

# South Plainfield Observer

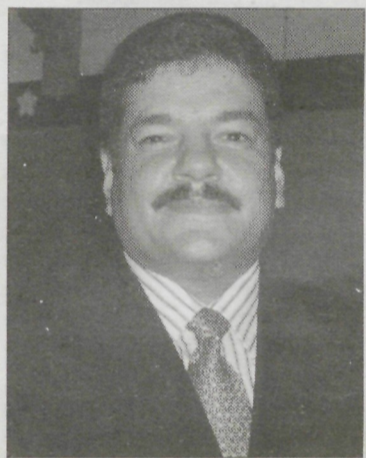
VOL. 11, NO. 2

MEMBER NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

50 CENTS

SEPTEMBER 7, 2007

## Negron Appointed Superintendent



Jose Negron

By Libby Barsky

Jose Negron was appointed superintendent of schools by the Board of Education at a special meeting last Wednesday. The terms of his contract is three years at a salary for 2007-2008 of \$165,000. Negron will replace retiring Superintendent Dr. Robert Rosado. When Negron officially starts Oct. 18, Rosado will become deputy superintendent until his official retirement date of Jan. 1, 2008.

For the past two years, Negron has served as superintendent of the Bogota School District in Bogota. He began his career 21 years ago as a second grade bilingual teacher in Jersey

City for five years and continued on to the positions of principal, special assistant to the associate superintendent, assistant principal, supervisor of instruction and curriculum before moving on to superintendent/principal of the East Newark School District. He was also an adjunct professor at Kean University.

Negron has received many individual awards for outstanding teacher and outstanding community awards, including one in 2006 from the Puerto Rican Heritage Statewide Committee of New Jersey for his work in education and the 2005 Efrain Rosario Memorial Award.

Negron and his wife live in Bayonne with their two sons, 14 and 10.

The board received 22 resumes for the position and were unanimous in their decision from the first interview held with Negron, said board member Carol Byrne.

The Bogota School District has 1,200 students and three schools: two elementary schools encompassing grades K-6 and a middle school/high school for grades 7-12.

"I look forward to the challenge of a larger district," said Negron.

The board will hold a reception in September for the public to meet the new superintendent, at a date to be announced.



Congressman Mike Ferguson presented a check to Mayor Charles Butrico, Fire Chief Larry DelNegro, along with council members Rob Bengivenga, Matt Anesh, Kathy Thomas and Dennis Cerami and members of the South Plainfield Fire Department.

## Fire Department Receives First Responder \$100K Security Grant

By Jane Dornick

The South Plainfield Fire Department received a \$106,079 federal first responder security grant through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security last Friday from Congressman Mike Ferguson (R-N.J.).

Fire Chief Larry DelNegro said that the department will use the funds to purchase 54 new fire suits, or "turnout gear," for the 50-member volunteer force. The protective fabric of the new suits is stronger and weighs less than their current equipment. Because the new suits will be the most advanced equipment available, the department will now comply with national safety guidelines issued by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). A specialized washer and drying machine to clean toxins from the suits will also be purchased with the funds. The NFPA recommends that fire equipment, including protective clothing be washed immediately after being used to remove soot and other potentially harmful contaminants. If the equipment is not properly cleaned, it could present a health hazard to firefighters and citizens when officials interact with members of the community. "These federal funds will allow our department to purchase important safety gear for our firefighters and a specialized machine to clean our equipment on site. The new equipment will go a long way toward improving the safety of our

firefighters and ensuring we are staying ahead of the curve and meeting important national safety guidelines," DelNegro said.

Overall, more than \$6M in federal security funding has been delivered to first responders in Ferguson's 7th District, which includes portions of Hunterdon, Middlesex, Somerset and Union counties. The funding has been used for everything from purchasing new equipment to training for an attack involving chemical or nuclear weapons. This security grant represents the second major funding award for the borough in recent years. In 2004, the department received \$144,000 in federal funding to replace and upgrade the self-contained breathing apparatus. "The volunteer firefighters at the South Plainfield Fire Department dedicate their lives to keeping our community safe and our families protected," Ferguson said. "These important funds will ensure that these hard-working first responders have the most advanced equipment they need to do their jobs

safely and to keep them healthy at the same time."

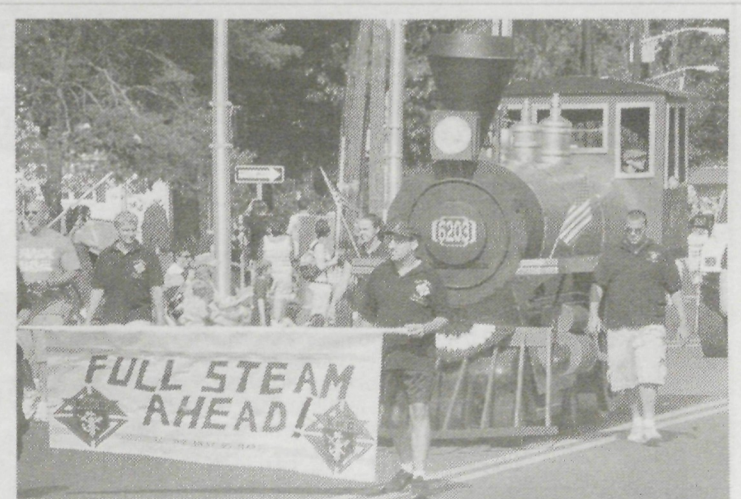
Each year, Ferguson invites fire chiefs and elected officials from each community in the 7th District to a workshop to discuss the availability of federal grants, including first responder grants from homeland security, and how to apply for them. He has long been an advocate of increasing homeland security funding for New Jersey first responders. In June, the House approved an amendment authored by Ferguson to double funding for a federal program that bolsters security at the nation's high-risk terrorist targets including the scores of chemical facilities, refineries and petroleum tanks in the state. "Because of our chemical and nuclear facilities and major transportation arteries, New Jersey is a prime target for another terrorist attack," Ferguson said. "We must ensure our local law enforcement officials have the resources they need to establish fortified security perimeters around these high-risk targets to protect our families and our communities."



Governor Jon Corzine congratulates Owen Kelly, grand marshal of the borough's 50th annual Labor Day parade. See next week's issue for more parade photos.

Remembering  
**September 11**  
**2001**

The Borough of South Plainfield will hold the annual "We Will Never Forget" ceremony honoring the victims of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks at the Firefighter's Memorial on Tuesday, September 11 at 6:30 p.m. All veterans and the public are invited to attend.



South Plainfield Knights of Columbus "Full Steam Ahead" float garnered the judges favor and earned the Public Celebrations Committee "Big Special Trophy" commemorating the 50th annual Labor Day Parade. To see all the trophy winners, turn to page 7.

### Revised Borough of South Plainfield Budget Hearings SFY 2008

The public is invited to attend the **REVISED** budget hearings to be held at the senior center on the following dates:

**Monday, Sept. 10 at 5:30 p.m.**

**Thursday, Sept. 13 at 4 p.m.**

Department ..... Manager

DPW ..... Joe Glowacki

Police ..... John Ferraro

911 ..... John Ferraro

Recreation ..... Kevin Hughes

Fire Department . Larry Delnegro

Environmental/  
Recycling ..... Alice Tempel

Environmental ..... Larry Randolph

Department ..... Manager

Emergency Management .... Mike Zushma

Assessing ..... Garry Toth

Fire Prevention .... Joe Abbruzzese

Clerk ..... Vinny Buttiglieri

Administration .. Vinny Buttiglieri

Finance ..... Glenn Cullen

Court ..... Pat Vargo

Office on Aging ..... Joann Graf



### Borough Council meetings air on Comcast Channel 74, Mondays at 8 p.m. (Except for Holidays)

Comcast will air two hours of a meeting. To purchase a copy of a complete council meeting, contact the *Observer*.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Log on to [southplainfieldnj.com](http://southplainfieldnj.com) for the latest meeting agenda

#### councilmeetings

Meets twice a month on the first and third Tuesday

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

Date	Agenda Meeting	Public Meeting
September 18	7 p.m.	Immediately following
October 2	7 p.m.	Immediately following

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.

#### planningboard

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month, \*except where noted.

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

Sept. 11 and 25, Oct. 9 and 23, Nov. 27 and Dec. 11.

#### zoningboardofadjustment

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month, \*except where noted.

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

Sept. 13 and 27, Oct. 11 and 25, Nov. 1 and 29 and Dec. 13.

#### boardofeducationmeetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted

Committee of the Whole, Wednesdays 7 p.m.—Sept. 11, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Feb. 13, March 12 and April 2.

Regular Meeting Wednesdays 8 p.m.—Wednesday, Sept. 19,

Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 19, Jan. 16, Feb. 20, March 19 and April 19.

#### taxpayersadvisorygroup

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

### South Plainfield Observer

The South Plainfield Observer is published every Friday

G&G Graphics, Inc.  
1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

(908) 668-0010  
FAX (908) 668-8819

NANCY GRENNIER  
Publisher/Editor-in-Chief  
Web page:

[www.spobserver.com](http://www.spobserver.com)  
(under construction)

For subscriptions, advertising or information, call (908) 668-0010.

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

WAYNE GRENNIER  
Associate Publisher  
SUSAN KANEPS  
Art Director/Associate Editor

PATRICIA ABBOTT  
Staff Writer/Photographer

LIBBY BARKSY  
Staff Writer

CAROL GRENNIER  
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JEAN FULTZ  
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TARYN BILlich  
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ROXANNE CORTESE  
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The South Plainfield Observer (U.S.P.S. 018253) is published weekly, except Thanksgiving week, by G&G Graphics Inc. 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080-2004. Second class postage paid at South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080-9998. POSTMASTER: Forward change of address orders to G&G Graphics Inc. 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080-2004. Subscription rates \$25 per year in South Plainfield; \$30 per year out of town. To subscribe: 908-668-0010.

#### 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](mailto:spobserver@comcast.net). Include your name, address, telephone number.

#### 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](mailto:spobserver@comcast.net) or fax 908-668-8819. Letters should not exceed 200 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.

## IN MY OPINION

The opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily those of the publisher.

Dear Editor,

On Saturday, Aug. 25 the South Plainfield Elks Lodge #2298 held their annual soccer shoot. This year, we had 20 participants, which was quadruple the number we had last year! We would like to thank the following people who helped make this a success by being our liaison to the soccer club coaches and working the snack stand, helping set up our goals and acting as line judges: Al Vill, Pat Flanagan, Jackie Vill, Caroline Vill, Ginger Harrell, Ken Harrell, Tim Nagel, Lorretta Nagel, Ann Marie Ferrante, Ken Noll, Laura Readie, Terry Ward, Matt Ward, Pete Walsh, Stephanie Walsh, Chris Sanko, Jim Donelson and our Exalted Ruler Debra Czech. Thanks also to the referees, who are members of our lodge and helped the Soccer Club with their fundraiser for Lanie's Angels, an organization that is dedicated to raising money for children with cancer and rare blood disorders: Kevin Schweers, Tim Dzomba and our Central District Vice-President Pete Smith. Special thanks go out to all the boys and girls who participated in the Shoot, you are all winners in our book!

The Elks are dedicated to working with our youth in various ways from our soccer and hoop shoots, to sponsoring local Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops. We are deeply grateful to all who help us reach our goals.

**SINCERELY,  
BILL AND SHARON REUTER,  
SOUTH PLAINFIELD ELKS #2298,  
YOUTH ACTIVITIES CO-CHAIRMAN**

To the Editor:

It's easy to tell when the Democrats are losing the debate over an issue. They change the subject, start making things up and viciously attack the people on the other side.

This exact scenario happened last week when Joe Scudato wrote to the *Observer*. Apparently, he and his pals on the council know they did the wrong thing when they sold property at less than market value to a campaign contributor, so Scudato went on the attack, made up lies and spewed them in the paper. It was no coincidence he chose the issue that was mailed

#### Submit Letters to the Editor:

Please be advised that the *Observer* does not publish anonymous letters.

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](mailto:spobserver@comcast.net). Deadline is Monday 5 p.m. Letters must be accompanied by a name and telephone number for verification. Please limit letters to no more than 200 words. We reserve the right to refuse a letter, to edit for clarity or length, and to limit the number of letters submitted on the same subject.

to all the homes in town, because he knew a response wouldn't be seen by half the people that originally read his falsehoods.

Here are the facts: I, along with others, pointed out that the council was socking it to the taxpayer by doing two things. First, it transferred property to a campaign contributor at up to \$100,000 under fair-market value. Second, it purchased a shack along Hamilton Boulevard owned by a relative of Democratic mega-contributor Jack Morris for just shy of \$600,000. This is about twice what most people think it's worth.

Council candidates Kathy Thomas and Dennis Cerami and the rest of the Democrats voted for these sweetheart deals. Apparently they were embarrassed about getting caught, so Scudato decided the best thing to do was throw some mud and create a smoke-screen. To do that he came up with a sneaky plan, which was to tell people that Republicans "challenged the integrity" of all sorts of well-regarded people, which is a complete fabrication. His plan was effective, but as is the norm under Democratic leader Pat Diegnan, it was also slimy and underhanded.

If the Democrats really believe they did no wrong, they should stop the lying, show some integrity and defend their positions on the merits. They should explain why they gave a campaign contributor property for nearly \$100,000 less than it's worth. They should explain why they are selling our open space. They should explain why Jack Morris's relative has almost 600 grand of our money after selling the town property worth little more than half that.

The one thing all these scandals have

in common is that taxpayers got the short end of the stick and Democratic contributors prospered. Keeping that in mind, it's easy to see why Scudato, Thomas and Cerami don't want to talk about these issues and want to attack the messengers instead. When you don't have an answer, it's easier to change the subject.

**BOB JONES**

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 2007-2008 year with the musical arts! Our year has already begun with summer marching band practice, but officially began with the Labor Day parade. Our marching band, with drumline and color guard, led the parade and entertained us all with a wonderful performance! There were smiles and friendship all around! If you participated in the Labor Day festivities, many thanks for all your help and support!

At this time, the SPHS Music Boosters is facing a crisis. Many of our dedicated senior parents (class of 2007) have retired from their voluntary positions, leaving a question as to whether or not the Music Boosters will be able to continue in the future as it has in the past.

Music Boosters needs volunteers! There is a need for chaperones, phone chain, food servers, cooks, pit crew and security. These are but a few examples of the types of help needed.

We are not asking for long-term commitments. What we are asking is for a day, an event, or a few hours of your time each week to help your child have fun doing what they love. Show how much you love them by joining in the fun and helping us.

We have football games on Friday, competitions on Saturdays through November (with the occasional Sunday event), concert band, orchestra, and chorus concerts are coming soon! We also support the Winter Guard and jazz band. While these events are coming in the near future, help is always needed.

With all this in mind, our financial focus each year is to raise money through various fund raising events towards our general fund, student ac-

(Continued on page 10)

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From the South Plainfield Library

# Bookmarks

By Jaimie Donnelly

Recently the TV show 20/20 did a program about the Economides, nicknamed "The Cheapest Family in America," on their economics of staying debt-free with a household income of under \$35,000. Many people ask how they did it with a mortgage and seven mouths to feed. Their answer is a lot of preparation and anyone can do it with the right tools, which you can get at our library.

The library has over 20 books for all ages on how to put more money back into your wallet. "The Frugal Senior" by Rich Gray is for older patrons who want their dollars to stretch farther. For parents looking to score coupons, free passes for the family and more you need to check out "The Mom's Guide to Earning and Saving Thousands on the Internet" by Barb Webb. College students are always working hard for their grades and saving money, so there is a book just for them to check out, "Getting Through College Without Going Broke" by Theresa Fives. If teaching your children how to save and use money prop-

erly is your goal the library has several books just on this topic. Check out "Raising Money Smart Kids" and "Dr. Tightwad's Money-Smart Kids" both by Janet Bodnar, "A Penny Saved" by Neale Godfrey and "The Everything Kid's Money Book" by Diane Mayr.

If saving money on books, videos and more is what you are looking for then the library's autumn large book sale is your answer! The book sale will go on all day Saturday, Sept. 15 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. All sales of new or used items will go towards the library.

On Sunday, Sept. 16, children's author Alpha Deanna Langlais will be joining us at 2 p.m. to present her new book, "Deanna's Delightful Day." There will be children's craft and books for purchase and signing. This program is free, but registration is required.

All regular children programs are canceled for the month of September. Please check with Miss Linda or Miss Mija on October programs.

More information about our materials, services and hours can be found on our Web site at [www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us](http://www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us).

# "Crafty Ladies" Show Their Stuff

"Practical Crafting" is marking its fifth year! As part of the celebration, the South Plainfield Senior Center held the "2007 Practical Crafters' Exhibit" recently. The display included class projects and independent creations by the students. A photo display traced the history of "Practical Crafting" classes.

South Plainfield was well represented. Participants included Ethel Beale, Margaret Flynn, Gloria Harupa, Angela Iacobelli, Mabel King, Marge Machat and Rose Nagy.

Even alumni made an appearance. Alpha Langlais signed copies of her newly published book, "Deanna's Delightful Day." Sharon D'Amico shared her skills as a published cardcrafting artist and Irma Tabisz (now living in North Carolina) is still widening her artsy horizons, as evidenced with her two watercolors.

Graduates of the Piscataway Practical Crafting Class of 2007 were also on hand, with works by Sylvia Abaquita, Dorothy Bukowski, Jane McConnell, Julie Toigo and Marie Toney on display.

There were demonstrations of crocheting, painting, iris folding, "chalk pop" cardcrafting technique and do-



Members of Practical Crafting exhibit their projects at the senior center.

it-yourself envelopes. Visitors could even "Make a Bookmark with Margaret!" as a take-home souvenir. Lydia Marr, polyclay artist and Practical Crafting's first "guest instructor," was also on hand, demonstrating her expertise at "Kaleidoscope Cane" polymer clay technique.

After the exhibit, participants gathered at China Buffet to celebrate their success. Instructor Ronda Wisniewski handed out award certificates and hearty congratulations to all exhibitors.

Since Practical Crafting is a "frugal crafting" class, this semester the class will go "Back to Basics!" Lessons will highlight paper arts, card making and recyclecrafting. Occasional lessons in other arts and crafts media, including polymer clay and papier-mâché, will also be scheduled. Classes resume on Thursday, Sept. 6 and run from 10-11 a.m. in the arts and crafts room of the South Plainfield Senior Center.

All senior center members are welcome.

## Motorcyclist Killed in Accident

On Sunday evening at approximately 11 p.m., Rashuan Hollis, 33, of South Plainfield, was fatally injured when the 2000 Suzuki GSX motorcycle he was operating crashed on Kenyon Avenue near Clifford Street.

The police investigation revealed that Hollis was traveling northbound on Kenyon Avenue when he lost control of his motorcycle. He came to rest on the front lawn of 1517 Kenyon Avenue and was pronounced dead at the scene.

Hollis was initially treated at the scene by the South Plainfield Volunteer Rescue Squad and paramedics from Mercy 6 at Muhlenburg Hospital.

The initial investigation shows that Hollis was traveling at an excessive rate of speed prior to the crash.

Anyone with additional information should contact Lt. Kevin Murtagh at (908) 226-7679.

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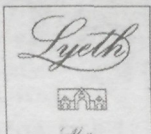
(Only alcoholic beverages)

### Wines of the Week



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Can not be combined with any other offer  
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Excludes sale items

**VALUABLE COUPON**

WC #391507

**15% OFF**  
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Limit one coupon per customer  
Can not be combined with any other offer  
Expires 9/15/07  
Excludes sale items

The information in this ad is only good at 5016 Hadley Center Drive, South Plainfield, NJ. Not responsible for typographical errors. NJ laws prevail. Prices do not include NJ sales tax.

# Around Town

## GOP Comedy Night

September 7

The South Plainfield Republican Organization will host a comedy night featuring "Uncle Floyd" on Friday, Sept. 7 at 8 p.m. at the American Legion Hall on Oak Tree Avenue.

For tickets, call April at (908) 753-0247.

## V.F.W. Pig Roast Picnic

September 8

The South Plainfield V.F.W. on Front Street is hosting a pig roast picnic and moon walk from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 8. The public is welcome to attend. If you have any questions, please call (908) 668-9751.

## Sacred Heart Picnic

September 9

Sacred Heart Parish is holding a picnic on the school's back lawn on Sunday, Sept. 9 from 2 to 6 p.m. There will be food, pony rides, a clown, face painting, music, and fun! Mark your calendars! Come join the excitement with family and friends.

## First Baptist Church Sunday School

September 9

First Baptist Church, 201 Hamilton Blvd., Sunday School registration will be held on Sunday, Sept. 9 from 9:30 to 10:20 a.m. Sunday School meets each Sunday at this time, preschoolers through high school. Sunday Worship service is 10:30-11:30 a.m.

For information call (908) 753-2382 or visit our Web site at [www.fbc.southplainfield.com](http://www.fbc.southplainfield.com). All are welcome.

## 9/11 Services

September 11

The borough will be holding a remembrance service on Tuesday, Sept. 11 at the Fireman's Memorial at 6:30 p.m. All veterans are encouraged to attend.

## AARP 4144 Meeting

September 17

The South Plainfield Chapter of the

What's happening at the

## South Plainfield SENIOR CENTER

SEPTEMBER

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>UPCOMING EVENTS</b>				
<i>Hunterdon Hills Trip Sept. 13, 10 am</i>				
•••				
<i>Shred Old Documents, Sept. 15, 9 am-1 pm</i>				
•••				
<i>Driver Safety Program for Seniors, Sept. 24, 1 pm</i>				
Crocheting 9:30am-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Art Class 11:30am	Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social Group 10am	Aerobics 8:30 am Computer Classes 10am, 11:20am, 1pm Crocheting 1pm Tai Chi 2pm	Pathmark Shopping 9am Practical Crafts 10am Computer Class 10am 11:30am, 1pm Exercise Class 1:15pm	Bingo 10am-2pm
10	11	12	13	14
TO SIGN UP FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER, VISIT THE CENTER.				

AARP meeting will be held on Monday, Sept. 17 at 12:30 p.m. at the senior center. Speaker of the day will be Peter Cerrato, philatelist (stamp collector).

Needlecrafters meet on Wednesdays from 1 to 3 p.m. They are currently knitting 130 lap robes for the Highlands, preemie hats for DYFS and Muhlenberg Hospital.

## OLC Blood Drive

September 28

Our Lady of Czestochowa Church will hold their annual blood drive on Friday, Sept. 28 from 3 to 8 p.m. at the OLC Parish Hall on Hamilton Boulevard. For information, call (908) 757-4490.

## PBA Golf Tournament

October 1

PBA Local 100 is holding its 13th annual golf tournament on Monday, Oct. 1 at the Concordia Golf Club in Monroe Township. Tournament begins at 8 a.m. with a shotgun start. Cost per golfer is \$110 and includes a complimentary breakfast, lunch, commemorative golf shirt and goodie bag. The day concludes with an awards banquet at The Polish Home on New Market Avenue. Golfers will enjoy a

full buffet and open bar. Door prizes will include golf apparel, electronics equipment and sports memorabilia.

For more information contact Matt Koep at (908) 392-0541, Lloyd McNelly at (908) 872-5479 or Michael Grasso at (908) 510-6062.

## Flea Market

October 6

The JJ Gardner Detachment Marine Corps League will sponsor a flea market on Saturday, Oct. 6 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the American Legion Chaumont Post #243, located on Oak Tree Avenue. Cost per space is \$15.

For information or reservations, call Bob Hatton at (908) 354-1640.

## — Out of Town —

## Legal Runaround 5k Run, 3k Walk

September 9

The second annual "Legal Runaround" 5K run, 3K fun walk and "kids dashes" event, sponsored by the Somerset County Bar Foundation, will be held on Sunday, Sept. 9 starting at 12:30 p.m. at the Somerset County Courthouse on Main Street in Somerville. Participants receive a free

t-shirt and awards will be given.

Register online at [www.PracticeHard.com](http://www.PracticeHard.com) or call (908) 245-3000.

## NAMI-Middlesex

September 10

NAMI-Middlesex, an affiliate of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, is holding a general membership meeting and speaker series on Monday, Sept. 10 at University Behavioral HealthCare, 671 Hoes Lane, Rm. D201/203 in Piscataway from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

For information call (732) 985-3834 or email [philippa0@verizon.net](mailto:philippa0@verizon.net).

## Golf Outing/Dinner

September 10

The 21st annual golf outing to benefit the Center For Hope Hospice & Palliative Care will be held on Monday, Sept. 10 at Oak Ridge Golf Course in Clark. \$185 pp includes 18 holes of golf, a cart, BBQ lunch, cocktail hour and dinner.

For more information, call Larry Reagan at (732) 244-1044.

## Middlesex East WOWs

September 10

Middlesex East Widows Or Widowers will hold a Memorial Mass for departed spouses at St. Elizabeth's Church in Carteret on Monday, Sept. 10 at 6 p.m. After Mass, there will be a business meeting held at the Carteret Community Center. All widows and widowers are invited to attend. For information, call Dorothy at (732) 541-2174 or Lois at (908) 757-0515.

## Metuchen-Edison Women's Club

September 12

The Metuchen-Edison Women's Club monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 12 at 7:30 p.m. at The Heritage at Clara Barton in Edison. Guests are welcome and light refreshments will be served.

For additional information, contact Mary at (732) 494-5649.

## Poetswednesday

September 12

Poetswednesday will feature poet Anna Evans at the Barron Arts Center, 582 Rahway Ave. in Woodbridge on Wednesday, Sept. 12 at 8 p.m.

She has been featured at many readings including the Café Improv in Princeton. She has had over ninety poems published in numerous print journals and E-zines, including "Asphodel," "One Trick Pony" and "Exit 13."

## APLD Landscape Symposium

September 12

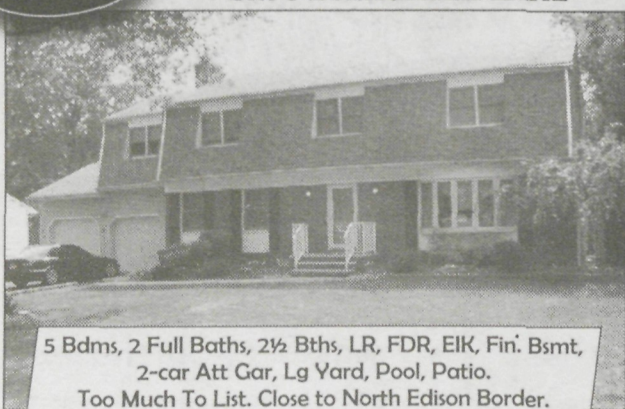
The Association of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD) will hold an all-day symposium at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum in Morristown on Wednesday, Sept. 12 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Register online at [www.apld.org](http://www.apld.org), under "events."

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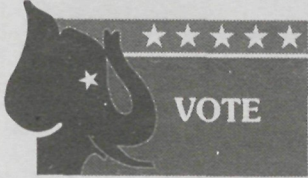
Tour club for details. Some restrictions may apply. Offer applies to new members only.

McConville and Rusnak:

## Residents Deserve Real Tax Cuts

Council candidates Tim McConville and Ray Rusnak know the importance of a more affordable South Plainfield. That's why controlling out-of-control spending is a top priority for the two. Both see better efficiency as the key to making our town more affordable.

Tim McConville and his wife Gina grew up in town and are raising their



three kids here. "Families need real help, not gimmicks," McConville explained. "I know with my own family, it's hard to save for college and other expenses with taxes going up every year. That's why Ray and I will work for real—and that's an important word, real—tax savings."

Ray Rusnak agrees. He also sees how taxes are steadily rising in South Plainfield, despite what people are being told:

- **Fact:** Taxes are higher today than last year when the Democrats promised not to raise them.

- **Fact:** After promising not to raise taxes last November, Democrats raised them this year in January.

- **Fact:** Republicans Anesh and Bengivenga were the only council members to oppose this year's tax hike.

- **Fact:** Over the past two years, Democrats have raised property taxes 16%.

"Where I work, people aren't getting 16% raises," McConville added. "These increases simply aren't acceptable."

McConville and Rusnak see cutting waste as key to achieving real tax savings. For example, they could not believe that their opponents, Kathy Thomas and Dennis Cerami, voted to sell town-owned land to one of their campaign contributors at nearly \$100,000 less than fair-market value.

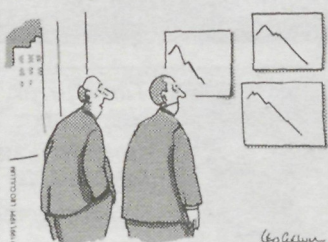
"We were proud of Councilmen Anesh and Bengivenga for voting against this waste of tax dollars."

Both candidates want more efficiency at Borough Hall. For example, the town keeps adding unnecessary administrative jobs. These costs should be trimmed. Getting competitive quotes for professional contracts would also save the town money.

"These are just some of the ways to restore accountability. We'll be talking about more innovative ways to help taxpayers as the campaign progresses," explained McConville.

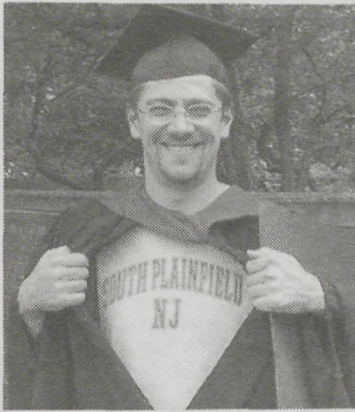
McConville and Rusnak both want real tax cuts. Most importantly, they think voters need to know the truth about taxes.

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## southplainfieldpeople Milestones



Jay Golon

### Jay Golon Receives Masters Degree From Harvard

Jay Golon, son of Bob and Jill Golon of South Plainfield, recently received a Masters Degree in Educational Leadership from Harvard University.

A 1993 graduate of the South Plainfield Middle School, Jay graduated from Rutgers Preparatory School in 1997, then attended Wesleyan University in Middletown, Conn. Prior to completing his graduate work at Harvard, Jay was on the faculty of the Trevor Day School in Manhattan.

But, as you can see from the photograph, Jay has never forgotten his South Plainfield roots.

### Jennifer Bersin Admitted to State Bar of California

Jennifer Bersin, a 1990 graduate of South Plainfield High School, was recently admitted to the State Bar of California.

Jennifer graduated with honors from SPHS and played varsity softball and field hockey. She attended Wagner College in Staten Island and graduated cum laude in June 1994. She moved to California and enrolled at Whittier College, earning her Jurist Doctorate degree in June 2005, passing the California Bar Exam in February 2007. Jennifer is part of the legal counsel of a corporation in California.

### Joy Walter Receives PhD

Joy Walter, a 1998 South Plainfield High School graduate, recently received her PhD in biomedical science with specialization in neuroscience.

Dr. Walter received the degree from the Sue Golding Graduate division of biomedical sciences at Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University. A 2002 graduate of St. Peter's College, with a double major in mathematics and biochemistry, she graduated summa cum laude.



(L-R) 2007 Police Athletic League Scholarship recipients Jessica Pryor, Det. Chris Colucci, president of the PAL, and Christopher Stallone

### 2007 PAL Scholarship Winners

Jessica Pryor and Christopher Stallone, both members of the South Plainfield High School Class of 2007, are the winners of the 2007 Police Athletic League Scholarship.

The scholarships were presented by PAL President Det. Chris Colucci.

Christopher will be attending the University of Scranton in Pennsylvania, with a major in business.

Jessica will be attending the University of Mary Washington in Virginia, with a major in biology.



Miranda Bourbeau

### Local Girl Donates Hair to Locks of Love

Miranda Bourbeau, 9, a fourth grade student at Franklin School, recently had 18 inches of her hair cut off by Rachel at Southside Salon on South Clinton Avenue. She is donating the hair to Locks of Love, an organization that provides wigs to children with cancer.

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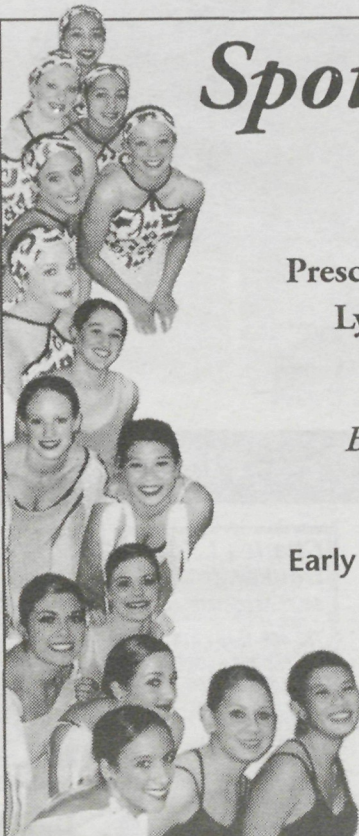
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# Behind the Scenes—What It Takes to Build a Parade

For the past 10 years, the *Observer* has participated in the borough's annual Labor Day parade by hosting a booth at the PAL building, and in earlier years, at Veterans Park. This year, in conjunction with Hometown Heros, we made the decision to march in the parade and build a float. What we got was an eye opening view of the preparations necessary to make it all happen.

The building of a float takes weeks of planning and design. We met with Hometown Heros owners, Charlie and Debbie Kurland, for two months before the parade, discussing ideas for a float, what our ideas would entail and how we would proceed to make our plans a reality. We ordered banners, decorations and made many lists. All went smoothly and the plans seemed to fall into place.

We arrived at Hall's Warehouse last Saturday morning eager to start decorating. The first look at our flatbed trailer was a bit overwhelming; it was much larger in person than on paper. Other groups arrived to decorate their floats and started unloading lumber, saws and drills. They were obviously seasoned float decorators and were an impressive sight to watch.

Being rookies, we soon realized that we didn't have everything we needed for the job and had to buy more building supplies and decorations. It took us longer than expected, and some of our design plans were revised as we went along, but we decorated the float as far as possible and planned to put the finishing touches on it Monday morning.

Monday morning our group met at the Middle School as planned and that is when we really began to appreciate those in charge of planning the parade. The parking lot was filled with floats, bands, people unloading cars and dropping off children. The parade marshals were on hand to direct everyone and instruct us where we were in the order of the parade. It was organized chaos. The fact that all the participants and floats were in the right order and the parade started on time without a hitch is a real tribute to the organizers and volunteers. The *Observer* learned a lot this year by marching in the parade; it takes a lot of time and hundreds of volunteers to make it the success it is each year. Whether we march or not, we will have a deeper appreciation for the Public Celebrations Committee, the volunteers and participants. We would like to thank all of the volunteers for making this year another successful parade. They just don't receive enough credit for the great job they do year after year.

The *Observer* and Hometown Heros would

like to thank all who helped us win a trophy for our float: Natia Katsantonis, who spent hours personalizing the winning essay cards; Gary Lampasona, who built the huge book that was the centerpiece of the float; our volunteer Halls driver, Mike and friend Kim, for helping us put the last minute decorations on the float and then dismantling it at the end of the parade. Special thanks to Roosevelt teacher Mike Bertram, who read poems and introduced the Junior Journalist winners to the parade watch-

ers along the route. Also a big thank you to all those who helped with decorations and marched with us: Wyatt and Sue Kaneps, Natia Katsantonis, Taryn Bilch, Wayne, Mike, Carol and Joe Grennier, Christine and Bobbie Kurland, Gary and Sheryl Lampasona. You did a great job!



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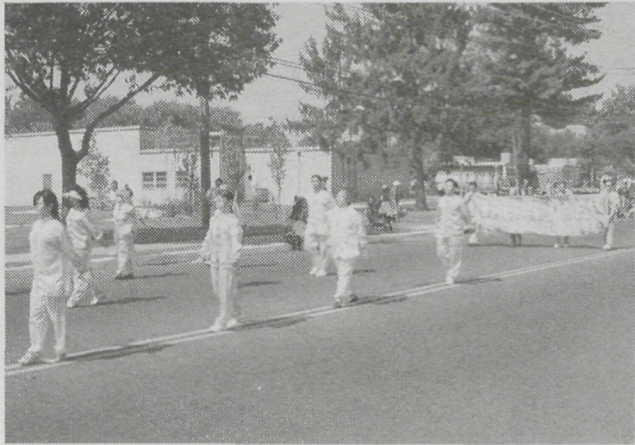
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# And the Winner Is...

## 50th Annual Labor Day Parade Trophy Winners



\*\*\* Special Trophy \*\*\*  
 Public Celebrations Committee  
 Commemorating the 50th Annual Labor Day Parade  
**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

Honorary Grand Marshal Trophy  
 Given by Honorary Grand Marshal to best overall entry in his/her opinion.  
**TIGER SHARKS SWIM & DIVE TEAM**

Judges' Trophy-Best overall entry as determined by judges  
**FALUN GONG MARCHING BAND**

George W. L. Page Trophy  
**BUDDY WALK OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD**

Most Outstanding Float-Best Overall  
**CEDARCROFT BIBLE CHAPEL**

Best Youth Entry  
**ATA BLACK BELT ACADEMY**

Best Civic Entry-Best theme-related entry  
**THE OBSERVER/HOMETOWN HEROES**

Most Patriotic Entry  
**J.J. GARDNER DETACHMENT MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

Most Outstanding Visiting Entry  
 Awarded to the best appearing entry from out of South Plainfield  
**CAR NUTZ CAR CLUB**

Best Antique Vehicle-Awarded to the best appearing antique vehicle entry  
 of any kind entered as a separate unit  
**WATCHUNG VALLEY MODEL A RESTORERS CLUB**

Marie D. Page Trophy  
 Awarded to the best overall marching entry  
**GIRL SCOUTS OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD**



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# Sports



## Pop Warner Starts With a Splash

On August 24 at exactly 6 p.m. sharp, the South Plainfield Pop Warner Eagles were part of a nationwide kick-off that started with a splash.

Thanks to everyone at the South Plainfield Recreation Department we were able to hold our first annual pool festival to inaugurate our season. More than 100 balloons were blowing in the air to show our green, black and white spirit. All the children and their families were invited to join in on the fun. A DJ played tunes while the children ate pizza and had plenty of refreshments. The night was non-stop with many activities such as pool relay races, potato sack races, and, what is a party without a cake eating contest? More than 50 items were given away as prizes.

The Eagle spirit was definitely in the air. Many thanks to everyone who helped with this event starting with the recreation department and their wonderful lifeguards. Sara, Calvin and their crew were on hand to help with decorations and setting up. We would also like to thank Beth Graves, Jackie Vill, Kim Gruver, Angel Jazikoff, Cheryl DelVecchio, Terry Reed-Housel, Cindy Cooper, Yvonne Davison, Kelly Dunn and everyone who helped with setting up. A big thank you to Jackie Dickerson for helping out with every contest and game. The evening was all about the kids and it showed. The kids had a great time; what a way to start a season.

Submitted by Stacey Pace, Chairperson & Coach

Submitted By Bob Nilan

Jim Pornovets, Jr. drained a big-breaking 40-footer on the ninth hole to gain a tie with his two opponents and that, along with a solid round of 38 turned in by Frank Oades, enabled Pornovets to pull off a 13-7 upset victory over Oak Tree Buy-Rite and earn the League Championship. Danny Griffin had a fine 2-over 35 and Mike King chipped in with a 36 for the American League champions, Buy-Rite, but their terrific efforts were just not enough to overcome Pornovets.

It was a fitting way for Jim Pornovets, Jr. to end his 36-year association as a regular member of the South Plainfield Golf League. He'll be off to Kentucky next year as a result of a job transfer, but Jim will take with him the happy memories of his last stroke in the last match of a championship season.

Captain Kevin Boyce led the way with a 36 as the Hackers soundly whipped Plainfield Animal Hospital, 19-1, to gain third-place in the overall standings. Teammates Bill Mann and Jeremy Szoc contributed a pair of 38's as the Hackers enjoyed a match where they didn't have too many strokes to give away. Mark "Mr. Steady" Chichvar kept his consistency record intact by posting a 38 while no other member of his team was able to crack 40.

Eddie's Grinders put together another fine effort with every member of the team breaking 40 as the Grinders cruised to an easy 15½-4½ triumph over Witty's Liquors. Ed Banach earned the medal for the Grinders with a terrific 1-over par 34. Fred "Catfish" Kirchofer and Chris Dillon fired 38's and Bob Tumolo had a 39.



South Plainfield Golf League 2007 League Champions—Pornovets, (L-R): Frank Oades, Jim Pornovets, Jr., Jim Pornovets, Sr., Robert Pornovets and Marty Van DeVaarst.

The Roughriders only fielded two men and made it easy for 2 Buds, 2 Dubes to waltz to an easy 20-0 victory. Dale Dube and Chris Nuzzo shared low-man honors with their 39's.

Joe Diller of Twin City finished the season in great fashion by shooting a 1-over 34 to tie Ed Banach for the low-round of the night. Diller's 34 along with Jay Coppola's 38 and Kevin Cunniff's 39 enabled Twin City to demolish Patti's Construction, 19-1. Mike Behr of Patti's was the only member of his team to find the fairways with any regularity as he registered a 37.

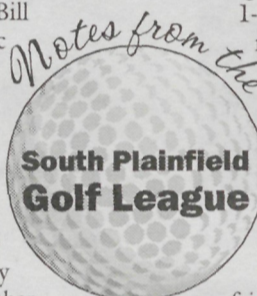
In the battle to see who would avoid finishing last in the over-all standings, Sport & Social was up for the challenge and crushed KC's Korner, 16-4. Frank "The Monster from Myrtle Beach" Matthews hopes that some of the firepower that his team showed at the end of the season by winning their last two matches by lopsided scores of 20-0 and 17-3 will

carry over to next year. KC's Korner finished their forgettable season with no one shooting below 40. Pornovets finished in 10th place last year and came back to win the league championship this year. KC's Korner hopes that the same trampoline effect will work for them in 2008.

Low scores for the night: Ed Banach, 34; Joe Diller, 34; Danny Griffin, 35; Mike King, 36; Kevin Boyce, 36; Frank Oades, 38; Jay Coppola, 38; Bill Mann, 38; Jeremy Szoc, 38; Mark Chichvar, 38; Fred Kirchofer, 38.

### FINAL LEAGUE STANDINGS

1. Pornovets
2. Oak Tree Buy-Rite
3. Hackers
4. Plainfield Animal Hospital
5. Eddie's Grinders
6. Witty's
7. 2 Buds, 2 Dubes
8. Roughriders
9. Twin City
10. Patti's Construction
11. Sport & Social
12. KC's Korner



## Swimmers Compete in Conference Championship

The New Jersey Swimming and Diving Conference held their annual championships at the beginning of August at Frog Hollow Swim Club

in South Amboy. The best swimmers of the forty teams in the "A", "B", "C", and "D" leagues competed. Swimmers who placed first through sixth were

awarded medals. Local swimmers awarded medals were:

Emily Piekarski-4th place, 15-18 year old 200 freestyle; Kelly O'Brien-2nd place 9/10 year old, 50 fly 2nd place 100 Individual Medley, 4th place 100 freestyle; Megan McDermott-3rd place 8-and-under 25 freestyle, 4th place 25 butterfly; Aidan McDermott-3rd place 9/10 year old 100 freestyle, 4th place 50 freestyle, 6th place 100 Individual Medley; Nicholas Gurrieri-2nd place 8-and-under 25 freestyle, 2nd place 25 breaststroke, 2nd place 25 butterfly; Anthony Gurrieri-4th place 11/12 year old 100 freestyle, 4th place 50 freestyle; Marcel Green, Anthony Gurrieri, Liam McDermott and Aidan McDermott-2nd place 9-12 year old 200 Medley Relay.

Thanks to all the Tiger Shark swimmers who gave us another exciting season. If you are interested in swimming for the Tiger Sharks please inquire at the PAL.

## NFL Punt Pass And Kick Sponsored By Pepsi

The South Plainfield Eagles will host the local NFL Punt, Pass and Kick competition as well as the regional contest for those who advance on Sept. 15 at the Eagles Football Field on Kenneth Avenue. 9 a.m. check in.

Punt, Pass and Kick is open to all boys and girls ages 8-15. Each participant has one chance. Aggregate high score in each gender and age group wins. Winners advance to the regional contest. Regional winners advance to the States and a chance to compete at Giants Stadium during half time.

Pre-register at the field house on Sept. 14 from 6-8 p.m.

## SPJBC Year-End Picnic Saturday

The SPJBC will host its annual year-end picnic on Saturday, Sept. 8 from noon to 5 p.m. There will be plenty of food and games for all. This picnic is an opportunity to reminisce about the previous season and meet the new commissioner and board members. There will be pre-registra-

tion for the 2008 baseball season. All managers, auxiliary members and families are reminded to bring their super 50/50 raffle tickets. The Women's Auxiliary Super 50/50 Raffle is scheduled to take place at the picnic at 3:30 p.m.

Winner need not be present.

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## Obituaries

### Peter J. Richetti, 47

Peter J. Richetti passed away on Monday, Aug. 27 at the Hope Hospice in Fort Myers, Fla., surrounded by many beloved family members.

Born in Plainfield, Peter was raised in South Plainfield and lived in Virginia Beach for 22 years before settling in Estero, Fla. 18 months ago.

Peter worked as a sales engineer for Ingersoll-Rand in Virginia for many years before recently retiring. An avid golfer, Mr. Richetti loved the N.Y. Yankees as well as the N.Y. Giants.

A loving uncle to his two nephews, Justin C. and Nicholas T. Miller, Peter was also fond of being godfather to several of his close friends children.

In addition to his nephews, Mr. Richetti is survived by his loving parents, Thomas P. Sr. and Rose T. (Rabone) Richetti of South Plainfield; a sister, Robyn T. Miller and husband Jeffrey of Bridgewater and a brother, Thomas P. Jr. of San Diego.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Peter's name to the Life Raft Group, 40 Galesi Dr., Wayne, N.J. 07470.

### Dr. Thomas F. Boyle, 60

Dr. Thomas F. Boyle died suddenly on Saturday, Aug. 25 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Jim Thorpe, Pa. and raised in Dunellen, he moved to South Plainfield in 1985. He attended St. Joseph's High School, where he went on to receive his BA from William Paterson University. A passion for education followed to Kean University for his masters in education. In 2004, he proudly earned his doctorate in educational leadership from Nova University.

Dr. Boyle was employed as the su-

perintendent of schools for the Somerset County Educational Services Commission for the past 10 years. He was previously the Computer Technology coordinator and former teacher for the Warren Township Board of Education. Additionally, Dr. Boyle served as the tax assessor for Dunellen, Highland Park and Winfield Park municipalities.

An overly active individual, Dr. Boyle wore many hats. Throughout his life he gave freely of himself to numerous organizations. During his time in Dunellen he was an active member of the National Guard and the Knights of Columbus. He was a Dunellen councilman, as well as an exempt Dunellen fireman. He took the roll of a special police officer in South Plainfield during the early 1970's. Other memberships included time served on the Ancient Order of the Hibernian's, the Somerset County Education Association where he served as treasurer and long hours at the South Plainfield Music Boosters meeting as a "pit dad." His most recent venture took him to the South Plainfield Rescue Squad as a certified EMT. His latest calling brought him back to his roots fighting fires. His courageous spirit led him to the Ocean Beach #3 Vol Fire Company Station #27. His leadership qualities gave him the ability to become a valued trustee and treasurer.

In 2006, Dr. Boyle earned a life saving award for his heroic action during an ocean water rescue.

He was predeceased by his father, Francis.

He is survived by his beloved wife

of 37 years, Diane (Cannizzaro); three cherished daughters and their husbands, Kristen "Ce-Ce" and Christopher Lakatos, Kellie and Carmine DeSan, all of Bridgewater as well as his youngest, Tiffany and Brian Toth of Coatsville, Pa.; most importantly the light of his life, a granddaughter who lovingly called him "Poxie," Shannon Lakatos; his mother, Kathleen and step-father Al Frankowski of Dunellen; a sister, Kathy and a brother, Patrick and their families. Also surviving are his two dogs, Loni and Trini who would often be seen with him riding in the front basket of his bicycle down the Lavallette boardwalk.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to S.C.E.S.C., P.O. Box 68, Raritan N.J. 08869 for the Dr. Thomas Boyle Educational College Scholarship.

### Henry F. Wanagieli, 85

Henry Francis Wanagieli died on Monday, Aug. 27 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Brooklyn, Henry was a graduate of Loughlin High School in Queens. He had resided in Long Island until 1972 when he and his family settled in North Plainfield.

He served in the United States Air Force during WWII, stationed in the Aleutian Islands with the 337th Fighter Squadron, before being honorably discharged in 1946.

Henry was employed as an overseas traffic manager for Ingersoll-Rand in South Plainfield before retiring in the

late 1980's. He had previously been employed in the same capacity with Asiatic Petroleum in NYC. After retirement, Henry assisted as an elder-care specialist for the department of aging in Bridgewater.

In his younger years, he was active in little league with his son. Henry also enjoyed stamp collecting and was a model train hobbyist.

Predeceased by a sister, Jayne and brother, Benjamin.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 61 years, Eleanor (Wisniewski); a son, Robert and daughter, Judith Bloom and husband Andrew and two grandchildren, David Bloom and Karin Bloom.

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

### Earl Gilliam, 84

Earl Gilliam died on Wednesday, Aug. 29 at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

Born and raised in Lake Charles, La., Earl lived in California, Montclair, Morristown and Illinois before settling in Plainfield in 1957.

A veteran of the U.S. Army, Mr. Gilliam served during WWII as well as the Korean Conflict.

He worked for General Electric in Bloomfield as an air condition and refrigeration technician Earl also worked for Ford Motor Co. in Edison, retiring more than 20 years ago.

Earl was a member of the Masonic

Lodge in Plainfield and enjoyed fishing and trips to Atlantic City.

Mr. Gilliam will be sadly missed and mourned by his loving family and friends.

He was predeceased by a daughter, Rance Gilliam, who died in 1989; five brothers and three sisters.

Surviving are a step-daughter, Tanya Wilson and husband Paul of South Plainfield; a step-son, Eugene A. Heath and wife Marie of Fla.; a sister, Annie Mae Boyd and husband Jefferson of Kansas; two brothers, Harvey Gilliam Sr. and wife Theresa of Louisiana and Joseph Gilliam of Illinois; five grandchildren, Monique Lynn Boyd-Richardson and husband Delbert, Kiian and Jarret Wilson, John Paul Heath and Cassandra Boyd and a great-granddaughter, Chasity Boyd. Also surviving are six great-great grandchildren and a host of loving nieces and nephews.

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

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### LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE  
ORDINANCE #1799

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

Ordinance #1799 entitled: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$193,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF FIRE DEPARTMENT TURNOUT GEAR AND FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE SUBURBAN BUS COMPANY BUILDING was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, September 7, 2007 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Tuesday, September 18, 2007 which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ORDINANCE NO. 1799

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$193,000.00 FOR THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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

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

Fire Department Turnout Gear	\$118,000.00
Demolition of Buildings	75,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$193,000.00</b>

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

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

A. That the maximum estimated amount of money to be raised from all sources for the purposes stated in Section 1, hereof, is \$193,000.00.

B. That the cost for said projects shall be financed by a \$106,079.00 Grant from FEMA Assistance to Firefighters, \$11,921.00 from Capital Improvement Fund and \$75,000.00 from the Reserve for the Demolition of Suburban Bus Company.

C. The estimated useful life of said improvements is hereby determined to be five (5) years.

Section 4. That the total amount of the appropriation to be expended for Architectural and inspection costs, legal costs, advertisement of ordinance and other expenses as provided in Section 48-2-20 of the Revised Statutes, is not to exceed \$25,000.00.

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

ATTEST:  
Vincent Buttiglieri, RMC, CMC

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Contestants in the dance contests at Hawaiian Night.

## Hawaiian Night at Community Pool

By Jane Dornick

The South Plainfield Community Pool celebrated the end of summer with the annual Hawaiian Night on Aug. 22. Unfortunately, the weather was more like a December evening, but everyone wore sweatshirts to complement their grass skirts and the partying went on despite the dreary atmosphere.

This year, Recreation Department Director Kevin Hughes decided to try something different and offered an extended menu. Aside from the usual

hot dogs, hamburgers and pizza, there were chicken sandwiches, sausage and peppers, cole slaw and macaroni and potato salads to choose from. Activities held throughout the night included a golf hole-in-one, a dance and a picnic eating contest. A raffle was held at the end of the evening. First prize was a one-year membership. Other prizes included community pool logo sweatshirts and polo shirts.

Hawaiian Night was one of three successful theme-oriented special evenings held at the pool this year for its members.

(Continued from page 2) counts, and most importantly, our annual scholarship fund.

Our meetings are posted in the *Observer*, one week before the scheduled meeting. Most meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month in the chorus room, except September, which will be held on the second Wednesday, Sept. 12.

Smiles are contagious! Come spread the epidemic! Join us!

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 12 at 6:30 p.m. The marching band and color guard will perform for us. Following their performance, there will be a "meet and greet" and formal meeting. We hope to see you there!

**PAMELA HUSSEY  
CO-PRESIDENT AND AD BOOK  
DIRECTOR, SPSHS BMAT**

To the Editor,

At the Aug. 7 council meeting, Resolution 190—to "Authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute the contract regarding the Open Space Acquisition between the Borough of South Plainfield and Jayne Investment

## IN MY OPINION

The opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily those of the publisher.

Group, LLC for the acquisition of Block 254, Lots 29, 30, 30.01 and 31" was considered. This property is on Oak Tree Road where the one-time radio station WERA was located. A question was asked as to whether the property was considered wetlands. The council's answer was that it was not, even though reference to a wetlands map is outdated and obsolete.

Another question was, "What was the price of the property?" The answer was \$1.7 million. The next question was, "Who appraised the property or caused the property to be appraised?" The answer was, "Middlesex County Freeholders." Who is paying for the property?—Middlesex County.

By way of explanation we understand that payment is from the Open Space Fund which we pay with our real estate taxes to the county. Middlesex County is paying us and we are paying Jayne Investment Group, LLC.

As taxpayers we have paid \$1,064,214. This seems to be quite an enormous slush fund for the county. Do we, South Plainfield, need all this open space? Can't this money be used for more pressing projects? Re-

member, as we mentioned in our previous communications, we pay county taxes, along with school, education and municipal taxes. It isn't free.

Residents are moving out of South Plainfield, as well as the state, due to such high taxes.

Recent talks with several realtors in our area agree that it is always sad when people lose their homes due to foreclosure and all agree mostly that it also sad when a home has to be sold due to high taxes and upkeep.

Our elected officials in all levels of government should go back to considering the interest of the citizens instead of the interest of not only interest groups but the party!

Shouldn't they start thinking of how to cut the budget instead of catering to the whims of political parties?

Floating bonds is not cutting taxes; it just puts another burden on the budget. Pay as you go means just that—spend only what you have and live within your budget—even if it hurts a little.

**RICHARD V. PETRONE, SOUTH  
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## police report

On Aug. 28, Galaxy Metal Products on Rand Road reported the theft of a 30-yard dumpster containing scrap metal.

On Aug. 29, an Arlington Avenue resident reported the theft of a BMX bike from their yard.

On Aug. 30, David M. Snyder, 37, of Piscataway was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

On Aug. 31, Michael Makosky, 52, of Edison was arrested for driving

an unregistered vehicle and an outstanding warrant.

On Sept. 1, Ulysses G. Exum, 35, of Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, reckless driving, failure to obey regulations in marked lanes and leaving the scene of an accident.

On Sept. 2, Thomas M. Charnel, 35, of South Plainfield was arrested for speeding and an outstanding warrant.

## LEGAL NOTICES

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
LEGAL NOTICE  
ORDINANCE 1798**

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

Ord. 1798 entitled: AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A "CAP" BANK IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14 was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, September 4, 2007 at the Public Meeting which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ATTEST:  
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk  
\$27.30 September 7, 2007

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**BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
LEGAL NOTICE**

An appeal has been filed by David Papa and Margarita Arbelaez requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit lot coverage over by 75 sq. ft. or 3.5%. Front setback new porch-30' required, 8.1' proposed. Front and side setback-new addition-30' front required, 15.1' proposed; 8' side required, 1.8' proposed. Front and side-addition over existing-24' front required, 15.1' proposed, 8' side required, 1.8' proposed, and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 129 Randolph Avenue, Block 266, Lot 14 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, September 27, 2007 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at 8:00 p.m.

The files and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Planning/Zoning Office in Borough Hall between the hours of 8:00 a.m and 4:00 pm.  
\$38.50 September 7, 2007

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# Esposito Named Red Cross Volunteer of the Month

The Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross has announced that Terri Esposito of South Plainfield was named Volunteer of the Month for August, for her dedication and hard work on behalf of people she's never met.

"Terri is a shining example of what makes the Red Cross work in our communities and beyond," said Nathan Rudy, CEO of the Tri-County Red Cross. "Whether it's finding a hotel for a family who just lost a home to fire, spending every night on call as our dispatcher, or deploying around the country to large scale disasters Terri is there every single time."

Terri is receiving the award for consistently going above and beyond the



Terri Esposito

call of duty for the people of the Tri-County Chapter area. Terri presently serves as the Chapter's Emergency Dispatcher, on call every day of every week to field disaster emergency calls. If she cannot find another volunteer to get to the disaster quickly enough Terri will respond.

"After volunteering in Mississippi on Katrina, I felt such a sense of satisfaction and accomplishment for helping those people who had lost everything," said Terri. "I had to keep volunteering here, where every week there are families who lose their homes to disasters."

Last month there was a structural fire in North Plainfield that displaced two families. Terri mobilized three volunteers, including CEO Nathan Rudy, to get out to the blaze and help the families in their recovery. Soon after these families were taken care of, Terri received another call about a fire in Roselle. "As our dispatcher, Terri called to find out who was available to go out, and was unable to get a team together so she went herself," said Rudy. "This kind of dedication to volunteerism and helping people is in the highest tradition of the Red Cross."

Terri began volunteering for the Red Cross during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Shortly after Katrina made landfall, she called the

Red Cross to volunteer and jumped a flight to Mississippi. She would spend the next two weeks in Biloxi, feeding and sheltering storm victims and doing damage assessment.

When that tour was over, she returned home for what she thought was a permanent stay. But the Tri-County Red Cross called on her a few days later for a second deployment, and without hesitation she packed up and flew back to Mississippi the following morning. This time she served three weeks in the city of Algiers feeding and sheltering storm victims.

Terri has such an impact on the families she helps that during her Hurricane Katrina deployment, she was named Volunteer of the Day on one of the operations. Terri was pulled aside by Red Cross "secret shoppers" as she was serving snacks from a Red Cross feeding truck while making people smile during such a tough time. The Red Cross "secret shoppers" are aimed at looking for volunteers who go above and beyond and then acknowledging them.

After her second deployment, she returned home and signed on as a volunteer for the Tri-County Red Cross.

She continues to volunteer in a variety of other ways: blood drives; volunteer recruitments; fund drives; etc. and she signs up for any training classes that are made available to her. She says that she wants to learn everything she can.

The American Red Cross is a volunteer-led organization. Most of the work is done by volunteers and volunteers like Terri are examples of the best of the Red Cross. If you want to be a volunteer for the Tri-County Chapter you can contact Victor Webb, director of volunteer and youth services, at (908) 756-6414 or visit the Web site at [www.tricountyredcross.org](http://www.tricountyredcross.org).

As a disaster assistance team leader, Terri encourages everyone in the chapter area to volunteer to help in disaster services.

"There's nothing better than taking a family that is at its lowest point after losing their home and helping them to find the path back to safety and security," said Terri. "We need volunteers to help support the disasters that happen more than once a week in our area, and to mobilize to support big disasters like 9/11, Katrina or the current floods in the midwest."



Joe Scrudato and wife Sharon serve ice cream at the Knights social.

# Knights of Columbus Hold Ice Cream Social Night

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 held an ice cream social night at the council hall for members, their families and the community.

Ice cream night was the idea of Deputy Grand Knight Eric Waldorf. He wanted to sponsor a fun night for families to get together and to have something where members could meet other

members and their families.

More than 50 people attended the social. Various ice cream was served, as well as banana splits, root beer and orange soda floats. There were also games and a movie shown for the children who attended.

The chairman for this event was Ted Rubino and ice cream servers were Joe and Sharon Scrudato.

# Literacy Volunteers Looking for Tutors

South Plainfield residents Ken and Audrey Reisch, who devote many hours a week as literacy volunteers, are asking residents to join them in volunteering their time helping others learn to read and speak the English language. They are asking for volunteers to join the Literacy Volunteers of Middlesex (LVM).

Volunteering to tutor doesn't take a lot of time, but the benefits and rewards are worth far more than the effort extended. LVM offers individuals who wish to become tutors a combined training program that enables them to tutor students.

LVM provides free one-to-one Basic Literacy or ESL instruction for adults in a library close to home. The program is a safety net for a segment of the population for whom traditional adult education programs are either inaccessible or too difficult. Many of our students cannot take part in the adult school classes because of their work schedule and/or transportation problems.

For more information or to join LVM, call (732) 432-8000.

# Justin DeVany Ties for Second in Junior Tournament



Justin DeVany

Justin DeVany, grandson of Mike and Sandy Kavka, tied for second place in the Youth Division of the Rutgers Jr. Open Golf Tournament on Aug. 7. Mike Kavka, his grandfather and SPHS golf coach, was Justin's caddy. On a match of cards, Justin was awarded the third place trophy. His Uncle Mike was a two-time champion of the Rutgers Jr. Tournament. Justin is the son of Lori and Pat DeVany of Moorestown.

# Free Paper Shredding Event

It's time for South Plainfield residents to begin sorting through those shoeboxes in the attic. Do you really need gas station credit card receipts from 1988? Bank statements from the savings account you closed in 1995? If you have not put these at the curb for recycling because of privacy concerns, we have an event for you.

The Middlesex County Division of Solid Waste Management will sponsor a paper shredding event on Satur-

day, Sept. 15 at the South Plainfield Senior Center. Residents can bring confidential papers—old files, receipts, bills, financial statements—to be shredded for recycling. The mobile truck shreds the paper on-site, so residents can watch their papers being destroyed.

The truck will be at the senior center from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., or until it fills up. There is no need to remove staples, paper clips or paperboard binder covers.

No books, magazines or newspapers will be accepted for shredding. These should be placed at the curb in the blue mixed paper recycling box, or brought to the borough's recycling center on Kenneth Avenue.

For more information, you may contact the Middlesex County Division of Solid Waste Management at [solidwaste@co.middlesex.nj.us](mailto:solidwaste@co.middlesex.nj.us) or call (732) 745-4170.

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# LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
 MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
 LEGAL NOTICE  
 ORDINANCE NO. 1800  
 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:  
 Ord. 1800 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF BLOCK 256, LOT 1 IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD EITHER THROUGH NEGOTIATED TRANSACTION OR THROUGH EMINENT DOMAIN PROCEEDINGS was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, September 7, 2007 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Tuesday, September 18, 2007 which will begin immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Agenda Meeting in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.  
 ORDINANCE NO. 1800  
 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF BLOCK 256, LOT 1 IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD EITHER THROUGH A NEGOTIATED TRANSACTION OR THROUGH EMINENT DOMAIN PROCEEDINGS.  
 WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, by Resolution dated February 21, 2002, designated and declared that the area commonly known as the Hamilton Boulevard Industrial Site, is an area in need of redevelopment as that term

is recognized and utilized within the Local Redevelopment Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et. seq.; and  
 WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, by Ordinance dated July 15, 2002, adopted a Redevelopment Plan for the Hamilton Boulevard Industrial Site; and  
 WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, by Resolution dated July 11, 2006, approved the New Market Avenue Extension Project which will extend New Market Avenue; and  
 WHEREAS, Block 256, Lot 1 (the "Property") is located within the Hamilton Boulevard Industrial Site Redevelopment Area and a portion of the Property is within the area required for the New Market Avenue Extension Project; and  
 WHEREAS, the Borough Council wishes to proceed with the acquisition of Block 256, Lot 1 or a portion thereof as may be required for the New Market Avenue Extension Project. If acquisition cannot be completed through negotiation, the Borough Council wishes to assert its rights of eminent domain and commence a condemnation action to acquire the Property; and  
 WHEREAS, it is the intention of the Mayor and the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield to authorize the proper municipal officials to take such actions and to execute the appropriate documentation on behalf of the Borough of South Plainfield in furtherance of the acquisition of the Property.  
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the governing body of the Borough of South Plainfield,

County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:  
**SECTION 1.** The acquisition of Block 256, Lot 1 in the Borough of South Plainfield or a portion thereof as may be required for the New Market Avenue Extension Project, either through negotiated transaction or through eminent domain proceedings is hereby approved.  
**SECTION 2.** The Mayor and Municipal Clerk of the Borough of South Plainfield are hereby authorized to take such actions and to execute the appropriate documents to implement said acquisition on behalf of the Borough of South Plainfield.  
**SECTION 3.** The Borough of South Plainfield's solicitor and/or its special counsel are hereby authorized to prepare and file in the Superior Court any and all documents necessary to implement the acquisition of the Property through condemnation on behalf of the Borough of South Plainfield.  
 This Ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication in accordance with the law.  
 STATEMENT  
 The purpose of the ordinance is to authorize the acquisition of Block 256, Lot 1 in the Borough of South Plainfield either through a negotiated transaction or through eminent domain proceedings.  
 ATTEST:  
 Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk  
 \$11.15  
 September 7, 2007