey pokey and more.

Both father daughter dances offered long tables filled with assorted goodies, ranging from sweets and veggies to hot and cold beverages, which fueled the guests throughout the evening. Kennedy had a table featuring beautifully wrapped raffle baskets.

Slow songs and dim lights brought dads and daughters back together for grown up dances. The evening was tailor made for photographs of daddy's little girl and cameras flashed like summer fireflies. After the final dance the tired beauties headed for home with their first love. Memories made that special night will last a lifetime.

Kennedy Celebrates Freedom in America

By Jane Dornick

In honor of Black History Month, celebrated in February, the Kennedy Elementary School Student Council performed a Freedom In America assembly for their fellow classmates on Feb. 4.

Under the direction of Student Council Advisor Theresa Luck, council members capsulized several hun-

dred years which lead up to how life in America became the way it is today. Students wore costumes and held signs depicting the difficult struggles during our nations growth.

In brief skits they portrayed the Pilgrims and immigration through the women's and civil rights movements and the underground railroad. They also explained how such symbols as the American flag and bald eagle came to

signify our great nation. The Declaration of Independence and the impact of Abraham Lincoln were also touched upon.

At the end of their performance, the entire third grade class stood on stage and sang *I Woke Up This Morning*, followed by the Paul McCartney song *Freedom* while the entire school waved American Flags in tribute.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Gino Leonardis requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit a shed. Proposed shed (1) lacks the 40' required setback from Woodland Ave., 10' proposed and (2) exceeds allowable total sq. ft. for sheds, 200 sq. ft. allowed, 256 sq. ft. proposed, and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 3281 Evergreen Lane on Block 225, Lot 56 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, March 24, 2005 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

The maps and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Building Inspector's Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

\$35.00 March 4, 2005

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1690

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1690 entitled: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 26, ARTICLE III OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED: "FIRE DEPARTMENT - LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM" was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, March 4, 2005 and that a public hearing be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2005 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

ORDINANCE NO. 1690

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 26, ARTICLE III OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED: "FIRE DEPARTMENT - LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM" FOR THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Be it ordained by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield, that:

the Code of the Borough of South Plainfield, specifically Chapter 26, Article III, entitled: "Fire Department - Length of Service Award Program" be amended as follows:

Article 26-27. Criteria for contributions.

A. The maximum amount of contributions per volunteer shall be as follows:

| Year | Maximum Per Person |
|------|--------------------|
| 2004 | \$500.00 |
| 2005 | \$800.00 |
| 2006 | \$1,100.00 |
| 2007 | \$1,300.00 |

B. Volunteer Fire Department. Attendance at all calls and alarms for members of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department as per Schedule A attached hereto.

C. South Plainfield Rescue Squad. Attendance at calls and alarms for volunteers of the South Plainfield Rescue Squad as per Schedule B attached hereto.

All other provisions of this chapter shall remain in effect.

This ordinance shall take effect upon final adoption and publication according to law.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk/Administrator

\$64.75 March 4, 2005

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1692

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1692 entitled: A CAPITAL ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$210,400 FOR THE ACQUISITION OF DECORATIVE LIGHTING ALONG HAMILTON BOULEVARD, REPAVING AND NEW SIGNAGE AT THE RECYCLING CENTER AND EQUIPMENT TO BE USED BY OUR EMERGENCY SERVICES was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, March 4, 2005 and that a public hearing be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2005 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

ORDINANCE NO. 1692

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$210,400 FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AS LISTED BELOW FOR THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY as follows:

Section 1. That there is hereby authorized pursuant to applicable statutes of the State of New Jersey, as a general improvement, the following improvements in the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, New Jersey:

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Hamilton Blvd Street Lighting | \$140,000.00 |
| Homeland Security Equipment | \$53,000.00 |
| Recycling Area Paving | \$17,400.00 |
| TOTAL | \$210,400.00 |

Section 2. That the improvements described in Section 1 hereof shall be authorized as general capital improvements for the Borough of South Plainfield in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey.

Section 3. It is hereby determined and declared by this Mayor and Borough Council as follows:

- A. That the maximum estimated amount of money to be raised from all sources for the purposes stated in Section 1, hereof, is \$210,400.00.
- B. That the cost for said projects shall be financed by a \$140,000.00 Grant from the NJ Department of the Treasury, a \$53,000.00 from the Department of Homeland Security and a \$17,400.00 Grant from Middlesex County for Recycling Enhancement.
- C. The estimated useful life of said improvements is hereby determined to be ten (10) years.

Section 4. That the total amount of the appropriation to be expended for Architectural and inspection costs, legal costs, advertisement of ordinance and other expenses as provided in Section 48:2-20 of the Revised Statutes, is not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication in accordance with the law.

Vincent Buttiglieri, RMC, CMC
Administrator/Municipal Clerk

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$91.00 March 4, 2005

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1691

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1691 entitled: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTERS 801.2 AND 801.3 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED: "BUSINESS ZONES" AND "INDUSTRIAL ZONES" was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, March 4, 2005 and that a public hearing be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2005 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

ORDINANCE NO. 1691

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTERS 801.2 AND 801.3 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED: "BUSINESS ZONES" AND "INDUSTRIAL ZONES" FOR THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Be it ordained by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield, that:

the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield, specifically Chapter 801.2 entitled: "Business Zones" AND 801.3 ENTITLED: "Industrial Zones" be amended as follows:

801.2 Business Zones:

- A. The following signs shall be permitted in the OBC1, OBC2 and OPA1 Zones:
 2. A business may have up to a total of three (3) signs for the purpose of identification and advertising. One of these signs may be a ground sign. The maximum area of the sign cannot exceed 32 square feet. The maximum height of the sign cannot exceed 6 square feet. The maximum width of the sign cannot exceed 6 square feet. The sign must be located a minimum of 15' from the property line and shall not be located in the clear site triangle as required by section 509. No sign may cause any traffic hazard.

801.3 Industrial Zones:

The following signs shall be permitted in OPA-2, M-1, M-2 and M-3 zones.

- B. An industry may have up to three (3) signs for the purpose of identification and advertising the firm. One of these signs may be a ground sign. The maximum area of the sign cannot exceed 32 square feet. The maximum height of the sign cannot exceed 6 square feet. The maximum width of the sign cannot exceed 6 square feet. The sign must be located a minimum of 15' from the property line and shall not be located in the clear site triangle as required by section 509. No sign may cause a traffic hazard.

All other provisions of this Ordinance shall remain in effect.

This ordinance shall take effect upon final adoption and publication according to law.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$77.00 March 4, 2005

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BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE No. 1689

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1689 entitled: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 67 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED: "LIQUOR LICENSES" was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, March 4, 2005 and that a public hearing be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2005 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

ORDINANCE NO. 1689

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 67 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED: "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES" FOR THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF

MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Be it ordained by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield, that:

the Code of the Borough of South Plainfield, specifically Chapter 67, entitled: "Alcoholic Beverages" be amended as follows:

Article 67-2. License Fees

License fees shall be amended as follows:
Plenary Retail Consumption License \$2,217.00
Plenary Retail Distribution License \$1,485.00
Club License \$150.00

All other provisions of this chapter shall remain in effect.

This ordinance shall take effect upon final adoption and publication according to law.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk/Administrator

\$47.25 March 4, 2005

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policereport

• On Feb. 23 Kelvin H. Walker, 39, of Piscataway was arrested for having a fictitious inspection sticker, failure to inspect vehicle, driving while suspended and three outstanding warrants at a motor vehicle stop.

• Nery Navas, 28, of Plainfield was arrested at the DMV for exhibiting fraudulent documents to obtain a driver's license.

• Mark K. White, 45, of Scotch Plains was arrested for driving while suspended, having an unregistered and uninsured vehicle and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

• On Feb. 24 Samuel Jeannot, 42, of No. Plainfield was arrested for having an open alcoholic beverage container, failure to observe a traffic signal and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

• Edgar Osweldo Cruz, 31, of

Plainfield was arrested for exhibiting a fraudulent government document at a motor vehicle stop.

• Marvin G. Gonzalez, 22, of Long Pond, Pa. was arrested for exhibiting a fraudulent government document at a motor vehicle stop.

• On Feb. 25 Oscar A. Rivera, 35, of Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

• Cherri Tanzola, 25, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated and reckless driving at a motor vehicle accident.

• On Feb. 28 Joseph R. Baita, 41, of Bridgewater was arrested for driving while intoxicated, reckless driving and failure to observe a traffic signal at a motor vehicle stop.

Last Chance for '03-'04 Photos

Last chance to get 2003-2004 prints of *Observer* photos taken by Patricia Abbott. Photos listed below will be deleted at the end of March. More will be listed next week.

Franklin School: Veteran's Day Program, Kindness & Justice Challenge, Halloween, Dr. Seuss, Beach Party, Christmas Concert, auction and more.

Riley School: Beach Party, Spring Concert, mother/son dance, father/daughter dance, Dr. Seuss.

Grant School: Chess Club, Once on this Island, spring concert, Inves-

tors Club, Poetry Club, Holiday Concert, Dare and more

Middle School: holiday and spring concerts, 8th grade dance, play-*Who dum it and to Whom*, 2004 graduation and more.

VFW and American Legion events: Town History Day 2003/2004, McCriskin tree lighting 2003-2004, Sr. Center Dances, Fire Dept. circus and oldies concert and other local events.

There are many unpublished photos. For more info call (908) 756 8011 or email angelonly@aol.com.

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Elks, Historical Soc. Hold Fundraising Breakfast

By Patricia Abbott

On Sunday, Feb. 13 the South Plainfield Historical Society and South Plainfield Elks fundraiser was really cooking...literally. The menu featured eggs, french toast, bacon, sausage, home fries, beverages and more. Made-to-order breakfasts were served up to about 100 hungry visitor Members of the organizations were kept busy in the kitchen as well as serving the meal, and setting and clear tables. Proceeds from the joint venture benefited the Historical Society.



Photos by Christopher Abbott

Tourette Syndrome Assoc. Seeks Nominees

The Board of Directors of Tourette Syndrome Association of New Jersey (TSANJ) has announced that they are accepting applications for the 2005 TSANJ Educator of the Year and the 2005 Healthcare Professional of the Year nominees.

The Educator of the Year award is presented annually to a New Jersey public or private school educator who has made a significant contribution to the education and well-being of a student with Tourette Syndrome. The honor is given to acknowledge the extraordinary efforts on the part of an educator toward the betterment of a student's life and to advocate for students with Tourette Syndrome by furthering the awareness of TS in the teaching community. The nomination should be made by both the family of the student and school administration.

The Healthcare Professional of the Year Award is bestowed upon a doctor, nurse, psychologist, or other healthcare professional who has provided exceptional effort in helping a family deal with needs associated with Tourette Syndrome. The nomination should be made by the family.

Nominations for both awards, in the form of a written explanation of the efforts of the individual with complete contact information for both nominee and nominator, should be submitted to Tourette Syndrome Association of New Jersey, 50 Division St., Suite 205, Somerville, NJ, or by fax at (908) 575-8699. Nominations must be received by April 30. The award will be presented at the TSANJ annual gala in May.

The awards are funded through the generosity of TSANJ supporters. Individuals interested in supporting the scholarship should forward the con-

tribution to Tourette Syndrome Association of New Jersey, Inc., 198 West High St., Somerville, NJ 08876. Checks should note that the contribution is to be made to the Educator of the Year fund.

Tourette Syndrome (TS) is an inherited neurological disorder that is manifested in involuntary physical and vocal tics. Symptoms generally appear before an individual is 18 years

old. TS affects people of all ethnic groups with males affected three to four times more frequently than females.

The mission of TSANJ is to support the needs of families with TS, to advocate for individuals with TS, and to educate the public and professionals on TS. TSANJ has a membership of 2,500 families and medical professionals.

From the South Plainfield Library Bookmarks

By Chris Grippo

The names of the winners of the February is Romance Month contest were picked on Friday, Feb. 25. They are Gladys Ochoa, Marilyn Cruz, Charisse Miglis, Patricia Rogers, Robert Cerini and Awilda Ortiz. While congratulating the winners, we also would like to acknowledge all 159 patrons who submitted chances in this free contest.

Also, please remember the handwriting analysis program this Sunday at 2 p.m. at the library. Bernice Kreiger will talk about handwriting and then analyze participants' handwriting. Because of the nature of the program, attendance will be limited to 30. Therefore, if you want to attend this program you need to call the library and register. There is no charge for this program.

There are still a few spaces open for the craft on Monday, March 7. Practical Crafting Instructor Ronda Wisniewski will do Paper Quilting at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. This is a fun adult 'make and take' craft. There is a \$1 materials fee which has to be paid

at the time of registration. Wisniewski's crafts are always fun and teach wonderful projects which you can always then do at home with friends and family.

A new rotation of the music CD circuit has arrived at the library. These circuits always contain a wide variety of music, from old standards to classical to new releases. The circuit will be in the library for three months, but it is always a good idea to check out the selection early in case what you want is currently checked out.

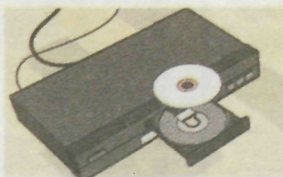
Finally, Miss Linda's storytime/craft programs are on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. These programs are for children three years old and up. She also has a program on Friday mornings called "Books and Babies" for younger children.

The library is located at 2484 Plainfield Ave. and the phone number is (908) 754-7885 or you can visit us at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us. In fact, if you use our website you can: renew books, put holds on books, request interlibrary loans, access databases, and a plethora of other activities!



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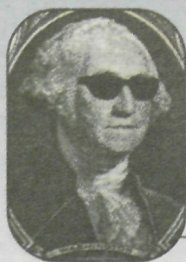
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Camp Hoover Plans an Open House

Great times, great memories and great experiences are what girls in grades two through 12 can expect this summer when attending Camp Lou Henry Hoover. An Open House is set for March 6 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the camp facilities in Middleville.

Camp Hoover is a residential Girl Scout camp that is owned and operated by the Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Council. Horseback riding, sailing, gymnastics, performing arts, canoeing and hiking trips, photography and general camp programs are available during the six week resident camp. Girls can sign up for one or more weeks of camp and it is not necessary to be a Girl Scout to register.

To receive a brochure and/or directions to the Open House, call (908) 232-3236 ext. 1226 or email dhooker@gswrc.com. Make this a summer to remember at Camp Lou Henry Hoover.