

Curbside bulk pickup begins Sept. 29 for Section 1. Items go to curb Sept. 28.

Last Chance to Save!

Get the Observer delivered to your home for only \$19.95 a year. See page 8.

OFFER ENDS SEPT. 29.



SP PUBLIC LIBRARY
SPFLD PUBLIC LIBRARY
284 PLAINFIELD AVE
S PLAINFIELD NJ 07080-3531

SOUTH PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY
SEP 26 2008

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 12, NO. 5

MEMBER NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

50 CENTS

SEPTEMBER 26, 2008

SPHS SENIOR PROJECT Through The Eyes of 2009



SPHS senior project for the Class of 2009 reflects popular culture during the students' youth. For additional photos of the project, turn to page 8.

2009 Borough Budget Calls for Tax Increase

A public meeting was held at Monday night's Borough Council meeting on the proposed 2009 Fiscal Year budget. The final passage of the budget will not take place until later this year. The borough is waiting for state approval and the amount, if any, of extraordinary aid it will receive.

Residents can expect an increase of about \$74 in the municipal tax portion for a home assessed an average of \$122,000. Since the budget was introduced the finance committee held hearings and cut an additional \$200,000.

Despite the fact that expenditures are almost flat, ratables are down. According

to CFO Glenn Cullen, the state pension obligations came in \$318,000 lower than expected or the tax increase would have been even higher.

Last year, the Republican Majority raised taxes an average of \$100 when they passed the 2008 budget in January over the objections of the Democrats. The Republicans said it was because tax appeals were higher than budgeted and the expected \$675,000 in land sale money for the 2008 Fiscal Year had not yet been received. A large portion of that land sale money was received in June.

BOE Adopts High School Substance Abuse Policy

By Libby Barsky

High school students who participate in non-athletic, extra-curricular, co-curricular activities or school clubs, and/or who have been granted parking privileges, will soon be asked to sign a voluntary "consent to

test" form, with parental agreement. Students will then become subject to random testing for controlled dangerous substances, anabolic steroids and alcohol during the school year. The district will test approximately 10% of the total number of students in the testing pool annually.

At the September 17 Board of Education meeting, a substance abuse policy was adopted allowing for random substance testing. Students can refuse to participate in the testing; however, they will not be allowed to participate in the activities. Students may opt out of the program by submitting an activity drop form. Once consent is given, refusal to provide a sample by the participant will be interpreted as a positive result.

The substance abuse policy is designed to counter peer pressure and provide intervention to deter drug and alcohol use. According to the language of the policy, deterrence and remediation is the emphasis of the policy—not punishment for students who test positive to alcoholic or illegal chemical substances.

The policy states: "No student shall be expelled or suspended from school as a sole result of any verified positive test conducted by the school under the Random Substance Testing Program."

The consequences for a student testing positive will result in contacting
(Continued on page 16)

Board of Ed and Borough Receive Security Grant

Shared services took a giant leap forward this week when the Department of Justice (DOJ) announced that South Plainfield would receive a \$180,000 matching grant to enhance security in the high school and middle school.

The grant is part of the DOJ's Secure Our Schools Grant Program, which is funded by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). The monies will be used to provide more than 75 security cameras throughout both campuses, including the parking lots. The matching \$180,000 will come from the Board of Education, which had already designated money in the capital funds budget.

South Plainfield received the second largest grant in New Jersey and was in the top 25 nationally. The application was a joint effort between the Board of Education and the borough's police department.

BOE member Debbie Boyle, who spearheaded the effort, was thrilled when word came. "I got E-mailed



Police Chief John Ferraro and Board of Education members Debbie Boyle and Bob Jones display an appreciation award for Captain Paul Brembt.

with the grant announcement and couldn't believe that the DOJ gave us such a large award—one of the largest in the country."

Two years ago Boyle started working on ideas to improve school security and contacted State Senator Barbara Buono to see what the state had to offer. At about the same time,

she and local attorney Bob Jones were elected to the school board, and Jones suggested getting Congressman Mike Ferguson involved. Ferguson told them about the COPS program, but they had just missed the deadline for the 2007 application.

"We waited nearly a year to apply," explained Jones. "We were deter-

mined to get the funding."

When the 2008 guidelines were announced, Boyle and Jones learned that only municipalities, not school boards, could apply. Councilman Matt Anesh suggested they work with the police department to obtain the grant and they began working with Chief John Ferraro and Captain Paul Brembt.

"Captain Brembt was fantastic," said Boyle. "The time to apply was short, and the application was huge. He put it together practically overnight."

In the meantime, Jones and Boyle lined up support letters. Boyle enlisted the aid of Senator Frank Lautenberg, and Jones spoke to Congressman Mike Ferguson.

Both officials were happy to learn about the award. "Parents, students and teachers shouldn't have to worry about school safety. Schools need the resources to ensure safety throughout the day, and these funds give parents
(Continued on page 16)

Want to Be Famous? Get Out Your Pens! Junior Journalist Program Heads into Sixth Season

The *Observer* and Hometown Heros are again collaborating to bring back the Junior Journalist writing program to students in South Plainfield schools.

The program offers students the opportunity to be rewarded for writing—poetry, essays, short stories,

or whatever inspires them. Each week winners will be recognized for their efforts with dinner for their families, courtesy of Hometown Heros and publishing of their work in the *Observer*.

Winners will be honored at a banquet in May of 2009. Winners' families are invited to join them at the banquet where they will be recognized by the Mayor and Council,

as well as the State of New Jersey. Also at the banquet, one outstanding Junior Journalist will be awarded the \$1,000 Ruth Kurland Memorial Savings Bond.

Students should submit their entries to their teachers or directly to the *Observer*, 1110 Hamilton Boulevard, Suite 1B, South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

Questions? Call (908) 668-0010.



Middle School Elects Officers—South Plainfield Middle School held their Student Council elections for the new school year. Pictured (L to R) are President Ashley Annetta, Vice President Danielle Butrico and Secretary/Treasurers Gerianne Scarpitto and Quinn Bolivar.

Can't Make a Council Meeting? See it on Comcast Channel 74.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS air on Comcast Channel 74 Mondays, 7:30 p.m.

AGENDA and/or Other SPECIAL Meetings air Saturday at 8 p.m.

(Check Comcast community bulletin board for last minute time changes.)



To purchase a copy of a complete Borough Council meeting, contact the *Observer*.

council meetings

Meets twice a month on Mondays, except as noted.* All meetings begin at 7 p.m.
Borough Hall Council Chambers • Questions? 908-226-7605

Agenda Meeting	Public Meeting
October 6	October 14 (Tuesday)
October 20	October 27
November 3	November 10

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.

zoning board of adjustment

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month, *except where noted.
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641
October 9 and 23, November 13*, December 11*.

board of education meetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted
Committee of the Whole, Wednesdays 7:30 p.m.: October 8, November 12, December 10, January 14, February 11, March 11 and April 1.
Regular Public Meeting, Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.: October 15, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, January 21, February 18, March 18 and April 8.

recreation commission

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

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 plan sub-committee

Meets once a month on the third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.
October 21, November 18, December 16.

environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)
Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7621
October 8, November 12, December 10, January 14.

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 on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room, Borough Hall

board of education curriculum/technology meetings

Meets once a month on Mondays at 8 p.m. in the 2nd floor conference room at Roosevelt Administration Building on Jackson Ave.

Get the Observer delivered to your mailbox every Friday...
Call 908-668-0010 to subscribe!

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
(updated every Thursday)

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
- JEAN FULTZ
JANE DORNICK
Editorial Assistants
- ASHLEIGH GRAY
KIRSTEN NUBER
Production Assistants
- ROXANNE CORTESE
JANE DORNICK
JEAN FULTZ
Advertising Sales

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. 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 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.

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

In My Opinion

Submit Letters to the Editor:

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

Dear Editor,

As a South Plainfield resident, I care about having a clean town. Recently, I noticed that the woods area and other areas near the Clinton Avenue Extension has been neglected and has not been taken care of in a while. Also, that area has a very bad odor. I feel that our town environment is being neglected.

Finally, after walking throughout the wooded area, I have noticed that there is a lot of litter in the stream and all over the ground. For example, there is an old shed that has a lot of electrical wires and other items that could be dangerous. In my opinion I would like to see that area of town a lot cleaner.

ANTHONY MUCCIGROSSI

Dear Editor,

My husband and I just had our first child, a beautiful baby boy. When we got married we chose to live in South Plainfield because it is safe, has good schools, good programs for kids and comparatively low taxes. We love this town and don't plan on moving but what has happened to the taxes? Our taxes are part of our mortgage payment, but I saved last year's bill and compared it with this year's. Our local taxes went up almost 16 percent—that has to be one of the highest in New Jersey. I don't want to complain, but it doesn't seem like we have gotten anything for this big increase.

I think it's time for a change on the Borough Council.

DEBBIE SILBER

Dear Editor,

This is an unusual request from a Democrat: I urge everyone to read the letter from the Republican supporter in last week's paper in which he "responded" to Joe Scudato. The letter writer used every excuse imaginable, except for the effects of global warming, to try and confuse the local Republicans record on taxes. I served as chair of Administration and Finance on the borough council and I can tell you one fact plain and simple—the new Republican Majority, led by candidates Bengivenga and Anesh, raised municipal taxes by five times as much in seven months than the prior seven years of Democrat budgets combined. That's it. No double talk. These are the facts. The rate in 2001 was .086. The tax rate in 2007, the last year of Democrat control, was .089. That is a three point increase in seven years. The rate in 2008, after just seven months of Republican control, is 1.044. That's a fifteen point increase—five times as much as the prior seven years combined.

It has nothing to do with the glaciers melting. It has to do with irresponsible budgetary policies by Councilmembers Bengivenga and Anesh. I urge everyone to visit the Democrats

Web site spdems.org. Go to "Take the Tax Test." Use your tax bills and confirm these facts on your own. These are scary financial times. We need people who are not afraid to make tough choices.

On Election Day vote with your pocketbook. Democrats Chrissy Buteas and Franky Salerno have pledged that they will make the tough decisions to guarantee that there will be no municipal tax increase next year. The people of South Plainfield simply can't afford three more years of Bengivenga and Anesh.

KATHY THOMAS

Dear Editor,

The truck route issue is dividing our town and wasting our money! The mayor moved the trucks to New Market/Spicer as a temporary route during the reconstruction of Hamilton. Millions of our tax dollars were spent on the improvements to Hamilton Blvd. The mayor then decided to keep the trucks off of Hamilton permanently, even though the work was done to support truck traffic on the road. Now that there is a weight restriction on two main streets in our town (Hamilton/Belmont), the trucks are finding other ways around the restricted roads. We have all seen the increase in trucks on Sampton, Maple, Front and Lakeview. Ask yourself, has the mayor's Band-Aid® solution improved our entire town? Or has his plan only benefited a small group? This isn't fair treatment for all of the residents is it? Squandering valuable resources and wasting millions of our tax dollars to keep trucks off of only two streets.

The residents of the New Market/Spicer area are now forced to live with most of the burden of the new truck route. We always knew there would be some trucks on New Market/Spicer. But all of them? The New Market/Spicer truck route is more dangerous for more residents of our town. The new route is three times longer, houses are closer to the road, streets are narrower and two of the turns are uncontrolled. How can that be safer?

The original route is one mile and one turn (with a traffic light). Our own traffic safety officer has given his expert opinion that the original Hamilton/Belmont route is safer. Why aren't the mayor and his two teammates listening?

Shame on you Mr. Mayor for dividing our town. Instead of finding a solution to the truck traffic problem you and your team tried to just move it to the other side of town. Now that the council majority has voted to lift the weight restriction and put the trucks back where they belong, you and your fellow team have been diligently working to block this effort. Just think, if the three of you put that same energy into finding a real solution to the truck traffic problem, it could have been solved by now.

I urge all of the residents of South Plainfield to get out and vote this November and support Robert Bengivenga and Matt Anesh. They care about all the residents of our town, not just the chosen few.

MICHAEL BLACK

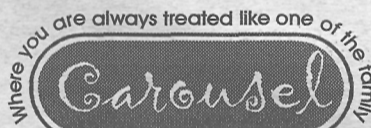
Crafters Needed for Holiday Boutique

Crafters are needed for the Holiday Boutique that will be held on Saturday, Nov. 22 at Wesley United Methodist Church. The boutique will operate from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. The cost for an eight foot space is \$20 (bring your own table), or \$25 and we supply the table.

Please contact Connie at (908) 755-3850 for registration form or for more information.

Home Care By Appointment

Unable to Leave Your Home? We'll come to you.



307 Oak Tree Ave.

Roller Sets • Perms • Haircuts • Coloring
Blow Dry, Shampoo & Set • Nail Care • Men's Cuts

Call to Schedule Your Appointment

908-668-8397

Open Wednesday-Saturday
Flexible hours to suit your needs
Gift Certificates Available

Twin City Pharmacy

Tel. (908) 755-7696 Fax (908) 755-6003
1708 Park Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080 (Next to Aldi's)

Today's Modern Pharmacy with Old Fashioned Values

Hallmark Cards

50% Off ENTIRE INVENTORY
Single, Boxed, Seasonal & Ornaments

24 Hour Emergency Care Service - Free Delivery

Get all the Real Estate terms at

Visit www.MikePfeifer.com

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Chris Grippo

If you plan on voting in the upcoming general election on November 4 you need to be registered. The last day to register to vote is October 14. If you have moved you will need to re-register to vote. To do that you can go to www.njelections.org and print out a voter registration form, you can stop by Borough Hall, or come to the library where we have the forms. Please note that the forms must be mailed in for you to be registered, so please leave enough time for the form to be delivered. If you are registered to vote, but want to make sure that your registration is still active, you can check your status at that same Web site. Also, if you are interested in earning money on Election Day there is an application form for poll workers on that Web site. Remember, voting is an important part of any democracy.

Staying on a political note, for the first time ever we have two major party presidential candidates who are also published authors. John McCain has written several books including "Worth the Fighting For: A Memoir," "Why Courage Matters," "Character is Destiny," "Hard Call" and "Faith of My Fathers." Barack Obama has written "The Audacity of Hope" and "Dreams From My Father." We own all of them plus a wide variety of other books on the current political situation including Scott McClellan's new book "What Happened: Inside the Bush White House" and "What's Wrong with Washington," "The Revolution: A Manifesto," by Ron Paul and "Machiavelli's Shadow: The Rise and Fall of Karl Rove," by Paul

Alexander. Other more general books on the current state of politics in our nation's capitol include "Attack Politics: Negativity in Presidential Campaigns since 1960," by Emmett H. Buell Jr., "Pennsylvania Avenue: Profiles in Backroom Power," by John Harwood, and, for the most cynical, there is historian Rick Shenkman's "Just How Stupid Are We? Facing the Truth About the American Voter." And, if all these balanced books leave you wanting something more biased, we have Ben Stein's "How to Ruin The United States of America" and for the opposite viewpoint, Michael Moore's "Mike's Election Guide 2008," two authors who will leave you no doubt as to who they will be voting for in November. This list just scratches the surface of the books we own that discuss politics and politicians (including many that are still in office such as George Bush, Hilary Clinton, Jim Webb, etc.). For more information and suggestions of more books please stop by the Reference Desk.

Miss Mija and Miss Linda are gearing up for our fall children's programming. They are here in the library to answer your questions but there will be no programs until Tuesday, Oct. 7. Still, the children's room is open, as is the rest of the library, and we are here to help you Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Tuesday and Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1:30 to 5 p.m. We are located across from Borough Hall at 2484 Plainfield Ave., our phone number is (908) 754-7885, and our Web site is www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us.



Knights of Columbus volunteers at the refreshment stand at Somerset Patriots Ballpark in Bridgewater.

Knights of Columbus Work at Patriots Ballpark for Fundraiser

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 recently completed their fourth fundraiser planned throughout the year at the Somerset Patriots Ballpark in Bridgewater.

Each game more than 25 Knights of Columbus members, their wives and family members have run the first and third base concession stands. More than \$4,000 has been raised

from working these games. Proceeds from the four games go towards council scholarships given to members children and grandchildren who graduate eighth grade and plan to attend a Catholic high school and to a graduating high school senior continuing his or her education in college.

The chairman of the fundraiser was Joe Scudato.

Middlesex County Shredder Coming to Senior Center

The Middlesex County shredder is coming to South Plainfield to recycle your old documents and confidential files safely and securely. It's time 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 the event for you. A free paper shredding event. Come to our mobile paper shredding event at the South Plainfield Senior Center, located at 90 Maple Ave., on Saturday, Sept. 27 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., or until the shredding truck is filled, whichever occurs sooner.

Bring your old files, receipts, bills, financial statements, any document that you have not recycled due to a confidentiality concern. The mobile truck shreds the paper on-site, so residents can watch their papers being destroyed. No need to remove paper clips, staples or paperboard binder covers.

Do not bring books, magazines or newspapers. 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. Also, no plastic materials will be shredded.

This free service is sponsored by the Middlesex County Division of Waste Management in cooperation with the Borough of South Plainfield.

For questions and information, E-mail solidwaste@co.middlesex.nj.us or call us at (732) 745-4170.

Learning For Life Program Starts Monday

Learning for Life, an educational program held on Mondays, is especially suited for mature citizens. Their first session will take place on Monday, Sept. 29.

Participants have a choice of two of the eight one-hour courses offered. Teachers and lecturers are contributing their time at no cost, so a \$15 single contribution at time of registration is requested to cover the facilities cost for the total 10 week session.

The facilities used are classrooms in

the United Presbyterian Church, 525 East Front St. in Plainfield.

The morning classes offered range from Qi Gong exercises, conversational Spanish, sketching techniques, music appreciation, gardening, early American History and a discussion and answer period.

The afternoon lectures are wide ranging. The September 29 lecture is "Blueberries: New Jersey's Wonder Fruit" by Judith Krall-Russo, from the NJCH Speaker's Bureau.

ALMOST FAMOUS PLAYERS are collecting empty computer ink cartridges and used cell phones to help raise funds for their 2008 Putnam Park Haunted Woods Tour. Current drop-off sites are: Sal's Spirit Shoppe and Twin City Pharmacy on Park Avenue near Rita's and Rich's Pharmacy on Maple Avenue next to Ciccos.

For more information call (908) 346-2290 or E-mail almostfamousplyrs@aol.com.

**Our Lady Of Czestochowa
R.C. Church**

807 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield

NEW MASS SCHEDULE

Daily at 8am except Wednesdays
(908) 756-1333

Tues.-Miraculous Medal Novena followed by Mass

Weekend Schedule: Saturday evenings 4:30 pm
Sunday mornings 8am and 11am

Your Health MATTERS

A Source for Medical/Dental/Wellness Professionals

In Pain? We Will See You Today!

Are You Suffering From

- Back Pain • Shoulder Pain • Car Accident • Sports Injury
- Neck pain • Carpal Tunnel • Headaches • Leg Pain?

YOU DON'T HAVE TO!!

Call Now For A

~ **COMPLIMENTARY CONSULTATION** ~

To Find Out What The Problem Is!

Phone: 908-755-3646

CHIROPRACTIC HEALTH & REHABILITATION CENTER

904 Oak Tree Rd. Ste D Dr. Mital Patel

South Plainfield, NJ 07080 Chiropractic Physician

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

MIDDLESEX URGENT CARE

— Late Evenings and Weekends —

- Preventive Healthcare • Comprehensive Exams • Taxi Physicals
- Evaluation & Treatment Of Diabetes, Hypertension • Asthma/Allergy Shots
- Women's Health • Minor Laceration • Cold/Fever • Ear Aches/Sore Throats • Injuries/ Sprains ••• Blood Testing On Site •••

DOCTORS AND STAFF SPEAK HINDI, SPANISH, GUJARATI & ITALIAN

2509 Park Ave, Suite#1A, South Plainfield, NJ 07080

908-756-5207

DURHAM DENTAL CENTER

COSMETIC & GENERAL DENTISTRY

281 Durham Avenue, South Plainfield (908) 791-0900

10% OFF

Grand Opening Special

New Patients Only-Expires 11/7/08

15% Off

All Borough of South Plainfield Employees, Firefighters and Rescue Squad Members

Dr. Loay Deifallah, DDS • Most Insurance Accepted • Se Habla Espanol

A CONVENIENT SERVICE FOR SENIORS

We Now Offer

SAME DAY APPOINTMENTS

Monday-Saturday, 10 am to 2 pm

DOCTORS' OFFICE SERVICES

Director, N. Mavani, M.D. Internal Medicine

EDISON

688 Grove Avenue

(732) 549-3227

CARTERET

237 Roosevelt Avenue

(732) 541-2141

We participate in traditional Medicare, private fee for services, plus ADVANTAGE plans of AmeriGroup, BC/BS, Humana, Oxford, Wellcare, Well Choice and United Health Care.

Around Town

"Into The Woods" at Edison Valley Playhouse

September 26-October 12

Edison Valley Playhouse presents "Into The Woods," September 26 through October 12. The play blends familiar fairy tales with the story of a childless baker and his wife, who attempt to reverse a curse on their family in order to have a child. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for students/seniors. The October 12 show will benefit UNICO—all tickets are \$20. Dinner packages are available.

For tickets, call (908) 755-4654 or visit www.evplayhouse.com.

Black Rose to Perform at Tim Kerwin's

September 27

Blackrose, a band performing classic rock and roll and today's hits, will be performing at Tim Kerwin's Pub, Rt. 28 in Middlesex, on Saturday, Sept. 27 at 10 p.m. No cover charge.

Hannon Family/Embrace Kids Garage Sale

September 27

A garage sale/bake sale will be held on Saturday, Sept. 27 at 1204 Clinton Ave. starting at 9 a.m. (Rain date October 4.) Proceeds go to the non-profit Embrace Kids Foundation in New Brunswick (formerly The Institute for Children with Cancer and Blood Disorders), which provides funding for children and their families for a variety of services while continuing to support research.

To make a direct donation, or for more information, visit their Web site at Embracekids.org.

Is your organization holding an event?

Publicize it in

events

Heel to Heal/Walk for Matthew Hannon

September 28

Embrace Kids Foundation is sponsoring a walk-a-thon entitled "Heel to Heal" on Sunday, Sept. 28. Registration begins at 9 a.m. at Johnson Park, River Rd. in Piscataway. Wear comfortable clothing. Cost is \$25 per person, \$50 per family and \$100 per team. Our team is called Matty's Marchers. If you can't walk, but would like to make a donation directly to the foundation, checks can be made payable to "Embrace Kids" and designated for Matty's Marchers.

For more information, E-mail Chris Hannon at cjh973@yahoo.com.

Outdoor Flea Market

October 4

J.J. Gardner Detachment Marine Corps League is sponsoring an outdoor flea market on Sunday, Oct. 4 from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the American Legion Post 243 on Oak Tree Ave. Rain or shine.

For more information, call (908) 527-9260 or (908) 289-8068.

Fourth Annual Buddy Walk at Putnam Park

October 4

The 2008 Buddy Walk of South Plainfield will take place on Saturday, Oct. 4 at Putnam Park. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. and the walk kicks off at 1 p.m. Benefits Central New Jersey Down Syndrome Parent Advocacy Support Group and Network 21. Come join us!

Square Dance/Line Dancing

October 4

Wesley United Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave., is hosting an

evening of square dancing and line dancing on Saturday, Oct. 4 from 8 to 10 p.m. Professional Caller Wayne Applegate will walk you through all the steps; no experience necessary. Tickets are \$5 per person. Desserts will be served after the dancing.

For tickets or more information, call (908) 755-3850.

Old Timers/Run for the Children

October 5

Open Your Heart to Children Battling Cancer Foundation, Inc., The Old Timers Motorcycle Club and Moretti Realty will hold the third annual "Run for the Children" on Sunday, Oct. 5 (rain date Sunday, Oct. 12). Sign-in 9:30-11 a.m. Cost is \$20 per rider and \$10 per passenger, non-riders and the public. Raffle tickets \$5 each for a chance to win a 50cc motor scooter.

For more information, contact Rich D'Urso (732) 406-2826, Greg Rhein at (908) 405-7753 or Guy Moretti at (908) 755-5300, E-mail morettig@morettiirealty.com.

All-Day Scrapbooking Workshop at Wesley

October 11

Wesley Methodist Church is hosting a Creative Memories Croptoberfest All-Day Scrapbooking Workshop on Saturday, Oct. 11 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fee is \$25 and includes eight hours of cropping time, prizes, snacks, drinks, a pizza and salad lunch and seven break-out learning sessions (optional).

For more information, call Dayel Giammarino at (908) 754-4255, E-mail the8gs@verizon.net or visit www.mycmsite.com/dgiammarino.

Tricky Tray at St. Stephen's Church

October 11

St. Stephen's will be hosting a tricky tray event on Saturday, Oct. 11 in the

church hall. Doors open at 6 p.m. and calling begins at 7:30 p.m. Super raffle includes a 32" LCD HDTV and BlueRay DVD player and Nintendo Wii. Mystery prizes, door prizes and 50/50 raffle. For tickets or information, call (908) 806-8770.

— Out of Town —

Morristown Madams Roller Derby

September 27

The Morristown Madams Roller Derby team will open their season at home against Hudson Valley Horrors on Saturday, Sept. 27 at 7 p.m. at the Morristown Rink, 38 Dumont St.

For more information call, (973) 879-7431.

Vendor Fair

September 27

Ashbrook Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, 1610 Raritan Rd. in Scotch Plains, is holding a community vendor market on Saturday, Sept. 27 from noon to 4 p.m. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to Ashbrook to benefit programs for its residents.

For more information, please call Erin Durkin at (908) 889-2587.

Pet Adoption

September 28

People for Animals will sponsor pet adoption events on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 27 and 28 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the PetSmart store in Bridgewater's Promenade Mall. Cats and kittens will be available both days; dogs will be available only on Sunday.

For low cost spay/neuter information, call the People for Animals Clinic at (973) 282-0890.

Parent-Child High Holy Day Services

September 30, October 9

Temple Shalom, Fanwood/Scotch

Plains, invites members of the community with children to a special children's Torah service on Tuesday, Sept. 30 for Rosh Hashanah and again on Thursday, Oct. 9 for Yom Kippur. Both services begin at 2 p.m. in the sanctuary, located at Martine and Lagrande avenues in Fanwood.

For information, call (908) 889-4900, E-mail sholom@sholomnj.org or visit www.sholom.nj.org.

Metuchen-Edison Women's Club

October 1

The Metuchen-Edison Women's Club will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m. at The Heritage at Clara Barton, 1015 Amboy Ave. in Edison. Guests are welcome and light refreshments will be served. The program will feature a "White Elephant Sale." Public is welcome.

We have a booth at the Metuchen Fair on Saturday, Oct. 4 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Stop in and visit us.

For more information, call Mary at (732)494-5649.

"Journey Through Grief" Program

October 1-22

Center for Hope Hospice & Palliative Care, 1900 Raritan Rd. in Scotch Plains, is offering a four week lecture series titled "Journey Through Grief" on Wednesdays, Oct. 1-22 from 7 to 9 p.m. This non-denominational program is designed to assist those who have experienced the death of a loved one. Pre-registration is not required and there is no cost.

For further information or directions, please call (908) 654-3711.

October Fest

October 4

The Plainfield Gesang-und Turn-Verein, Inc. will hold an October Fest on Saturday, Oct. 4 at Singer Hall, 330 Somerset St. in North Plainfield.

This is the first dinner-dance for the fall season. Music will be provided by the Mountain Tops. Donations is \$16 for members and \$18 for non-members.

Call Joan at (908) 647-0819 or Victor at (908) 276-8572.



Scotch Plains Music Center

413 PARK AVENUE • 908-322-7542

"The reason I picked Scotch Plains Music Center is because I love to play the piano. The music center has great service and it is easy to get there from my home. We admire the people who work there."

— Third Grader Caroline Ringel



Music Lessons • Professional Staff • The All-Inclusive Music Store

NEW TRENDY SALON IN TOWN

Specializing in

HAIR COLOR

BRAIDS
LOCS
WAXING

Hair Cuts for Men, Women & Children

And the hottest accessories around

Hair Salon & Specialty Boutique

TAME UNISEX SALON & BOUTIQUE

50% Off

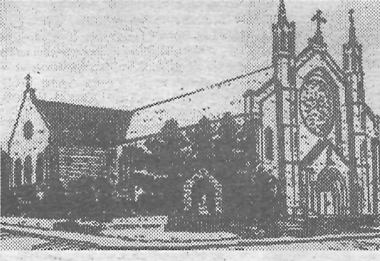
Any One Service for New Customers
Cannot be combined with any other offers.
Coupon expires 10/12/08.

409 Hamilton Boulevard
South Plainfield
(908) 222-7262
(Corner of New Market Avenue)

Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield, NJ

Rev. John Paul Alvarado, Pastor



Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 10-11:30 a.m. and by appointment

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.
Weekdays Tues., Wed., Fri., Sat. 9 am; Mon. and Thurs. 7 p.m.
Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.
Holy Days 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m. and 7 p.m.

AJV AUTO MALL

COMPLETE AUTO REPAIRS

NAPA Auto Care Center

Tire Center • Tune-Ups • Brakes • Exhaust • Mufflers • Oil Changes Alignment • A/C Repairs & Recharging

NAPA Credit Card 90 Days Same As Cash

OPEN 6 DAYS

732-424-0702

3201 Hamilton Blvd. So Plainfield

Your News Our News

ENCOURAGE YOUR ORGANIZATION TO SEND US THEIR UPCOMING EVENTS. Make your event more successful by publicizing it in AROUND TOWN.

SEND US YOUR MILESTONES. Share your good news with the community, i.e. promotions, births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, graduations. Include photos if you like.

IS THERE SOMEONE YOU KNOW WHO MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN SOUTH PLAINFIELD? Let us know.

USE THE OBSERVER AS AN ADVERTISING TOOL. Introduce your business to the community. Promote your specials. Residents would rather patronize local businesses than travel out of town. It is more convenient and it's good for the local economy.

SUGGEST A BUSINESS FOR US TO SPOTLIGHT. If you've had great service in South Plainfield, share it with your neighbors through the newspaper.

SUBMIT LETTERS TO THE EDITOR to allow readers to discuss and react to issues.

SEND US YOUR PHOTOS. If you have an event, take a photo, write a caption identifying the event and people and send it to us. The best photos record action and don't include so many people that it's impossible to identify anyone. Please don't send us photocopies or laser prints. They don't reproduce well. Digital photos should be 150 dpi or higher.

HOW TO CONTACT US. 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080; phone: 908-668-0010; fax: 908-668-8819 or email: spobserver@comcast.net.

SUBSCRIBE. It's \$25. (in town) for one year!! Call us or subscribe through the web at spobserver.com

908-668-0010
fax 908-668-8819
email:
spobserver@comcast.net



Your #1 Source for South Plainfield News

GRAND OPENING

NEW OIL AND LUBE CENTER

OIL CHANGE CENTER

**OPEN 7 DAYS
RAIN OR SHINE**

Get your Oil Changed & Receive a Free Car Wash



with a full service oil change

only **\$19.99** +tax

Full Service Oil Change Includes:

- Change Oil (Up to 5 Qts.)
- Replace Oil Filter (With Premium Filter)
- Lubricate Chassis
- Check/Fill Transmission Fluid
- Check Brake Fluid
- Check/Fill Battery Fluid
- Check/Fill Washer Fluid
- Check/Fill Power Steering Fluid
- Check Radiator Fluid
- Check Air Filter
- Check Breather Element
- Check Lights
- Check Wiper Blades
- Check Tire Pressure
- Check Differential Fluids
- Check Belts

Everyday Low Price
Car Wash \$4.99 +tax



Car Wash & Oil Change

1425 New Market Ave • South Plainfield

908-791-3900

Open Monday-Saturday 8AM-6PM, Sunday 8AM-5PM

**Free
Car Wash**

With Full Service Oil Change
For Only \$19.99

908-791-3900

With this coupon. Not valid with other offers. Offer expires 10-31-08.

**\$5.00
Off**

Any Premium Oil Change
(I.E.: Synthetic Oil)

908-791-3900

With this coupon. Not valid with other offers. Offer expires 10-31-08.

**\$5.00
Off**

Fuel Injection Cleaning
(Reg. \$59.99)

908-791-3900

With this coupon. Not valid with other offers. Offer expires 10-31-08.

What Happens at the Lake Stays at the Lake!

SPHS Class of 1963 45th Class Reunion Held in the Pocono's

We weren't a large class—only some 168 of us. In fact, we were only the seventh class to have graduated in South Plainfield, all previous ones having gone to North Plainfield High School (hence the origin of that great rivalry).

But we were still a class of "firsts." We were there for the launching of the first Earth satellites and the ensuing "knowledge explosion" in the United States educational system. In eighth grade (1958-59) we began the "first advanced math class" by taking algebra that year. In ninth grade (1959-60) we began the "first advanced science class" by taking biology that year.

In sports, we were the "first South Plainfield football team" to defeat both Highland Park and North Plainfield in our freshman year in 1959. And although we lost to North Plainfield as seniors, we still sported an 8-1 season—the best record of the time. We were also the nucleus class in both the new wrestling and track and field teams in our sophomore year in 1960, and won the first school track medals, setting the standards for which all subsequent athletes could strive. And let us not forget the great "South Plainfield Basketball Dynasty" of that era in which the Class of 1963 proudly played its part!

We saw the Cold War begin and we saw it end. We fought in the Vietnam War and we saw men walk on the Moon. We saw presidents assassinated and the Berlin Wall fall. We saw both blacks and women liberated, and marched to make it happen. We saw Democrats become Republicans and Republicans become Democrats.

We saw the Internet happen and we saw the second United States president in the history of our nation beat the "rap" of impeachment!

And you know what? We thumbed our noses at Y2K—and won! As we expected, the 21st Century entered with a "bang"—of fireworks! And some of us are now waiting to get to that space station before we pass on our legacy!



(L-R): Frank Wyckoff, Steve Benary, Chrise Wyckoff, Doreen Bogden, Georgia Temple and Tom Oakes.

But will the Clintons ever get out of our lives?!

We knew John Goodson.

Yes, the World Trade Center tragedy happened on 9/11/2001. What a different world we are now living in. And what about genome mapping and the future of the human race?

What a generation—and what's next?

"What's next" was the war against terrorism. We began it in Afghanistan in 2001, moved on to Iraq in 2003 and weren't too sure what to do with it thereafter.

In 2006 the war continued on. Lot's of Americans dead, but many, many more Iraqi's dead. A real hell hole. A real battle ground against evil. What do we do? Let us pray that good intentions will win out in the end and a peaceful global world will emerge at the end of it all. Naive? I hope-not!

Another "what's next" is "movin' on." Life goes on, with or without others. We do what we have to do and we "make choices" (catch phrase for 2002). And I think we've all done that—in our own way.

In the summer of 2003 we met for our 40th reunion and continued the movement. Life without old friends is sad, but at the same time life is wonderful! Are we starting to act "old"—or are we all accepting "life" as it is?

Have you given up the marathons and are satisfied with just staying in shape?

Frankly, I like the "me" that I am right now more than at any time before. I think I'm as good as I've ever been! At least that's what I keep telling myself!

The year 2005 marked our 60th year on this good Earth. A lot of us are moving into semi-retirement now that we're eligible for early Social Security, but who can retire completely?

It is now 2008—the wars drag on—a new election is looming with some promise of change. A black man, a white man and a woman. Who would have guessed back when we were in high school? We've lived through alot, haven't we?

We held our 45th reunion on September 6. And what a 45th reunion it was! Tropical Storm Hanna tried to stop it, but we would have none of it and the party went on. A few were missing, yes. But we're all ready for the 50th in 2013!

Yes, we are the Class of 1963—and we're proud of it!

Please feel free to visit our Web site and browse through it for both historical reminiscences and present activities at <http://www.collabre.com/sphs63/opening.html>.

Submitted by Mark Baldwin

Buono Introduces Legislation on Over-The-Counter Drug Abuse

Legislation has been introduced by Senator Barbara Buono and Senate Minority Leader Tom Kean Jr., requiring that customers be at least 18 years-old to purchase over-the-counter cough and cold remedies containing dextromethorphan (DXM), an ingredient which, when abused by teenagers seeking to get high, can have potentially lethal consequences.

"New Jersey needs to step up and address this very serious danger to the health and safety of our teenage sons and daughters," said Senator Buono, D-Metuchen. "DXM abuse can have lasting and potentially fatal consequences for teenagers who misuse this legal, inexpensive and easily accessible substance in order to achieve a high. By instituting common-sense limitations on who can purchase products containing DXM, we can reduce the risk that our children will add to the growing number of tragic statistics."

The bill would require cashiers to verify that a customer is at least 18 before selling them any over-the-counter product containing DXM. DXM is a cough suppressant used as a common ingredient in more than 100 over-the-counter cough and cold medicines, including Robitussin, Vicks, Dayquil and other popular brands.

When used appropriately, DXM has proven to be safe and effective in alleviating symptoms associated with the common cold or flu. However, at extremely high doses, it can cause vomiting, disorientation, hallucinations, muscle spasms, delirium, cardiac damage, permanent brain damage, coma, and in severe cases, death.

"Many kids are turning to cough medicines containing DXM to get high because it's cheap and legal, and much more accessible than alcohol or illegal drugs," said Senator Kean, R-Westfield. "However, these kids don't know that, at high enough doses, over-the-counter drugs can be as deadly as overdosing on illegal drugs. Our leg-

islation would keep products containing DXM out of the hands of children who may not appreciate the serious health consequences of over-the-counter drug abuse."

Though DXM has been abused by teenagers since the 1960's, health officials have recently noted an alarming increase in usage among children between the ages of nine and 17. This increase may be due to promotion on Web sites glorifying drug abuse, as well as on social networking sites like MySpace and Facebook, and on Web sites like YouTube, in which teens post videos of themselves 'robo-tripping' (being high off of Robitussin).

According to the New Jersey Poison Information and Education System, 205 teenagers in New Jersey were treated for exposure to DXM last year, and 107 have been treated so far this year. In terms of contrast, 70 teenagers in the state were treated for DXM abuse in 2000. The Partnership for a Drug Free America estimates that one in 10 teens—approximately 2.4 million nationwide—have experimented with cough medicine.

The lawmakers noted that the risks of DXM abuse are real and potentially lethal. In 2006, a 16 year-old Anaheim, Calif. student named Lucia Martino died from liver failure after ingesting 20 over-the-counter cough suppressant tablets to get high. And last year, an 87 year-old Yonkers, N.Y. man named Anthony Vieiro died in a car accident with a young driver who was under the influence of DXM at the time.

St. Peters by the Sea Christmas Concert

Sacred Heart Church proudly presents a Christmas concert by the Orchestra of Saint Peter by the Sea, conducted by the Reverend Alphonse Stephenson at Sacred Heart Church, on Sunday, Nov. 30 at 3 p.m.

General admission is \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door. Seniors and students are \$20.

For information or tickets call (908) 756-0633, ext. 10, (732) 748-8680, (908) 756-2808, (908) 757-3604.

WE'RE GRILLIN'

Burgers, Hot Dogs, Cheesesteaks, French Fries, Onion Rings, Grilled Chicken, Chicken Cutlet Heros...

****NEW****
DINING ROOM

Coming Soon...
Starting October 12

SUNDAY BRUNCH

#1
SOUTH PLAINFIELD'S #1 CHOICE FOR QUALITY CATERING

HOMETOWN HEROS

340 Hamilton Boulevard

908-755-HERO (4376)

"Quality Food for Everyday Heroes"

ONE STEP BODY

personal training for women

THE ONE STEP BODY PROGRAM One Step Body sculpts the mind, body, and spirit focusing on nutrition, strength building, core training, cardio, personal training & education. Each client receives a tailored program designed to help them achieve their fitness and nutritional goals. This is not just a physical reconstruction, but a rebuilding of the mind.



Jill Pavel

30 South Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield

Phone: (732) 423-7727

E-Mail: jill@onestepbody.com

ASK ABOUT THESE GREAT OTHER SERVICES
• Bridal Bootcamp
• Life Coach
• Nutrition
• Hypnotherapy/Hypnosis
• Resistance Training
• Cardio and more

Certified & Insured

One step... One commitment... One body... A New Life

27 Convenient Locations

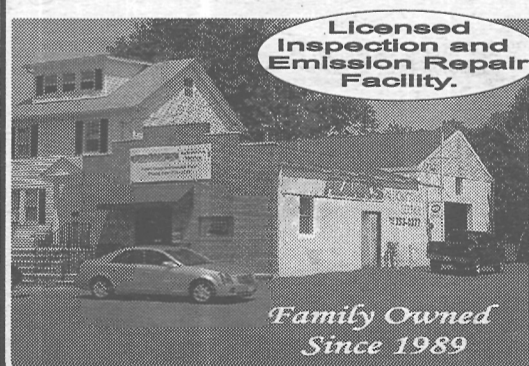
Extended Lobby Hours

Contact: Darlene Pinto
908.561.9160 • 4900 Hadley Center Drive
So. Plainfield, NJ 07080

Skylands
Community Bank

Community People... Local Decisions
Member FDIC

skylandscombank.com



Licensed Inspection and Emission Repair Facility.

Family Owned Since 1989

1st Time Customers receive \$5 off on a Lube, Oil, and Filter Service or \$20 off any service over \$100.00

Gas Prices Continue Upward Trend...

We can't control the price of gas, but we can make sure we're squeezing every mile out of each gallon we buy.

There are many factors that affect the fuel economy in your car. We have the equipment and know-how to make sure that you are efficiently using every drop of gas that goes into your tank.

"Give us a try. We think you'll like the way we do things"

Frank

FRANK'S Automotive Service

1521 Park Ave
So Plainfield NJ 07080

Automotive Service

908-753-0277

franksautomotiveservice.com

It's a nice fantasy, but we know better.



Money Doesn't Grow on Trees.

Get the most for your advertising dollars. Advertise in the Observer and reach more readers in South Plainfield than any other newspaper.

For advertising rates & frequency discounts, call the Observer at 908-668-0010.

Underage Drinking Ordinances Enacted in Middlesex County

A growing community of Middlesex County municipalities are implementing an ordinance that deters underage drinking on private property. South Plainfield is one of the nine municipalities that has not yet joined in on the initiative to prevent underage drinking on private property.

The Underage Drinking on Private Property Ordinance is designed to close the legal gap that formerly held parents, rather than youths, accountable for violating the law. Underage drinkers in these towns now face a maximum fine of \$350, a six-month delay or suspension of driving privileges, and mandatory community service in some jurisdictions.

"Any time we can... show that actions have dangerous consequences—something that really hurts them like losing their licenses—we should. As a society, we need to step up and get

kids to make good choices," said Gene Rickle, South Brunswick Patrol Officer and educator for Substance Awareness for Empowerment.

With these penalties in place, officials hope the laws will serve as an effective tool to prevent underage drinking.

"[We] are going to be proactive and not reactive," Milltown Council President Randy Farkas explained.

Community advocacy groups, including the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of Middlesex County, Inc. and the New Jersey Prevention Network, are applauding the new law.

"It's about time that priority is taken for the health and well being of our youth," said Christina Rak-Samson, prevention educator of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of Middlesex County, Inc.

Until 2000, ordinances of this nature could not be implemented. Thanks to statewide legislation granting townships the authority to regulate underage drinking on private property, however, municipalities across the state have been enacting similar policies.

For more information, contact Ezra Helfand or Jennifer Smith at (732) 254-3344.

Halloween Kidcraft at Library Oct. 6

There will be a Halloween "Kidcraft" program on Monday, Oct. 6, at 6:30 p.m. at South Plainfield Free Public Library.

The program is for children ages six and over. Participants will make a Halloween door decoration. Space is limited for this program, so pre-registration is required. There's a \$2 materials fee, payable upon registration.

South Plainfield Library is located in the municipal complex.

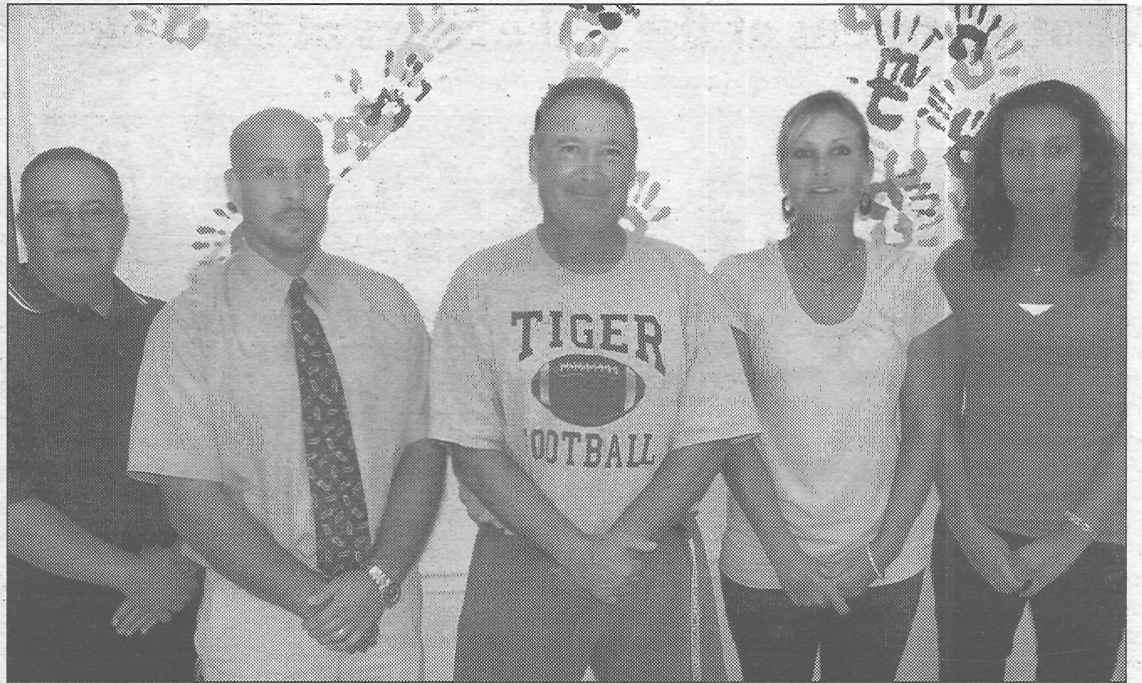
For further details or to register, call (908) 754-7885. You may also get more information by visiting the library's Web site at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us.

Hairstylists Cutting for a Good Cause

It will be worth waiting until Sunday, Oct. 19 for your next haircut. The Joseph Ricciardi Salon at 1963 Oak Tree Rd. in Edison will hold a cut-a-thon from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Proceeds will go directly to help five year-old Sergio Ricciardi who suffers from a very rare and aggressive brain cancer.

The cut-a-thon will feature the area's best and most experienced stylists. All cuts are \$18 each. Come out on October 19 for a great haircut and show your support for Sergio. We look forward to seeing you there.

For more information about Sergio, visit www.helpsergio.weebly.com.



Pictured (L to R): SPS Athletic Director Mike Buggiey with wrestling coach Kevin McCann, football coach Philip McGuane, girls varsity field hockey coach Cheryl Hughes and swimming coach Shannon Dabrio.

Parents Meet the High School Coaches

The South Plainfield High School Booster Club held its Meet the Coaches Night on September 9 in the cafeteria. The event drew 155 parents at the buffet-style dinner who also had an opportunity to hear all of the appointed coaches for the new school year explain their program and speak with them in person.

According to Booster Club mem-

ber Debbie Boyle, this was the largest crowd she has seen since she took over organizing the evening six years ago.

Meet the Coaches Night has been an annual event now for 10 years and was conceived as a way to recruit parent volunteers for the snack stand and other duties during football games and track meets at Jost Field.

The food was catered by Flana-

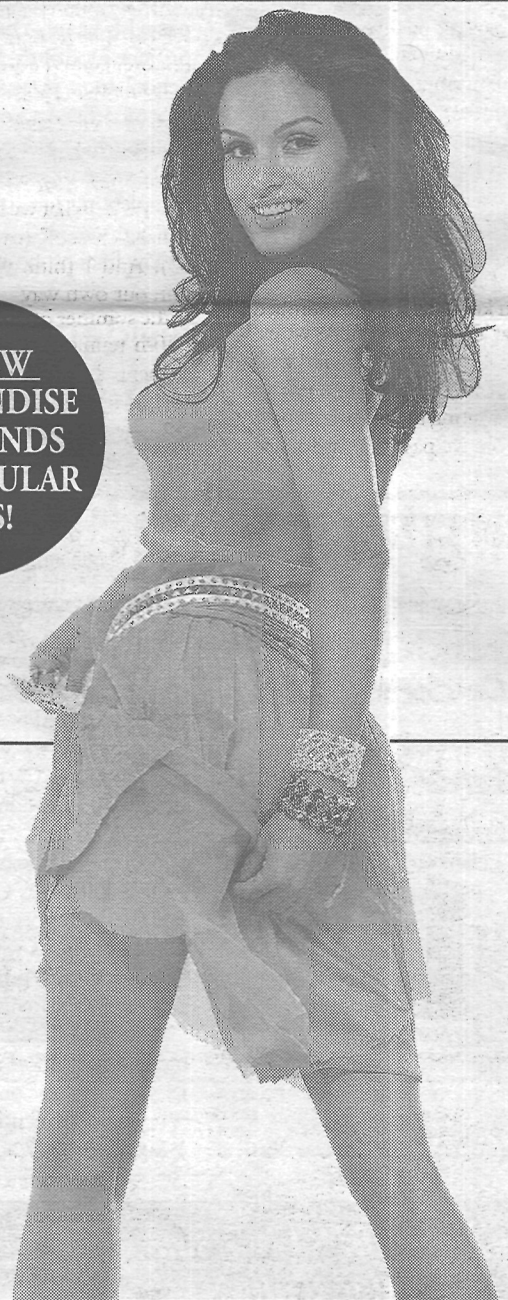
gan's Restaurant and Pub and served by waitresses Kathy and Sara.

Ready to Buy?
Visit
www.MikePfeifer.com

CLOSEOUTS from the country's high end boutiques.

ALL AT INCREDIBLE DISCOUNTS!

ALL NEW MERCHANDISE NO SECONDS OR IRREGULAR ITEMS!



Our closeouts are from the country's high end boutiques. They must move their inventory on a regular basis. We take ALL of their closeouts at substantial discounts.

We pass these savings on to you. Our yellow tickets are already heavily discounted off the MSRP.

We only sell top quality designer apparel. We DO NOT sell seconds, damaged or second hand items.

We often have one-of-a-kind items. Shop often and carefully to make sure you find the right size and color.

New items come in each week. So, shop often and early!

CLOSEOUT CORNER

High-End Clothing Not High-End Prices!

Hours: Thurs 10-8 Wed, Fri & Sat 10-6

130 South Plainfield Ave., DRUG FAIR PLAZA, South Plainfield (908)561-6466

347 Madison Ave., Perth Amboy (732)324-0230

SINCE 1980

Consistency Pays Off.

There's a reason the B&P advertisers find success week after week—exposure. Get a slice of success. Advertise in the Observer.



For information, call
908-668-0010



Members of the SPSHS Class of 2009 continue the 11-year tradition of making their mark on the walls of the school. This year the students' artwork depicts the popular culture in which the students were raised.

Senior Class Project Depicts Culture of Class of 2009

By Ashleigh Gray

As has been the tradition for the past 11 years, the annual senior project at South Plainfield High School took place during the summer months. Approximately a dozen students from the graduating class of 2009 came together to compile two complete murals in cafeteria A/B of the high school.

The final proposition was to make

a collage of sitcoms, cartoons, movies and brands that had been popular throughout the students' childhoods to the present time on one wall. The artwork includes character drawings from the shows "Futurama," "Hey, Arnold!" "Rugrats" and "Doug," as well as the Vitamin Water, Facebook and MySpace logos. The opposite wall showcased the intense eyes of a tiger, with the title, "Through the Eyes of 2009."



Nietzer Elected President of Foster And Adoptive Family Services

Foster and Adoptive Family Services (FAFS) announced that Janis Nietzer was unanimously elected as the organization's president during the recent board of directors meeting.

Nietzer has served on FAFS' board since the summer of 2006. She most recently held the title of first vice president since 2007. Nietzer assumes the presidency from Janet Farrand, who served as FAFS' president for the last 10 years. According to FAFS' bylaws, a president can serve no more than 10 years. Farrand was elected by the board as FAFS' first vice president.

"I think it's a huge responsibility," said Nietzer about her new unpaid position. "I think it's also a huge privilege. I feel honored that people feel confident that I can be the voice of foster and adoptive parents. I will do the best that I can to fill that role."

Perhaps Nietzer's greatest role is as a parent-foster, adoptive and biological. Nietzer has fostered about 60 to 70 children over the last

18 years. In addition, she has three years experience fostering medically fragile children as a Special Home Service Provider (SHSP). Nietzer also has one adopted daughter and two biological children.

FAFS Executive Director Mary Jane Awrachow agrees with Nietzer. In fact, Awrachow said she believes these very experiences will prove beneficial to FAFS.

Nietzer said she would like to further this mission by helping to create stronger connections between local and state sectors.

"I've been involved at the local level in Middlesex County since the first year we've been fostering," said Nietzer. "This is where I turned to for support from other foster parents and resource parents."

Anyone interested in receiving more information about FAFS or its services can contact Mary Jane Awrachow, executive director, at 1-800-222-0047.

Celebrate Oktoberfest 2008 with the Girl Scouts

A beautiful fall weekend in the country can be your dream come true at Oktoberfest 2008. "Life Is Good" is the theme of this adult weekend, October 10-12, under the sponsorship of the newly formed Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey Council (GSHNJ) at Camp Lou Henry Hoover in Sussex County.

Come and celebrate the season for a day or the entire weekend. Come with a group of friends or come alone and make new friends as the Girl Scout song goes while participating in the scheduled workshops.

You won't have to cook a meal as deliciously nutritious menus are planned and you don't even have to be a Girl Scout. The general public is welcome to attend.

Some of the fun workshops include exercising with yoga, Pilates, canoeing or hiking. Crafts are never far from a Girl Scout event and many are included in the weekend. Basket making will again be available with Deb Zvanut guiding the making of

a wine basket. New this year will be photography and paper cutting which is popular in many cultures.

You can come and try old favorites or jump out of your comfort zone to experience something entirely new. You won't go home disappointed no matter what you try. Everyone walks away either feeling good or with beautiful creations. You can do as much as you want or bring that book you never got to finish this past summer and set up your lounge chair on the sandy beach on Swartswood Lake or on a peaceful, nearby knoll.

On Saturday there will be times throughout the day to fit in a massage or a manicure. Massages are scheduled for 15 minutes at \$20 or 30 minutes at \$35. Manicures are available for \$11. Long sleeved t-shirts with the event logo may be ordered at registration for an additional \$20. Pamper yourself with these delightful spa treatments.

Weekend fees range from \$95 for the entire weekend, \$75 for a

one night stay or \$50 for the day. Meals, workshop fees and a patch are included.

Contact Deb Hooker at The Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey Council, Inc. at (908) 232-3236, ext. 1226 or E-mail dhooker@gswrc.com. The event packet with registration forms and detailed workshop information will be sent to you. Sessions are filling up fast so call today or go on line at www.gshnj.org and make this weekend getaway a reality. Reservation deadline is October 1.

The Girl Scout Heart of New Jersey Council will be effective October 1 and is the recent merger with the Girl Scouts of Greater Essex and Hudson Council, the Girl Scouts of Rolling Hills Council and the Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Council. The GSHNJ will now deliver the optimal girl scout experience to nearly 40,000 girls and adults in 137 communities covering seven counties from the easternmost to westernmost reaches of the state.

We've Got Great News....
For a limited time,
subscribe to the Observer
and save over \$5.

Subscribe

to the Observer for just 19.95!

**LIMITED
TIME OFFER!**

Subscribe for Only
\$19.95 Year

In-town only. New Subscribers Only.
Expires 9/29/08.

Yes, I want home delivery.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE _____

MASTERCARD/VISA # _____ EXP. DATE _____

Follow the ups and downs of the borough in the Observer, an independent newspaper for South Plainfield. Send check or money order for \$19.95/one year (out-of-town-\$30) to: South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. We also accept Visa and Mastercard.

**South Plainfield
Observer**

Save a stamp... Call in your subscription request! (908) 668-0010 or e-mail your request to spobserver@comcast.net.

Flooring America Moves To Middlesex Mall

After serving the South Plainfield area for nearly 20 years, Paul Ignoscia and Gary Columbus this summer moved their full service floor-covering store, Flooring America of South Plainfield (formerly Carpet Plus), to its new location located at 6501 Hadley Rd. in the Middlesex Mall.

Mayor Charles Butrico was on hand last Friday to cut the ribbon and wish them luck at their new facility.

The beautifully designed 4,000 square foot showroom creates an inviting and relaxing shopping experience for customers and offers the most comprehensive collection of floor coverings in the industry, from the latest trends in cork flooring, to the more traditional plush carpets.

Gary and Paul started in the business in 1988, working for Carpet Loft, which occupied the space where

the *Observer* office is now located.

When Carpet Loft closed their doors, Gary and Paul opened their own business on Park Avenue. In 1993 a gas explosion in the middle of night destroyed their store, as well as the entire shopping center where they were located.

It took a while, but they reopened with a new name, Carpets Plus, located next to the Bagel Pantry and started to rebuild their business. It became apparent last year that they needed a larger showroom to display the various collection of floor coverings and found the perfect spot in the Middlesex Mall, where the motor vehicle agency was located. Paul's son, Paul, Jr., recently joined the business.

For more information, call Flooring of America of South Plainfield at (908) 757-5988.



Paul Ignoscia and Gary Columbus help Mayor Charles Butrico cut the ribbon at Flooring of America's grand opening at their new location in Middlesex Mall.

Spotlight On Dance—Creating Professional Dancers for 18 Years

By Libby Barsky

After teaching first grade at Roosevelt School for 10 years, Carolyn Stefanchik started her own school, Spotlight On Dance. That was 18 years ago.

Beginning in a small shop on South Plainfield Avenue across the street from Sportworld, Spotlight on Dance has moved twice, finding its

present home on the second floor at 119 Hamilton Boulevard.

The school offers dance classes in classical, ballet, pointe, tap, jazz, lyrical, contemporary and hip hop for students ages three to 18. Registration is currently underway daily. Class sessions end by Memorial Day and a recital is held in May at the newly built Watchung Hills Regional High School Performing Arts Center.

Spotlight for Dance offers the most affordable tuition in South Plainfield, with classes starting at \$48 a month for one lesson a week, with family discounts available.

"We offer South Plainfield's only competition company," said owner Carolyn Stefanchik. "The competition company is something extra that the girls are invited to audition for, and if they make it they will dance an additional three to four hours a week working to compete for winter and spring competitions."

Because the drive to compete can be intense in these competitions, Stefanchik tries to moderate the intensity. "I try to keep the competition under control so the students can have a life outside of dance as well. Many of these girls who are so good at dance are also smart in school and they are athletes on school teams as well. So I've always been mindful that they have a whole other life beside dance—school, family, friends. So I try to work it so they have a life outside of dance. When it comes time for the spring competition, I make sure it doesn't conflict with high school proms. Our recital is held in May

and our official dance classes are over by Memorial Day. Summer classes are held as well, but the season runs September through May."

In addition to being seen in recitals and competitions, a Spotlight on Dance student danced with the Kirof Ballet company. Another student was a dancer in the 2008 Plays In the Park production of "Beauty and the Beast." Most students are seen in South Plainfield High School and in Summer Drama musical productions. Boys who don't join regular classes during the year will seek private dance lessons when they want to get ready for an audition for a part in a play. Gymnasts will also take classes to become more graceful in their presentation.

The biggest change over the years has been the increasing ability of the dancers. "The level at which the girls are dancing now is more

difficult than 10 or 15 years ago," Stefanchik said.

Stefanchik commends her teachers for inspiring the students and preparing them to dance in school productions and advanced lessons in New York City.

"Many of my teachers have their degrees in fine arts and teach in the public school system or are professional performers, like Mary Capellas, a Rockette who is also a dance competition judge," she said.

For more information on registration and classes, contact Carolyn Stefanchik at (908) 756-5422.

Meet the Candidates at October 1 Council Debate

Mark your calendar! The four candidates running for Borough Council will be at the Senior Center ready to debate and answer your questions on Wednesday, Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m.

The present council is made up of four Republicans and two Democrats and a Democratic mayor. The election will determine which party will have majority control of the council.

Last year's election changed the makeup of the council when the Republicans won two seats. In this year's election Democrats have the opportunity to re-take control by securing just one seat. The council will then be divided evenly, and because the mayor only votes if there is a tie, the Democrats would have voting control. This election is very important to both parties and every vote will be hotly contested.

Voters will choose between Republican incumbent candidates Councilmen Robert Bengivenga, Jr. and Matt Anesh and Democratic candidates Franky Salerno and Christine Buteas, both running for the first time.

The *South Plainfield Observer* and the South Plainfield Business Association sponsored debate may be the only opportunity to hear the

candidates speak on the same subject and in front of each other. Letters, signs and campaign literature only tell one side of a story. Don't miss this opportunity to see the candidates face off and discuss the issues.

As in the past, the public will be asked to submit questions on index cards. Both parties will be asked to submit topics they would like to discuss. Audience questions will have priority. Only issue-oriented questions will be accepted, and no personal attacks on any candidate will be allowed.

The event promises to be an informative evening for all residents. Please plan on coming out and asking your question to get both sides of the story directly from the candidates. The last debate was held with a standing room only crowd, so come early and get a good seat.

It is still possible to register to vote in the November borough and general elections. Registration forms and applications for absentee ballots will be available that evening.

Selling Your Home?
Visit
www.MikePfeifer.com

Got a Will?
Forget the Internet or Self Help.
Make Sure Your Will Complies with State Laws.
MENTION THIS AD FOR FREE CONSULTATION. CALL NOW.

Brenda Vallecilla

ATTORNEY AT LAW

100 Front Street (Across from Moretti Realty) South Plainfield

• GENERAL PRACTICE LAW OFFICE •

No muscle left behind.

Our 30-minute circuit works every major muscle group two muscles at a time, so you can burn up to 500 calories. Come see how Curves can work for you.

FREE FITNESS ASSESSMENT
& BREAST SELF-EXAM KIT*

*Free breast self-exam kit valued at \$24.95. No purchase necessary. Must complete a fitness assessment with a Curves Trainer. Not valid with any other offer. Valid only at participating locations while supplies last until 11/1/08. ©2008 Curves International, Inc.

curves.com

Curves
THE POWER TO
AMAZE YOURSELF.™

OVER 10,000
LOCATIONS
WORLDWIDE.

908-757-4422
27 South Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

908-232-3200
299 South Avenue East
Westfield, NJ 07090

mohn's florist
2325 plainfield ave
south plainfield nj 07080
908 561 2808
www.mohnsflorist.com

let us create any thing you can imagine...

- weddings and receptions
- sympathy designs
- everyday floral gifts
- fruit, gourmet, gift baskets
- dish gardens & balloon bouquets

DANCE CLASSES

South Plainfield's
LOWEST \$48 mo. TUITION!

Spotlight on Dance
756-5422
OPEN HOUSE
Tuesday 6-8 p.m.

ELECTION 2008

Unlike Opponents, Chrissy Buteas and Franky Salerno Are Proud of Their Party



Democrats Chrissy Buteas and Franky Salerno pointed out with pride the difference between the Democrat and Republican campaigns for Borough Council. "Just look at the Bengivenga/Anesh campaign signs," Chrissy Buteas said. "They don't even hint at the fact they are Republicans. As incumbent council members who have been in the majority for the last year, it says a lot that they are afraid to mention their party affiliation. Maybe Mr. Bengivenga and Mr. Anesh are hoping that you don't realize that they are the leaders of the party that has raised property taxes by five times as much in seven months as the prior seven years of Democratic leadership. I can understand that they hope you don't realize that they are the representatives of the party who have ignored basic ethics and have brought politics to an all time low in South Plainfield.

"By now our residents are aware that Councilmember Bengivenga failed to disclose that his family owned the property that was the subject of a law suit which would force the council to allow a huge billboard on 287. He compounded this lack of disclosure by casting the deciding vote to override Mayor Butrico's veto of the dangerous plan to allow trucks on Hamilton Boulevard even though he works for one of the trucking companies. Sadly his runningmate Mr. Anesh supported Mr. Bengivenga in both of these ethical lapses. The Republican chair, who is Councilmember Bengivenga's mother, has refused to even respond to Mayor Butrico's plan to disclose business holdings and avoid potential conflicts of interest. Our residents are intelligent people who will see

through the Republican candidates attempt to hide their party affiliation."

Franky Salerno expanded upon his running-mates' comments: "Failure to disclose has become a hallmark of our opponents time in office. But even they have outdone themselves with their bogus group called 'Coalition for a Better South Plainfield'. They hide behind this group to divide our town and throw stones at respected residents who happen to disagree with them. Where is the money coming from to support this coalition? I noticed that most of the signs are on properties owned by a trucking company in town. Is that a coincidence? Did any money come from the billboard company? Enough already! I ask Councilmembers Bengivenga and Anesh to add the word 'Republican' to their signs and to immediately disband the coalition and stop its message of division. Actions speak louder than words.

"Chrissy Buteas and I are proud to be members of the South Plainfield Democratic Party. The party that kept taxes under control for nearly a decade, the party that permanently preserved almost 200 acres of open space, the party that cut municipal spending, reduced debt by one half and created 'pay as you go' government. You won't see us hiding behind front groups or trying to hide what our principles are.

"Remember on election day to vote for Chrissy Buteas and Franky Salerno, Democrats for Borough Council. If you want one of our Democratic signs or want to help in our honest and open campaign, please visit our Web site at spdem.org."

Opinions expressed here are those of the organizations submitting them. They are not edited, are printed in their entirety, and we do not attest to their accuracy.

Anesh & Bengivenga: Restoring Accountability Means More than Just Making Promises



When Republicans took the helm in January, they knew restoring accountability required more than just making promises. It meant making tough decisions and developing a plan to bring down costs and control spending.

"We knew right away that we needed to address the budget," said Matt Anesh, who sits on the council's administration and finance committee. "The prior administration had not passed the budget, even though it was six months into the budget year. Most of the money had been spent before we took office, and there was a huge deficit."

"Getting back on track financially was our goal," added Council President Rob Bengivenga. "We started cutting costs right away. In fact, within the first few months we cut more than \$100,000 in administrative costs by combining and eliminating high-level jobs."

"But there was a lot to fix," added Anesh. "The prior administration failed to budget for tax appeals, and they were relying upon \$1.8 million in one-time revenue, which finance experts will tell you is foolish and irresponsible."

"We still have a long way to go, yet we're making progress," he added. "The 2008-09 budget is in the works, and we've already cut \$700,000 from last year. But with increased pension costs, contracted pay increases, reduced state aid, and reduced ratables that just gets us to about even."

"Our opponents have decided to make promises rather than say how they would control spending," added Anesh. "But last time they promised to keep taxes flat their party raised taxes right after the election."

"The Democratic candidates didn't even bother to attend the budget hearings this year," added Bengivenga. "If they had a magical answer to spending, they had the perfect opportunity to present it, but they didn't."

"Accountability means offering a plan," added Anesh, "not just making promises. It also means taking responsibility. So far this year, the Demo-

crats have blamed everyone but themselves for rising taxes. They went on a wasteful spending spree and now blame the Republicans for paying their bills."

Anesh and Bengivenga pointed to millions of dollars in wasteful Democratic spending over the past decade. The best example, according to Bengivenga, was paying \$1.6M for three run-down homes along Hamilton Boulevard: "They weren't even worth half that, and now the property just sits there off the tax rolls."

"The Democrats wanted to put a road over the property, but the area is a Superfund site and our attorneys said we faced potential liability from lawsuits if the road went through," said Bengivenga. "Yet the Democrats wanted to put it through anyway."

Another example of waste, according to Anesh, was the decision to sell open-space property to a campaign contributor at less than fair-market value. "We've put an end to these types of horror stories," he said.

The Anesh-Bengivenga plan to control spending starts with the basics. "We've got to control borrowing," said Bengivenga. "We've started to do that by cutting last year's borrowing by two-thirds."

"We also have to work on controlling energy costs, which we've started to do by limiting vehicle use," he added. "We'll also continue to combine positions and root out waste."

"Shared services with the schools is another place to save money," he added. "In just eight months we've gotten further on shared services than the last 10 years combined."

Council President Rob Bengivenga summed up his team's plan: "We're bringing back efficiency, cutting waste, and restoring accountability. This is the kind of change that we need to keep going."

To find out more about Matt Anesh and Rob Bengivenga, to get a lawn sign, or to volunteer for the campaign, visit the new Republican Web site at www.spgop.com.

Opinions expressed here are those of the organizations submitting them. They are not edited, are printed in their entirety and do not necessarily attest to their accuracy.

REGISTER TO VOTE IN THE NOVEMBER ELECTIONS.
APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE AT BOROUGH HALL.
DEADLINE IS TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14.

BOE Staff Members Receive Tenure Certificates; Two Teachers Hired

By Libby Barsky

Tenure certificates were presented to 15 staff members at the September Board of Education meeting.

South Plainfield High School Principal Dr. Ken May presented certificates to the following teachers: Brandon Crosby-government and law, Lisa Heim-chemistry, Jessica Kriskowski-English, Maria Leonardis-physical education, Joseph Perry-biology and Roger Vroom III-band director.

Middle School Principal Steve Novak pre-

sented certificates to: health teacher and soccer coach Cheryl Hughes, Michelle Hottendorf-language arts, Janet Kanaley-nurse, Jillian Tortora-science and Wendy Su-media center librarian.

Novak also praised former Middle School Assistant Principal Ellen Decker-Lorys, as a "phenomenal assistant principal to the middle school." Decker-Lorys is currently principal of Franklin Elementary School.

During the certification presentation to Paula Rendon, Kennedy Principal Kelly Ritchus recalled that Rendon was a student teacher at the

high school before teaching Spanish at Kennedy.

Roosevelt School Principal Charles Ford presented tenure certification to special education teacher Jennifer Pascale.

Two teachers resigned their positions and replacements for them were approved at the September board meeting.

High school business education teacher Christopher Burns resigned and Kelly Butrico was hired as his replacement. Butrico's experience includes being a part-time instructor at Rutgers University, teaching the principles of account-

ing and financial accounting and preparing individual, corporate and partnership taxes as a staff accountant at Fazio, Manuzza, Rooche, Tankel, LaPilusa, LLC.

High school special education teacher Christina Ginter was hired to replace Thomas Rizk, who resigned. Ginter has a dual master's certification from Rutgers Graduate School of Education and a BA in psychology from Rutgers College. She taught at Samsel Upper Elementary School.

A duty aide for 2.5 hours a day was added to Grant School with the appointment of Isabel Clark.

Local Realtors Host Twilight Open Houses

RE/MAX Competitive Edge

STOP IN AND PREVIEW

Thursday, October 2, 6-8 p.m.

118 Carlisle Avenue ... \$299,900 ... Park Avenue to Carlisle
163 Daniel Street \$299,900 ... Maple Avenue to Daniel
114 E. Golf \$304,900 ... Park Avenue to Golf

Maryhelen Thivon Broker/Mgr
Heidi Madugno Realtor/Associate

Each Office is Independently Owned & Operated

138 Bound Brook Road
Middlesex Office • 732-733-2063

FALL SALE

25-50% OFF ALL PLANTS

Image is Everything!

NEW IMAGE
Landscaping & Lawn Care
Over 20 Years Experience

Full Service Lawn Maintenance
Spring/Fall Cleanup & Shrub Trimming
Cutting/Mulching
Lawn Renovation
Grading, Seeding, Sod
Decorative Landscape-Retaining Walls
Pavers, Walkways, Patios
Decorative Stone-Drainage

OPEN 7 DAYS
Mon-Fri 7-5:30, Sat 7-3:30, Sun 8-2
(Except in August-Not Open Sundays)

908-822-1000
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

LANDSCAPING SUPPLIES & NURSERY

- Shrubs
- Red, Black, Tan Playground Mulch & Root Mulch
- Topsoil Seed, Erosion Products, Weed Mat, River Red Stone & Stone Dust
- Large Selection of Small Engine Parts & Landscaping Supplies & More

NICOLOCK
PAVING STONES & RETAINING WALLS
FULLY INSURED | FREE ESTIMATES

Come Visit Us at 2801 Hamilton Blvd. South Plainfield

Roads • School Board

- Council • Police
- Elections • Trucks
- Sports • Recreation
- Police Report

Want Answers?

It's all here.
Subscribe to the Observer.

908-668-0010

South Plainfield Observer
Your #1 Source for South Plainfield News

Covering South Plainfield Since 1997

What you're looking for...

IT'S IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

He Said, She Said.
Get the Facts.

Candidates' Debate

Hear the candidates for
Borough Council
debate the issues affecting you.

Join us on October 1, 2008
at the
Senior Citizens Center
Maple Avenue
7:30 p.m.

Light refreshments will be served.

Make an informed decision this November.

Arts Grants Applications Are Now Available

Arts Grants to fund projects taking place January 2009 through December 2009, are currently available. The guidelines and application forms are accessible online at <http://co.middlesex.nj.us/culturalheritage> under Arts Grants Forms. Applications must be submitted online no later than midnight, Wednesday, Oct. 22. Applications received after this date will not be considered. Signature pages, ADA forms and all support materials must be postmarked or brought to the commission's office, 703 Jersey Ave. in New Brunswick by 4 p.m., Friday, Oct. 24. This program is made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment of the Arts.

All forms, guidelines, ADA regulations and instructions can be found in a user-friendly format on the commission's Web site. Hardcopy versions of the guidelines only are available by calling (732) 745-4489.

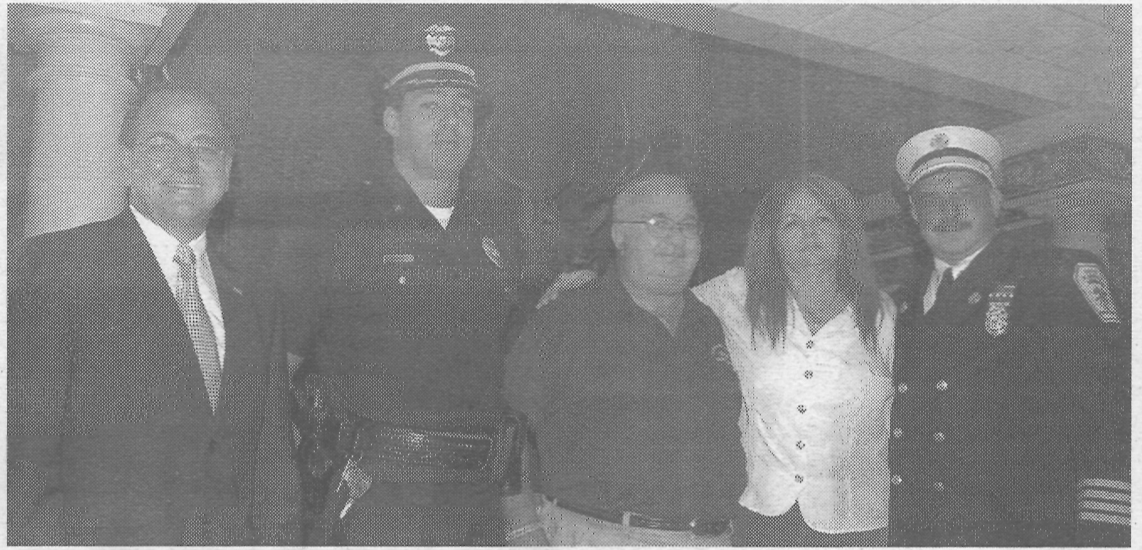
The purpose of the grants is to support established groups and to assist emerging arts groups while encouraging artistic excellence. Both new applicants who present outstanding proposals and previous applicants who demonstrate new and innovative programming ideas, have an equal chance of receiving funding.

Grants for specific programming are awarded as mini-grants (up to

\$2,500) or as project grants (\$2,501 and up.) Applicants must be Middlesex County based not-for-profit arts groups, municipal cultural organizations, community groups, or institutions of higher education. Applicants that develop project components to assist the individual, professional artist, resulting in the creation of new works, may also apply for funding under Artistic Innovation. GOS Grants are designed for the more established, professionally managed, Middlesex County based not-for-profit groups, constituted exclusively for the purpose of the arts.

To assist applicants in completing the Arts Grants, the commission will hold an Arts Grants Help Clinic, October 14-16, during regular office hours, with evening hours on Wednesday, Oct. 15 from 5 to 8 p.m. Call to schedule an appointment.

For more information regarding Arts Grants, or to register for the workshop or help clinic, call (732) 745-4489 (voice), (732) 745-3888 (TTY users only). East Jersey Olde Towne Village is an accessible site. An assistive listening system is available and will be in use during the program; an American sign language interpreter is available with a two-week advance request. Wheelchairs are also available upon request for visitors who may need assistance from the parking lot to the program.



Mayor Charles Butrico, Police Chief John Ferraro, Elks State President Frank Vesley, Exalted Ruler Debra J. Shuleski and Fire Chief Larry DelNegro.

Elks Ceremony Honors 9/11 Victims, Heroes

On September 13 the South Plainfield Elks Lodge held a solemn ceremony in memory of the tragedy that occurred on September 11, 2001.

When Exalted Ruler Debra J. Shuleski realized that the lodge had never held a formal ceremony honoring the victims and heroes, she got busy writing a proclamation dedicating the second week in September be set aside as a week for Elks to pay tribute to those who have sacrificed their lives. From guest speakers to prayers, Shuleski created the lodge's first 9/11 service.

Among the guests were Mayor Charlie Butrico, Police Chief John Ferraro, Fire Chief Larry DelNegro and members of the police and fire de-

partments.

In her speech Shuleski said, "The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has decreed the second week in September be set aside as a week for Elks to pay tribute to those who have sacrificed and helped preserve the American way of life we have all grown to love. Although a great tragedy came to those we love with a blow that seems to crush our hearts, it is not life that causes us to pause but loss of it. Elkdom will continue to be a militant, dynamic force that lives, preaches and teaches the glory of our nation. The revolutionary spirit that proclaimed man's inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness flames today in the hearts of more than a million Elks. It lights the Star of Fidelity that blazes above the altars of over 2,300 lodges throughout the United States. It is that spirit that urges us to go neither right nor left, but to go ahead. As Elks and people of the United States of America, we will always remember the precious lives that were lost in the darkness of 9/11. Thank all of those who came out and honored those brave men and women who sacrificed their lives, and let's never forget what happened yesterday and save our tomorrows."



Exalted Ruler Debra J. Shuleski with proclamation dedicating the second week in September to 9/11 survivors and victims.

Middle School Back to School Dance

The Middle School will hold its Back to School Dance on Friday, Sept. 26 in the gym beginning at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$4 and will be sold during lunch periods. Refreshments and candy will be sold. Students are to be picked up promptly at 9 p.m.

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL/SERVICES

REAL ESTATE

Prudential
New Jersey Properties®

Rose Marie Pelton
REALTOR-ASSOCIATE
South Plainfield Resident
For Over 39 Years

908-753-4450 X121
(732) 653-0322
Fax 908-753-0136
RosePelton@att.net

Rose Marie Pelton
Prudential NJ Properties®
659 Mountain Boulevard, Watchung, NJ 07069

Are you or someone you know thinking of **BUYING, RENTING, or SELLING** a home? If so, call me! I can help you with all your real estate needs.

Donna Macan
Realtor Associate, GRI
(908) 755-5300 x351 Office
(732) 763-4407 Cell
(908) 755-5052 Fax

225 Maple Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080
macand@morettirealty.com

Century 21
Moretti Realty

Each office is independently owned and operated

Prudential
New Jersey Properties

Cynthia "Guancone" Freund
Licensed Real Estate Sales Associate

Cell 908-447-6980
Bus 732-494-7677

3 Amboy Avenue
Metuchen, NJ 08840

CynthiaFreund@PruNewJersey.com

Century 21
Moretti Realty

(908) 755-5300 Ext. 302
(908) 578-1166

Experience Isn't Expensive, It's Priceless.

THE LACERDA TEAM
Andrea Lacerda, Jesse Lacerda
Sue Espin, Michele Leavy

www.LacerdaTeam.com

The Lacerda Team at
Century 21 Moretti Realty

225 Maple Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080 South Plainfield's Premier Real Estate Team

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL/SERVICES

LANDSCAPING

Lalaria Landscaping

LANDSCAPING

Leslie Chambers
Telephone: (908) 917-1668
Fax: (908) 757-5775

Fully Insured
Affordable and Reliable!

k.bulla
Property Maintenance, LLC

Landscape Design • Lawn Service
Snow Plowing • Top Soil
Clean-Ups • Mulch

Guaranteed Service
Exceptional Work
Attention to detail
100% reliability

732.558.0356

Century 21
Moretti Realty

Put your trust in a Realtor who can get the most money through knowledge & experience!

Over 28 years experience in South Plainfield & vicinity

Office: (908) 755-5051 Ext. 313
(908) 753-1346 Evenings
Email: sherwoode@morettirealty.com

225 Maple Ave., South Plainfield

If you think all real estate agents are the same,
You Don't Know Jack!

RE/MAX BEST

30 South Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield
Cell 908-922-2368 • Office 908-755-0200
www.jackpedersen.com

John (JACK) Pedersen
Licensed Sales Agent
Commercial Manager

Silver Creek Landscaping

SOUTH PLAINFIELD

BRICK PAVERS - PATIOS & WALKS

- LANDSCAPE PLANTINGS
- HYDRO SEEDING & SOD
- MULCH / STONE / TOPSOIL
- VINYL FENCES & PONDS
- RETAINING WALLS

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
- FREE ESTIMATES -
908-756-7272

GRADUATE

LAWN CARE

LAWN MAINTENANCE
LANDSCAPE DESIGN
Mulch • Stone • Top Soil
Commercial - Residential
FREE ESTIMATES
(732) 548-0752

www.joediagnanrealestate.com

"Nobody knows South Plainfield like Joe Diagnan."

Century 21
Moretti Realty

Business:
(908) 755-5300 x 315
Eves: (908) 756-9123
Email: DiagnanJ@morettirealty.com

Joseph Diagnan
Realtor-Associate & Lifetime South Plainfield resident
225 Maple Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080

Charles L. Decker Jr.
SALES ASSOCIATE
732-469-1516 x 378
Fax 732-469-1506 Cell
908-902-9406
CharlesDecker@PruNewJersey.com

1996 Washington Valley Road
P.O. Box 305
Martinsville, NJ 08836

Tim Curran
SALES ASSOCIATE
732-494-7677 x 345
Cell 908-244-3228
TimSellsJersey.com
3 Amboy Avenue
Metuchen, NJ 08840
Prepare to Experience Full Service Real Estate Like Never Before.

Prudential
New Jersey Properties
An independently owned and operated member of Prudential Real Estate Affiliates, Inc.

COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL

J. GASTER LANDSCAPING

Dependable Service
With-a-Personal-Touch

Fully Insured

SPECIALIZING IN:
Brick Paver Walkways
Brick Paver Patios & Driveways
Brick Paver Steps & Porches
Stone Walls & Retaining Walls
Complete Landscape Renovations
Installing Wood, Vinyl & Aluminum Fences
Installing Iron & Aluminum Railings
Constructing Decks

908-757-1657
JOHN GASTER

732-535-0044

UNIQUE
LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Design & Installation
Professional Landscape Lighting
Computer Design Imaging
Brick Pavers
Retaining Walls, Steps, Planters
Sod and Seeding

Fully Insured • Free Estimates

Sports



(L to R) Syleen Reyes, Jenna Dickerson, Hanna Leigh Dunn and Camryn Schaeffer.



Participants of the NFL Punt, Pass & Kick Challenge.

Eagles Hosts NFL Punt, Pass, Kick Challenge

The NFL Punt, Pass & Kick Challenge presented by Pepsi was held September 20 at the South Plainfield Football Eagles Complex on Kenneth Avenue.

Fun was had by all, as the boys and girls competed separately against their peers in punting, passing and place kicking skills. Darren Gorman, football commissioner and event organizer, stood with clipboard in hand while Charles Gruver, Andy Peterson and Tim Dunn measured each pass and kick.

Over 40 children registered for the event and five will move on to the regional competition which will be held at Rutgers University.

Congratulations to the following first place winners in their age category. Representing South Plainfield are Scott Whalen, Malik Cisson, Jean Sapini, and representing Westfield is Sean Smith.

Representing South Plainfield for the girls is Camryn Schaeffer. Good luck to all. Let's go Eagles.

- Submitted by Stacey Pace

Labor Day 5K Race Day Winners in Each Category

Category	Age Group	Place	Gender	Name	Time
Age 14 and Under		First	Male	Luke Sprenger	17:31
Age 14 and Under		Second	Male	Joseph Skwiat	18:48
Age 14 and Under		First	Female	Casey Butrico	23:06
Age 14 and Under		Second	Female	Kelly Walsh	23:08
Age Group 15 - 19 Years Old		First	Male	Joseph Larcerda	15:52
Age Group 15 - 19 Years Old		Second	Male	Brain Erhardt	17:09
Age Group 15 - 19 Years Old		First	Female	Michelle Navro	22:01
Age Group 15 - 19 Years Old		Second	Female	Chelsea Cullen	22:48
Age Group 20 - 29 Years Old		First	Male	Mike Loenser	15:50
Age Group 20 - 29 Years Old		Second	Male	David Allara	18:40
Age Group 20 - 29 Years Old		First	Female	Eileen Milcarek	21:49
Age Group 20 - 29 Years Old		Second	Female	Danielle Schweers	21:55
Age Group 30 - 39 Years Old		First	Male	Walter Valverde	18:21
Age Group 30 - 39 Years Old		Second	Male	Steven Kraska	18:46
Age Group 30 - 39 Years Old		First	Female	Kelly Rowe	22:54
Age Group 30 - 39 Years Old		Second	Female	Patricia Lennox	23:38
Age Group 40 - 49 Years Old		First	Male	Franco Morales	17:33
Age Group 40 - 49 Years Old		Second	Male	Eric Radell	19:43
Age Group 40 - 49 Years Old		First	Female	Susan Richardson	19:45
Age Group 40 - 49 Years Old		Second	Female	Lisa Capanna	24:56
Age Group 50 - 59 Years Old		First	Male	Jeff Gardner	22:19
Age Group 50 - 59 Years Old		Second	Male	Stuart Bruno	22:29
Age Group 50 - 59 Years Old		First	Female	Jo Ann Coffe	23:03
Age Group 50 - 59 Years Old		Second	Female	Peggy Sullivan	30:40
Age Group Over 60 Years Old		First	Male	Edward Wright	22:46
Age Group Over 60 Years Old		Second	Male	Joseph Davis	25:39
Age Group Over 60 Years Old		First	Female	None	N/A
Overall Winner		First	Male	Tim Morgan	15:39
Overall		Second	Male	Mike Loenser	15:50
Overall Winner		First	Female	Anjelica Brinkofski	18:38
Overall		Second	Female	Susan Richardson	19:45

Timing was conducted by Best Racing Systems

Visit us at <http://www.bestrace.com/> for all the runners' results.

Lady Tigers Lose to Union Catholic

By Kirsten Nuber

The South Plainfield Lady Tigers Soccer Team played Union Catholic Regional High School in their third game of the season on September 20. The game started out very fast-paced, with both teams placing good shots on goal. As the game wore on, and especially during the second half, it became apparent that Union Catholic had taken control of the game.

Annie Polanco did a tremendous job in goal for the Tigers, saving 34 of the 37, shots Union Catholic attempted. Forward Kerry Yorkanis scored a beautiful goal against the Union Catholic keeper. The final score was 3-1, with Union Catholic winning.

The soccer team defeated Cartaret on Tuesday by a score of 2-1.

The next games on the schedule are Saturday, Sept. 27 against J.F. Kennedy Memorial High School at home at 11 a.m. and Thursday, Oct. 2 against Spotswood at 4 p.m. at home.

We wish them the best of luck.

Search the
MLS at
www.MikePfeifer.com

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 1834

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 1654 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE FOR REVISING ORDINANCE NO. 1365, ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTING THE UNIFORM FIRE SAFETY ACT P.L. 1963, C.383, IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY", SPECIFICALLY, ATTACHMENT A - FEES was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, September 26, 2008 and that a public hearing be scheduled for Monday, October 14, at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ORDINANCE No. 1834

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 1654 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE REVISING ORDINANCE NO. 1365, ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTING THE UNIFORM FIRE SAFETY ACT P.L. 1963, C.383, IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY", SPECIFICALLY, ATTACHMENT A - FEES.

WHEREAS the Uniform Fire Safety Act (P.L. 1963, c.383) was enacted for the purpose of establishing a system for the enforcement of minimum fire safety standards throughout the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS the Uniform Fire Safety Act authorizes municipalities to provide for local enforcement and to establish local enforcement agencies for that purpose; and

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Ordinance states, "In addition to the required inspections and fees required pursuant to the Act and the Regulations of the Department of Community Affairs, the following additional inspections and fees as per Attachment A shall be required. There shall be an annual fee for the annual inspection conducted by the agency, as noted in the Attachment A of this ordinance"; and

WHEREAS the Bureau of Fire Prevention has recommended that the Fees in Attachment A of Ordinance 1654 be increased to adequately support the administration and enforcement of the Uniform Fire Safety Code in the Borough of South Plainfield;

WHEREAS, to the extent that the provisions of Ordinance No. 775, Ordinance No. 896, Ordinance No. 1365 and Ordinance No 1654 are not inconsistent with the terms and conditions of this Ordinance, same are hereby incorporated herein by reference and are deemed to have continued validity.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the fees, as defined in Attachment A appended hereto, are hereby authorized and this ordinance shall become effective immediately after final passage and publication in accordance with New Jersey Law

ATTEST:
Joann Graf/Acting Municipal Clerk

\$76.95 September 26, 2008

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE NO. 1713A

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

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #1713 ENTITLED "ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS" TO REALLOCATE \$24,946 IN UNSPENT FUNDS AND APPROPRIATE AN ADDITIONAL \$24,554 IN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDING FOR THE PURCHASE AN INSTALLATION OF A NEW PHONE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM FOR THE BOROUGH MUNICIPAL BUILDING LOCATED IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Monday, September 22, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ATTEST:
Joann Graf/Acting Municipal Clerk

\$29.45 September 26, 2008

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE NO. 1820

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

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 1461 ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 187 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD" THEREBY PROHIBITING OFF STREET PARKING IN THE FRONT YARD SETBACK EXCEPT IN SPECIFIC DESIGNATED AREAS AS ASSESSING APPLICABLE FINES was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held by the Mayor and Council on Monday, September 22, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

ATTEST:
Joann Graf/Acting Municipal Clerk

\$25.65 September 26, 2008

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE, that the undersigned shall expose for sale, in accordance with R.S. 39:10A-1, at public auction on October 3, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey, the below described motor vehicles which came into possession of the South Plainfield Police Department through abandonment or failure of owners to claim same. The motor vehicles may be examined by contacting Traffic Safety.

Year	Make	VIN#	Status	Description	Min. Bid
2004	Honda	JH2MC13074K002792	Resale	Rebel	\$4280.00
1993	Honda	2HGHE2357PH508894	Resale	Civic	\$2930.00
1993	Nissan	JN1HJ01F3PT119661	Resale	Maxima	\$1180.00
1986	BMW	WBAAB5404G9632749	Resale	325	\$1270.00
1996	Nissan	1N4BU31D7TC160739	Resale	Altima	\$1580.00

South Plainfield Police Dept.
Off. Karl W. Schuetz
Traffic Safety Officer

\$49.40

September 26, 2008

What's Missing
Here? Your Ad!



Call 908-668-0010.

AJV AUTO MALL
PRE-OWNED
VEHICLE SALES

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A QUALITY,
PRE-OWNED VEHICLE?
We guarantee the lowest price on
our quality, pre-owned vehicles.

OPEN 6 DAYS
732-424-0702
3201 Hamilton Blvd. So Plainfield

To find out
what's
happening
in
South Plainfield

Visit the borough's official web site at

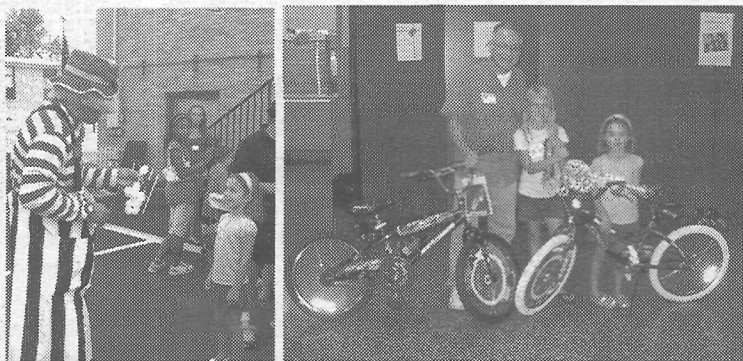
southplainfieldnj.com

Mayor & Council • Borough Officials and Agencies • Meeting Dates • Police - Fire - Rescue Squad • Recreation • Senior Center • Upcoming Events • South Plainfield Business Association Listing • Community Bulletin Board • Yard & Garage Sales, Classifieds, Messages

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS ON OUR WEB PAGE



At Sacred Heart Church's annual picnic guests enjoyed hot dogs and hamburgers, along with all the accompaniments. The cost to attend was a dessert to share, so everyone enjoyed a wide variety of treats. "Your Hit Parade," a woman's a cappella singing ensemble, entertained. Members include Heather Collins, Katie Blackwood, Victoria Shernicoff and Sharon Vitkovsky. Two bicycles were raffled off. Gina Bengivenga won the girl's bike and Ashton Donovan won the boy's bike.



policereport

- On Sept. 9 Chiddy M. Armadyoha, 55, of Plainfield was arrested for suspended registration, maintenance of lamps, uninsured motor vehicle and an outstanding warrant.
- A Melrose Avenue resident reported that the driver's window of their vehicle had been smashed and a TomTom GPS unit was taken.
- On Sept. 10 Fernando P. Munoz, 48, of Plainfield was arrested for being an unlicensed driver and an outstanding warrant.
- Aldi Foods on Park Avenue reported that graffiti had been spray painted on the side of the building.
- On Sept. 11 Adam J. Jones, 22,

First Baptist Church Welcomes You!

First Baptist Church of South Plainfield, 201 Hamilton Blvd. is inviting you to join them on Sundays for Sunday School from 9:30 to 10:20 a.m. (for children preschool through 12th grade) and Pastor Gordon Braun and Asst. Pastor Michele Lewkow worship service 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. For more information, please call (908)753-2382 or visit our Web site at www.fbcsouthplainfield.com. Everyone is welcome.

- of Perth Amboy was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant.
- Robert Mendez, 28, of South Plainfield was arrested for failure to inspect, driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant.
- On Sept. 12 a Clinton Terrace resident reported that their rear basement window had been broken. No entry was gained.
- On Sept. 14 David Wadlow, 58, of Basking Ridge was arrested for driving while intoxicated and careless driving.
- On Sept. 15 Carmen J. Johnson, 52, of Edison was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant.
- A Cumberland Street resident reported that the passenger side window of their truck had been smashed and a TomTom GPS unit was taken.
- A Joan Street resident reported that their basement window had been broken. No entry was gained.
- On Sept. 16 Flanagan's Restaurant reported that the padlock on the rear screen door had been scratched in an attempt to gain entry.
- On Sept. 17 Denise Wagner, 40, of Toms River was arrested for displaying a fraudulent inspection sticker.
- On Sept. 18 Brendan Joseph McKenna, 20, of Scotch Plains was ar-

- rested for maintenance of lamps, provisional license violation and an outstanding warrant.
- A New Market Avenue resident reported that a package left by DHL was missing.
- On Sept. 19 William Morgan, 55, of Plainfield was arrested for failure to reinspect, failure to maintain lamps, driving on a suspended license and two outstanding warrants.
- Several Brennan Court residents reported that the tires of their vehicles had been flattened.
- On Sept. 20 Eusebio F. Guerrero-Martinez, 27, of Plainfield was arrested at Home Depot for shoplifting a \$39 flashlight.
- On Sept. 21 Hung D. Lai, 34, of Somerset, was arrested for driving while intoxicated, careless driving, driving on a suspended license, failure to exhibit a driver's license and suspended registration.
- Reginald G. Lewis, 39, of Piscataway was arrested for theft by unlawful taking, having an open container of alcohol in a vehicle and allowing a revoked driver to operate a motor vehicle.
- On Sept. 22 Durable Undercarriage on Helen Street reported the theft of a copper grounding bar worth \$1,000 from AT&T tower.

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL/SERVICES

AUTO BODY

R&C AUTO BODY
Family Owned & Operated Since 1962
Expert Color Matching **COLLISION SPECIALISTS**
24 Hour Towing
Lifetime Repair Warranty
Lic. No. 00992A
908-757-1933
3330 Park Ave., South Plainfield

SULLIVAN'S AUTO BODY
BodyShop Lic. #02313A
Hours Mon-Fri 8am-5pm
2210 Hamilton Blvd. South Plainfield New Jersey 07080
908-757-5100
Fax: 908-757-3105

AUTO REPAIR

C&R Auto Mon-Fri 8-5 Bill & Tom
Complete Foreign & Domestic • TIRES
Auto & Truck Repair • Tune Ups
Oil Changes • Shocks & Suspension
Air Conditioning • Exhaust Systems
• Brakes & Front End
235 Hamilton Blvd. South Plainfield
908-754-8313
Fleet Service

BUYING & SELLING - COINS & MORE

WE BUY & SELL
All U.S. & Foreign Coinage, Paper Money, Gold & Silver Bullion, Scrap Gold & Sterling Silver And Anything Related
References available upon request
Gregory S. Heim • 908-405-6408
South Plainfield resident for almost seven years
9 AM to 8 PM
www.gynandroidhead.com
We will come to you and provide a free verbal appraisal. Please call for more details.

DRIVEWAY SEALING

KleenSeal
DRIVEWAY SEALING
732-321-3699
www.kleenseal.com
Franchises Available

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

On Time Electrical Contractor LLC
Residential • Industrial • Commercial
No Job Too Small
908-451-3313
On Call 24 hrs.
Fully Insured & Bonded NJ
Lic #8854
BILL RITCHEY

GENERAL CONTRACTORS

BUILDER & GENERAL CONTRACTOR
NJ DCA LIC #019771 Since 1981
Lordina Builders
908-753-3850
ADDITIONS • KITCHENS BATHROOMS
Office Renovations
FREE ESTIMATES

GENERAL CONTRACTORS

Downes Contruction
GENERAL CONTRACTING
Additions
Cultured Stone • Pavers
Block • Brick • Concrete
Tile • Kitchens • Baths
Call Mike (908) 756-7233
Fully Insured Free Estimates

GUITAR LESSONS

GUITAR LESSONS
Beginner to Advanced
908-822-9702
SOUTH PLAINFIELD
All Styles
Kenny Campbell
www.kennymusician.com

KITCHEN CABINETS

The Cure for the Common Kitchen
Kitchen Makeovers
By **FURNITURE MEDIC**
• All Wood Cabinet Refacing
• Cabinet Refinishing
• Cabinet Painting
Typically less than 1/2 the cost of replacement
(908) 755-8440
visit us at www.furnituremedicnj.com

MASONRY

Luigi BOTTONE MASONRY
ALL TYPES OF MASONRY
Every Job is Owner Supervised
CALL FOR FREE ESTIMATE
732-926-8686
• Steps/Porches
• Sidewalks
• Brickwork
• Brickpavers
• Patios
• Belgian Block Curbing
• Foundations
• Driveways
• French drains
• Chimneys

Chuck Sonion (908) 754-5969
Free Estimates Fax (908) 754-5569
SONION CONCRETE
Sidewalks • Patios • Driveways • Pavers
South Plainfield, NJ 07080 Fully Insured

PARTS & EQUIPMENT

PM PARTS & EQUIPMENT
Parts-Sales-Service-Rentals
WE ARE A FULL SERVICE DEALER!
CATERING TO: CONTRACTORS, LANDSCAPERS, HOMEOWNERS
PAUL BILICH, OWNER
250 Mack Place, South Plainfield
908-822-9828
(908-756-7096 fax)

PAVING/MASONRY

MARK L. DiFRANCESCO
PAVING • MASONRY
Free Estimates
Driveways • Parking Lots • Seal Coating • Steps • Walkways • Patios
Retaining Walls • Pavers • Wallstone • Slate • Bluestone • Excavating
Foundations • Block Work • Cultured Stone • Drainage • Waterproofing
3RD GENERATION IN BUSINESS
908-668-8434

What's Missing Here? Your Ad!

Advertise your business here for as little as \$18.50/week.
Call 908-668-0010.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

PROG/ANALYST-ANALYZE, DESIGN dev s/w application, data conversions, create monitor tasks, workflows, stored procedures, test validate and tuning data, mapping update process using Informatica, Oracle, SQL, PL/SQL, BO, C/C++, Java, 40/wk, S. Plainfield, NJ. BS CS/Engi/Electrc./Sci or equl w 2 yrs exp. Comp. Salary. Contact: American Infoserv Inc, 50 Cragwood Rd, #307, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

F/T OR P/T EXP. SALESPERSON FOR foodservice business. Piscataway office. Fax resume to (732) 339-0073 or E-mail sales2@akacommodities.com.

NURSES/LPNs, RNs, CHHA-IMMEDIATE opening. F/T, P/T, per diem. Retirees/new nurses welcome. Will train for cases. Mercer, Middlesex & other areas. (732) 246-8905.

PRE-SCHOOL AIDE-MONDAY-FRIDAY mornings. Please call (908) 753-4477.

ALMOST FAMOUS PLAYERS SEEK a tech/set director for their upcoming Halloween show at Putnam Park. This paid position requires making simple sets, lighting, set up and running the sound light board during the show. For more information call (908) 346-2290.

P/T IN MEDICAL OFFICE-MON.-Fri., 2 p.m.-closing. College student or adult, good phone skills, will train. Call Randy (732) 767-3133.

SOUTH PLAINFIELD SALON SEEKING experienced stylist with some following. Sign on bonus, salary plus commission. Call Christine (908) 705-5108.

HOME FURNISHINGS FOR SALE
MATTRESS-PILLOW TOP SETS, new in plastic with mfg. warranty. **Queen \$219 King \$375.** (732) 259-0016.

BEDROOM-SLEIGH BED, DRESSER w/mirror & nite stand. New in box. Value \$3500 sell \$1350. Can deliver. (732) 259-6690.

MATTRESS - FULL SIZE \$189, ortho plush set still in plastic. Twin \$159. (732) 259-6690.

HOUSECLEANING

HOUSECLEANING BY TERI- \$10 a room. References upon request. (732) 614-5296.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

2 BR, W/D CONNECTION, WATER garbage, C/A, garage for storage. 1 1/2 mo. security. \$1,300 mo. Call (908) 668-0061.

SOUTH PLAINFIELD-3 BEDROOM, 1 bathroom, kitchen & living room. Call (908) 754-7143 or (908) 202-1585.

IMMEDIATE DEBT RELIEF

We will buy your home or take over your payments. Upside down, no equity, no problem! Gina 888-383-0010

FOUND - CAT

BLACK CAT-OLDER, NEUTERED male. Must describe. If you've lost a cat in the past year, call Donna (908) 413-4996.

Turn Your Trash Into Cash!

Advertise your garage sale in the Observer. Call 908-668-0010



967 Madison Ave.
(Between Stelle & Randolph, Plainfield)
Saturday, Sept. 27
9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Antique furniture, antiques, Hitchcock chairs, household items, plus lots more!



227 Firth Street
(Off Plainfield Avenue)
Saturday, Sept. 27
8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

3 FAMILY SALE
Something for Everyone!

Classified RATES

\$15/3 lines, \$1 for each additional line. Deadline: Monday, 5 pm. Run ad 4 consecutive issues, get 10% discount. Call 908-668-0010; or email to: spobserv@comcast.net.

MAGICIAN AVAILABLE

MAGIC SHOWS
BIRTHDAY PARTIES & ALL OCCASIONS.....
LOTS OF FUN, LAUGHTER & PARTICIPATION
(908) 405-2944

Deadline for classified advertising: Monday 5 p.m.

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL/SERVICES

CARPENTRY

PROFESSIONAL CARPENTRY

Free Estimates!

ROOFING • SIDING
WINDOWS • DOORS
PORCHES • DECKS And More!

908-561-4073

Resident Specialist - 39 Yrs. Experience - NJ Licensed Contractor

CARPETING

Carpet • Area Rugs • Tile • Hardwood • Laminate • Linoleum

Commercial and Residential
Wall to Wall, Sam lays it All!
Senior Discount

Sam the Carpet Man
MY WAY CARPET
1-877-GO-MYWAY
1-877-466-9929

Fax: 908-756-4040 119 Hamilton Blvd. mywaycarpet.com
South Plainfield, NJ 07080 mywaycarpet@msn.com

Repairs • Restretching • Binding • Custom Tile • Sanding and Refinishing

COMPUTERS

Concerned About Computer Virus Protection? Home Security?

For advice and installation, call Stan Wilkinson at
ST Computers
908-769-0709

- New Computers/Upgrades
- Hardware/Software Installations
- In Home Service
- Website Development

Cell: 732-423-3504
Visit us at www.stcomputers.org

CONSTRUCTION

References Available Fully Insured N.L. License #13VH00353600

HARTJE Residential Contractor
CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
Additions • Bathrooms • Kitchens
• Decks • Windows • Siding
908-754-8921

MASSAGE

CENTRAL JERSEY
Holistic Health Center and Spa

- MASSAGE REFLEXOLOGY
- HYPNOSIS REIKI

DOULA LABOR ASSISTANT

Roxanne Cortese, CD, CHP, CMT
2701 Park Ave. So. Plainfield, NJ 07080
(908) 561-1511
By Appointment Only
GIFT CERTIFICATES AND GIFT BASKETS

HOME IMPROVEMENT

PAINTING INTERIOR/EXTERIOR SHEETROCK/DRYWALL HOME REPAIRS CERAMIC TILE

AJ Professional Services, Inc.

SIDING ROOFING SIDEWALKS/PAVERS MASONRY STEPS

HOT POWER WASHING
HOUSES - DECKS - SIDEWALKS
SEAMLESS GUTTERS & GUTTER REPLACEMENT
Tel: 908-754-0149
Fully Insured - SBA cert. 10404-20 License #13VH03110900 Bonded

HANDYMAN SERVICES

Bullseye
HANDYMAN SERVICES
NO JOB TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL

Providing All of Your Home Improvement Needs
Call Tom (908) 222-8247 or Jim (908) 208-0431

Call Today for Your Free Estimate

JEWELERS

CINDY MICHAELS
Jewelers & Gemologists
2325 Plainfield Avenue
South Plainfield
908-769-4264
EDWARD J. COLUCCI GEMOLOGIST
Expert Repairs

MULCH/TOP SOIL/STONE

Call **KLK Trucking** for:
Top Soil, Mulch, Sand, Infield Mix, Decorative & Crushed Stone

Sanding • Salting • Snowplowing
Pick up or Deliv., Mon. thru Sat
908-757-4434
265 Ryan Street
South Plainfield

PAINTING

MEHL BROS.
PAINTING & DECORATING LLC

Interior Painting, Crown Moldings & Architectural Millwork
(908) 251-1814

Call for a Free Estimate

Wondering if Advertising Works?

These 30 Business & Professional advertisers think so.

Get results for your business. Advertise weekly in the Observer. Call 908-668-0010.

Serving South Plainfield Since 1997

PLUMBER

Professional Plumbing & Heating Inc.
(908) 561-1941
South Plainfield, NJ
FRANK MCCARTHY
License #8741

POOL SALES/SERVICE

(908) 756-3120
Schedule your pool closing now!

McCarthy Contractors
Complete Pool Maintenance & Repair
Pools - Ponds - Water Features

WE SELL & INSTALL SAFETY COVERS AND DO LINER CHANGES

SALES AND SERVICE
Blaise McCarthy
Member of NSPA
20 Years Experience
Fully Licensed & Insured • SOUTH PLAINFIELD

ROOFING & SIDING

SINCE 1960

PENYAK ROOFING & SIDING CO.

908-753-4222
www.penyakroofing.com

3571 KENNEDY ROAD
SO. PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080

SPIRITS

Mon.-Sat. 9am-1am
Sundays 9am-11pm

Sal's Spirit Shoppe

CORONA (Case) **\$22.99**
SEARIDGE (750ml) **\$3.99**
Cabernet, Merlot, Chardonnay

1645 Park Ave., South Plainfield
791-9463

Offer limited to one item per coupon

TRUCK SALES

CAMBRIA, GMC
116 Talmadge Rd., Edison, NJ
1-800-899-5226 X-110
Ask for Tony

2006 C7500 Hooklift	33,000 GVV
2007 C6500 Mason Dump	26,000 GVV
2007 C4500 4x4 Crew Cab Dump	17,500 GVV
2008 C4500 4x2 Crew Cab Dump	17,500 GVV
2008 W4500 17' Vanscraper	14,500 GVV

FINANCE ALSO AVAILABLE
"Come See What We Have to Offer"
WE WILL NOT BE UNDERSOLD

Security Grant

(Continued from page 1)

and teachers peace of mind and give our young people a chance to build their future," said Senator Lautenberg.

Ferguson was also pleased by the award. "South Plainfield parents are being well-served by [Debbie and Bob's] efforts," he said in a letter congratulating the two. He also pointed out that the grant would "result in South Plainfield's children receiving a better education in safe and secure schools."

For her part, Boyle is making good on a promise she made when she ran for the school board. "Although Bob and I ran separately, we both were promoters of shared services when we campaigned for the board. The grant is an example of what can happen when the borough and the BOE work hand and hand. That's the idea behind shared services," said Boyle.

Jones agreed, "This grant is a big win for shared services, and more importantly, the taxpayers."

"It was a group effort," Boyle added. "I want to thank the people who helped on this project: Chief Ferraro, Captain Brembt, Councilman Anesh and CFO/Administrator Glenn Cullen."

South Plainfield's grant was almost twice the national average, and many of the larger grants went to counties or large cities. In fact, South Plainfield's grant was higher than the total grants awarded to 15 states: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, South Carolina, Vermont, Washington and Wyoming.

Substance Abuse Policy

(Continued from page 1)

parents or guardians, removing the student from school and paying for a medical examination; a minimum of one week removal from the extra curricular activity or parking privileges; six visits to the student assistance counselor and attendance at an early intervention program.

Resident Deanna Fredericks questioned the board on its reason for the policy and at the same time challenged the legality of the policy and the liability of the district if a court case was implemented against the policy.

BOE Vice President Pio Pennisi noted that while there had been no incidents of substance abuse, the board has been discussing a testing policy for the past three years.

Addressing the legality of the policy, Attorney Mark Zimmer stated the policy had been upheld on its constitutionality.

Board members who were present voted in favor of the policy. Board member Donna Rann was absent.

The South Plainfield Elks Veterans Committee is selling the ENTERTAINMENT BOOK for \$25. Call Lou Peralta at 908-756-6406.

HOMETOWN HEROS SEND-A-PLATTER

We will send to any home a beautifully arranged and wrapped Assorted Sandwich Tray with two of our homemade salads-Any Day-Any Time. **\$49.95**

908-755-HERO (4376)

Obituaries

Martha C. Nunez



Martha C. Nunez

Martha C. Nunez died on Sunday, Sept. 21 surrounded by her family at Care One at the Highlands in Edison after a courageous battle with cancer.

Born in Medellin, Columbia, Martha came to the United States in 1981. She had resided in Somerville, Bound Brook and Middlesex before settling in Piscataway.

Martha had been employed by Conolog in Somerville for a number of years.

She is survived by two children, Jackie Nunez of Piscataway and Alex Nunez and wife Theresa of Piscataway and three beloved grandchildren, Adriana, Jakob and Jaelynn.

Funeral arrangements were by McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

Donations in her memory may be made to The American Cancer Society, 2600 U.S. Route #1, North Brunswick, N.J. 08902.

Eleanor M. Doty, 84

Eleanor M. Doty of Monroe Township passed away on Wednesday, Sept. 17 at St. Peter's Medical Center in New Brunswick.

Mrs. Doty was born in Hoboken and resided in South Plainfield most of her life before moving to Monroe Township.

Eleanor was employed by Mack Truck as a keypunch operator for many years and later was employed by the South Plainfield Public Schools as a cafeteria aide.

Mrs. Doty was a devoted member of Sacred Heart RC Church and a member of the Altar Rosary Society for many years.

Eleanor was predeceased by her beloved parents, John and Margaret Vomacka and by her beloved husband, Robert A. Doty, who passed

away in 1978.

Mrs. Doty is survived by her loving family, a daughter and son-in-law, Patricia and Frank Casale of Millstone Twp.; three brothers, John Vomacka of Laconia N.H., Raymond Vomacka of Metuchen and Robert Vomacka of Millstone Twp.; a sister, Mildred Ryshavy of Marstons Mills, Mass. and a granddaughter, Anastasia Casale of Millstone Twp., all of whom will miss her more than words can say.

Funeral services were held at The South Plainfield James W. Conroy Funeral Home.

The family kindly requests that memorial contributions be made in Mrs. Doty's name to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, Church Street Station, P.O. Box 780, New York, N.Y. 10008-0780.

Janice L. (Faas) Raisch, 77

Janice L. (Faas) Raisch died on Wednesday, Sept. 17 at the Orchards at Bartley Assisted Living in Jackson.

Born in Newark, she graduated from East Orange High School and lived in Rahway until she moved to South Plainfield after marrying her late husband, Robert.

As a homemaker, Janice was an avid reader and loved cats, especially her Siamese cats. She also enjoyed politics and ceramics.

She was a former member of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church.

She was predeceased by her husband, Robert, in March and by her brother, Warren.

Janice is survived by two sons, Robert Raisch Jr. and wife Sandra along with their child, Dylan Robert of Brick and David Raisch and wife Barbara of Helmetta.

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

Memorial contributions in her name may be made to the local ASPCA.

Anna Marie (Zaccardi) Rubineti, 88



Anna Marie (Zaccardi) Rubineti

Anna Marie (Zaccardi) Rubineti died on Tuesday, Sept. 16 at the home of her nephew Antonio in Mt. Kisco, N.Y.

Born in Pescopango, Potenza, Italy,

Mrs. Rubineti had resided in South Plainfield for many years.

She worked for the former Leather Novelty and Plastic Workers in South Plainfield.

Anna loved her gardening as well as her beloved cats, Gusepina and Pupuniello.

She was predeceased by her husband, Giuseppe, who died in 2004 and by a son, Peter, who died in 2007.

Surviving are three nephews, Tommaso Coppola and wife Elisa of West Harrison, N.Y., Antonio Coppola and late wife Polsia of Mt. Kisco, N.Y. and Vincenzo of Pescopango, Italy; a niece, Graziella also of Pescopango, Italy; a brother-in-law, Lorenzo Rubineti and wife Mary of North Plainfield and a sister-in-law, Rose Rubineti. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews, especially Amy who took care of her.

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

Our entire family wishes to express a special thank you to her many friends who took care of her through the years in New Jersey; we will be forever grateful to you all.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her name can be made to the Association of Madona Di. Monte Maura, c/o McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals, 2425 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

Raymond K. Ballard, 73

Raymond K. Ballard died on Saturday, Sept. 20 in the Haven Hospice at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

He was born at Cooper Hospital to his loving parents, Viola and Eugene Ballard. Ray grew up in Brooklawn and graduated from Gloucester City High School.

He served in the United States Air Force Security Service as a staff sergeant from 1955 to 1966 as an airborne electronic technician. His service took him to Mississippi, Oklahoma, California, Germany and Florida before being honorably discharged.

Following his military career he settled in South Plainfield and was employed by Mohawk Data Sciences and later worked as a government container inspector for SGS.

Surviving are his wife Barbara; two daughters, Deborah Gemenden and husband Randy and Kimberly Ballard, all of South Plainfield; two grandchildren, Jaelyn LaMotta and husband Michael of Hillsborough and Randy Gemenden of South Plainfield and two great-grandchildren, Kaitlyn and Alexa LaMotta.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations in Ray's name may be made to Angel's Gate Hospice for Animals, 510 Archie Elliot Road, Delhi, N.Y. 13753, www.angelsgate.org.

Hillside Cemetery
Regarded as one of the most beautiful cemeteries in the East
Scotch Plains
908.756.1729
www.hillsidecemetery.com
It is far easier for your family if you plan ahead

McCriskin-Gustafson
"An Independent, Family Owned & Operated Funeral Home"
HOME FOR FUNERALS, LLC
(908) 561-8000
 2425 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080
PRE ARRANGEMENTS • S/S MEDICAID PROTECTION • CREMATION SERVICES
 James A. Gustafson, Pres./Mgr. • N.J. Lic. No. 4205
 Richard W. McCriskin II, Vice-Pres./Dir. • N.J. Lic. No. 4564
 Richard W. McCriskin, Dir. • N.J. Lic. No. 3147
 William C. McCriskin, Dir. • N.J. Lic. No. 3382
www.mccriskinfuneralhome.com

"We APPRECIATE OUR NEIGHBORS" SINCE 1949

SOUTH PLAINFIELD JAMES W. CONROY FUNERAL HOME
Oldest funeral home in South Plainfield

Franklin H. Rainear Jr., Local Owner/Manager
 N.J. Lic. No. 4543

Like you, we appreciate our neighbors. That's why we do our best to be good neighbors, too. For years, we've provided area families with sound advice and caring service at times of a personal loss. We believe we help the most by listening and providing information about your choices. Turn to us in your time of need or when you want the "peace of mind" that comes from planning ahead. We're your hometown neighbor...

2456 Plainfield Ave.
 South Plainfield, NJ 07080
(908) 756-2800
www.southplainfieldfuneralhome.com
 fax (908) 769-8084

SOUTH PLAINFIELD FUNERAL HOME