

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 8, NO. 36

50 CENTS

MAY 13, 2005

Hamilton Blvd. Delays Begin

The bids for the planned reconstruction of Hamilton Blvd. are in and work is slated to begin by the end of June. But before then, Elizabethtown Water Co. will be replacing their water lines along Hamilton Blvd. between Ryan St. and New Market Ave.

Delays along Hamilton Blvd. already began last week when the water company started boring and marking where their water lines were along the roadway. Traffic last week was backed up on various portions of the roadway with only one side of the road open at a time, causing delays.

On Tuesday, the work to replace those water lines began. Elizabethtown Water plans to replace about 250 feet at a time. The total project includes 5,000 feet. Work is expected to take about 90 days, which means work will still be underway when the actual reconstruction begins.

The reconstruction will be extensive. Coordinated traffic lights will be installed at both Ryan St. and St. Nicholas Ave. The New Market Ave. and Hamilton Blvd. interchange will be completely rebuilt and a house torn down to make turning easier. The roadway along the residential area will get new curbs, sewers and sidewalks. This is a massive project that will take months to complete and delays will

be extensive.

For those who use Hamilton Blvd. on a regular basis this means one huge delay after another. Drivers would do well to find an alternative to using the boulevard during the construction. One alternative is to use South Clinton Ave. by way of New Market, no matter in which direction you are driving.

The *Observer* will provide traffic updates each step of the way to alert readers of expected delays or if any closings are planned.

Elizabethtown Water will be working along Hamilton Blvd. from Ryan St. to New Market from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and some nights. As of press time, we have not heard of any road closings, but drivers will encounter one way traffic and delays in the areas where they are working.

In addition to the delays on Hamilton Blvd., the railroad crossing on New Brunswick Ave. is slated to be closed on May 16-17 due to a broken rail. Traffic will be rerouted to Clinton Ave. and Walnut St. and then back to New Brunswick Ave. Please make note of this closing and avoid the crossing on New Brunswick Ave.

Log on to the Borough's webpage: southplainfieldnj.com for updates on construction and road delays.

Advisory: Railroad Crossing Closure

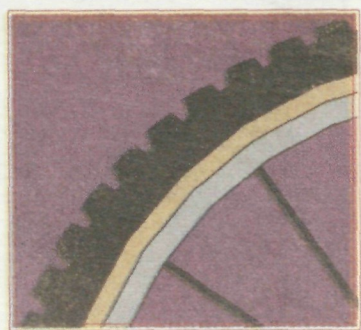
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Annual Police Bicycle Rodeo Saturday

The South Plainfield Police Department will be hosting their Annual Bicycle Rodeo on Saturday, May 14. This event will be held in Spring Lake Park from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

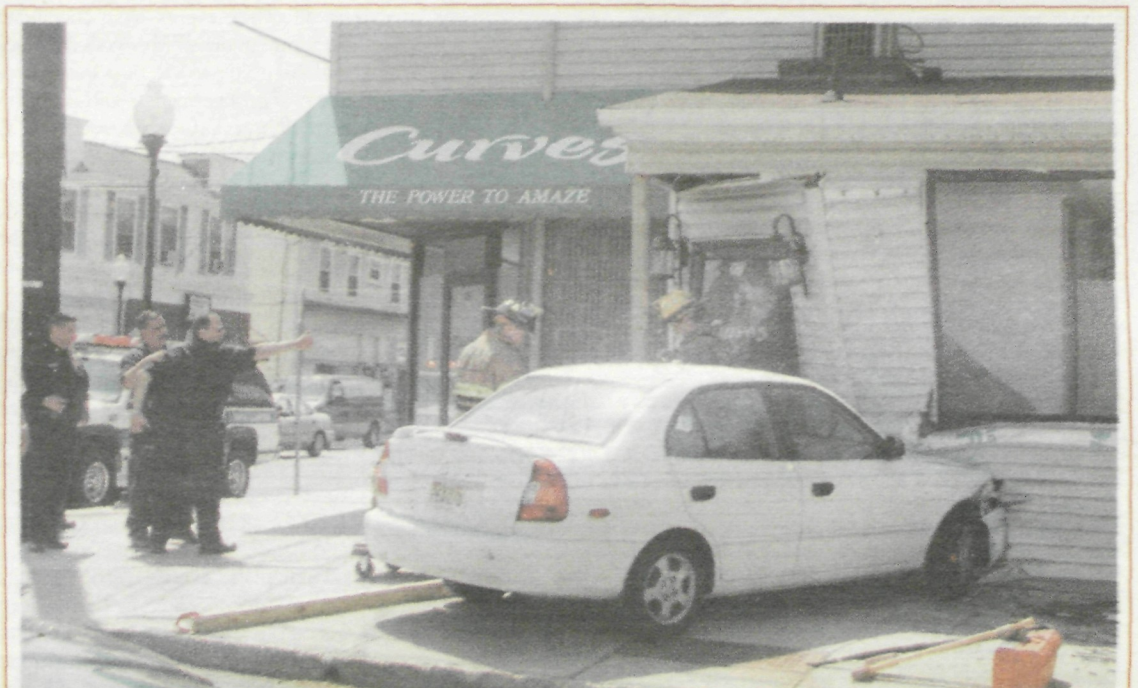
Featured will be an obstacle course presented and conducted by volunteer employees of State Farm Insurance. Proper riding techniques and rules of the road will be emphasized during this phase of the program and an "On Bike Skills Development" course will be conducted. Helmet-wearing cyclists will negotiate a moderately challenging course of cones to improve their riding abilities.

For cyclists 14 years of age and younger who do not have bicycle helmets, a limited supply of helmets, donated by the South Plainfield Traffic Safety Advisory Committee, will be provided to them. Those participants wearing their own helmet to the rodeo who register their bicycles with the South Plainfield Police Depart-



ment will be entered into a drawing to win a new bicycle. Ron Sward, the director of Physical Therapy Center of South Plainfield, has donated a bicycle for this event.

Safety-oriented literature supplied by various sources will be provided to all participants. Halls Fast Motor Freight and Warehouse, Häagen-Dazs Ice Cream, Canada Dry, Roma Foods, McCriskin's Home for Funerals, Rita's Italian Ice, and Freihofers



Curves, located at the corner of Front St. and South Plainfield Ave., was the scene of a motor vehicle accident Tuesday afternoon. The driver of the vehicle pictured here, 75-year-old Julia Vakerich of Ritter Ave., attempted to turn left on to Front St. in the path of a vehicle driven by 22-year-old Pooja Ladani of Woodbridge. Instead of completing the turn, Vakerich crashed into the business. Fortunately, no one was in that section of the fitness facility when the accident occurred. The club's members were undeterred by the accident, and still came up to follow their fitness routines.

State's Financial Investigation Reveals Violations Board of Education Eliminates 15 Positions

The State Department Education Office of Compliance Investigation Internal Audit Unit has completed a limited financial review of the South Plainfield Board of Education from July, 2001 through January, 2005. In a letter to the board, which was read at Tuesday's night meeting, the state listed 11 violations which they feel were committed by the board.

The board also unanimously voted to eliminate 15 positions next year. Even though the budget passed last month and residents will be paying more in taxes, these positions were slated to be cut to keep the budget under cap and to make up for the budget shortfall which was discovered last year. Eliminated were two

high school assistant principals, one business/accounting office clerk, a secretary to the director of technology, a technology facilitator, three part-time secretaries, five elementary school teachers and two middle school teachers. Board member Sue Peck said, "No one is happy with the

cuts, but it had to be done to keep the budget within cap."

The staff at Kennedy School asked the board to reconsider keeping one of their teachers who was on the list to be eliminated, but the board ignored their plea.

(Continued on page 13)

Cell Number Reassignment Leads to Eight Arrests

The South Plainfield Police Detective Bureau has announced an investigation into driver's license fraud that resulted in eight arrests, the seizure of \$8,900 in cash and three motor vehicles. The investigation began in late February when Captain Paul

Brembt, Commander of the Detective Bureau, received numerous telephone calls on his newly-issued departmental cell phone. The calls were from Spanish speaking individuals requesting to speak to Jorge in an attempt to obtain

(Continued on page 13)



The "Rose Patrol" headed out across South Plainfield for Mother's Day to bring joy to fourteen lucky moms or, as in the photo above, to grandmothers. Ashley Robinson is pictured here with her grandmother, Roberta, who was the recipient of a dozen roses and an essay written by her granddaughter. Please turn to page 2 for the story and the thirteen happy mothers.

Mark Your Calendars

Log on to
southplainfieldnj.com
for the latest meeting agenda

council meetings

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
May 17	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
June 7	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
June 21	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
July 12	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 (NJSA 10:4-6 et seq) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Avenue.

planning board

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

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.

zoning board of adjustment

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

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.

board of education meetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted
Committee of the Whole meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. June 7, July 12, Aug. 9, Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, Dec. 13, Jan. 10, 2006, Feb. 14, March 14 and March 28.

Regular Board Meeting Tuesdays at 8 p.m. June 14, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15,
Dec. 20, Jan. 17, 2006, Feb. 21, March 21 and April 4.

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.
May 17, June 21, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Dec. 20.

recreation commission

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

May 24, June 28, Sept. 27, Oct. 25, Nov. 7 and Dec. 13.

environmental commission

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

June 8, July 13, Aug. 10, Sept. 14, Oct. 12, Nov. 9, Dec. 14 and Jan. 11, 2006

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.

Dear Editor,

On Saturday, May 7, the South Plainfield Special Olympians took part in the Area 5 Regional Special Olympics at Carteret High School. Although the rain threatened to immobilize the event, the Special Olympians once again managed to amaze their fans.

For the past month, the Special Olympians have been working extremely hard with their coaches and high school volunteers to prepare for the Middlesex/Union county track and field competition. Their hard work and dedication once again provided the athletes with astonishing results. After all of the events were concluded on Saturday, the athletes loaded the bus with 50 gold medals, nine silver medals, two bronze medals and one fifth place ribbon. These results qualified all fourteen athletes into the State Special Olympics to be held next month at the College of New Jersey.

Besides the obvious success on the track and in the field, the athletes and numerous high school volunteers represented the town with nothing but class. The athletes portrayed the principles that any coach would be proud of. Each athlete competed with determination, sportsmanship and ability. The high school student volunteers at the event helped deliver and cook the food for all of the athletes, calculated and handed out the medals and also officiated the events. Also, the high school students could be heard cheering on our athletes during their events. South Plainfield is extremely fortunate to have such wonderful students who not only traveled to Carteret on their own, but also made a huge impact on how smooth the event was run this year. Without the volunteers at practice working with the athletes and supporting them on Saturday, the athletes from Middlesex/Union counties would not have been able to achieve such wonderful results.

As we look back on the day's events, it is with enormous respect that we say thank you to all of the volunteers from South Plainfield. The athletes appreciate your time and support, as you continue to represent our community with pride and enthusiasm. We also say thank you to the athletes for giving us the honor of seeing you win gold and achieve your goals for the event. We look forward to your continued hard work and success when you reach the College of New Jersey on June 3. Your courage and determination are truly inspirational! Good luck at States!

KEVIN HAJDUK, SHARON ARONEO AND ADDISON WILLIAM

Dear Editor,

The South Plainfield High School SilverDreams Winter Guard would like to publicly thank the many people who helped make our 2005 season memorable:

- Diane and Greg Kuhn, Julie Yon, Cheryl and Andy Keraga for all their hard work at Wildwood and for all the help and support they've given to us.
- Maryann and John Eder, Michelle

IN YOUR OPINION

Submit Letters to the Editor:

Please be advised that the Observer will no longer publish anonymous letters. Any letter received without identification will be discarded.

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 or to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject.

and Al Peterson and all the parents who helped at Wildwood. All their help is greatly appreciated.

• ALL of our parents for their love and support, and our families and friends who trek all over to see our competitions.

• Heartfelt thanks to Mark Tweed, Kathy Petrocelli, Darren Delaney and Danny Matos for their guidance, counsel, teaching, direction and everything that they do for us. We love you guys!

• Our mat and prop people; without their assistance we could not perform.

We really appreciate all the help, guidance, and support we have received!

We are all looking forward to next year's winter guard season. We will do our best to make all of you and our school proud. Tomorrow will "be a bright, bright, bright sunny day!"

**THANK YOU,
THE SILVERDREAMS WINTER GUARD**

Dear Editor,

In response to Rachel Henderson's letter in the April 2 edition of The Observer, we would like to state the facts.

Around the week of March 31, Mrs. Crown, the acting principal of Riley School, informed our P.T.S.O. President that Dr. Rosado asked all the school principals to come up with a way to encourage people to get out and vote. Some of the other schools developed a plan to send home cards declaring "I Voted." The class with the most cards returned would receive a pizza party. At the Riley P.T.S.O. General meeting, Mrs. Crown presented this idea to the P.T.S.O. members and requested that the P.T.S.O. pay for the pizza party. At no time during the meeting did anyone voice any concerns or objections. Therefore, the teachers organized the activity and the P.T.S.O. supported them. The P.T.S.O. has been asked to support many of the functions that have taken place at Riley School this

year. We are proud of the fact that we can lend a hand when needed.

As always in a democratic society, your vote is confidential. The card was intended to get people to exercise their right to vote and increase voter turnout at the polls. In fact, in the end, voter turnout was higher and more people's voices were heard.

We hope that this better explains why the cards were sent home. The controversy over the collection boxes at the polling places indicates that there was confusion and misunderstandings, not criminal or immoral activity.

THE RILEY SCHOOL P.T.S.O. EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dear Editor,

Since we had Terra Nova last week, Grant School is celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week this week-the week of May 9.

I want to publicly thank all of the teaching staff at Grant School for the fine job that they are doing and have done with our students. Their commitment to instruction has shown itself in their willingness to add nine minutes of instruction at the beginning of the day and to sacrifice 10 minutes from the elementary lunch schedule to have time to plan together, add to math instructional time and support students in the seventh period class.

The teachers at Grant School work tirelessly facing each of the challenges of working with preadolescent students in a unique setting. They are appreciated for the active way they provide the nurturing and safe environment for all students. They are appreciated for the way they handled the many vicissitudes of a new school environment.

I want to let each of them know that they are appreciated because they have joined with me in making our vision and mission for transition to a Grant 5th/6th School a reality. They are appreciated for their passion for educating students and for their talents, creativity, patience and desire to continue to grow professionally and to learn together while sharing their expertise with each other.

Grant school is truly a team effort. I am truly glad that I have been a part of that effort for three great years.

Teachers, you are truly appreciated! Not just because it is Teacher Appreciation Week, but also because you are a phenomenal group of people. You are the best!

**JANIS BURCHELL
PRINCIPAL OF GRANT SCHOOL**

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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.

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Seniors Win Cooperative Education Scholarships



Top row (l to r) John Lartaud, John Blanchard, Joe McConville and Dave Piscitelli. Bottom row (r to l): Veronica Konya, Candice Krimin, Mayro Robles and Timothy Cheng.

An intense competition among 85 Cooperative Education seniors at South Plainfield High School was held by the American Legion Post 243 March 31. Four students were chosen to receive scholarships toward their college expenses.

Mayra Robles, daughter of Angel and Lilian of Edgar Ave. and Timothy Cheng, son of Jimmy and Judy of Day St., both won \$1,000. Mayra will be attending Kean University to

pursue a career in international business with a concentration in accounting. Timothy will be attending DeVry University majoring in computer information systems.

Veronica Konya, daughter of Ron and Cheryl of Randolph Ave. and Candice Krimin, daughter of Mark and Victoria of Clifford St., both won a \$500 scholarship. Veronica will be attending Universal Technical Institute for Automotive Technology in

Pennsylvania and Candice will be attending Middlesex County College for medical technology.

Members of the American Legion Scholarship Committee were Post Commander John Blanchard, Finance Officer Joe McConville, Renato Biribin and Rick Magri. McConville said, "I was extremely impressed this year with the quality and leadership skills of these Cooperative Education students." The American Legion initiated the scholarship competition 14 years ago to honor senior Cooperative Education students excelling in both academics and work skills, such as resume writing, essay writing, interviewing skills, employer and school recommendations plus acceptance to post secondary schools. "It is excellent training for these seniors to compete in our interview competition," said Biribin.

Cooperative Education School to Careers Coordinator De Falato is very proud of this long standing partnership between the American Legion and South Plainfield High School Principal Dr. Kenneth May. She appreciates the many years of scholarship support between the highly successful CD Program and the generous members of the Chaumont Post 243. May said, "When an important community service organization such as our American Legion seriously supports and lends real participation to a popular high school program it is a formula for success."



SPHS Assistant Principals Steven Novak and Charles Ford congratulate Krista Malecki (left) and Ellen Bradley (right) who were recently selected as this year's Prodigal Foundation Scholarship recipients. Scholarships are given to seniors who have had their lives adversely affected by cancer. The presentation of the scholarship awards took place at a scholarship dinner at the Colonia Country Club in Colonia on April 30.

Property Tax Reimbursement Forms Explained To Seniors

By Libby Barsky

More than 325 Seniors filled the senior center last Wednesday to hear Matthew Sutto of New Jersey Division of Taxation explain the two forms for property tax reimbursement available for those 65 and over or disabled.

Arrangements for the program which brought Sutto to the borough were through the efforts of Councilwoman Kathy Thomas and South Plainfield Chief Financial Officer Glenn Cullen.

Although the FAIR program of rebates for homeowners under 65 and

those non-disabled was suspended by the Governor this year, Sutto assured the Seniors that the forms were worth filling out because money for reimbursement should come from the law enacted in June 2004 (retroactive to Jan. 1, 2004) that placed a marginal tax rate of 8.97% on those whose taxable income was above \$500,000. So there should be money to fund that portion. "Even if there wasn't any money to pay out, I would still tell everybody to file, because you never know what will happen a couple of months from now," said Sutto.

There are two forms that provide reimbursement on property taxes and both must be completed and filed by June 1, 2005.

Most well known is the FAIR Rebate Application, a name combining what were formerly the Homestead Rebate and N.J. Saver programs. Those who have owned and occupied their principal residence in New Jersey since October 1 of 2004 and whose gross NJ income for the entire year was \$200,000 or less are eligible to apply for rebate with FAIR form.

The other form called Property Tax Reimbursement is available to residents 65 or disabled who have lived in New Jersey for at least 10 years and owned and occupied their home for the last three years and whose income in 2003 was less than \$40,028 if single and less than 49,082 if married and whose 2004 income was less than \$40,869 single and \$50,113 married. First time applicants must meet eligibility guidelines for 2003 and 2004. Both forms must be completed and filed by June 1, 2005.

Sutto explained that tenants 65 or disabled are eligible to file FAIR Rebate application TR-1040 if their residence is subject to property tax and their gross income for the year was \$100,000 or less. This year tenants filed rebate form TR-1040 with their NJ 1040 income tax form on April 15 or the extended due date. Those tenants that aren't required to file income taxes may file rebate form TR-1040 by January 17, 2006.

For homeowners who recently re-
(Continued on page 13)

Library Staff Honors Their Many Volunteers

The staff of the South Plainfield Public Library held an appreciation tea for its volunteers and handed out gifts to them on Friday, April 29.

Volunteers Mary Conboy, Jewel Lunna, Judy England McCarthy, Jim Smith, Anne Troop and Ann Venitelli keep the shelves they are assigned in order twice a month.

Lillian Slaz delivers to the homebound when they request books, Peg Luehman processes new books and Edna Beck processes the new Audiovisual and DVD materials. "I like coming in. I like the people and I love to read. My loyalties are

here," said Beck, summing up the sentiments of those present.

"All of these people work many hours for free in the library, doing a lot of jobs that we don't have time to do. It makes it easier to have people straighten shelves, to cover books and to run the book sales. We couldn't do it without you. Some of you put in a lot of hours and we really really appreciate what you do. We are giving you a small gift to thank you for your help. If we had to pay you, we'd go broke," said library director Sunnie Randolph adding, "We hope you stick with us as we go forward on the new

library because we will have lots and lots of jobs that we will need help with."

Five years ago the library began the program of honoring volunteers. "A lot of volunteers were coming in and there was nothing in place to say thank you. So that's when we decided to have a little tea to have an appreciation for them," said recently retired librarian Judy Jones. "It's nice to get everyone together and have them chat. They don't often have the opportunity to see each other (because they come on different days)," added Jones. And over cookies, strawberries, chocolate mints, coffee and tea, the volunteers did spend time getting to know each other.

The volunteers also had questions about the status of the new library. Randolph brought out the architect's three different renditions of the future library. All of the plans featured

an elevator and a drive up window where books could be picked up or dropped off.

"Because of the location on Plainfield Ave.," Randolph noted, "the biggest challenge the architect faces is getting the building on the site, but we expect the building will be done by September 2007."

"We are still visiting recently built libraries in the state to try to learn from everyone's mistakes," said Randolph. She cited problems at those libraries involving windows that don't open, the depth of the work counter, the lack of a central circuit breaker that would shut off the lights from one source instead of going around to each light. She invited the volunteers to use their experience to ask questions. "You all know what works and have suggestions."

GRADUATION

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Weekend Schedule: Saturday evenings 5:30pm
Sunday mornings 8am and 11am

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Around Town

South Plainfield Funeral Home Open House

May 14

All are invited to attend the open house event at the South Plainfield Funeral Home on Plainfield Ave. on Saturday, May 14 from 2 to 5 p.m. Sacred Heart Pastor John Alvarado and Mayor Gallagher will speak at 4 p.m. Light refreshments and tours of the newly renovated facility will be given. Open house will be held rain or shine under the tent! For information call Paul or Tami at (908) 756-2900.

Fire Department Wine Tasting

May 14

The South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department will be holding their annual Wine Tasting, sponsored by Oak Tree Buy-Rite Liquors on Saturday, May 14 from 6-11 p.m. at Embassy Suites in Piscataway. Tickets are \$40 and include the wine tasting reception and a cash bar, DJ and dancing. Special rate hotel rooms are available.

For tickets, call Mike Gallagher, (908) 755-9874; John Celentano, (908) 757-5691 or Buy-Rite Liquor, (908) 561-0051.

Suburban Woman's Club to Host Benefit

May 15

The G.E.W.C. South Plainfield Suburban Woman's Club will host a theatre performance to benefit their scholarship fund on May 15 at 3 p.m. at the Circle Playhouse.

The play is "What We Bulter Saw," a comedy by Joe Orton. Tickets are \$16. Complimentary refreshments will be served and door prizes will be awarded. Co-chairmen for the event are Freida Walker and Filomena Viola. Circle Playhouse is located at 416 Victoria Ave.

For ticket information, call (908) 757-3680 or (908) 757-6163.

Biofeedback Treatments Lecture

May 15

A lecture on biofeedback treatments will be held on Sunday, May 15, at 2 p.m. at the library.

Kirtley Thornton, Ph.D. of the South Plainfield-based Center for Health Psychology will present the lecture, which is free. No pre-registration is required. For more information, call (908) 754-7885 or visit the library's website at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us.

Sacred Heart Choral Music Concert

May 15

As part of their parish centennial celebration, the Sacred Heart Adult Choir will hold a free concert featuring the cho-

Elks Plan Bus Trip to Dover Speedway

September 25

The South Plainfield Elks will be sponsoring a trip to Dover International Speedway on Sunday, Sept. 25. Seats are still available. Cost is \$130 per person and includes ticket, bus, food, beverages, prizes, coffee and donuts at the lodge. A deposit of \$65 per ticket is required and the balance is due in mid-July. Make checks payable to South Plainfield Elks. Contact Barbara Muller at (908) 757-5734 or email: mullerjb@comcast.net.

What's happening in MAY

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

Senior Center EVENTS

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

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
UPCOMING EVENTS 	May 19—Cactus Flower at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse, \$50 Bus leaves at 9 a.m. June 2—42nd Street \$45 Bus leaves at noon		12 Weekly Shopping 9am Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11am & 1pm	13 Bingo 10am-2pm Lunch Available
	16 Knitting/Crocheting 9:30-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Drawing Class 11:30am Picnic with SPHS 1pm	17 Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social 10am	18 90 Birthday 11am Line Dancing 10am AARP Crafts 1pm Computer Class 10 am 11:30 am, 1 pm Listening to Kids 10am	19 Weekly Shopping 9am Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 11am & 1pm Cactus Flower 10am

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

ral music of John Rutter on Sunday, May 15 at 3 p.m. in the church.

The choir is under the direction of Dan Mahoney and they will be accompanied by Jack Bender.

Remember Tsunami Victims Presentation

May 15

A presentation of first hand information of the damage and rehabilitation in India will be held on May 15 at noon at Westley Methodist Church in the Fellowship Hall.

The event is sponsored by the National Association of Asian Indian Christians in the USA, Inc. (NAAIC) and the Wesley Church Delegation.

Republican Meeting

May 18

The regular monthly meeting of the South Plainfield Republican Organization will be held on Wednesday, May 18, at the American Legion Hall on Oak Tree Ave. The meeting begins at 8 p.m.

All residents of the borough are invited to come and discuss their concerns about the borough with council candidates Matt Anesh and Robert Bengivenga, Jr.

VFW Dinner

May 20

The VFW Post 6763, located on Front St., will hold a dinner on Friday, May 20, from 5-8 p.m. The public is welcome to attend. For more information, please call (908) 668-9751.

VFW Flea Market

May 21

VFW Post 6763, located on Front St., will hold a Flea Market on Saturday, May 21, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. rain or shine. Vendors are wanted. The public is welcome to attend.

For information, call (908) 668-9751.

Sacred Heart Flea Market/Craft Fair

May 21

Sacred Heart Centennial Committee is sponsoring a Flea Market/Craft Fair on Saturday, May 21 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (In the event of rain, it will be held in the cafeteria.) It will be held in the church parking lot on South Plainfield Ave. Spaces are \$20. Bring your own table. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. Come and join us and sell your wares or purchase

new ones! To reserve a space, call Helen at (908) 756-0633 ext. 10 or Elaine at (908) 756-9654. See you there!

SDW Auditions

May 23, 24 and 25

Auditions for the Summer Drama Workshop play *The Pajama Game* will be held May 23, 24 and 25 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Middle School. Auditions are open to anyone completing sixth grade through their first year of college residing in South Plainfield.

For information, call (908) 561-5255.

AARP Meeting

May 25

The South Plainfield Chapter of AARP will hold its meeting on May 23 at 12:30 p.m. at the senior citizen center. Election of officers will be held.

AARP Trip to The Villa

May 24

The South Plainfield Chapter of AARP will be going to The Villa by bus on Tuesday, May 24. Price is \$65 and includes transportation, gratuities, buffet lunch and the show at The Villa, *Broadway in Concert*, featuring live songs. Bus leaves the PAL at 10:15 a.m. For information or for reservations, call Lee at (732) 968-6613.

Pampered Chef Fundraiser

May 25

Grant School is holding a Stokes 2006 Fundraiser! Spend an evening with us on Wednesday, May 25 at 7 p.m. as we host a Pampered Chef Fundraiser with "The Broadway Chef" David J.V. Meenan. We will learn tips for the kitchen and get to see the premiere source of fine, affordable kitchen tools from the Pampered Chef. Bring your friends. For more information, call (908) 756-1142.

— Out of Town —

WOWs Dance

May 13

Middlesex East Widows or Widowers, Carteret Chapter, will hold a dance on Friday, May 13 at St. Demetrius Community Center in Carteret. There will be live music and refreshments. The dance will be from 7:30-11:30 p.m. Admission for members is \$8 and \$9 for guests.

For information, call (732) 541-2174 or (908) 757-0515.

St. George Greek Orthodox Festival

May 13, 14, & 15

The 32nd Annual St. George Greek Orthodox Church Green Festival will be held on Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. and Sunday 12 to 8 p.m. at 1101 River Rd. in Piscataway. (across from Johnson Park)

For more information contact John Lyssikatos (732) 261-5226.

Trash and Treasure Sale

May 14

The Women's Association of Oak Tree Presbyterian Church on Plainfield Ave. in Edison will hold a Trash and Treasure Sale from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 14. Household goods, small appliances, toys games and more. All proceeds go to the church. Early birds are not admitted.

The Jubilation Choir in Concert

May 14

It's a soul stirring extravaganza: the Reverend Stefanie Minatee and The Jubilation Choir in concert! On Saturday, May 14 at 7 p.m. at the North Stelton A.M.E. Church in Piscataway. Donation is \$25 with \$30 at the door. For information, call (908) 769-9188.

Greek Dance and Workshop

May 14

On Saturday, May 14 at 2 pm, Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission and the Folklife Program for New Jersey will present, A Celebration of Greek Dance: Performance & Workshop with the Hellenic Dancers of NJ, at the Outdoor Amphitheater of the New Jersey Veterans Home at Menlo Park in Edison.

For information or to register, call (732) 745-4489. In case of rain, the program will be moved inside the NJ Veterans Home.

Garden Photography Workshop

May 14

Well-known photographer and educator Nancy Ori of Berkeley Heights will host a Garden Photography Workshop at Liberty Hall Museum on Saturday, May 14 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The rain date is Sunday, May 15. Participants are invited to bring either a lunch or a snack.

Liberty Hall Museum is located at 1003 Morris Ave. in Union. For more information, call (908) 527-0400.

Raise The Roof

May 15

Holy Wisdom Blues Hall in Flanders presents a good-time, juke-joint jamboree on Sunday, May 15, from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. This special fundraiser for Holy Wisdom Church will help to bring recognition to some very special blues folks and keep the important blues concert series alive and well. Admission is \$15, children 12 and under free. Call (973) 584-0414 for tickets and information.

Caregivers Support Group

May 16

A meeting of the Caregivers Support Group will be held on Monday, May 16 from 6:30-8 p.m. at the NFVS, 515 Plainfield Ave. in Edison. Topic discussed will be "Home Safety for People with Memory Loss and Alzheimer's Disease." There is no fee and newcomers are welcome. RSVP is necessary--seating is limited. For information or to register, call (732) 777-1940.

Jersey Flag Football Summer Kick-Off

May 16

The Jersey Flag Football Association will be hosting a "Kick-Off the Summer" Co-Ed Event. The one-day event offers games, food and prizes. This will be a great opportunity to meet new people ages 25 to 35. Contact us by May 15 for more information about this event. We can be reached by phone at (732) 978-4453 or by email at nj_bandits@yahoo.com.

Workshop on Financial Aid

May 17 & 19

Free workshops presented by Mark J. Mauro, CPA, are being held for the parents of college-bound high school students at Raritan Valley Community College on Tuesday and Thursday, May 17 and 19. The workshops will focus on little-known ways of getting money for college. These workshop classes are from 7-8:30 p.m. Seating is free, but limited. To reserve a seat, call toll free: (877) 656-2727.

Retirement Workshop

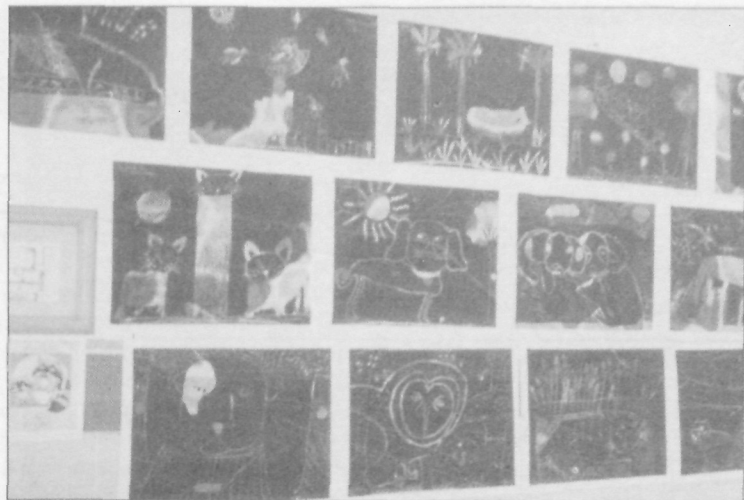
May 18

There will be a two-hour workshop at the Jewish Family & Vocational Service in Edison, that will focus on the emotional issues related to retirement.

The workshop will be offered twice, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. and again from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Registration is required. Call Irene Stolzenberg, LCSW, at (732) 777-1940 ext. 134, email at i.stolzenberg@jfv.org or register on our website at www.jfv.org. Fee is \$15 per person/session. It includes materials and refreshments.

Send Us Your Around Town Events

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Student artwork is being displayed in the halls of Sacred Heart School for the upcoming Art and Science Expo.

Art and Science Expo Highlights Upcoming Events at SHS

Sacred Heart School will represent a musical recital on Wednesday, May 18 at 7:15 p.m. in the school gym. On Thursday, May 19 there will be an Art and Science Expo featuring all artwork done over the school year, as well as group and individual science projects. In conjunction with the expo there will be an Open House that evening for any prospective students. This will take place from 7-8:30 p.m. and all are welcome to join our school family on these special nights.

Kennedy Math-A-Thon Raises \$3,000 for Cancer

Kennedy Elementary School recently held their annual Math-A-Thon fundraiser to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and raised over \$3,000 for cancer research. The Math-A-Thon fundraiser is an educationally based program where students obtain sponsors for the number of math problems completed in special workbooks provided for them. The program is sponsored by Six Flags theme Parks, who provide free passes to their parks for every student raising \$35 or more. "We are very proud of our stu-

dents for working so hard on the Math-A-Thon," said third grade teacher and coordinator Teresa Luck. "With their help, St. Jude Hospital will be able to create new treatments that may one day lead to a cure for many forms of cancer that will benefit the children of our state, our country and around the world. I also want to extend our thanks to the South Plainfield community for supporting our students. It takes all of us to make a difference in the lives of children with cancer and we can all feel proud of our response."

Pajama Storytime with Spot The Dog

The Rainbow Academy Child Care Center's Parent Association of Edison is sponsoring a Pajama Storytime with Spot the Dog at the Menlo Park Mall Barnes & Noble Bookstore. Bring your children in their pajamas and enjoy an evening of storytelling and reading. You can also come and get your picture taken with Spot the Dog. Infants and Nursery reading time is 7 p.m., Reading with Sign Language for all at 7:30 p.m., Pre-K Reading Time is 8 p.m. and Summer Camp Reading Time is 8:30 p.m.

The Rainbow Academy Child Care Center's Parent Association is affili-

Think "Flowers For Profit"

Parker Garden's program, Flowers for Profit, is offering fundraising opportunities to multiple organizations and clubs in surrounding communities.

The program runs until June 15. This is the second year for Parker's program and currently several organizations are involved. The opportunity to join Flowers for Profit is still available and it will also run in the fall.

The program is open to organizations, schools, groups or clubs in the surrounding area. Representatives may contact Parker Gardens at (908) 322-5555 to sign up for the Flowers for Profit program. Parker then assigns the organization, school, group or club a specific code.

Members mention the code to the cashier at the point of checkout. At the end of the program Parker Gardens will donate 10% of the organization's proceeds to them.

"We care about the surrounding communities and this program is a wonderful way to show our support and dedication," said Steve Parker, owner of Parker Gardens.

"This program also helps us to connect with children and instill a love of gardening and appreciation of nature."

Parker Gardens is the one of the largest privately owned horticulture businesses in the United States. Located on Terrill Rd. in Scotch Plains their fourteen acre facility consists of a garden center, nursery and many greenhouses. Parker also offers a full range of landscaping services and is the largest privately owned Interior Landscaper in the country. Seminars and events are held throughout the year. For more information please contact (908) 322-5555 or visit www.parkergardens.com.



Roosevelt students get a lesson of defending themselves against bullying.

Roosevelt Students Learn Lessons About Bullying

Tom Guerin of ATA Blackbelt Academy on Maple Ave. visited Roosevelt School, along with his assistant and instructor Tony Omorato. They spent the morning talking first to kindergarten and first grade students about strangers and being safe, and then to the second through fourth graders about what to do if they encounter a bully.

Guerin explained the different kinds of bullying and then suggested ways to avoid being bullied. His overall message was to always show respect for one another.

When he asked if any students present were bullied or knew someone who had been bullied, just about the entire audience raised their hands. He also related his childhood experience and how he was bullied countless times.

He went on to discuss the various ways people use to bully someone and then went on to give hints on what you can do if you are bullied. At the conclusion of Guerin's presentation, students were chosen to

act out a different bullying scenarios. In one instance, one student was the bully and another had to figure out what to do, using Guerin's suggestions including yelling, ignoring, reasoning and agreeing. All of the students were very good at both bullying and avoiding bullying.

Guerin finished his talk by reminding students never to argue, but instead use their mind to get positive results and to just get out the situation until you can get help.

Franklin School Kindergarten Orientation

Franklin School will welcome all incoming kindergarten students and their parents for orientation on Thursday, May 19 at 3 p.m. in Room 5.

A tour of the building, meetings with teachers and staff, the opportunity to make a special craft and great snacks will all be included in the program!

Animal Welfare Magnetic Car Ribbons Now Available

People for Animals, a non-profit animal welfare organization, has available two styles of magnetic ribbons for your car so that you may show your support for animal welfare. The ribbons are the same style and size as the "Support Our Troops" and other ribbons. All proceeds from the sale of the ribbons will benefit homeless cats and dogs awaiting adoption.

The ribbons styles are white with the word "RESCUE" and paw marks over the entire ribbon in black

and sky blue with the words "PLEASE Spay & Neuter" and paw marks over the entire ribbon in white. The ribbon size is eight inches high by four inches wide. Each ribbon is made of a weatherproof vinyl coated magnetic material.

To order, email your order to oluetscher@wi.r.com or call (908) 623-0263. Please leave your name and a telephone number for a volunteer to contact you to confirm your order. A donation of \$5 is requested for each ribbon.

Advanced Tickets For Renaissance Kingdom Available

NJ Renaissance Kingdom performer Chris Abbott is among those offering advanced ticket sales for the event. The popular annual event runs weekends June 4-26, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Advance tickets sales save \$2 per ticket. Ticket prices are adults-\$13, seniors-\$7, children under 12-\$5 and toddlers under three are free. If you'd like to purchase advance tickets, call (908) 346-4727. Checks should be made to Dunn-Ley Productions and can be picked up at the Main Ticket Booth at the NJ Renaissance Kingdom.

The NJRK is located in the South Mountain Reservation, Tulip Springs Section-Cherry Lane, South Orange.

For more detailed directions, call (732) 271-1119 or email: webmaster@njkingdom.com.

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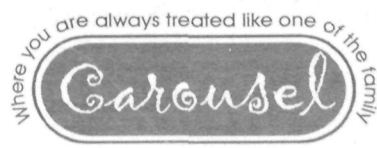
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Cassandra D'Urso is Honored by United Way

South Plainfield High School Senior Cassandra D'Urso was recognized as a "Hometown Hero" by the United Way of Central Jersey at a dinner and awards ceremony held at the Forsgate Country.

Cassandra, a member of the Leadership Organization, attended the dinner with her parents and Mary Ellen Martko, one of the Leadership advisors. This year's theme was "The Power of One." Six corporations were honored as well. The award is given to honor someone who most exemplifies the true meaning of "volunteerism."

D'Urso received the "Student Volunteer" award for her many community activities. As a member of the school's Student Leadership Group, she has volunteered her time and talents for the past four years to help children, adults and senior citizens in need. D'Urso has volunteered with the Special Olympics, The Young Apostle Training Program (Franciscan University), Vision 2001 Education Program, Newark Day Camp, Rutgers Abuse Network, Sisters of Charity, Habitat for Humanity and at the senior citizens center. She also has helped raise money for needy families. Last year, D'Urso ran in a 24-hour marathon,



Cassandra D'Urso (right) was honored by United Way. She is pictured here with Leadership Organization Advisor Mary Ellen Martko.

the Tiger 24, which raised more than \$25,000 for underprivileged children in South Plainfield. A role model for those who know her, D'Urso speaks in classrooms on issues such as diversity, stereotyping and anger management.

"Volunteers throughout our service area, everyday and in very meaningful ways, contribute to the quality of life for local citizens," said Gloria Aftanski, president, United Way of Central Jersey. "Cassandra is among the many volunteers who quietly provide, with dedication and commitment, vital sup-

port and assistance to meet many needs in the community. She is a true example that one individual can make a difference. We appreciate Cassandra for offering her time and talent. She certainly well represents the commitment of our young people to help those in need."

United Way of Central Jersey is a not-for profit fund-raising organization that supports and provides funding for 120 social service and health care programs that are administered by 45 non-profit member agencies.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Sunnie Randolph

On Sunday, May 8, the South Plainfield Public Library will hold a lecture on EEG biofeedback and ADD/ADHD learning disabilities. The program starts at 2 p.m.

On Saturday, May 21 the library will hold a book sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you have any books or videos you would like to donate, please bring them to the library before Friday, May 20. The library will not take text books, encyclopedias or magazines.

Children's programs will be held on Tuesday, at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. for children age three and older. There will be a Time for 2's and 3's on Wednesday morning at 10:30 a.m. and a Books-N-Babies program on Friday at 10:30 a.m. For more information, please call the library and ask for the children's department.

If you are planning your summer vacation, the library has travel books for many places in the United States

and around the world. We also have language cassettes and CDs to help you learn a new language to use when you travel.

The library has a number of gardening and plant books to help you select and care for your outdoor plants. There are also books on building a deck, patio, walkway or wall so you can enjoy the summer weather outdoors. If you like to barbeque, the library has a variety of barbeque books – not just on barbequing meat or fish but also vegetables and fruit. There are also cookbooks on summer salads, drinks and desserts.

If you do not like to watch reruns on television, stop by the library and pick up a DVD, video, book on tape, book on CD or one of the new fiction or nonfiction books. This is the time of year when many of your favorite authors come out with new books. You can place holds on any of the new titles by calling the library or do it yourself from the library's web site at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us.

Updates on

IMPROVING THE BOROUGH

Status of Upcoming Borough Projects

From the Borough Administrator

Construction on Putnam Park Phase #II began last week. The orange fencing that can be seen in the park surrounds the foundation of the future comfort station. Phase #II improvements consist of a comfort station—bathrooms; two tennis courts; ten fitness stations throughout the jogging path; repainting of the handball court's wall and new concrete surface and relocating and installation of a new basketball court to replace the existing court.

The handball and basketball courts will be unavailable for a short time while undergoing their facelift. Improvements should be completed by

July 1. These improvements are funded entirely by a \$595,000 Middlesex County Recreation Grant. This grant will also fund the construction of Pop Warner football and junior soccer concession stands, which should be completed later this summer. This project will be discussed in a future release.

Putnam Park encompasses 8.6 acres. The park features basketball, volleyball, handball, swings, jungle gym, jogging path, covered picnic pavilion, onsite parking and protective fencing. The park itself will remain open while these improvements take place.

If you have any questions regarding this project, do not hesitate calling Recreation Director Mike English at (908) 226-7713.

Red Cross Lifeguard Training

The Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross will be hosting the following courses:

- Lifeguard Training: Starting May 23-27 and running Monday through Friday. Get the training needed to become an American Red Cross lifeguard. You must be at least 15 years

of age to complete this course.

- Lifeguard Instructor Course: Starting May 10-22 and running Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays. Purpose of this course is to train instructor candidates to teach courses in the Lifeguarding program. You must be at least 17 years of age to complete this course.

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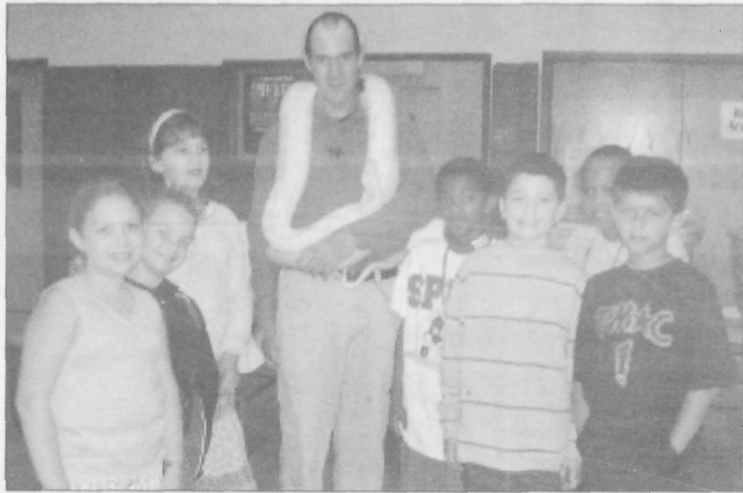
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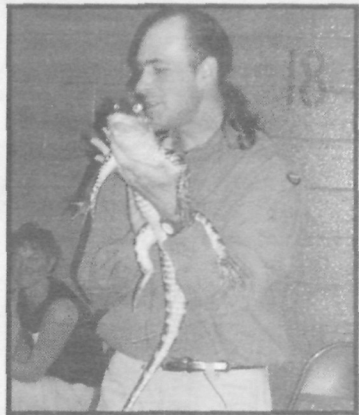
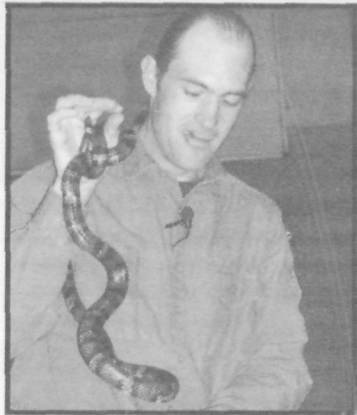
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Eric Jones shows Roosevelt students his albino Burmese python.



Eric Jones holds a milk snake (left) and baby alligator (right).

Reptiles Rule at John E. Riley and Roosevelt Schools

By Jane Dornick

Erik Jones from Mobile Ed Productions Inc. recently presented a spine tingling show for Riley and Roosevelt Elementary School students featuring live reptiles and more. There were gasps from the children, as well as the teachers, as each animal brought out of its container was big-

ger and bigger!

Jones showed the audiences a chinchilla, a hedgehog, a ferret, a tortoise, an iguana, a lizard, a baby alligator, a milk snake and finally an eight foot long baby albino Burmese python. Each school saw different animals and were spoken to in great length about their habitats, what they eat and how they live.

OLC Parish Feast of St. Anthony Coming in June

Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish is preparing for their Annual Feast of St. Anthony starting on Tuesday, June 7 and ending Saturday, June 11. The event is held on the parish grounds.

The event has Polish and Italian homemade foods—meatball, sausage sandwiches, homemade perogies,

kielbasa sandwiches, hot dogs, hamburgers, French fries, pizza frite, clams, Italian pastries, zeppoli and calzones, shish kabob, roast beef sandwiches and more. There will also be 13 games to play and win at. In addition, there will be all kinds of rides available for small and big children.

Everyone is invited to come out and have a great time at the Feast of St. Anthony.

Hours are from 5 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 1-11 p.m. on Saturday, June 11.

For more information, call Mary at (908) 757-4490.

Host Family Needed

World Heritage is seeking families, couples or single parents (with or without children at home) who are adventurous, fun-loving, responsible and most of all, caring, who are interested in hosting a high school-aged foreign exchange student. By hosting a student from another country, your entire family will discover a world of fun and enlightening adventure. Students who spend a semester or year in the U.S. are fulfilling a lifetime dream. American culture plays an important role all over the world; the English language is the international language of our times. Share your home for a year—enjoy a friendship for a lifetime!

To begin this exciting cultural experience, please call Debra, a World Heritage Area Representative at (800) 888-9040 or visit our website at www.world-heritage.org.

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Tourette Syndrome Association Seeks 2005 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 can 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, New Jersey, 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.

Junior Journalist Corner



Christina Kasmer, Kennedy School Fourth Grader, is Named "Junior Journalist"

Christina Kasmer, Kennedy School fourth grader, is this week's winner in the *Observer/Hometown Heros* Junior Journalist Program. Her poem, "At the Beach," has won dinner for her family, courtesy of Hometown Heros.

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

Thanks to all who entered the contest this year!



Christina Kasmer with her teacher Janice Urciuoli.

At the Beach

By Christina Kasmer

Seaweed swaying in the sea,
While fish are swimming in fantasy.
Sun and water in my face,
Putting on sunscreen just in case.
Little crabs all around,
Digging holes in the ground.
Collecting seashells in my jar,
Finding them from near and far.
Building a sandcastle in the sand,
Making it look like Disneyland.
I go in the water just knee-deep,
Now my castle is one big heap.
The best place to be,
Is at the beach by the sea.

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Najee Branson, Mom Nancy & sisters Nacia & Niyaha



Ryan Bythell with Mom Barbara & brother Kyle



Jessie Deffler with Mom Marie

Mother's Day Rose Patrols Heads Out to Surprise Moms



Siobhan Nicole with Mom Paulette

As they do every year, Mohn's Flowers and Fancy Foods brought huge smiles and a few tears to thirteen mothers and a grandmother this past Mother's Day when they delivered roses to the winners of their annual Mother's Day essay contest.

Elementary school children were asked to write either an essay or a poem about their moms and submit them to their teachers. Each elementary school chose three winners and then gave the winning names to Mohn's Flowers, who delivered a dozen roses, along with the students' winning essays, to each mom. This year four of the five elementary schools submitted winners. Roosevelt School did not participate. Winning essays were written by students in kindergarten through fourth grade. All 14 winners were visited last Saturday by Georgeann DeGrazi, co-owner of Mohn's, who personally presented each mom a dozen roses, courtesy of Mohn's Flowers.

The *Observer* had the privilege of riding along with the "Rose Patrol." This is one of the most heartwarming stories we cover each year and this year was just as rewarding as in the past. The surprise, joy and love we see in the eyes of the moms, along with the delight of the students who authored the winning essays, tells the whole story at each and every stop the Rose Patrol makes.

Every essay conveys the love each child has for his or her mom. They express themselves in many ways, some in essay form and some in poems. But the one theme in each is the same, their love for their mothers, and this year, a grandmother. We can think of no finer gift a mother can receive than these essays.

Each year Mohn's co-owners Georgeann DiGrazi and Bill Cochran are brought to tears as they read the winning essays and poems. They are relieved they don't have to choose the winners. DiGrazi and Cochran donate their time, as well as the roses, for this special Mother's Day tribute each year and deserve recognition for sponsoring this annual contest. Mother's Day is one of the busiest days of the year at Mohn's Flowers and this year the Junior Prom was held the evening before.

Winning essays and poems were written by Ashley Robjohn, Anthony Santone, Kim Lam, Madison Miller, Najee Branson, Michelle Lesniak, Jessie Deffler, Siobhan Nichole Barrington, Daisy Garcia, Amanda Caruso, Samantha Hunterdon, Joey Valentino, Morgan Merkler and Ryan Bythell.



Anthony Santone with Mom Lisa



Michelle Lesniak with Mom Sharon



Madison Miller with Mom Dana



Morgan Merkler with Mom Stacey



Joey Valentino with sister Elizabeth



Daisy Garcia with Mom Roscio



Samantha Hunterdon with Mom Valerie



Kim Lam with sister Linda



Amanda Caruso with Mom Elizabeth

Governor's Teacher Recognition Program Announces Honorees

The South Plainfield Education Association is pleased to announce the honorees for the Governor's Teacher Recognition Program 2004-2005. They are Diana Joffe (high school), Barbara Pinelli-McDonough (middle school), Judith C. Dias (Grant), Joan Kane (Franklin), Peggy Monagle (Kennedy), Eleanor Gaffney (Riley), Maureen Wilson (Roosevelt) and Janice Early (Roosevelt Administration). Together they have given a total of 162½ years of dedicated service to the children of South Plainfield. These educators will be honored at a luncheon on May 26 at the Pines Manor in Edison.

Judith C. Dias is a sixth grade language arts and reading teacher who has also taught mathematics in the past. Besides her current assignment at Grant, she has taught at Riley and the middle school. She began her teaching career in South Plainfield 28 years ago after graduating from Fairleigh Dickinson University with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education K-8. Dias was nominated twice, once just recently for *Who's Who Among American Teachers*. At school, she has served as team leader for over 15 years, has been a member of the PAC Committee for two years, volunteered for the 5/6 transitional team and acted as a mentor for new teachers. Dias has also been a member of the PTO in South Plainfield, Green Brook and Watchung Hills, as well as a member of the New Jersey Education Association and the Parents Association for Fairleigh Dickinson and George Washington Universities. She enjoys reading in her spare time and spending time with her husband, Randy and two daughters, Erin and Ashley.

Janice Early is the K-5 Special Education teacher located at the Roosevelt Administration Building this year. She graduated from Kean College with a degree in special education and has taught for 13 years. For the past five years, she has been employed in South Plainfield, where she's taught at Grant, as well as at her current building. She serves on the Ellie Committee and the Early Childhood Advisory Counsel. Beyond the school day, Early volunteers her time for Buddy Ball and the Special Olympics Triathlon.

Eleanor Gaffney has been an educator for 38 years, 35 of them in South Plainfield. She currently teaches fourth grade at Riley, where she is also the safety patrol advisor. Past grade level assignments at Riley also include third, fifth and sixth grades. She received her undergraduate degree in elementary education from Kean University and her MA in Elementary Science Education from Fairleigh Dickinson. In addition to this current honor, Gaffney was also named NJEA and Trenton Thunder Teacher of the Year in 1995, received the CTN Golden Apple Teacher Award in 1997 and is included in *Who's Who in American Education*. She is a member of the NEA, NJEA, MCEA and SPEA. Her interests include traveling, reading and going to the theater. She also enjoys numerous activities with her family and friends.

Diana Joffe is currently teaching Spanish and Algebra in grades nine through 12. Besides her present special education assignment at the high school, Joffe also taught self-contained third and fourth grades at Riley and Kennedy. An educator for 28 years, she has served South Plainfield's students the entire time. Joffe received her bachelor's degree in special and elementary education from Rutgers University. She is a member of the Council for Exceptional Children, NEA, NJEA and MCEA. In the district, she has served as grievance chair and vice president of the South Plainfield Education Association. At the high school, she has also been a class advisor for 25 years, a member of the Attendance Appeals Committee and a member of the Interventional and Referral Services (I and RS)

Committee. In Edison, where she resides, Joffe is on the Council to Select Firemen. Outside of school, she enjoys weightlifting, reading, theater, art and boating.

Joan Kane began her teaching career in South Plainfield as a substitute teacher. After five years, she was assigned to Franklin School and began teaching fifth grade there for the next five years. An educator for 17½ years, she now teaches third grade, still at Franklin. She graduated from Kean University with a degree in general elementary education. Kane is a former member of South Plainfield Jayceettes and currently a member of NEA, NJEA, MCEA and SPEA. She has served as a cooperating teacher for two Kean University student-teachers. Kane reports that she enjoys "spending time with my two grandsons."

Peggy Monagle has spent her entire 30-year career as the speech teacher to children of all age levels at Roosevelt, Riley and the middle and high schools, as well as at Kennedy, where she is currently assigned. She earned her BA in speech pathology and English from Douglass College, Rutgers University, an MA in speech pathology from Kean, 30 credits as part of the Rutgers Doctoral Program in Learning Disabilities and a Supervisory Certificate. She is a member of the American Speech and Hearing Association, where she received a Certificate of Clinical Competence and belongs to NJEA and SPEA. Monagle is also a member and past president of Clark's Kiwanis, which sponsors Key Club and Builders Club and serves on the PAC Committee at Kennedy. At home she loves spending time with her three

children, Maureen, Michael and John.

Although she has been an educator for 15 years, **Barbara A. Pinelli-McDonough** has been employed in South Plainfield for the past three years. She is currently teaching eighth grade US History and has also taught seventh grade Social Studies. Her educational background includes an associates degree in liberal arts from Middlesex County College, a Bachelor of Arts in history from Montclair State University and a graduate degree in education from Monmouth University. In addition to the Governor's Recognition Award, she has been honored as VFW Teacher of the Year and nominated for Disney's Teacher's Award. Pinelli-McDonough also participated in Project Harmony, was chosen as a map tester and received one grant from Eagleton Institute of

Politics at Rutgers University for civics projects and four grants from the Woodbridge Township Education Association. Pinelli-McDonough is a member of several professional groups and associations, including New Jersey Association for Gifted Children, National Association for Gifted and Talented, Association for Supervision and Curriculum, National Council for the Social Studies, NJEA and NEA. At the middle school, she volunteers for a large variety of committees, activities and events. These committees include Differential Learning, Professional Days, Middle School Improvement Plan and District Curriculum. She also serves on the Leadership Team and as a Teacher Mentor, Student Mentor and Presidential Debate Moderator. She was a participant in Cen-

(Continued on page 13)



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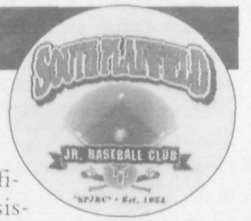
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Sports

By Lee Flanagan

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES



The SPJBC will be conducting tryouts for all Traveling All-Star Teams within the next two weeks. If you are interested in trying out for your age group, look at the bulletin board at the baseball club for more information about tryouts. All players will be receiving a telephone call after the tryouts are over. We will also announce the teams in the *Observer*.

The baseball club was pleased to announce this year's scholarship award winners at their monthly meeting on May 2. The SPJBC gives out two \$2,000 scholarships to two individuals who played at least five years at the baseball club and are now on their way to college. This year's winners are: Michael Benak and Brian James Murtagh, both young men will be attending Delaware University. Special thanks to Joe Sierzega for chairing this committee. It was a job well done.

This serves as a friendly reminder for all parents. If you would like to

help out with your son's team at the SPJBC, you must have a club membership card and your Rutgers Certification Card. You cannot be in the dugout without these two credentials. The only exception is the scorekeeper, but they must have a club membership card. This will be strictly enforced. Membership cards are \$10. See the Officer on Duty to obtain a card if you do not have it. The manager of the team is totally responsible for the actions of himself and the coaches in the dugout.

There are positions on the Executive Board up for election in the month of June. If you are interested in running for a board position see the committee consisting of Jack Brady, Bob Bors, Mike Salici and Rick Walton. These board members have another year on their terms. Executive Board positions that are up for election are: commissioner, assistant commissioner for administration, assistant commis-

sioner for finance, Assistant Commissioner for Communications, Trustee position (Fundraising), Trustee position (Player agent), trustee position (uniforms and equipment) and trustee position (safety officer)

At this time, Lee Flanagan has submitted his name for re-election as commissioner. Glenn Cullen has submitted his name for assistant commissioner for communications, Tom Walsh and Bill Butrico have submitted their names for re-election to trustee positions.

Tickets are still available for the new Mercedes Benz. First Class Travel is sponsoring the second prize which is a trip for \$2,000 to any place you would like to travel to. Tickets are available from Nancy Salici or any Executive Board member. You can also call the SPJBC for tickets.



Kneeling (l to r) Shannen Rivers, Jennifer Vasquez, Anna Ferrer and Jessica Vasquez. Standing (l to r) Coach Ralph Fech, Beverly Jamison, Kim Gaub, Angelique Rualo and Asst. Coach Lori Gerstl. Not pictured are Lindsay Hunsicker, Katie Yon, Phuong Trinh and Jennifer Mocerino.

Highlights from the SPHS Tiger Girls Bowling Team

The SPHS Girls Bowling Team had many highlights over their winter season.

They upset newcomer Sayreville at Mid-State Lanes and knocked off Skyland Conference foe Franklin Twp., giving them their only loss of the season. The team defeated a good Monroe Team who had beaten them twice in the early season and dealt State finalist Carteret and Blue Division champion it's first game loss in the GMC playoffs.

The girls topped mighty Edison, a State finalist and Red Division champion in a near shutout victory in match play. The Tigers "tournament tough" team placed in the top 12 in three major tournaments; 8th in the Westfield Invitation, 12th in the Joe Romer Memorial and 12th in the Central Jersey Sections out of a field of 32 teams.

As a final accomplishment they won the Sportsmanship Award the last two out of three years.

Grade	Bowler	#Games	High Game	High Set	Average
11	Beverly Jamison	93	221	586	168
Qualifier GMC individual, placed 10th GMC, MVP, improved by +14					
12	Kim Gaub (Capt.)	90	226	579	161
11	Angelique Rualo	75	189	515	148
Improved average +21					
11	Lindsay Hunsicker	58	198	432	129
12	Anna Ferrer	67	184	453	126
Improved average +11					
9	Katie Yon	48	174	460	122
Rookie of the Year					
12	Jennifer Vasquez	40	178	429	119
Never bowled before					
9	Phuong Trinh	40	157	408	114
12	Shannen Rivers	13	130	-	100

"C" League Game Summaries (thru week 5)

Dodgers vs Angels

Dodgers—Brandon Quadrel swung a hot bat with two singles and Danny Ruiz belted a single of his own.

Dodgers vs Yankees

Dodgers—Greg Sutton pitched two strong innings before the rain fell.

Red Sox vs Yankees

Red Sox—Dominick Scalera smacked two base hits and teammate Frank Ferraro reached base twice.

Dodgers vs Mets

Dodgers—Wesley Bowe reached base safely each time at bat. Pitchers Danny Ruiz and Ryan Bythell both turned in two strong innings from the mound.

Mets—John Malinowski stroked two smooth singles to lead the Mets.

Angels vs Astros

Angels—In his pitching debut Joe Spinella threw a scoreless inning, Paul Cano had two solid plays with his glove on hard hit ground balls, and he then took his bat and delivered an RBI single. Teammate Brett Temple also had a productive day at the plate with a single and two walks.

Cardinals vs Orioles

Cardinals—Ryan Walsh had a day, with three terrific hits and two fielding gems, while teammate Jose Torres had two solid hits an RBI, plus he scored one time.

Yankees vs Mets

Yankees—Anthony Eggert and Ryan Chadwick belted their first base hits of the season, while Adian McDermott, James Duhamel and Kyle Dickerson combined to throw six strong innings and shut down the Mets.

Orioles vs Red Sox

Orioles—Jeremy Smith pitched very well in his first outing on the mound. Robert Eggert and Chris Graves each had multiple hits.

Red Sox—Austin Daly had three big hits including a bases loaded triple. Ryan Harris turned in two sparkling defensive plays and teammate Rian Lukas pitched one fine inning, then grabbed his bat and drove in two RBIs with a big single.

Cardinals vs Dodgers

Cardinals—Chris Burton reached base safely all four times at the plate and then proceeded to score three times. Tucker Merkler had a bases loaded single with two RBIs, a fielding gem of his own on the mound while throwing one great inning.

Dodgers—Carl Cirilli cracked a sharp single to the outfield, Dan Ruiz smacked two singles and Wesley Bowe had one good inning from the mound.

Orioles vs Yankees

Orioles—Robert Eggert continued with his hot bat, getting his 10th con-

secutive base hit. Sparkling defensive gems were turned in by Enzo Butrico and Dan Pacheco.

Yankees—Ray Jazikoff cleared the bases with a triple to lead the offense while Jimmy Duhamel and Kyle Dickerson each turned in two scoreless innings from the mound.

Mets vs Cardinals

Mets—Nick Papianni cracked a single to the outfield and teammate Brian Roesch smacked a homerun.

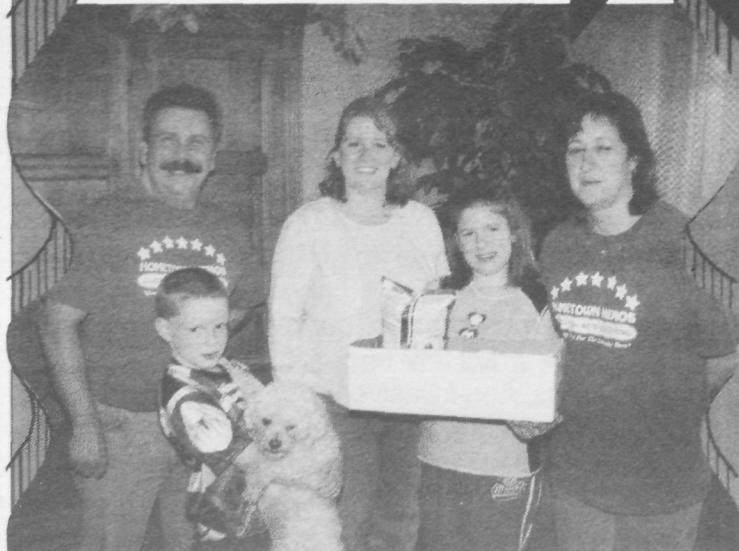
Red Sox vs Angels

Red Sox—With a sharp eye Frank Ferraro worked out three walks and then scored twice. Tommy Dunn pitched great recording three strikeouts, he then got on base and scored a run to help the Red Sox.

Astros vs Dodgers

Dodgers—Anthony Chirumbolo reached base safely twice. Danny Ruiz led the offense with four singles followed by William Walsh with two base hits. Ryan Bythell pitched a scoreless inning and Greg Sutton turned in a great defensive play at the plate.

Junior Journalist WINNER



Charlie and Debbie Kurland from Hometown Heros present dinner to Junior Journalist winner Joanna Marston, pictured here with mother Sue, brother Ryan and dog Maddie.

Congratulations Joanna!

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Sports

SPHS SPORTS AWARDS - GIRLS WINTER TRACK

SPHS Outstanding Athletes Receive Sports Awards

Girls Winter Track Letter winners were seniors Christina DiFrancesco and Alyssa Maiorino, juniors Kaitlyn Negron and Jessica Schwartz, sophomores Courtney Breland, Rebecca Dacchille, Kasi Joyner, Brittany Marino, Jennifer Okuszki and Ashley White and freshmen Ashley Alvarado, Jennifer Capparelli, Nicole Cosma, Brooke DeNitzio, Channel Dues, Rachel Milliron and Kellie McLean.

Earning pins were senior captains Dawn Besser, Latoya Johnson and Kathy Morgan; seniors Katie Crilley, Allison DiMeglio, and Kelly Whitney and sophomores Ying Chen, Samantha Granski, Jessica Hill, Brittany Hollis, Stephanie Maszurak, Jessica Pryor and Selene Rayho.

The year's MVP was Latoya Johnson and the Rookies of the Year were Rebecca Dacchille and Brooke DeNitzio. Bill Milone is the team's coach.



This year's Girls Winter Track MVP was Latoya Johnson

SOCCER

By Jim Christopher

South Plainfield Blast Win Over Trenton Thunder



The S.P. Blast recorded their fifth straight win this past week by beating the Trenton Thunder by a score of 4-2. The Blast scored two goals in each half. The first goal was scored by Christian Barrientos with assists from Jose Fernandez and Kenny Breslau. Quickly the Blast made it 2-0 when Christian Barrientos scored again taking a beautiful set-up pass from Max Cordova. The Blast dominated the first half and had many other opportunities to score, but couldn't cash in. The half ended with the Blast leading 2-0. Blast Goalie-Nick Jeglinski was spectacular during the first half by making some great saves to keep the Thunder scoreless in the first half.

The second half started with the Thunder scoring a quick goal to close the gap 2-1.

A few minutes later good passing up field by Allen Garcia, Joey Lacerda and Kevin Veliz lead to a goal by Rafael Urena of the Blast to make it 3-1. After the Thunder scored again to cut the deficit to 3-2, the Blast's defense took over to stop the Thunder from scoring any further. The defense was led by Joey Gonzalez, Ian Collins, Kevin Veliz and some great goalie saves by Jared Christopher.

The next goal was scored by Kenny Breslau of the Blast who made some nifty moves with his feet to score the last goal. The Trenton Thunder played tough, and this was by far the Blast's toughest opponent this year.

Temple's Karate School Students Earn Black Belts

On May 6 friends, family and classmates saw five individuals go their paces to earn their Black Belts at Ernie Temple's School of Karate in Dunellen. Dan DeSio, Rich Walsh of Piscataway, Jim Kemp, Pat Kemp of Plainfield and Ryan Gallagher of Dunellen demonstrated their skills at 12 upper body strikes and 19 variations of kicks, self defense, six forms,

three weapons and fighting. It takes approximately five years to attain the Black Belt in Isshinryu Karate, a physically demanding Okinawan system.

The Head Instructor, Ernie Temple, a south Plainfield resident has taught in Japan and in Okinawa, is an 8th degree Black Belt and has over 50 active Black Belts studying at his school with over 170 active students. The

WRESTLING

Summer Wrestling News

By Bob Hunter

South Plainfield Greco Roman wrestlers had a big weekend at the New Jersey USA Greco Roman State Championships that was held at Bound Brook High School. South Plainfield had six wrestlers competing with all six placing in the top three.

In the Bantam division Ryan Walsh (50) claimed his second consecutive Greco Roman title by defeating Charles Wycott of Shore Thing. Dylan Painton Midget (70) won his first Greco Roman title by defeating Matt Barber of Westfield by tech fall 11-0. Zach Smithline Midget (70) finished in third place. Scott Whalen (75) Novice finished in second place defeating Rickey Lopez. Nick Heilmann (95) finished in second place dropping a 6-4 decision to Chris Villalonga. Patrick Hunter (112) Cadet claimed his fourth consecutive Greco title in the wildest match of the day. Hunter was losing 14-6 at the end of the first period but came back strong in the second period, scoring 12 unanswered points to win 18-14 over Brian Hoyt of Veron. Next up is the Freestyle State Tournament, which will be held this weekend in Rahway.

Casino Royale and Chinese Auction June 10

The South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club Women's Auxiliary will be holding a Casino Royale and Chinese Auction on Friday, June 10, from 7 p.m. to midnight at the South Plainfield Italian American Club.

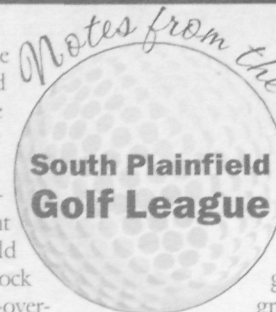
Price is \$50 p.p. and includes an open bar and buffet. Each guest receives \$500 in play money. Money must be redeemed for Chinese Auction tickets.

For information and tickets, call Stacy Lake at (908) 757-9531. Tickets are limited to the first 100. Get your tickets early! They are available through June 1.

cost of this test sometimes runs in the hundreds of dollars elsewhere and Temple has offered this test free of charge for over 30 years.

You can call for information on the school at (908) 561-6464 or www.temple-school-of-karate.com.

Submitted By Bob Nilan



Defending league champions, Masters, led by Danny Griffin's fine round of 36, eked out an 11-9 win over Plainfield Animal Hospital on the opening night of the South Plainfield Golf League. Steve Schock of PAH also fired a three-over-par 36 in a losing cause.

Twin City's powerful American League team showed they are already in mid-season form. Jay Coppolla was low-man for the league with a blistering 35, while teammate Joe Dillar came through with a 37 and Frank Caperilli had a 38. Their solid efforts were enough to offset the 37 turned in by Matt Ward of Patti's Construction and Dave Hass' 38 as Twin City gained a 13-7 victory.

KC's Korner Rich Steele earned medallist honors for his team with a 41 in a bogey and double-bogey filled match in which Marty Van De Vaart was low-man for Pornovets with a 41. KC's Korner prevailed in the high-scoring contest, 15-5.

In the National League, Ed Banach's 39 sparked Aiello Chiropractic to a 12-8 win over Hank's Hackers who were only able to field three men for their opening match of the season. Captain Kevin Boyce of the Hackers had a 39.

The Elks had a surprisingly easy time in pounding Sport & Social, 15-5. Chris Nuzzo gained medallist honors for the Elks with a 40 in a match that featured no birdies and not too many pars.

Howard Adler of Witty's thought for a moment that he was playing

Augusta when he chipped up to the hole on the third green and got within a few inches of the cup only to see his ball start to roll back and wind up two feet past his feet. "You've gotta be kidding me!" he groaned. He and teammate

Jim Palmer both struggled with the slick greens and windy conditions and managed to shoot a pair of 42's, but that was enough to get by the VFW, 14-6. Bob Nilan was low-man for the VFW.

Jay Coppolla, in addition to winning medallist honors for the league, also won the weekly closest-to-the-pin competition on the third hole.

Al Schroeder of KC's Korner won his sponsor's luncheon-for-two prize with a superb tee shot on the fifth hole.

LEAGUE STANDINGS

American Division

	W	L	T
Masters	1	0	0
Twin City	1	0	0
KC's Korner	1	0	0
PAH	0	1	0
Patti's	0	1	0
Pornovets	0	1	0

National Division

	W	L	T
Aiello	1	0	0
So. Plfd. Elks	1	0	0
Witty's	1	0	0
Hackers	0	1	0
Sport & Social	0	1	0
VFW	0	1	0

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Grant School Drama Club To Present

"Fiddler On The Roof, Jr."

Grant School is abuzz as they anxiously anticipate the opening of "Fiddler On The Roof, Jr." Grant's Drama Club will present "Fiddler" on May 18 and 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the Multi-purpose Room at Grant School. Tickets are \$3, and may be purchased at the door or by calling the school directly.

This production, a junior version of the Broadway classic which comes from a series of Broadway hits designed especially for younger casts, is designed to educate the young performers in every aspect of theater. These versions are much shorter than their Broadway counterparts. Grant School has been doing junior musicals for the past three years, having put on "Annie, Jr." in 2003 and "Once On This Island, Jr." in 2004. The students have really learned a lot and have enjoyed getting a taste of Broadway before they get to middle and high school.

This year's production promises to be the best one yet! The story of "Fiddler" is a timeless tale of family love and traditions, which keep getting tested as the show progresses. Tevye, the father, played by Joseph Ifrach, is in a constant struggle of emotions as each of his three oldest daughters tells him whom she wants to marry. Tzeitel, played by Alyssa Aiello, wants to marry Motel (Ryan Lind), the poor tailor. Hodel, played by Kathy Vincent, wants to marry the rebel teacher Perchik (Patrick Landy). Chava, played by Erin O'Connor, causes Tevye the most angst because she wants to marry Fyedka (Richard Rotella), a Russian soldier who is not Jewish. Through it all, the bond between Tevye and his

wife Golde, played by Ellen Zinsky, remains strong as they try hard to keep their family together as old traditions are replaced by new ones.

Other members of the cast include the Fiddler, played by Carly Ashnault; the matchmaker Yente, played by Kate O'Brien; Lazar Wolf, played by Tyler Holoboski and the two younger daughters, played by Lanna Arki and Alexis Alba. Ensemble cast is fifth and sixth graders, the famous bottle dancers, and the most awesome stage crew ever assembled!

The show is co-directed by Lori Stolz and Joan Stasio, teachers at Grant who have been working together for the past three productions. Please come to Grant next week and enjoy this wonderful production. Call Grant School at (908) 754-4620 ext. 224 if you need details.



"Fiddler" musicians Mike Perella, Amanda Calvi, Melissa Pasternak, Sam Selaska and Allyssa Ragnor. The Fiddler is Carly Ashnault (center).



Tzeitel, (Alyssa Aiello) and her true love Motel (Ryan Lind), the poor tailor.



Fiddler/Carly Ashnault.



Chava, (Erin O'Connor) with Fyedka (Richard Rotella) a Russian soldier who is not Jewish.



Hodel, (Kathy Vincent), wants to marry the rebel teacher Perchik (Patrick Landy).

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE ADVERTISEMENT AND NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be received by the Borough of South Plainfield for the "IMPROVEMENTS TO MAPLE AVENUE-PHASE I AND II" and publicly opened and read aloud at the Borough of South Plainfield, Municipal Building, 2840 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080 on **Thursday, May 26, 2005 at 10:00 a.m.** prevailing local time.

The project generally consists of the removal and replacement of damaged sections of concrete curb, sidewalk, and aprons along Maple Avenue from Front Street to Woodland Avenue within the Borough of South Plainfield and all other associated work as contained in the Contract Documents or as ordered by the Engineer.

Contract documents and plans for the proposed work prepared by David J. Samuel, P.E., Borough Engineer, CME Associates, may be examined at the office of said engineer at 3141 Bordentown Avenue, Parlin, New Jersey, and at the office of the Borough Clerk, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey, during business hours and may be obtained at the Borough Engineer's office until 48 hours prior to the time set for the opening of bids upon payment of \$100.00 per set. No refunds will be made. Proposals and the Contract Documents must be enclosed in sealed envelopes bearing the name and address of the Bidder and the name of the work on the outside addressed to Mayor and Borough Council, Borough of South Plainfield and must be accompanied by a Statement of Consent of Surety from a surety company authorized to do business in the State of New Jersey and acceptable to the owner. All bids submitted prior to the bid opening shall be mailed or delivered to the Borough Clerk at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check or cash in the amount of not less than ten (10%) percent of the bid payable without any conditional endorsement as a guarantee that in case the contract is awarded to the bidder, he will within ten (10) days thereafter execute such contract and furnish satisfactory performance bond. Upon failure to do so he shall forfeit the deposit as liquidated damages and the acceptance of the bid will be contingent upon the fulfillment of this requirement by the bidder. No interest shall be allowed upon any such certified check or cash. A bid bond in the amount of ten (10%) percent of the bid may be substituted for certified check or cash.

Each bid must also be accompanied by a certificate from a bonding company licensed to do business in the State of New Jersey guaranteeing that if the proposal of the bidder be accepted they will furnish the bond set forth in paragraph one of the General Conditions of the contract and the acceptance of the bid will be contingent upon the fulfillment of this requirement.

The Borough reserves the right to increase or decrease quantities specified in the manner designated in the Specifications. The Borough reserves the right to award this contract based on funds available.

All bidders are required to be registered with the New Jersey Department of Labor if they

elect to bid public works projects. The bidder shall be required to comply with "The Public Works Contractor Registration Act" (P.L. 1999, C.236), as identified in Section 6 - Instruction to Bidders paragraph B3.13 and in the Appendix of these Specifications. All Contractors and Subcontractors working on prevailing wage projects, which have a public building component, must attach a certificate of registration from the Department of Labor, to all bids.

All bidders are required to submit "Proof of Business Registration" to the contracting agency if they elect to bid public works projects. Proof of business registration shall be a copy of a Business Registration Certificate issued by the Department of the Treasury, Division of Revenue. The bidder shall be required to comply with business registration of N.J.S.A. 52:53-44; P.L. 2004, C.57 (Chapter 57), as identified in Section B - Instruction to Bidders paragraph B3.14 and in the Appendix of these specifications. All Contractors and Subcontractors working on public work projects must attach a Business Registration Certificate to all bids.

The successful bidder shall be required to comply with the provisions of the New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act, Chapter 150 of the laws of 1963, effective January 1, 1964.

During the performance of this contract the Contractor agrees to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27), all requirements of the State of New Jersey Worker Health and Safety Act (N.J.A.C. 12:110 et seq.) as amended and the United States Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) (29 CFR 1910), as amended with regards to worker and jobsite safety.

No bidder may withdraw his bid for a period of sixty (60) days after the date set for the opening thereof. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a surety company bond in the full amount of contract price indemnifying the Borough of South Plainfield, New Jersey, for all proceedings, suits or actions of any kind of description and conditional for the faithful performance of the work.

All bid security will be returned to all Bidders except the three (3) apparent lowest bidders within 10 working days after the opening of bids, and to the three (3) apparent lowest bidders within three (3) working days after the successful Bidder has executed the Contract and his Contract security has been approved by the Borough.

The award shall be subject to the approval of the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

Bidders are advised that the capital improvements are partially funded by the State of New Jersey, 1984 Transportation Trust Fund Authority Act, and the successful bidder will be required to fully comply with the applicable current "New Jersey Department of Transportation Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction" if, and as amended or supplemented by the NJDOT Local Aid District Office.

The Borough reserves the right to reject any or all bids if in its opinion it is in the best interest to do so and to award the contract for any and/or all items.

BY ORDER OF THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$168.00 May 13, 2005

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE ADVERTISEMENT AND NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be received by the Borough of South Plainfield for the "IMPROVEMENTS TO DURHAM AVENUE" and publicly opened and read aloud at the Borough of South Plainfield, Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080 on **Thursday, May 26, 2005, at 10:00 a.m.** prevailing local time.

The project generally consists of the widening of the eastern side of Durham Avenue from its intersection with Helen St. to its intersection with Hamilton Boulevard within the Borough of South Plainfield, including bituminous concrete milling, hot mix asphalt base course pavement installation, 2" average compacted thickness of hot mix asphalt surface overlay, including sweeping, tack coating and other pavement preparation, drainage improvements, intersection and traffic signal improvements, any related work, and all other associated work as contained in the Contract Documents or as ordered by the Engineer.

Contract documents and plans for the proposed work prepared by David J. Samuel, P.E., Borough Engineer, CME Associates, may be examined at the office of said engineer at 3141 Bordentown Avenue, Parlin, New Jersey, and at the office of the Borough Clerk, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey, during business hours and may be obtained at the Borough Engineer's office until 48 hours prior to the time set for the opening of bids upon payment of \$100.00 per set. No refunds will be made. Proposals and the Contract Documents must be enclosed in sealed envelopes bearing the name and address of the Bidder and the name of the work on the outside addressed to Mayor and Borough Council, Borough of South Plainfield and must be accompanied by a Statement of Consent of Surety from a surety company authorized to do business in the State of New Jersey and acceptable to the owner. All bids submitted prior to the bid opening shall be mailed or delivered to the Borough Clerk at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

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The Borough reserves the right to increase or decrease quantities specified in the manner designated in the Specifications. The Borough reserves the right to award this contract based on funds available.

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The Borough reserves the right to reject any or all bids if in its opinion it is in the best interest to do so and to award the contract for any and/or all items.

BY ORDER OF THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$168.00 May 13, 2005

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Bob Voelkel requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit a front porch with roof over. Proposed porch with roof over lacks 30' required front setback, 23.7' being proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 516 Melrose Avenue on Block 23, Lot 15 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, May 26, 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 May 13, 2005

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

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

WHEREAS the Borough is in need of legal representation for a matter of litigation that has been re-opened; and

WHEREAS the Borough has previously used the services of Lynch/Martin Law Firm to represent the Borough in this matter; and

WHEREAS this contract is being awarded without competitive bidding as "Professional Services" in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:11-5(1) (a); and

WHEREAS funds have been certified by the Chief Financial Officer and will be made available in the FY 2005 Legal Budget, account # 5-01-20-155-000-221.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that authorization is hereby given to enter into a professional services contract with Lynch/Martin Law Firm to represent the Borough in a matter of litigation, at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.00.

#05-135
ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$38.50 May 13, 2005

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Children's book author and illustrator team of Danny and Kim Adlerman.

Children's Authors Visit Roosevelt

The children's book author and illustrator team of Danny and Kim Adlerman of Metuchen spent the day discussing their books and illustrations and playing their music with Roosevelt School students recently. One of their most popular books, and one familiar to students is *Africa Calling*, which is written under their pen name of Kin Eagle.

The couple read several of their books to the children and explained

in great detail how books are written and how their drawings come to life to make it all come together. They sang songs accompanied by Danny on guitar and several audience members playing African percussion instruments.

Prior to the authors' arrival, each class had a poetry and drawing contest and the winners received either an autographed book or a pizza lunch with the authors on the day of their presentation.

Kids Learn to be Assault Free at PCLC

Students at the Pilgrim Covenant Learning Center learned how to avoid being the victim of an assault in a three-day workshop at their preschool. The Learning Center hosted the Middlesex County Child-Assault Prevention (CAP) Project on Tuesday, April 26 through Thursday, April 28. The CAP Project helps children recognize and deal with potentially dangerous situations from an assault by

another child, as well as from strangers and known adults.

The children's workshop uses pictures, role-play and dolls to teach children how to stay safe through supportive friends, assertiveness skills and by telling a trusted adult. Parents have their own workshop, focusing on understand child assault and recognizing the signs of physical, emotional and sexual assault, as well as crisis inter-

Discounted Amusement Park Tickets

South Plainfield Recreation Department, in conjunction with the NJ Recreation and Park Association, is making available discount tickets to selected tri-state Amusement Parks. Following are the available tickets and their discounted prices:

Six Flags Great Adventure Theme Park Adult- \$31 (gate price \$50.87); Hurricane Harbor Adult-\$28 (gate price \$30); Dorney Park Adult \$30 (gate price \$36.95); Dorney Park Junior-\$18 (gate price \$19); Sesame Place-\$36 (gate price \$43.15) and Mountain Creek Adult Full Day-\$21 (gate price \$27).

Tickets may be purchased at the Recreation Office located in the PAL Recreation Center at 1250 Maple Ave. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. on the first and third Monday of each month.

For more information or to check on availability, please call (908) 227-7714 during office hours.



Bravo, a new furniture store opened recently in the Bravo Shopping Plaza.

Bravo! A New Furniture Store for South Plainfield

The Bravo Furniture Store opened on May 6 in the Bravo Shopping Plaza at 7th Street and Clinton Ave.

The store carries a selection of living room, bedroom and kitchen furnishings, along with bedding, blankets

and pillows. They also carry an array of beautiful wall tapestries and sconces.

Stop by and see store owner Oscar, manager Victor or Asia, sales consultant.

Store hours are 10 a.m. until 9 p.m.

Property Tax Reimbursement Forms Explained To Seniors

(Continued from page 3)

ceived the FAIR Rebate Applications in the mail, Sutto gave shortcuts to file the application. To bypass the section 'Calculating Your Income' to find the amount needed for 2004 NJ Gross Income, Sutto suggested going back to line 29 on your NJ income tax form for that amount. The form asks in section 12 if you want your rebate directly deposited. Say yes, as the state wants to save money in cutting checks and postage. Then find the routing number of the bank by looking at the lower left hand corner on the bottom of a check from your checking account and put in the first series of nine numbers. The next series of numbers will be your (bank

account number.

When the Fair Application worksheet is complete, the results can be placed on line at www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/ or called in on a toll free number 1-877-658-2972. Sutto suggested calling later in the day not the first thing in the morning. The line is available from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Other phone numbers to call are: General information and assistance 1-(609) 292-6400, not a toll free number. Property Tax Reimbursement hotline: (800) 882-6597. ATIS-Automated Tax Information Service (800) 323-4400, this number is completely automated and there will not be any human to speak to.

Governor's Teacher Recognition Program Honorees

(Continued from page 9)

sus in Schools and attended the New Jersey Gifted Children Teacher's Conference. Pinelli-McDonough was an organizer for Make a Difference Day, Random Acts of Kindness and the teacher's sweatshirt sale. She also coordinated care packages/letters to soldiers and veterans and created a school presidential voting site. As part of her outside interests, she volunteers at Raritan Bay Medical Center. She also

designs and makes teddy bears and enjoys crafts, gardening, exercising, tennis, reading and cooking.

Marueen Wilson has been an educator for 18 years, 16 of them serving the children of this community as a second grade teacher, which is her current assignment at Roosevelt School. She received her degree from Rider University in Elementary Education and has completed computer courses at Educational Technology Training

Center in East Brunswick. She is a member of SPEA and PTO and has served as a Student Teaching Sponsor for Kean University. In her home life she is a Little League Parent Volunteer and Pop Warner Football Volunteer for her twin sons.

State's Financial Investigation Reveals Violations

(Continued from page 1)

Some of the violations disclosed were: referendum purchase orders that lacked the business administrator/board secretary's approval signature; the board's failure to ensure that the budget prepared by the business administrator/secretary was accurate and that each budget line item had supporting documentation, and the board did not

request monthly secretary's and treasurer's reports.

They also noted that the district did not keep detailed documentation for each budget line item and that the normal three percent inflationary increase was not considered when the budgets were developed, and this resulted in severely under budgeting.

The board will now discuss all of the

violations, and develop and implement a plan to ensure these violations will not occur again. They will then send a report to the state informing them of their actions.

Board member Steve Bohn said he will request that a copy of the state's findings be given to the Middlesex County Prosecutor and the State Attorney General for their review.

Cell Number Reassignment

(Continued from page 1)

New Jersey driver's licenses. Apparently, Jorge was able to illegally obtain a New Jersey driver's license for a \$1500 fee. Officer Antonio Grasso, a Spanish speaking police officer, was assigned this undercover task. He was given the cell phone to make arrangements to meet in South Plainfield with the individuals.

On March 3 two individuals drove into South Plainfield at a prearranged location to meet with the undercover officer to obtain the driver's licenses. A surveillance was conducted and as a result of the transactions with Officer Grasso, two arrests were made, along with the seizure of their vehicle. Later that day, another pre-arranged meeting was conducted resulting in the arrest of three individuals and the seizure of their vehicle.

On March 19 surveillance was once again conducted. Three individuals met with Officer Grasso at a pre-arranged location within the borough. As a result of this meeting, three arrests were made, along with the seizure of their vehicle.

All individuals arrested were charged with attempting to obtain government documents illegally, an indictable offense. They were processed and lodged in the Middlesex County Correction Center with bail set at \$5,000 each. Since then, all have been released on bail, pending court. The following individuals were arrested:

Mario Rui Rebelo Dos Santos, age

23; Pedro Miguel Costa, age 22; Obet Santos-Valladares, age 22, all of Elizabeth; Roselita Silva, age 39 and Joaquim Vieira, age 43 of Newark; and Pedro Pablo Herrera-Martinez, age 26; Luis R. Guaman, age 30; and Benjamin Jimenez Hernandez, age 31, all of South River.

Vehicles seized were a 2002 Dodge Durango, a 1993 Chevy Geo and a 2000 Mitsubishi Montero.

Captain Paul Brembt stated the chances of obtaining a newly subscribed cell phone number that was previously used for criminal activity and then re-assigned to a police department is once in a lifetime. The phone company has been advised to delete this phone number so that it cannot be used again.

The investigation is continuing as to the identity of Jorge. It has been determined that Jorge was able to obtain New Jersey driver's licenses for individuals who immigrated illegally into the United States several years ago. As a result of heightened security by the Motor Vehicle Commission, these individuals were unable to renew their driver's licenses because their Social Security numbers were fictitious. As a result, they attempted to obtain these driver's licenses illegally with the help of Jorge, who charged \$1,500 for the purchase of the illegal driver's license.

Assisting with the investigation is the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission and the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office.

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For more information, call 908-668-0010.

Annual Clean-Up Reaps 3.5 Tons of Trash

The Annual Spring Cleanup Week held in April was a huge success according to Alice Tempel. In all 23 spots were cleaned, a total of four miles and 25 acres of our parks, streamsides, vacant lots, roadsides and schools.

Over 170 volunteers representing 16 organized groups, plus unaffiliated individuals volunteered their time and a total of 3.5 tons of trash and litter was gathered. This was less than last year, but that's a good thing!

The picnic held at Borough Hall afterwards was sponsored by Krauser's, who donated soda—this was their first time. Also Hometown Heros donated a six-foot sub and A&P donated paper goods and snacks. Someone left their jacket in the council chambers, a child's small black hooded rain jacket. If yours, call Alice Tempel at (908) 226-7621 and leave a message.

Clean-up Week coordinators were: Marie Markey, Joe Diegnan, Larry Randolph and Alice Tempel.

Volunteers were: Amboy and Anthony vacant lot-Maria Brostovski, Amanda Gabrielli, Taylor Gabrielli and Kristen Partesi; Belmont Ave.-Vincent Buttiglieri, Charles Butrico, Dennis Cerami, Robert Cusick, Gabriella Cusick, Patrick Diegnan, Joe Diegnan, Dan Gallagher, Ed Kubala, Raymond Petronko and Kathy Thomas.

• Cedar Brook by senior center-

Glitterbug Club-Juliana Degutis, Julie Degutis, Damian Hendersen, Rachel Hendersen and Zachary Hendersen.

• Cedarbrook Ave. stream-Pilgrim Covenant Church members; Clinton Ave. extension-Timber Creek Landscaping; Cotton Street Park-Eugene Roseo and Lisa Roseo; Fairmount and E. Golf avenues-Judy Mayo and neighbors; Grant School-Girl Scout Troop 118-Beth Becker, Jane Becker, Sarah Delair, Amanda Hoagland, Kathy Hoagland, Megan Kaczka, Amelia Lyte, Carol McCarthy and Sarah McCarthy.

• Kentile and Metuchen roads-36 inmates from Middlesex County Corrections; Kenneth and Spicer avenues.-Keystone Community Residence; Municipal Complex-Cub Pack 207-Frank Ferraro, Christopher Markey, James Markey, Marie Markey, Daniel Pechecco and David Vargas.

Nature Reserve-Friends of the Woods-C. Andrew Beagle, Michelle Gustafson, Teresa Gustafson, Emily Roseo, Eugene Roseo, Lisa Roseo and Lucy Roseo; Cub Pack 224 Den 7-Diane Pender, Dion Pender and Divon Pender and Girl Scout Troop 745-Diana Pender and Diamond Pender; Nature Reserve at Elsie Ave.-Maria Brostovski and neighbors.

New Brunswick Ave.-Harris Steel employees; Putnam Park-Cub Scout Pack 324-Amy Battista, Jackie Battista,

Nicholas Battista, Jason Belanger, Kevin Belanger, Matthew Belanger, Steve Belanger, Val Belanger, Nathanael Ganthier, Bobby Gwiazda, Glen Gwiazda, Brian McCarthy, John McCarthy, Keanu O'Neal, Brandon Pauls, Nancy Pauls, Allyson Piersanti, Tommy Riccardi, Ben Sheaffer, Diane Sheaffer, Ed Sheaffer, Edward Sheaffer, Nicholas Spadavecchia, Nick Spadavecchia, Janie Walsh, William Walsh, Matthew Waters and Scott Waters.

John E. Riley School-Cub Pack 224-Bill Conrad, Jonathan Conrad, Alex Kelly, Daniel Kelly, Linda Kelly, Daniel Sprenger, Luke Sprenger and Mark Sprenger; South Clinton Ave.-Scout Troop 124-Bill Ball, Max Butler, Harry, Jr. Chiavarou and George Smith.

Tyler Place-Matthew Anesh, Robert Jr. Bengivenga and Bob Jones, John Koelble, Dorothy Mead and neighbors.

Walnut Street Park-Boy Scout Troop 309-John Coletta, Ray Coletta, Chris Duffy, Richard Goyette, Glenn Kurilew, Troy Kurilew, Donald Manning, Matthew Manning, Jeffrey Pauls, Justin Pauls, Donna Riccardi, Ryan Riccardi and Scott Riccardi.

Willow Avenue Park-Wesley Methodist Church-Michelle Biggs, Joshua Biggs, Laura Biggs, Sandy DiLeo, Dave Hartpence, Don Palmer, Allison Wagner, Dave Walter and Samantha Zelasko.



Now Open - Laundryland

Laundryland, located at 1243 W. 7th St. in the Bravo Shopping Plaza, is now open. This is a full service coin-operated laundry with a drop-off, wash-dry-fold service. As a grand opening special, all wash will be half price. This special is only good until May 21. The laundry is open seven days, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. The owner is Eric Carr and attendants are Nicole, Stacey, Carmen and Jaquetta.

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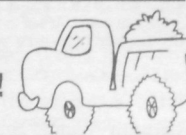
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INFOTECH PROFESSIONALS, INC. has multiple openings for software engineers with the following skills set:

JOB ID: ITP2005-02

Software Engineer (w/Masters degree & 1 yr. exp. or Bachelors degree & 6 yrs. exp.)—South Plainfield. Job entails and requires experience in design and development of applications using Java, VB.net and SQL Server 2000; develop test cases using Test Director, LoadRunner, WinRunner, QTP, Clear Quest, and Test Scenarios. Relocation within USA possible. Send resumes to HR (ITP2005-02), Infotech Professionals Inc., 5001 Hadley Rd., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

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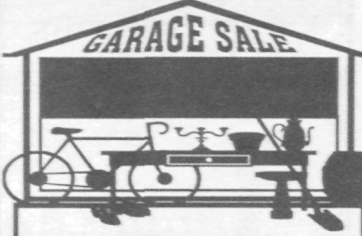
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Sacred Heart First Holy Communicants gather to celebrate the May Crowning.



Sacred Heart Holds May Crowning

The Sacred Heart Rosary Society held their annual May Crowning last Monday, May 1.

The crowning began with a procession led by the children of this year's First Holy Communion class dressed in the white dresses and suits they wore for their special day. They were followed by their parent, relatives and parishioners who joined in song as they placed flowers in front of the statue of Mary. Raitlin Markus was chosen to place the crown of flowers on Marys' statue.

First Communion children who participated were Emily Smith, Holly DeLair, Susan Pipolo, Brianna DiMenno, Raitlin Markus, Vincent Butrico, Daniel Pacheco, Christopher Diaz, Claudia Tantillo and Crystal Custodio.

Agnes H. Ronkovitz (nee Pollack), 93

Agnes H. Ronkovitz (nee Pollack) died on Tuesday evening, May 3, at her home in South Plainfield.

Born and raised in Newark, Agnes lived in Springfield before settling in South Plainfield in 1966.

A homemaker for most of her life, Agnes was a member of Sacred Heart RC Church.

She is predeceased by her husband, Frank J. Sr., who died in 1997 and by three brothers, John, Charles and Alex.

Surviving are two daughters, Joan Schwartz and her husband, Donald of Somerset and Marie Parron of South Plainfield; two sons, Frank J. Jr. and his wife, Ruth of Illinois and Robert and his wife, Janet of Toms River; a sister, Mildred Geores of Alabama; 10 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Calvin V. Lutes, 84

Calvin V. Lutes died on Friday, May 6 at the New Jersey Fireman's Home in Boonton

Born in Elizabeth, he was the son of the late Joseph and Johanna Lutes. He had resided in Elizabeth and Pine Beach before settling in Edison 11 years ago.

He was a 1939 graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School in Elizabeth.

Initially employed as a machinist for Elastic Stop Nut Corp. in Union from October 1939 to September 1943, he then served in the US Navy during WWII. An aviation machinist mate, he served from 1943 to 1946. Later, he joined the Elizabeth Fire Dept. where he was a member for 31 years from 1949 to 1980, retiring as

Obituaries

captain.

Calvin was a member of the Elizabeth Fire Officers Asso. IAFF Local #777 and St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in South Plainfield.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Frances (Hansen) Lutes; two daughters, Linda McGrath and her husband, Christopher, Lauren and Erica McGrath; two great grandchildren, Grace and Chelsey; a sister Madelyn Hampp and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held in McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the N.J. Fireman's Home, c/o Mr. W. Hunt, Administrator, 565 Lathrop Ave., Boonton, NJ 07005 or the St. Barnabas Foundation, 94 Old Short Hills Rd., Livingston, NJ 07039.

Irene Szabo, 61

Irene Szabo died on Sunday, May 8 at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born in Perth Amboy, Irene was raised in Carteret and lived in Edison before moving to South Plainfield in 1970.

A 1961 graduate of Carteret High School, Irene graduated from the Westminster Choir College in Princeton in 1965.

She was the store manager and music teacher for Altenburg Piano House in Edison for 17 years and was also a substitute teacher for Franklin School in South Plainfield.

Irene was also a member of the Cedarcroft Bible Chapel in South

Plainfield.

An avid gardener, Ms. Szabo had a passion for music and enjoyed floral crafting.

She is predeceased by her parents, Lois and Gizella Szabo.

Surviving are two daughters, Sandy and Lisa Szabo of South Plainfield; a brother, William Szabo of Carteret; a sister-in-law, Sharon of South Plainfield and a grandson, Kori.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In Lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Irene's memory to the Plainfield Humane Society, 75 Rock Ave., Plainfield, NJ 07060.

Marilynn Doris (Hartwick) Glenn

Marilynn Doris (Hartwick) Glenn died on Saturday, April 23 at Leesburg Regional Medical Center in Leesburg, Fla.

Marilynn was born in Pittsburg, Penn. and was a resident of South Plainfield before retiring with her husband, Bill, to Orlando and then Leesburg.

Marilynn was predeceased by her husband, Bill, who passed away last June and her son, Jeff.

She is survived by two daughters, Stephanie Duncan of Orlando, Fla. and Robin Prendergast of South Plainfield; two sons, Bill Glenn of Union and Mike Glenn of Round Rock, Texas; a sister, Hilary Fisher of Coolspring, Penn. and 11 grandchildren.

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Charlie and Debbie Kurland from Hometown Heros present dinner to Junior Journalist winner Samantha Hunterton, pictured here with mother Valerie, dad Dave and brother Cody.

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