

VOTES

Annual School Election

April 19



Southern Regional High School District
105 Cedar Bridge Road
Manahawkin, NJ 08050

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SOUTHERN LIGHTS



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Southern Lights

Spring 2005



DAMN YANKEES

The Southern Regional Theatre Company provided an evening of quality entertainment with its district spring musical, *Damn Yankees*. Under the direction of drama teacher Jim McCabe, 47 Southern students showcased their musical and dance talents to an eager audience. The production was enhanced by an orchestra of 25 students under the direction of music teacher Tom Murphy. An additional 20 students assisted with staging, lighting, and sound. In *Damn Yankees*, which is set in the late 1950's, Joe Boyd is an ordinary man with two passions: his wife, Meg, and his favorite baseball team, the Washington Senators. Hoping that the Senators would beat the damn Yankees just once, Joe makes a deal with a mysterious man, Applegate, who later reveals himself

as the devil. The deal transforms Joe into a 22 year-old baseball star named Joe Hardy who has the power to lead the Senators to victory. In order to beat the devil at his evil game, Joe must overcome reporter Gloria's prying tactics and seductive Lola's manipulative ways. Much to their delight, sold-out audiences were treated to a stunning cast and classic Broadway tunes such as "Whatever Lola Wants Lola Gets" and "You've Gotta Have a Heart".

"The Apprentice" Comes to Southern

"The Apprentice" came to Southern this holiday season. Sharon Faith created a version of the popular television show with her marketing classes. She did not promise them a position in a large corporation or a large salary, just the warm, fuzzy feeling people get from helping others. Their bottom line was to help Adele Berardi exceed her goal in the Atlantic City Rescue Mission Food Drive.

Task three required the teams to find new markets or, in this case, new donors for Southern's Fourth Annual Food Drive for the Mis-

sion. They could not collect within the borders of the school because that was an existing market. The class divided into two teams: Team Vantmm and Team Tyro. The teams had two weeks to develop a strategy, divide the responsibilities, make contacts within the community, put their strategies in motion, and collect the food items. The team with the most food items would be the winner with the losing team facing a board room firing.

Team Vantmm, lead by Michele Garabo, spent a Sunday at the Pathmark asking shoppers to support the food drive by dropping a non-perishable food item into the collection basket. Pathmark, along with ShopRite, Acme, Super Fresh, and Murphy's generously gave gift certificates. The local Staples and UPS donated the needed flyers. Other contributors were Stafford Library, Surf City Library, Garabo's Marina on LBI, and Comprehensive Medical Associates in Lanoka Harbor. When the team added these to contributions by family and friends, their total was 1,106 food items.

Team Tyro, lead by Danielle Roots, coordinated a food drive at the Frederic A. Priff Elementary School in Waretown. The fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students collected over 500 non-perishable food items. Mrs. Douglass's sixth grade class donated an additional \$50 which was earmarked for a class pizza party. Waretown Library and Barnegat Library also participated. After they included donations from friends and family, their tally was 942 food items.

The two teams contributed 2,048 food items which was twenty percent of the total collected for the entire school. Faith was very

pleased and impressed with her students' efforts. She stated, "That is an outcome Donald Trump would be proud of. Although the losing team will experience the boardroom, there are no losers in this task, only winners."

Pinewood Derby Plaques Bring Community Together in Collaborative Project

The Mainsail Alternative School at SRHS offers a school-to-work training program, Manufacturing for Profit, as one component of the students' educational program. Students learn building skills as well as job values necessary to produce a marketable item. During the past 10 years, the Mainsail students and staff have contracted more than 100 jobs within the community. The partnership has provided hands-on training for many at-risk students and a quality product for customers. For information on contracting a job, call 609-597-9481 ext. 285.

The construction teams have specialized in outdoor projects and also filled many custom orders. Projects have included kayak racks for Jersey Paddler (Brick, NJ), butterfly houses for the LBI Garden Club, and picnic tables for the Ocean County College campus.

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2005 - 2006 Southern Regional High School Budget

The 2005-2006 Southern Regional Budget is the financial representation of the district's commitment to a diverse and growing student population. The Southern Regional School District is facing many challenges as it moves into the 21st century. The state continues to impose new requirements that force the district to implement mandates without financial support. Nevertheless, the district has persevered and shown time and time again that Southern Regional is truly a representation of its larger community, a community committed to providing a wealth of opportunities for its children.

Southern Regional is an excellent school district, and it is the intention of both the board and the staff that it remain so as we move forward into the next millennium. The challenge for Southern is to adapt

to a changing learning environment and student population. The needs of the students and the manner in which the staff delivers their education must prepare them for the world they will face. With the support of the community, Southern has made great strides in the areas of technology and facilities over the last several years. Yet, much still needs to be done. The goal is that each and every student graduating from Southern be prepared to face the challenges they will encounter regardless of their chosen path.

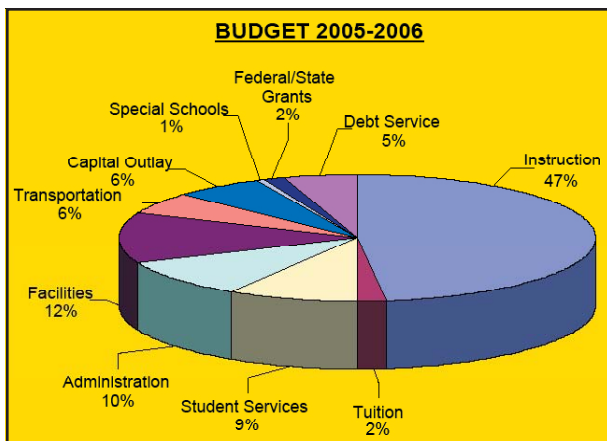
The following information regarding the budget is provided to assist the members of the Southern Regional Community in making an informed decision based on the facts. The district thanks you for your consideration and support throughout the year.

Questions and Answers

How does Southern Regional spend the monies raised to support the district?

Much of Southern Regional's budget is comprised of fixed costs such as contractual salaries, benefits, utilities, transportation, tuition, debt payment, and grant spending.

The pie chart labeled "Budget 2005-2006" shows how Southern Regional allocates its resources.



How much is the budget increasing this school year over last school year?

Actually, the total budget will be decreasing \$3,278,205 over last year's budget. The following chart compares next year's budget to this year's.

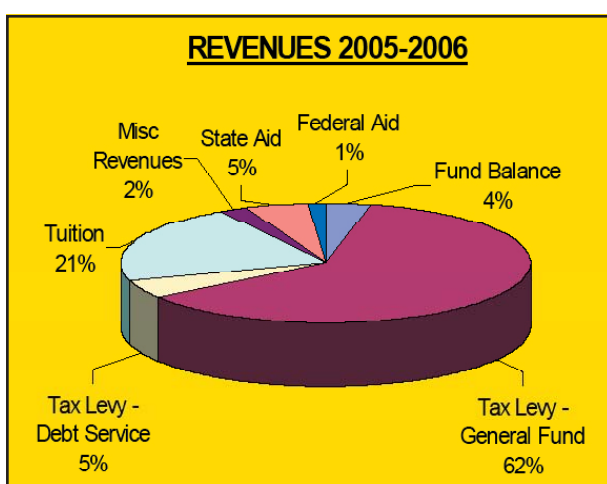
FUNDS	2004-2005	2005-2006	Difference
General Fund	\$ 51,362,010	\$ 50,491,445	\$ (870,565)
Special Revenue Fund	988,762	819,408	(169,353)
Debt Service Fund	4,887,675	2,649,388	(2,238,287)
TOTAL	\$ 57,238,447	\$ 53,960,242	\$ (3,278,205)

Will the budget contain additional staff?

No. In fact, the number of staff members will be reduced due to decreases in enrollment as Barnegat students attend their own high school, and the state imposed budget cap, which limits budget, increases annually.

What percent of the budget is funded by taxpayers?

The following pie chart labeled "Revenues 2005-2006" indicates how much funding is provided by taxpayers. Approximately 68% of the budget is funded by taxpayers.



REVENUE COMPARISON

	2004-2005	2005-2006	Variance
Fund Balance	\$ 1,081,397	\$ 1,944,487	\$ 863,090
General Fund Tax Levy	31,805,863	33,256,225	1,450,362
Debt Service Tax Levy	4,887,675	2,649,388	(2,238,287)
Tuition	13,271,936	11,401,159	(1,870,777)
Other Local Revenues	1,225,000	1,240,000	15,000
State Aid	2,871,142	2,753,827	(117,315)
Federal Aid	881,944	715,156	(166,788)
Prior Year Encumbrances	1,213,490		
TOTAL	\$ 57,238,447	\$ 53,960,242	\$ (3,278,205)

How does Southern Regional fund its budget?

The above chart labeled "Revenues Comparison" shows where Southern gets the funding to support the budget. The district continues to receive very little funding from the state (about 5%) in support of their budget. Also, as Barnegat students continue to attend their own high school, tuition revenues will decline each year.

TAX LEVY COMPARISON

MUNICIPALITY	% Share	2004-2005		% Share	2005-2006	
		Tax Levy	Rate / \$100		Tax Levy	Rate / \$100
Beach Haven	9.37	3,438,933	.2190	10.26	3,683,154	.2349
Barnegat Light	6.82	2,503,766	.2850	6.17	2,215,931	.2511
Harvey Cedars	7.31	2,682,793	.2560	6.58	2,363,516	.2254
Long Beach Township*	40.51	14,864,494	.5780	41.54	14,913,629	.2109
Ship Bottom*	7.18	2,636,176	.6240	6.94	2,493,892	.2382
Surf City*	8.42	3,089,858	.6000	8.93	3,205,621	.2192
Stafford Township*	20.38	7,477,519	.3570	19.58	7,029,869	.1715
	100	36,693,538		100	35,905,613	

*The large decrease in the tax rate for Long Beach Township, Ship Bottom, Surf City, and Stafford Township is a result of municipality property reassessments. These new ratable values will affect each property owner differently, depending on the assessed property value.

What is the tax impact of the proposed budget?

Tax impact varies among constituent districts, but overall the tax levy supporting the budget will be decreasing by \$787,925. The chart labeled "Tax Levy Comparison" shows the tax impact in each constituent district. Some municipalities (Long Beach Township, Ship Bottom, Surf City, and Stafford Township) have had municipal property reassessments in the last year. This reassessment has resulted in tax rates that are significantly lower than the previous year.

PERCENTAGE SHARE BY TOWN

MUNICIPALITY	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06
Beach Haven	10.90%	10.94%	9.60%	9.37%	10.26%
Barnegat Light	4.45%	5.90%	6.78%	6.82%	6.17%
Harvey Cedars	6.72%	6.96%	8.11%	7.31%	6.58%
Long Beach Twp	40.36%	39.54%	41.55%	40.51%	41.54%
Ship Bottom	7.16%	7.35%	6.24%	7.18%	6.94%
Surf City	8.39%	8.57%	8.01%	8.42%	8.93%
Stafford Twp	22.01%	20.75%	19.71%	20.38%	19.58%

How is the rate and municipal share of each constituent district determined?

This is the result of a rather complicated state formula which annually allocates shares of the regional district for tax purposes. It should be noted that the STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION and NOT the Southern Regional School District calculates the regional apportionment formula. The regional apportionment formula takes two factors into consideration: equalized real estate and the total elementary and high school enrollment in each community. Because of the nature of the district, small changes may cause dramatic shifts in the tax burden. The above chart labeled "Percentage Share by Town" shows how municipal share has fluctuated over the past five budget years.

What is Southern?



Throughout its history, Southern Regional has represented all that is positive about the community. During that time, Southern has experienced success as well as adversity, but through it all Southern has prevailed and evolved into one of the finest educational systems in the state. Their slogan “Committed to Excellence” represents the community’s desire to provide the best education possible for the children while at the same time being ever mindful of their responsibility to the larger community they represent. Today’s society lives in an information age, and this fact has redefined what students must know and how the district does its job. Unlike forty years ago, when education consisted of teachers giving information to students to memorize, today’s students need to learn to analyze and interpret information, make presentations, and work cooperatively. Southern’s future course is simple and yet at the same time most difficult to navigate. The world has changed and continues to rapidly do so. What is Southern? Southern is an institution whose future challenge is to keep pace with these changes and to prepare its students, your children, for this new world.

WHERE DO YOU VOTE?

STAFFORD TOWNSHIP

District #1 & #15

Stafford Township Fire Company
133 Stafford Avenue

District #2

St. Mary’s Parish Center
179 South Main Street

District #3 & #4

Stafford Township Community
Center
1199 Mill Creek Road

District #5

Fawn Lakes Community Center
6 Sycamore Road

District #6, #8, #9, & #12

Ocean Acres Community Center
489 Nautilus Drive

STAFFORD TOWNSHIP

District #7, #10, & #11

Ocean Acres Elementary School
Multi-Purpose Room
340 Nautilus Drive

District #13

Jennings Road Recreation Center
385 Jennings Road

District #14

Atlantic Hills Club House
98 Atlantic Hills Boulevard

District #16

Perry’s Lake Club House
4 Princeton Drive

LONG BEACH ISLAND

Long Beach Township Public Safety Building
Brant Beach

Long Beach Island Arts Foundation
120 Long Beach Boulevard, Loveladies

Barnegat Light Fire House
Barnegat Light

Harvey Cedars Fire House
Harvey Cedars

Ship Bottom Borough Hall
Ship Bottom

Surf City Fire House
Surf City

Beach Haven Town Hall
300 Engleside Avenue, Beach Haven

First United Methodist Church
Beach & New Jersey Avenues
Beach Haven Terrace

Did You Know?

Holiday community service projects

abounded on the SR campus. Various student organizations worked to make the season better for needy Southern students and their families by collecting toys for children, gifts for teens, canned/non-perishable foods, and personal care items for Harbor House. Another noteworthy project was the **Holiday Action** gathering sponsored by SR’s **Amnesty International student group under the direction of Cecile Kelley**. Members sent messages of hope and cheer to prisoners of conscience around the world as well as to local service people.

SRHS **painting and drawing students** displayed their work in a thematic exhibition entitled “**Beach Scenes - Color Schemes**” at **Beach Nutz Surf Shop** on Long Beach Island. It featured oil paintings, acrylic paintings, and pastel drawings depicting beach scenes as well as surfing and ocean life and employed specific color concepts. Art teacher **Joe Begonia** and

student teacher **Glen Bleakley** worked with local business owner **Joe Muzzillo** who sponsored the exhibit.

Senior **Jamie England** organized a **service project** in which the **National Honor Society** collected and decorated **Christmas stockings for soldiers overseas**. They collected 84 stockings, decorated them after school, and put the soldiers’ names on them. They were taken to Fort Dix where they were sent to Company Alpha 1st Battalion (M), 114th Infantry.

Adele Berardi, coordinator of the SRHS **Fourth Annual Atlantic City Mission Food Drive**, presented **10,891 food items** to the Atlantic City Rescue Mission, an organization that depends solely on donations, at the holiday assembly. Sharon Faith’s marketing students helped to promote the food drive through classroom episodes of “The Apprentice”.

Both the **Middle School** and the **High School Student Councils** participated in **Tsunami Relief Effort projects**. At the HS jugs were placed at each of the checkouts in both cafeterias. Their project, under the direction of **advisor Marilyn Dougherty**, resulted in \$1600. The MS, under the direction of **advisor Eileen Beirne**, conducted Operation Flip-Flop. Each homeroom displayed a large flip-flop poster on the inside of the classroom door. For each \$10 a homeroom turned in, they received a small flip-flop cutout that they attached to the larger poster. The \$2400 raised was donated to buy flip-flops for children in need.

Exchange students from Japan spent two weeks at Southern in March. In addition to following the schedule of their host students, they went on a historical tour of Philadelphia and visited the elementary schools for origami



Notes

Nineteen SRHS students were successful in their quest to be selected for the **All-South Jersey Band and Orchestra** in January. This was more than any other school in the region. In addition, **two** students were accepted into the **South Jersey Orchestra** from the String program.

The music department’s winter **band concert** hosted **Steve Melillo** as **composer-in-residence** and featured his music. The March event included individual band selections by the composer and a major six-movement work

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presentations. A welcome dinner and reception celebrated Southern’s tenth anniversary of the sister school **partnership** between **Sosa Senior High School** and Southern Regional High School.

The **World Language Honor Society** **inducted 118 students** in the French, German Japanese, Latin, and Spanish World Language Honor Societies in a **formal candle light ceremony** in April. As part of the ceremony, students presented various speeches, poems, and songs in the different languages. The Select Choir, directed by Carolyn Placa, performed musical selections. Guest speaker Dr. Arnaldo Cordero-Roman from Stockton College addressed the significance of learning another language and the job opportunities available to students who have studied a world language. **Vanda Ferreira** and **Phyllis Milder** were **ceremony coordinators**.



Left to Right:
Superintendent
Dr. James Kerfoot,
Eric Fierro,
Assistant Super-
intendent Craig
Henry, and
Principal Dr.
Christopher
Traficante.

The Scholarship Breakfast held on March 18 was the kickoff for Southern’s annual scholarship fund raising program. Last year \$504,675 was donated by 310 local individuals and groups. As a result of their generosity, 794 scholarships were presented to 297 students who were able to further their education and pursue their dreams. Joining this year’s donors was former recipient Eric Fierro, Class of 1999. He expressed his gratitude to the assembled group, updated them on his current status as a teacher and coach at Southern Regional, and demonstrated how important the scholarship was to his life.

CONGRATULATIONS

RAM WRESTLERS
2005 NEW JERSEY
STATE CHAMPIONS
GROUP IV



FRANK MOLINARO
2005 NEW JERSEY
INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION
125 POUND CLASS



AWARDS

Sophomore **Danielle Tauro** ran the **5th fastest mile (4:54.00)** by a **high school girl in America** at the New Balance Games (Manhattan) this past winter indoor track and

field season. At the Millrose Games (Madison Square Garden) she competed against the top 10 scholastic milers in the country and finished in 5th place. Her time of 4:57.90 in the 1600 meter run at the New Jersey Championship Meet (Princeton) was the fastest winning time for that event since 1985. In addition, she won the NJ Group IV title in the 1600 meter run with a time of 5:06.43 and won the 800 meter run at both the Shore Conference and the Ocean County Championship meets.

The **2004 Ram HS yearbook** placed a **first** in the **American Scholastic Press** national competition. This is **Kathy Carr's** ninth year as **advisor**. Her staff placed a first for six consecutive years, followed by two seconds, and now another first. In addition, the SR yearbook is featured in **2005 Yearbook Yearbook**.

Rachit Vakil won **first place** for **Computer Concepts** at the **Future Business Leaders of America Central Region Competition** in January. This entitled him to compete at the state competition in March. **Mary Ann Cassidy-Hayes** and **Brenda Cook** are the **advisors**.

The **SRHS Academic Decathlon team**, **advised by Eileen Girten**, had the opportunity to compete against other schools in NJ. They took tests in a variety of disciplines, delivered a speech, and underwent an interview. **Juliann Soto** and **Emily Norman** each received an **Honorable Mention** for their **math** and **social science scores**, respectively. The team included Kate Mirohnikova, Emily Norman, Marie-Elaine Limpahan, Jaclyn MacFarlane, Matt Dempsy, Manasa Reddy, and Juliann Soto.

Sixteen students, **under the direction of** German teachers **Vicky Matthew** and **Phyllis Milder**, participated in the **National German Language Examination** offered by the Ameri-

can Association of Teachers of German. The hour-long competitive examination included listening as well as written sections. **Senior Amanda Menier**, a German II student, placed seventh among 101 students taking the Level Two Examination in southern New Jersey. She received a special **AATG Certificate of Merit for her outstanding achievement**.

Sophomore Olivia Tromm won the **Student Voices contest** sponsored by the **Asbury Park Press**. Her **first place** article on the qualities of a good teacher appeared in the paper in January. Students in **Jennifer Pajak's** journalism class participate in this monthly contest.

The **DECA Club** competed in a **Regional Competition** in January with over 800 students from Ocean, Middlesex, Somerset, and Monmouth Counties in more than 30 different business related events. Fourteen SR students **qualified for the State Competition** in March. In addition, **seven students brought home trophies**, placing either **first, second, or third in their respective events**. **Brian Baum**, First Place, Vehicles & Petroleum Marketing; **Roman Feldman**, Second Place, Technical Sales Event; **Devon Cocuzza**, Third Place, Marketing Management Series; **team of Angela Puma and Tisha Hansford**, Second Place, Hospitality Management Decision Making; **team of Michele Garabo and Victoria Blanchard**, Third Place, Travel & Tourism Decision Making. **Sharon Faith** and **Jennifer Hunt** advise the group.

At the **State DECA Competition** in March the following students received awards: **Brian Baum**, a trophy and a medal in the Vehicles and Petroleum event; **Roman Feldman**, a medal in the Technical Sales event; **Nicole Tauro**, a trophy in the Travel & Tourism Management Decision Making event; **Ben Arkush**, a trophy for his high test grade and a trophy for his high role-play in the Apparel and Accessories event.

Barbette Lovas's third period seventh grade advanced math class placed **first in New Jersey** in the **Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl**. The top two places in each grade level earned a trophy and ribbons from the company that sponsors the contest.

Students in **Don Erichson's Junkyard Wars** course won the **Grand Champion trophy** in the human-powered dragster challenge sponsored by OCC. **Junior Ted Johnson** led the Sputniks, the fastest team, to victory with the Komrad Kruiser, a four-wheeled, two-seater they created. Total score included written presentations, technical reports, and performance.

Notes

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combining about 550 musicians performing together. Participants were the SRMS Band 1 and Band 2; SRHS Concert Band, Symphonic Band, and Wind Ensemble; Russell Brackman MS Band and Barnegat HS Band; and the South Jersey Area Wind Ensemble, an adult band in which several SR staff and students regularly perform.

The following students have been selected for **All-State Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble**: **Dave Stockton**, traps percussion; **Anthony Ciccone** (5th in state), clarinet; **Matt Gasiorowski** (2nd in state), trumpet; **Matt Miller**, traps percussion; **Nick DiSalvio**, tenor sax; **Sam Migalski**, oboe; **Dave Elfreth**, tuba. Students from the three regions of New Jersey competed at the state level after being selected for region bands.

Nick DiSalvio was selected for **All-Eastern Band**. He was among All-State musicians from nine states who were chosen to represent their own state in Baltimore, MD, in an All-Star Music Gala. A student's participation is based on four years of attaining seats in All-South Jersey and All-State Band as well as other honors. Southern has had two other students selected for this honor in the past three years: Ray Bohn and Jenna DiSalvio, Nick's sister.

Sophomore **Bill Morey**, a **string bass player**, was selected for membership in the **All-State Orchestra**. Bill placed fourth in his section and will perform with the All-State Orchestra at the NJEA Convention in Atlantic City in November and at the NJPAC in Newark.

Pinewood Derby

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In a letter to Southern, Dr. Jon H. Larson, president of OCC, complimented the students on their excellent job and outstanding effort as well as the quality of construction.



Jolene Nowak uses a router to produce a keyhole slot.

The following Manufacturing for Profit students worked on a collaborative project with several local companies and Cub Scout Pack 61 from

Manahawkin to produce 120 Pinewood Derby plaques: Jason Holmberg, Jolene Nowak, Ryan Eldridge, Jacquelyn Ryan, Carl Winn, and Kaitlyn Haberstroh. Home Depot's home office in Atlanta (GA) provided materials at 50% off. RCS Signs and Banners did the lettering and Handmade Furniture Company spray sealed and lacquered them.

Students of the Month

December

Grade 9 Morgan Logue
 Grade 10 Sabrina Thomas
 Grade 11 Jenna Lombardo
 Grade 12 Jamie England

January

Grade 9 Alicia Strunck
 Grade 10 Devon Cocuzza
 Grade 11 Joe Stoffolino
 Grade 12 Michele Garabo
 Danielle Roots

February

Grade 9 Kristen Parker
 Grade 10 Melissa Berkheiser
 Grade 11 Matthew Chandler
 Grade 12 Ashley Stanton

March

Grade 9 Michael Pagan
 Grade 10 Reyna Leal-Marron
 Grade 11 Nicole Henry
 Grade 12 Robbie Hickman

Southern Regional Community Supports Adult School Grads' Efforts



L to R: John Miller, John Piscal, Virginia DelConte, and Alana Kissel.

Due to donations from community groups, businesses associated with the Adult School enrichment program, and individual community supporters, the Southern Regional Adult School is now able to support the post-secondary education efforts of their graduates by offering assistance for their college and technical school expenses. Pictured are 2004 graduates John Miller, John Piscal, and Alana Kissel, along with Virginia DelConte, Adult School Counselor, after receiving their first checks at a recent meeting of the SR Adult School Advisory Committee. Jan P. Kristbergs, Adult School Principal, who initiated the program two years ago said, "Again, the 'Southern' Community has demonstrated support for all learners as well as the need for providing alternative and second chance educational programs."