# South Plainfield Old Self Well Outh Plainfield Old Self Well Outh Plainfield Outh Plainfield

**VOL.1, NO. 2** 

**SEPTEMBER 18, 1997** 

# Purto by Ronald A. Highum

South Plainfield Loves a Parade

# Labor Day Parade Proves to Be Best Ever

Labor Day stared with heavy rain, but the gods got the message and the sun came out just in time for the kick off. South Plainfield was ready to have a great party, and it did! The South Plainfield parade was a huge success.

The 5K Run and Fun Walk started at Veter-(Continued on page 5)





## BOROUGH NOTES

LAST MONTH the Fire Department responded to 107 calls, the Rescue Squad made 146 calls...The borough is contemplating an ordinance on restricting bow and arrow and bb guns. More on this as the council proceeds... A HEALTH FAIR is planned for Sunday, November 9... CONRAIL has asked the borough to send a bill for the expenses incurred during the train derailment in August.

So far, the bill is over \$8,000...

The parking lot behind the police department will be expended to provide additional

panded to provide additional parking spaces.... SEVERAL RESIDENTS spoke at the meeting...Frank McCorsky asked questions about the budget, Audrey Shutz asked if sidewalks could be put in along Belmont Avenue and had several questions about a new housing development... Tim O'Brian asked

the council to explore the possibility of local landscapers dumping grass at yard waste site. He represented other local landscapers who would be willing to pay a fee... The dates for the open meeting for residents to discuss the budget was set for September22 and 29; and October 13 and 21. All meetings will take place at 6:30 p.m.

For more Borough Notes, see

# South Plainfield Swears In New Police Officers



South Plainfield's newest police officers (from left), Garret Cassio, Joseph Campagna and Mark Delain.

Garret Cassio, Joseph Campagna, and Mark Delair were sworn in as South Plainfield's newest police officers during the September 11 council meeting. All three officers are residents of the borough. The meeting room was filled with many of their friends and family members.

The officers will be entering the Sea Girt Training Center. This is the first time South Plainfield has sent their new recruits to Sea Girt. The training course runs 15 weeks and is said to be a very intensive session. South Plainfield Councilman Vinnie Buttiglieri noted that the town has a history of multiple family members serving concurrently on the police force. There are four sets of brothers: the Merklers, The Rogers the Brembts and the Campagnas. The town also has had father/sons serving: the Piros (recently retired), and now the Campagnas.

Each council member wished the officers good luck and commented that they will be joining one of the best, if not the best, police departments in the state.

# PBA Awards Honors Kevin Genneralli

The Police Benevolence Association (P.B.A.) awarded honorary membership and a Silver Life card to Kevin Genneralli, vice president of Operations at United Steel Deck on Harmich Road in South Plainfield on September 1.

Officer Foran, PBA President, said that "it was fitting that prior to the commencement of the Labor Day festivities, we take the time to honor one of the most generous members of our community". Mr. Genneralli has been a major supporter of Law Enforcement and other charitable organizations in South Plainfield and throughout the state of New Jersey. Mr. Genneralli was responsible for donation of materials to assist in the building of the Emergency Services Communications Center and the roof over the K-9 kennel. The local pistol range was built with materials and engineering assistance from his company. He has donated money to assist in purchas-



Kevin Genneralli(R), receives award from PBA President, Officer Foran ing officers portable radios as well a to the Junior Baseball Club and Girl Scouts.

Officer Foran stated that Genneralli has never hesitated to give assistance when requested and has not expected or asked for anything in return. No other person has received a Silver Life card from the South Plainfield PBA in the last 10 years. To receive the card and honorary membership, Mr. Genneralli had to be nominated by an officer, approved by the South Plainfield PBA, and the State of New Jersey PBA.

#### PUBLISHERS NOTES

As many people will be seeing this paper for the first time, this column will be running, in part, a second time.

The birth of this newspaper has been an inevitable event for us for quite some time. For the past year, South Plainfield has been seeing less reporting on local news events, as well as less local advertising.

The South Plainfield Observer is the result of many residents' hints, suggestions, complaints and even begging: "Where is the news about our town?" We are about to see the beginning of "news from our town."

We believe South Plainfield deserves its own newspaper, with LOCAL news, LOCAL sports, and LOCAL advertising. There are many volunteers who work tirelessly on all kinds of projects and should be recognized for their efforts. There are many business and professional people who want to get their message to you. That's why we need a newspaper and the reason the South Plainfield Observer was born.

We will be publishing every first and third Thursday. Our goal for the future is to publish every week. As this newspaper grows, South Plainfield can only benefit from the information and news that is reported in each issue.

So wish us LUCK! Send us you suggestions and criticisms. We welcome objective news from everyone around our town. Read the ads that will appear in the paper and support the advertisers. Patronize their shops and stores and say you saw their ad in the Observer.

Since the first issue was distributed, the response has been nothing but positive. In fact, so many people have called and sent in copy we could have filled two papers. There is a real need for a local paper! So please be patient if you didn't see your story, we will put you first on the list for the next issue.

Our phone keeps ringing, keep it up! Subscriptions are coming in, keep it up! In fact we have added email, GGNAN@aol.com and we are in the process of getting a web page, www.spobserver.com. Mohn's Flowe located on Plaifnield Ave, has put up a South Plainfield Observer box so you can drop your copy there if you like.

We want to thank you for all your good wishes, and also say thanks to all the people who have helped use in the last

#### 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, and you have the right "not to remain silent" but to let us know what you want to see in it.

#### To get an article published in South Plainfield Observer:

- 1. Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.
- 2. Mail or fax it to: Editorial Department South Plainfield Observer, 520 Union Ave., Suite 3, Middlesex, NJ 08846 Fax (732) 805-0815 or email us at GGNAN@aol.com. Include your name, address, telephone number.

#### To Submit Photographs:

- 1. Make sure the photograph is sharp and bright.
- 2. Any size picture will do.
- 3. Black and white pictures are preferred.
- Type the names of all the photographs, or accurately describe the action in the photograph. Do not write on back of photograph, except with nonreproducing pen or pencil.
- ed priotographs and stories sent to the South Plainfield Observer will be considered the property of the South Plainfield Observer and will not be returned, unless a self-addressed stamped envelope accompanies material.

#### **South Plainfield** osenver

NANCY GRENNIER Publisher

WAYNE GRENNIER

Associate Publisher

SUSAN KANEPS Art Director

The South Plainfield Observer is published every second and fourth Thursday of the month by

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email GGNAN@aol.com Look for our Web Page at www.spoberver.com For subscriptions, advertising or information, call (732) 469-4380.

The publisher is not responsible for typographic errors.

# Public Meetings to be Held on 97-98 Budget

A tentative 1997-1998 budget was presented at the council meeting held on September 11. The tax rate would be 72 cents per \$100 of assessed property value, up three cents from last year. South Plainfield residents' taxes will increase an average of \$33 under the proposed 1997-1998 municipal budget. The municipal levy for this year is \$9.3 million vs. \$8.9 million last year.

#### Paint Recycling Planned

A paint recycling program is in the final stages of planning. When plans are finalized, paint recycling will take place the third Saturday of the

Councilman President John Pulomena stated that the new budget will hold operating expenses flat as it has for the past five years; reduce the debt by \$4 million; and have no increase in sewer utility. He said the town is now on a pay as you go basis.

Budget workshops to discuss the budget have been set up for September 22 and 29 and October 13 and 21 at 6:30 p.m. at Borough Hall. All residents are invited to attend hearings. The tax rate could be changed after the hearings.

The final budget should be ready in about a month. The total budget for the borough is \$17.5 million.

#### Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I just wanted to be among the first to officially thank you for taking such a positive step in providing "a local paper dedicated exclusively to South Plainfield."

As our staff entered the office this morning and found a stack of The Observer's premier edition sitting on the counter we didn't know what to think ... until we opened them up and started reading all of the relevant information that you were making available to our residents.

I especially appreciate the ex-

#### Cigarette Ordinance

At the Sept. 8 council agenda meeting, the council discussed a proposed ordinance that would move cigarettes at the checkout counters from view, similar to the provision regarding the display of X-rated magazines.

Mayor Gallagher said that the council previously requested local businesses to voluntarily move the cigarettes from sight at the check out counter, so children in town would not see them. Most businesses have complied, but not all. An ordinance would make all businesses conform.



tra attention you paid to our recreational activities for our residents. Despite continuously sending these activities to other papers, the information rarely was published, and on the few occasions it was published, the information was often so severely edited that little "information" remained.

You not only took the time to publish our information in full, but also added wonderful graphics to draw people's attention to the articles! Now that is what I call community service!

I also appreciated the information on the adult school trips and the senior citizen's activities, not to mention the Borough calendar.

I wish you tremendous success, and will be taking a personal subscription to show my support.

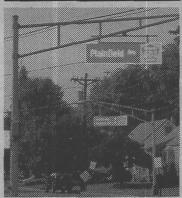
> Sincerely, Jaye Grev Joyce

#### Car Wash at John Riley

A car wash will be held Saturday, September 20 from 9:00-12:30 p.m. at Riley School. The cost will be \$6.00. The proceeds to benefit fifth grade Stokes

The rain date is Saturday, September 27. For additional information contact Dawn Jeffreys at 755-3986.

The next issue of The South Plainfield Observer is Oct. 2. The deadline for copy is Sept. 25.



Overhead street signs have been placed at major intersections in South Plainfield. These signs are a welcome sight and were put up at installed at no cost to the residents.

#### Senior Citizens Meet With Mayor

The Senior Citizens recently met with the Mayor and Council and received news they have been waiting to hear. The town will look for a 10,000 square foot location that will serve as the senior center.

The Mayor said he would support development if the cost is less than \$1 million. If the cost runs higher, the plan would be put before the voters on Democracy Day held in March. This is the day voters decide on capital projects.

The present center used by the seniors only accommodates 35 people and has very few parking places. Joe Zekas, senior citizens group spokesperson, said that the borough does not provide adequate upkeep to the senior center. The Mayor promised to have it cleaned every day.

The voters have turned down plans for senior-citizen facilities twice in recent years.

A meeting to discuss further plans is scheduled for Oct. 20 at 6:30 p.m. at Borough Hall.

#### Mushroom Mania Walk

The South Plainfield Environmental Commission invites you to join them in a Mushroom Mania Walk, Saturday, September 27 at 10:00 a.m. at the Highland Avenue Woods, Sylvania Place off Clinton Ave.

Join New Jersey Mycological Society expert Dorothy Smullen on a fungus forage. The variety and colors are sure to amaze you. For more information call 226-

# **Consider It** An Invitation.

Subscribe to the hometown newspaper devoted exclusively to South Plainfield news and events.

To Subscribe to The South Plainfield Observer send your check or money order of \$13.00 for 26 issues to: The South Plainfield Observer, c/o G & G Graphics, 530 Union Ave. Suite 3, Middlesex, NJ 08846, or for more information call 469-4380.

NAME		
ADDRESS		
ADDREGO		

PHONE NUMBER

# Services Plus, Front Street

Faith and Tom Gaul, owners of Services Plus, have been residents of South Plainfield for 31 years. Faith is a retired South Plainfield teacher. Tom was in international sales for 25 years. They opened Services Plus in 1993 at 22 South Plainfield Ave. and moved one store over to 24 South Planfield Ave. in 1995 to acquire more space.

Faith and Tom's goal is to pro-

Merchant in the

Spotlight

vide unique items at affordable prices, a friendly store for "one stop shopping and shipping." The store has a large selec-

tion of mylar balloons for every and advice on custom balloon aroccasion and accepts telephone orders. They also deliver in South Plainfield.

This charming, intimate store features warm, personal service. It is a small store with a breadth of products and services, including photocopying, public fax and Notary, gift items, suncatchers, windchimes, plaques, specialty gift items, collectibles, quality greeting cards, seasonal items and much more.

Services Plus has the largest decorative flag selection in the



area. They will gladly special order flags to commemorate your ancestral country or other countries. Mini flags are available in a large selection for apart-

> ment dwellers along with appropriate hardware for mini and regular size flags.

Services Plus offers service

rangements to add warmth and your personal touch to parties, fashion shows, testimonials, weddings, etc. They can make tabletop or floor bouquets, trees and arches (as long as fifty feet) in your choice of color and style. They can order custom printed balloons for your school or organization in their colors, with your logo for that outstanding personal touch.

Important documents are assured of their long lasting durability with the professional laminating services available at Services Plus. They can laminate up to 12" x 18".

Packaging materials available include large or small "bubble", "peanuts", gift boxes, mailing envelopes and marking pens. They have assorted two-part, color raffle tickets for a "50-50" drawing or raffle.

Services Plus can provide a unique, personal mailbox service. Just call in to check! Anyone can have private items shipped to the store when they can't be home for a delivery.

"We feel that we are friends with our customers and try to treat them as we would like to be treated," said Faith.

There is a large parking lot and a rear entrance for safety and ease of entry. MasterCard and Visa are accepted. We invite you to visit the store to appreciate all its offerings! They are in located downtown at 24 South Plainfield Ave. The telephone number is 755-5060 and fax is 908-755From the South Plainfield Library

By Kenneth Morgan

umn from the South Plain- Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. at the field Library to appear in the Rescue Squad for children South Plainfield Observer.

brary is located at 2484 Plain- Squad for children age 18 field Ave., between the bor- months-3 years. No registraough Hall and the Rescue tion is necessary for these Squad. Presently, we're near- programs. ing the close of a long and 12:00 noon-5 p.m. Sundays. very soon. We'll let you know when that happens.

The library offers a wide variety of materials for use inbuilding or check-out. These include books (hardcover and paperback), albums (we still have a few), compact discs, computer discs, audio cassettes (both spoken word and music), videos (for a fee of \$1 per tape), and periodicals. In the future, we'll also be offering access to the internet 754-7885. through our new computer system.

storytime programs for chil- a lot tougher to max out). dren, conducted by our Ellsworth. At present, they you next issue.

take place on Mondays at Welcome to the first col- 6:30 p.m. at the library and age 3-6, and Thursdays at The South Plainfield Li- 11:00 a.m. at the Rescue

And how, you may ask, can arduous renovation project. you take advantage of your As a result operating hours services? (A brief pause while are 3-9 p.m. weekdays and you ask). Well, a good way to start is to get a South The library is closed on Sat- Plainfield Library Card. Resiurdays. We expect to be re- dents of South Plainfield, or turning to our normal hours those who work in the Borough, can get a card free of charge. All that's needed is valid proof of residency, such as a driver's license or postmarked envelope). Also, the South Plainfield library card is accepted at most other libraries throughout the area. So why not stop in and pick one up during library card sign-up month (that's September, folks). For more information, call us at (908)

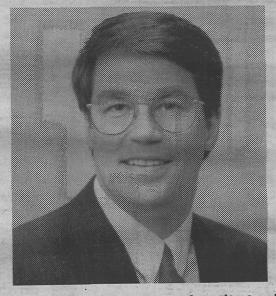
Library cards, though not platinum or gold, they are The library also offers just as valuable. (And they're

Thanks for reading today's Children's Librarian Judy column. We'll have more for

# South Plainfield's Citizens Want People on The Borough Council Who Listen to Them... Vinnie Buttiglieri & Ray Petronko hear you





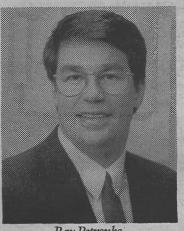




In 1994, when Vinnie Buttiglieri first ran for council, the Democrats instituted the first Democracy Day in the nation — thereby guaranteeing that you could never again be ignored by politicians after you put them in office. Today South Plainfield's Democracy Day is widely praised and imitated by other towns. Incredibly the local Republicans still oppose it!

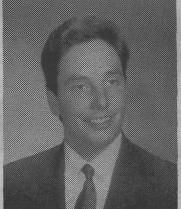
Don't let the Republicans take your voice away.

You Have a Right to Be Heard!





Vinnie Buttiglieri



Frank Hanley.



Daniel Kenny

# Buttiglieri/Petronko

the upcoming Council campaign.

ough operating expenses are lower today and Metuchen are considering a Democthan in 1994, 32 roads have been repaved racy Day just like South Plainfield." laughed at and ignored our residents. It just goes to show what can be accomplished when the Mayor and Council work together and listen to the people."

mate. "I'm honored to run on the Democratic ticket with Vinnie Buttiglieri. South of our great town. We intend to listen to Plainfield is a model of open government what you have to say so that we can be and to a large extent Vinnie Buttiglieri is informed and responsive councilpeople."

emocratic Council Candidates the architect of that plan. When he ran Vinnie Buttiglieri and Ray Petron- for Council in 1994, he was a strong supko have set forth their goals for porter of the Taxpayer's Advisory Group and the Business Person's Advisory Group "We look forward to a positive, issue and he promised an annual referendum oriented campaign," Councilman Butti- to empower the taxpayers to decide how glieri said. "I'm proud of what the new their money is spent. As a result, South Democratic majority has accomplished Plainfield is the only town to guaranteed over the last four years and Ray Petronko citizen input on Democracy Day held and I intend to run on that record. Bor- every March. Other towns, like Dunellen

on a 'Pay as You Go Basis' and not one Councilman Buttiglieri continued, "I penny has been borrowed for day to day really don't understand why the Republiexpenses. It seems like a million years ago cans oppose Democracy Day. I look forwhen the Republican Mayor and Council ward to an open discussion of this and other issues in the upcoming weeks before election Day."

Petronko concluded, "Vinnie Buttiglieri and I intend to knock on every door be-Ray Petronko agreed with his running tween now and Election Day. We really want to hear the concerns of the residents

# Hanley/Kenny

son, Republican Council Candidents throughout the summer as they walked the neighborhoods door to door. Brian and Nicolette.

"The response has been fantastic," said Kenny, a lifelong resident of the borough. "There are many issues facing the borficial is to face them head on."

listening to the people. Their signs say "We Hear You but they're not listening."

Both Hanley and Kenny said that if elected they will not only address the probterm plans with regard to those problems. reached at 753-7404. Frank Hanley is a vice president with

Ithough Labor Day is usually the Goldman, Sachs & Co. in New York. He kick-off for the fall campaign sea- is a recreation soccer and Junior Baseball coach. A parishioner of Sacred Heart ates Frank Hanley and Daniel Kenny got Church, he resides at 3298 Evergreen a jump start meeting with borough resi- Lane with his wife, the former Donna Capparelli, and children Heather, Michael,

Daniel Kenny, a life long resident of the borough, is a division manager for Fabricators Supply Company in Fairfield. ough and the obligation of an elected of- He is a Junior Baseball and football director and coach and a Ponytail Softball The complaint most often heard from coach. A parishioner at Sacred Heart the residents according to Hanley is that Church, he resides at 550 Melrose Av-"the present Mayor and Council are not enue with his wife the former Karen Sonowith and children Shawn, Janelle and

Both candidates welcome residents and borough employees with any questions lems that have been discussed with the or concerns to contact them at their residents and borough employees, but also home. Frank Hanley can be reached at develop and implement short and long 668-1334 and Daniel Kenny can be

# Twenty Years Later and Still Growing in South Plainfield

Studio-The Performing Arts Centre, begins its twentieth year in business in South Plainfield. Director and Owner, Jo-Ann Faulkner, predicts this will be her best year ever, keeping alive a string of twenty consecutive years of growth.

This record of growth required the studio to move sevlocation is a 4800 sq. foot facility within the present building.

Jo-Ann Faulkner started her dancing school business in 1977 with sixty students all from South Plainfield, at the beginner level.

Jo-Ann Faulkner grew up in South Plainfield and attended Sacred Heart School and South

This September Jo-Ann's Dance in South Plainfield. The current started the business with the goal of providing quality traditional dance instruction programs customized to the needs and abilities of individual students. This approach ensures that all students, regardless of their talents, abilities or interests, receive the best instruction for their individual and unique needs and in-

The staff has also created customized dance training for some very special students who were hearing impaired and physically challenged. This allowed these students to experience an art they would not normally have had the opportunity to enjoy. Jo-Ann has also created and taught specialized dance training for athletes seeking cross-training, patients in rehabilitation, theater majors, pageant participants and gym-

Two programs have grown into major operations. First, for the more serious students, the studio is home of Le Centre Dance Ensemble, Founded in 1986, it is one of the oldest student dance companies in New Jersey. The company performs in shows and competitions, sponsors workshops and participates in master classes with guest artists, In addition, the studio is the official dance training center for the competitive gymnasts from Feigley's School of Gymnastics.

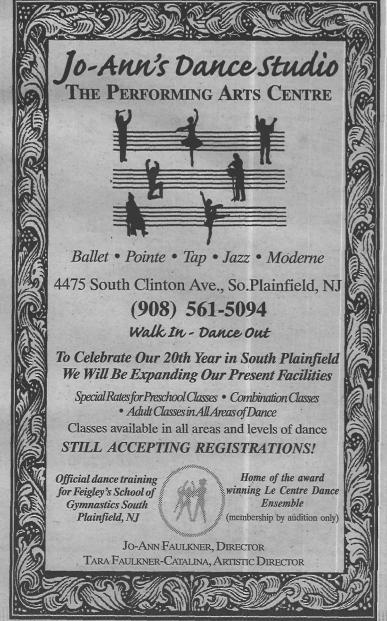
Five hundred students come from all over central New Jersey to study ballet, pointer jazz, tap, modern, pre-school and combination classes.

Ms. Faulkner is assisted by her daughter, Tara Faulkner-Catalina,

both the studio and its resident dance company. Tara literally grew up in the business and was seven years old when the business started. She trained at Jo-Ann's studio, Princeton Ballet School and in New York at Mar-

who is the Artistic Director for tha Graham School of Contemporary Dance. Ms. Faulkner's other assistant is Jill Cookingham, who is the Director of the Dance for Gymnastics program. In addition to the three Directors, the studio has four other professional dance instructors.





# Lions Club Celebrates 50th Anniversary



Pictured left to right are: Mark Hollain, Dieter Hollain, Tom Cornell, Dr. Patrick Aiello, and Brian Capparelli.

The Lions will be celebrating their 50th anniversary on October 24 at the Holiday Inn in South Plainfield.

The Lions Club was chartered in 1947. Lions have been serving the South Plainfield community in such ways as health fairs, gourmet breakfasts, labor day festivities, scholarships as well as sponsoring eye and ear exams a safe and healthy learning at-

and glasses for underprivileged children. Recently, the Lions finished building a Pavilion in Veterans Memorial Park.

For more information about the dinner or other Lion Functions please contact us at Lions Club of South Plainfield, PO Box 22, So.Plainfield NJ 07080 or call Dr. Patrick Aiello at 755-



Members of R.A.C.E.S prepare for the Annual Labor Day Parade.

#### Conducted at High School Drug Sweep

mosphere." The district re-

On September 12, police and school officials conducted a sweep of the High School in order to ascertain if drugs or other dangerous substances were present.

Superintendent of Schools Guy Ferri described the action as "a continuing effort to be certain the High School maintains quested the assistance of the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office last spring to make tentative arrangements. According to the Superintendent, he and the High School Principal are determined to help students who were drug use victims, and to take a hard line with anyone involved in drug sale or distribution. This is the second such sweep at the

high school in two years. Last

year a sweep of the Middle

School was also done. by representatives of the Middlesex County Sheriff's office and the So.Plainfield P.D. Teams of police and specially trained dogs swept the school's parking areas and student lockers soon after the start of the school day. Students remained in their classrooms and

classes were extended while the

search was conducted.

No drugs were found within the school. However, three students arriving late as they entered the parking area were detained by police who found traces of marijuana and paraphernalia in the vehicle that was owned by one of the students. The owner was taken to police headquarters for further investigation. The two passengers were dealt with administratively after their parents' were contacted. Although there were no drugs found, it served Pros.'s Officers were assisted •to strengthen the district's resolve to use all measures to combat student drug use. The fact that there were no large quantities of drugs uncovered was seen as heartening by the district leadership. Furthermore, the continued use of task force resources is seen as an assist in deterring drug possession in the schools.

# Chinese Auction Sponsored by Knights of Columbus

More than 500 auction and door prizes will be given away when the Knights of Columbus and Columbiettes hold their Fall/ Chinese Auction Fri., Sept. 19 at Sacred Heart School off South Plainfield Avenue. Doors will open at 6 p.m. and the first numbers will be drawn at 7:30 p.m.

Among the many varied prizes are a weekend for two in the Poconos, a weekend getaway at Embassy Suites, Sunday brunch for two at the Sheraton, a \$250 tooth bleaching from a local dentist, a microwave oven, bread maker and many other assorted prizes for home and personal use.

Those looking for a night out will be able to try to win a pair of tickets to several professional and community theaters in the area, as well as a selected performance by the New Jersey Sym-

For the sports enthusiast, tickets are available for the NJ Devils and NJ Nets, as well as Rutgers University football tickets and Seton Hall University men and women's basketball games. There are also autographed pictures and programs supplied by The NY Giants, Jets and Devils. A bicycle will also be raffled, as well as two baskets filled with baseball merchandise, from the sports table.

The specialty tables will include gifts valued at over \$25, holiday items, handmade crafts and baskets. The evening will culminate with a 50/50 drawing.

Admission is \$5 and space is limited so advance purchase is recommended. For tickets and information, call Mary Ann at (908) 226-1222.

Thursday

curbside

Friday collection

# Labor Day Parade—A Huge Success

(Continued from page one)

ans Park. The weather was hot and humid but this did not deter the runners or walkers. Bill Beegle, race coordinator and Ricochet Racquet Club, who sponsored the race, did a great job organizing the event.

Approximately 10,000 people lined the parade route. The South Plainfield marching band lead the parade with Michael English, Grand Marshall, and his wife, Rita, leading the rest of the parade. Politicians from all over the state were here, including Governor Christie Whitman and Democratic candidate, James McGreevy, joining the rest of the marchers.

The parade ended at Veterans Park, where there was enough food and drink to hold a picnic for the entire town.

The day was a huge success. Everyone involved in the plan-



Marion Gallagher (left) and Darlene Pinto (right).

ning of the celebration deserves all of our thanks. Members of the committee were Kathleen Vokral, Wendy Evigan, Ray Petronko, Darlene Pinto, Vinny Buttiglieri, Jim Vokral, Addie Levine, Debbie McCarthy, Marion Gallagher, Pat Vargo, and Bette Shiavi. If you see any of these people, make sure you tell them what a great job they

#### **Parade Trophies Winners**

The following trophies were awarded at the Labor Day Parade: Honorary Grand Marshall: So. Plainfield Historical Society/Business Association: Judges' Trophy: So. Plainfield Fire Depart.; George W. L. Page Trophy: So. Plainfield Lion's Club. Best Musical Group: So. Plainfield High School Marching Band; Best Adult

Musical Group: Funny Factory Clown Band; Best Appearing Marching Group: Westfield Fife and Drum; Best Musical Group: So. Plainfield Rescue Squad; Best Non-Instrumental Performing Group: So. Plainfield Majestic Steppers; Best Youth Group: Shark Swim Team. Most Outstanding Float: So. Plainfield Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts; Best Youth Group Float: So. Plainfield Girl Scouts; Best Civic Float: So. Plainfield Polish Home Most Patriotic Float: International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 675.

Most Outstanding Visiting Entry: Mini Cars from Salaam Temple, Livingston; Best Antique Vehicle: 1931 Model "A" Ford Wood Station Wagon; Marie D. Page Musical Performance Award: Pipe and Drum of the Atlantic Watch.

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Consignment Boutique where you'll never know what great fashions you'll find. Women's Clothing - All ages/Many styles Children's Clothing - Casual to Dressy

#### TWICE IS NICE

175 Front Street South Plainfield



561-6151

Monday-Friday 10-5 Saturday 10-4

For Working Women & Children Wear

Kim Anderson Gift Line — Crafts on Consignment

#### NOTICE:

#### SOUTH PLAINFIELD RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES MANDATORY RECYCLING PROGRAM

glass bottles and jars • mixed paper (high-grade, Junk mall, magazines)

 aluminum cans • tin cans (steel & bimetal) • corrugated cardboard #1 and #2 plastic bottles • newspaper • textiles • used motor oil

Residents may place all of the above except motor oil at the curb for collection every other week by the Middlesex County Improvement Authority.

New: used paint drop-off at Recycling Center on the 3rd Saturday of each month 8 AM-2 PM

#### MCIA Information (800) 488-6242

#### 1997 October-December Curbside Collection

Friday Thursday 10/10, 10/24 10/9, 10/23 11/7, 11/21 11/6, 11/20 12/4, 12/18 12/5, 12/19

#### Service questions: (800) 378-8220

The Borough's Recycling Center on Kenneth Avenue is open to residents and businesses for all Recyclables (motor oil can be accepted only from residents): Summer: Tues., Fri. 1-8 PM, Sat.. 8 AM-3 PM

Biogramming the transfer of the contract of th

Winter: Tues. Noon-7 PM, Fri. & Sat. 8 AM-3 PM

Residents only may bring leaves & brush to the Yard Waste Site at the end of Kenneth Avenue. Leaves only are collected curbside by the Road Department in the fall. (Grass clippings are also accepted from residents at the drop-off; not a mandatory recyclable. We suggest Cut-It-And-Leave-It. instead of bagging). Yard Waste Site

Summer: Tues., Wed., Fri. 1-8 PM, Sat. 8 AM-3 PM. Fall: Tues. Noon-7 PM, Fri., Sat. 8 AM-3 PM Winter: Sat 8 AM-3 PM Spring: Tues., noon-7 PM, Fri. and Sat. 8 AM-3 PM.

**Drop-off Center and Yard Waste Site Holiday Closings:** Tuesday 10/14, 11/11, Friday 11/28 Open; Wednesday 10/15, 11/12 Call the Recycling Hotline at 226-7620 for more information.

# INTERACTIVE COMPUTER CORNER

"If we can do it, you can too," says Briggs Longbothum. "You don't have to know how to build it, fix it, or program it just to get real benefit or work out of your computer. That's the geek stuff! This column will be for beginners or novices, and for those who are so bold enough to sit in front of their kid's machines after they've gone to bed and turn them on."

In any case, this column is our own interactive computer corner. It's for you and from us. You pick the subjects, ask the questions, and tell us what you'd like to do and we'll help you get it done. Both Eric and I are also new to the computer field, and like you, decided to learn more about it. We do not know it all, and we all expect to learn something from you too. So let's have fun in this column and see what we can do.

Yes, this will be interactive, so we do need to hear from you! You may write to us through the *Observer's* mail address, fax us c/o the *Observer*; or e-mail directly to me (Bruggo@earthlink.net). Eric and I will do our best to answer your questions. Remember, this is for beginners and no question is too small!

The goal of this column so far, is to provide some basic help in buying a computer, getting it set up properly and working, and to introduce you to the Internet and the world wide web. In the near future, we hope to actually meet you on the net in our own South Plainfield Observer's chat-room. Together, we'll build our own web pages and create our own place to meet and converse over the internet. And like you've already heard, we can even build an interactive audio-video site so you can see who you're talking to. This is only one person's idea for a project. If you have another idea for an ongoing, build-along type project, let us know!

There are, of course, some basic parts we're to need to have. If you've got a computer already,

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South Plainfield, NJ 07080

a 486 or Pentium/586 or better, 16Mb RAM, CD-ROM drive, Sound card with microphone & speakers, fax-data modem of 14.4 or faster, Windows 3.1 or Windows 95 ... you're pretty well set. For everybody else, you're going to need to consider a shopping trip. Computers and certainly their various parts are just not costly anymore! And brand new, top of the line, cutting edge stuff simply is not necessary.

The fun part is finding the great deals that are everywhere. Most computer and parts prices are quite surprisingly low with quality that is excellent. Also, you'll each need an internet service provider for connecting to the net. We can help you with that. Your internet connection will run about \$19.00 a month for unlimited access. We can suggest service providers. AOL is fine, and so is MSN, but by no means are they the only games in town. There are endless providers to choose from.

Next issue, we'll take a closer look at exactly what to look for when buying a computer today. Your questions will be answered, and we'll see if anyone wants to follow an on-going project to meet up on the internet!

TIP line: Windows95 users, don't forget to run "scandisk" regularly. Daily at startup is good policy! Also, how about running "defrag?" You're doing that at least once a month, right? Good hard disk housekeeping is essential and it does pay off. Always maintain at least 10% of your hard disk drive space free for the computer to use for working with the hard disk. See you next issue. -Briggs & Eric

(Briggs Longbothum and Eric Tillman live in South Plainfield. They are new to the computer field and are recent graduates of the computer technology program offered through the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) at Somerset County Technological Institute (SCTI). For each, this was a mid life career change, and neither had prior computer knowledge or training.)

RICHARD W. McCRISKIN, Pres., Mgr.

William C. McCriskin, V. Pres., Dir.

James A. Gustafson, Dir.

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#### Anna Massessa Pulicaro

Anna Massessa Pulicaro, 86, of South Plainfield died on Monday, Sept. 8, at the John F. Kennedy Medical Center in Edison.

She was born in Newark and was a former resident of Guttenburg before moving to South Plainfield two years ago.

Mrs. Pulicaro was a production worker for the former Chase Chemical Company in Newark for 20 years.

She was predeceased by her husband, Joseph, who died in 1979; her son Frank A., who died in 1984; and a daughter Rae Metjian, who died in 1992.

She is survived by four grandsons Joe Pulicaro of South Plainfield, Charles Metjian Jr. of Boston, Mass., Steven and Richard Metjian, both of Jersey City; and two granddaughters, Patricia Pulicaro of Parlin and Linda Puha of South Plainfield; and four great-grandchildren.

 Funeral srvices were under the direction of Conroy Funeral Home.

# Henry "Harry" G. Cooper

Henry "Harry" Cooper, 76, died on Sept. 13, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Plainfield Mr. Cooper had resided in North Plainfield and the Plainfield Area for most of his life.

He was the owner and operator of Harry Cooper Office Equipment in Plainfield for 20 years before his retirement four years ago. Previously he was the

# The Elks Tale

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Elks Lodge #2298 will be hold a fashion show, Sunday, Sept. 29, from noon to 4 p.m. at the Holiday Inwill n on Stelton Road. This show benefit the activities and donations of the Ladies Auxiliary Elks Lodge.

The cost is \$25.00 per person. The price includes: luncheon, door prizes, gift baskets, raffles, and a special raffle for a 27 inch color television.

Fashions will be presented by Dress Barn and Dress Barn Plus. For information and tickets, call 752-2973 or 561-1663.

#### CLASSIFIEDS

Classifeds: 3 line minimun at \$15.00 and \$30.00 per additional line. All classifieds must be prepaid. To place a classified send your check to the Observer, c/o G & G Graphics, 530 Union Ave., Ste. 3, Middlesex, NJ 08846.

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He was a veteran of World War II where he served in the United States Navy.

Mr. Cooper was an avid golfer. He was a member of the Plainfield Country Club's West Nine Golf Course where he was their Club Champion in 1948. He was also very successful in many of the Pro Amateur Golf Tournaments throughout New Jersey.

Surviving are his wife, Loretta (Bottone) Cooper; his two daughters, Sandra Doyon of South Plainfield and Jacquelyn Bianchi of Woodbridge; his step-daughter, Pamela Steves of Piscataway and his step-son, Frank Balaney of Dunellen; his sister, Irene Lopush of Somerville; and his three brothers, Richard Cooper of Florida, William Cooper of Toms River, and Charles Cooper of New York City.

Funeral services were under the direction McCriskin Home for Funerals.

#### Mary Gallent Wojcik

Mary Gallent Wojcik, 77, of South Plainfield died on Monday Sept. 1, at the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

She was born in Mocanaqua PA, and was a former resident of Newark before moving to South Plainfield 47 years ago.

Mrs. Wojcik was a communicant of Our Lady Czestochowa Church in South Plainfield.

She is survived by her husband Joseph S. Wojcik; two daughters Yvonne Sacci of South Plainflield and Debra A. Wojcik of Westfield; and one grandaughter.

Memorial donations maybe made to Feed the Children, P.O.

Box 30, Oklahoma City, OK 7331-0036.

Funeral services were under the direction of Conroy Funeral Home.

#### Bruce R. Emrich

Bruce R. Emrich, 35, died on Tuesday, Sept. 2, at the Shore Memorial Hospital in Somers Point, following a long illness.

He was born in Plainfield and grew up in South Plainfield. He had resided in Ocean City before moving to Hammonton 3

Mr. Emrich was a 1981 graduate of South Plainfield High School and he received his B.S. degree in Special Education in 1985 from Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, where he was awarded the Outstanding Practium Award, the Outstanding Practium Teacher Award and the Catherine Schaffer award for teaching.

For the past four years.Mr Emrich worked for Bally's Park Place in Atlantic City as a Casino Service Host. Prior to Bally's, Mr. Emrich worked for several years in the retail management of Sterns Department Stores. He was assigned to many of the company's locations including South Plainfield, Jersey City, Philadelphia, Paramus and Woodbridge. He had also attended Parson's School of Design in New York City for floral design and had worked for many New Jersey florists.

His grandmother Elsie Emrich of Union died this past July.

Surviving are his parents, Robert and Ruth of South Plainfield; his sister Donna; and a nephew, Michael Sopko, of South Plainfield.

Funeral services were under the direction of McCriskin Home for Funerals.



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# Pop Warner Eagles Results

Sept. 14 — Maplewood Flag Football

The Flag Eagles continued their good times with a single game against the young Flag Packers. Turning in a fine performance were Chris Ascencio, Mat Brazze, Ace Schoenly and Ryan Sacco.

#### **Mighty Mites**

The Eagles struck first with a score by Jeff Osley up the middle after a fumble recovery by Bill Daly. The Eagles held on to a 6-6 tie with the Packers when it was all over. Nick Dorey, Terrence Brown, Chris Pollin, Jimmy Conroy, and Joe Turrise had outstanding performances for the Eagles.

#### Junior Pee Wee

The contest went back and forth with the Eagles coming up short 18-12. After a fumble recovery by Dwayne Lamont, the line lead by Anthony Petriello, opened up a hole for Ryan Kenny to burst up the middle for a touchdown. Late in the second quarter Kenny recovered a fumble which setup a touchdown run by Tom Deschaine. Holding up their end of the defense were Mike Downes, Nick Jeffreys, Doug Dietzold and Kyle

#### **Junior Midgets**

After Nick Ronzo hit Jimmy Nguyen with a 30 yard pass to bring the ball to the 1 yard line, Jonathan Buggey opened a hole up the middle for David Gerena to put the Eagles ahead. Sean Girevious added the extra point. Gerena intercepted a Packer pass, in the middle of the 2nd period. Sean Girevious took a hand off from Ronzo and ran around left end for 70 yard touchdown. With 5 minutes left in the 3 quarter Steven Porcelli intercepted a pass to stall a Packer drive. Jimmy Hearne had an interception with 3:00 minutes left in the game to ice the Eagles 13-6 victory.

There was no Midget game this weekend. The Eagles are away the next two weekends starting with a contest at Somerset Hills.

Sept. 7 — Watchung Hills Flag Football

The Flag Eagles had a great time with their first experience with football. There are no scores that are kept at this level.

#### Mighty Mites

The Eagles opened the season with a 7-0 loss to the Warriors. Bill Daly had a fumble recovery for the Eagles while Mike Jakubik, Erick Paley, Sam Martin and Mat Pineno turned in fine performances for the offense.

#### Junior Pee Wee

The Eagles won with a 13-7 come from behind victory. Early in the game Fernando Sandoval had a fumble, which turned into a run around right end by Billy Weaver for the first score of the game. Late in the second quarter Nick Grego had a fumble recovery stopping a drive by the Warriors. With time running out Steve Turrise intercepted a pass at the Eagles ten yard line stopping another drive. Two plays later, Turrise ran around right end, with a block by Kevin Crilley, for a 90 yard touchdown. Billy Weaver ran off tackle to add the extra point. Also turning in fine performances were Chris Bojarski, Sammy Ghanem and Tom Deschaine.

#### **Junior Midgets**

The third game of the day saw another victory for the Eagles. Sean Girevious ran off guard on the first play of the game and ran for a 50 yard touchdown. Blocks by Joe DeBaise and Calvin Lamont sprung Girevious. With 1:00 remaining in the first half, Sean Girevious ran for a 10 yard touchdown after blocks by Mike Salerno and Eric Price. Dave Gerena added the extra point with a run up the middle. On the other end of the family spectrum, Chris Girevious ran for a touchdown in the 3rd period, to ice the victory for the Eagles. The final score was 20-0.

#### Midgets

The last game saw the elder Eagles on the losing end of a 26-6 loss. The Eagles struck first after Joey Sorrentino recovered a fumble. Eric Ford ran around left end for the lone Eagles score. Lineman Frank Wrublevski had an interception after a tipped ball.



High School senior Amanda Bremer



The South Plainfield High School tennis team

# Varsity Tennis Team Ready to Compete

By Maureen Flannery, Coach

The 1997 Girls' Varsity Tennis Team is looking forward to a very successful season. Finishing the 1996 season with a record of 11-9, the six returning letterwinners have the experience and skill to lead the Tigers to many victories.

Returning for the Tigers at first singles is the lone senior on the squad, pictured above, Amanda Bremer. Amanda compiled 13 wins against 11 losses last year and was voted All Division by the coaches of the GMC White Division. She also qualified for and participated in the NJSIAA State Singles Championships. Junior Jill Catarino will play in the second singles position. Jill's 1996 record of 10-11 consisted of seven three set matches and this experience will help her finish her matches sooner with victories instead of hard fought losses. Sophomore Alison Barrett has earned the third singles spot. Alison played

#### Fall Baseball League

By John Atcachunas

The South Plainfield Fall Baseball Team began its second season of play in the Merrill Park-Fords League with a 6-0 win over Linden. Tiger ace Steve Bucchinago hurled five scoreless innings. Chris Atcachunas did the same in relief over the final two innings. Sam Alexander went two for three with an rbi.

The Tigers came home and played rival Bishop Ahr to a 7-7 tie in eight innings. Mike Kapsch, Mike Vito, Bucchinago, and Atcachunas all had multiple hit games. Sunday's contest against visiting Woodbridge was a lopsided affair as South Plainfield won 14-0. Atcachunas, Pat Sarullo, and Vito combined their pitching skills to no-hit the Barons. Vito went four for four. Kapsch went three for three with a triple and three rbi's. Atcachunas helped his own cause going two for four with a triple and two rbi's.

John Atcachunas is in his second year as head coach of the Fall Baseball Tigers. He is being assisted by Steve Bacchinago, Sr. and Sam Alexander, Sr.

This Saturday the Tigers are at home with a 10:00 a.m. start vs. Roselle Park and Sunday's game is noon vs. Perth Amboy. At 2-0-1 the team is off to a fine start and should be in a good position come the playoffs, held the weekend in October.

tenacity and competitive spirit will help her handle the big jump in the line-up.

The first doubles team of juniors Leyna Bollwage and Erin Walter will be a strong part of the Tigers line-up. Playing together in the same position last year gives them an edge over their opponents. Juniors Judy Wang and Pattie Walter will play second doubles this year for the Tigers. Judy played second doubles

second doubles last year and her in 1996 and Pattie's improvement has earned her a starting position. Juniors Prachi Rastogi and Dimple Patel, sophomore Sheryl Cwiekalo and freshmen Kim Benson and Alissa Gittens are all practicing hard and trying to break into the line-up.

With the experience and competitive spirit of this year's squad the Tigers are sure to have a successful and rewarding season. Fans are appreciated and wel-

# Competitive Season Starts For Gymnastics Team



The 1997 Girls Gymnastics Team

By Al Hook, Head Coach The 1997 Girls Gymnastics Team will be very competitive this season.

The talented incoming freshman gymnasts returning from injuries and our returning experienced letter winners will help to make South Plainfield a strong team. Our multi-talented team members will compete in four gymnastic events: vault, bars, beam and floor.

We are looking forward to a successful season.

Team members are Capt. Heather Hearne (Rookie of the Year '96), Theresa Vitelb (MVP '96), Tanya Altomare (Letter), Rachel Demo, Julia Koudriavtseva, Lacey Walter, Melissa Jamieson, Veronica Zappi, Justina Carubia, and Mary Sanchez. Team Manager and Stats Elaine

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# September October 1997

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
To add	d your listing to the next ca Hainfield Observer, c/o G& Aiddlesex, New Jersey 08	G Graphics, 530 Union Blv	eto d, Suite3,	Kennedy Back-to-school night Future Stars Back-to-school night	AARP Meeting 12:30 p.m. Pall Building VFW Post Dinner 5 p.m. Chinese Auction Sacred Heart Church	20
21	Council Agenda Meeting 8 p.m. R.A.C.E.S Meeting 8 p.m.	Planning Board 8 p.m. Recycling Comm. 8 p.m.	Court 9:30 a.m. Court 7 p.m. Traffic Safety Advisory Commission 7 p.m.	Council Meeting 8 p.m. High School Back-to-school-night Copy Deadline for So. Plfd. Observer	First Football Home Game	27
28	29	30	Court 9:30 a.m. Business Advisory Group 6:30 p.m.	Publication of South Plainfield Observer Tax Payer's Advisory Group 7 p.m.	3	4
Fire Prevention Week	Council Agenda Meeting 8 p.m. Recreation Comm. 7 p.m.	Board of Adjustment 8 p.m. Friends of Library 7:30 p.m. (at Library) Roosevelt Back-to-school night	Court 9:30 a.m. Court 7 p.m. Cultural Arts 8 p.m. Environmental Commission 8 p.m.	Copy Deadline for So. Plfd. Observer Council Meeting 8 p.m.	10	Yom Kippur
12	13	Board of Health 7:30 p.m. Planning Board 8 p.m. Library Board 7:30 p.m. (At library) Senior Citizens 10 a.m. (Pal Building)	Court 9:30 a.m. Court 7 p.m.	Publication of South Plainfield Observer	17	18

# South Plainfield Police Report

of Jersey City. Police say the female was sisted. using a fake ld. A check of store records An e filed and \$1929 was purchased in the store under the fake ld.

A resident on Norway Lane reported neighbor stated he saw an employee of slashed by a long thin knife. a disposal company take the door and put it into his truck and drive away.

John Jablonski of Edison was charged with Driving While under the Influence, driving while suspended, uninsured and careless driving.

ployee of Northern Products of South Chevette Plainfield reported an attempt to steel Chevy station wagon.

Regal Cinemas recently reported that cigarette. two glass doors at the theater were cracked by a patron. The suspect stated a theft of an aluminum ladder from her that he had an argument with his girl- backyard. She heard her dog barking friend and lost his temper. The case is and looked out and saw a red pick-up under investigation.

Plainfield for obstruction of justice, police to report the theft.

Approximately \$1,929 of computer showing improper id after a motor vemerchandise from Staples in South hicle stop. The subject was uncoop-Plainfield was found in a car searched erative when police asked him question by the Mt. Laurel Police. Arrested were and continually changed his story. He Andrea Stacy Taite and James Robinson was placed under arrest, which he re-

An employee of Continental Birch refound that an instant credit approval was ported that all four tires of his car were slashed while he was at work on Sept 4. He was so distraught and angry that he waited until the next day to report the that his aluminum door was stolen. A incident. The tires appeared to be

> A motorist driving in South Plainfield reported that someone threw a bottle and smashed his windshield.

Edwards Supermarket reported a shoplifting incident on Sept 11. The suspects stole several packs of Polaroid On Saturday, September 9 an em- film and fled the scene in a silver gray

A resident of Front Street reported a stainless steel valves. The suspect saw that his fence had been set on fire near the guard and fled the scene in a tan his house. Police are investigating and stated a possible cause might be a lit

A resident of Eganey Street reported truck parked. After a few calls to see if Police arrest Martin Luther Boyd of someone borrowed it, she called the

### So. Plainfield Vision 2001 Foundation Plans Golf Outing

The South Plainfield Vision The fee includes the 18th hole 2001 Education Foundation is planning a golf outing Mon., Oct.6, at Colonia Country Club, Colonia NJ.

The South Plainfield Vision 2001 Foundation was created to seek financial support from the business community to underwrite scholarships for South Plainfield students.

The golf outing will start at 9:00 a.m. with breakfast and registration. Golf starts at 10 a.m., followed by lunch, cocktail hour, dinner and awards.

The entry fee is \$140 if paid

#### **AARP Meeting Planned**

The regular meeting of AARP will be held Friday, Sept. 19 at the PAL Building, Maple Ave. at 12:30 p.m.. All members are welcome. Chapter #4144 meets at this location every third Friday of the month.

#### V.F.W. to Hold Dinner

V.F.W. Post 6763 will be holding a dinner Sept. 19, from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m.

They will be serving baked ziti, salad, bread, beverage and dessert. The cost will be \$6.00 per adult and \$2.50 for children, takeouts will be 25 cents extra.

Live music will be featured by Billy Phillips. For further information please contact call 688-9751

#### Oldies Night to be Held

Enjoy the sounds of the 50s and 60s with D.J. Uncle Nick and the So. Plainfield Republican Organization. The oldies night will by Sept. 26 and \$150 thereafter. be held Sat., Sep. 27 at the Amer-

golf event, green fees and cart,

continental breakfast, brunch at

the turn, cocktail hour and

Send check to Vision 2001,

PO Box 733, So. Plainfield, NJ

07080. For information on out-

ing or the Foundation call Emil

Leporino at 756-8038 or Rob-

ert Hunter at 756-2800.

prime rib dinner.

ican Legion on Oak Tree Rd., 8 p.m. until midnight. Tickets are \$20/ person and includes a soda fountain menu, beer, wine and soda. For tickets, call Phil at 753-4399.



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