

# South Plainfield Observer

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DECEMBER 4, 1997

## Mayor Asks for Nominees To Fill Openings on Boards and Commissions

The Mayor and Council will be making appointments to many of the 21 independent boards and commissions in the Borough at its annual reorganization meeting on Jan. 1, 1998. Anyone who is interested in serving on one of the boards or commissions should send a letter to Mayor Daniel J. Gallagher at Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 explaining what area you are interested in, as well as a resume. You may contact Jim Eckert, Borough Clerk, at 226-7605 for a listing of the openings that will be filled in January.



Pictured above is Nicastro's Garage, 720 Hamilton Blvd. after a fire ravaged the building Dec. 1 during early morning hours. Joe Nicastro has owned and operated the business since 1956. No injuries were reported.

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## Riley School Playground Becomes a Reality

By Patricia Abbott

Persistence and perseverance coupled with team work and a bit of research has paid off for the Riley School PTSO. On Tuesday, Nov. 11 the Board of Education reversed a previous decision regarding the installation of playground equipment at Riley School.

The board at first rejected the plan proposed by the John E. Riley Parent-Teacher-Student Organization, which raised \$10,000 for the new playground. At issue was liability insurance coverage needed to have volunteers construct the playground. The

organization had a one million-dollar certificate of liability rider from the playground manufacturer. However, the board was concerned it could be held liable for future injuries which might occur after the construction was completed.

Research by PTSO members revealed a federal law, the Volunteer Protection Act of 1997, which protects volunteers of non-profit organizations from liability actions against them. The law went into effect on June 18, 1997. New Jersey's legislature has had a volunteer protection act in its permanent statute since 1959. The state volunteer pro-

tection act was amended in 1995. The committee provided the Board with copies of both the federal and state laws in their updated proposal.

GAME TIME Inc., the vendor for the new equipment, said the insurance would cover the volunteers and the district. The board also voted to authorize an expenditure for a transfer platform that will make the playground accessible to the physically challenged children. In addition to approving the playground, the Board of Education will also provide funding in the amount of \$2,500 for the purchase of a "transfer platform." The platform allows disabled children with limited mobility access to the equipment and brings the playspace up to minimum ADA requirements. Deanna Fredericks, chairperson of the John E. Riley PTSO Playground Committee stated that they could have added the platform at a later date, but the committee felt that the playground should be immediately accessible to physically challenged youngsters. If funding was not available for the platform the PTSO planned to eliminate some of the equipment in order to include the platform. The Board will also provide an additional \$4,000 for site preparation.

Continued on page 2



## Delaney Court Residents 'Don't Oppose' Group Home

After hearing that a group home for the physically and mentally disabled will be located in their neighborhood, concerned residents from Delaney Court held a meeting last week at the home of Genevieve Pinto-Zipp, to discuss the possible impact it will have the neighborhood.

Res-Car of New Jersey, Inc. plans to move four disabled adults into a group home on Delaney Court sometime after the new year.

The main purpose of the meeting was to pass on information about the move to the neighbors who were informed that four developmentally disabled women over 50 years of age plan to move into the house. They will be supervised by two adult caregivers

at all times.

A Res-Car spokesperson would not give any further information on the women or their caregivers, nor would they elaborate on their backgrounds or what future placements might be made at the house.

The residents stressed that they don't oppose the home, they just want to be informed on what it will mean to their neighborhood and what options they have if problems do arise.

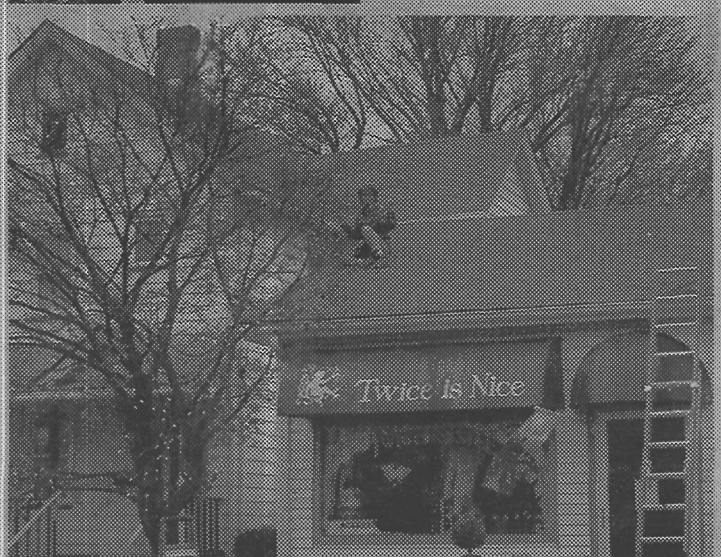
The group plans to attend the council agenda meeting to be held Dec. 8. They want the mayor to assure them that all zoning and construction ordinances are upheld and that the town's emergency personnel are notified of the home.

The disabled residents are now in the state-run North Princeton Developmental Center, which is closing in April.

The developmentally disabled placed in groups homes are often mentally retarded, have cerebral palsy or autism. To qualify adults must be judged suitable for community placement and then they are moved to group homes.

### 'Tis the Season—

Santa listens to the Christmas wishes of Skylar Gvey, age 3, (left) at Middlesex Mall and Darlene Pinto, pictured below, gets into the holiday spirit by arranging lights on the tree in front of her store, Twice Is Nice, on Front Street.



## Recount Confirms Borough Council Election Results

The results of the Nov. 4 election race will remain unchanged after the Nov. 21 vote recount.

Democrats Vinnie Buttiglieri and Raymond Petronko won the race, defeating Republicans Dan Kenny and Frank Hanley by a small margin of 80 votes.

In the final tally Vinnie Buttiglieri gained two votes and Frank Hanley gained one vote.

Republican Council Candidate

Dan Kenny petitioned the court to hold a recount of the Nov. 4 Borough Council election. Kenny said the race was so close that only a recount could verify the results.

PLEASE NOTE: Our Area Code Will Change on Dec. 6. The South Plainfield Observer's Telephone Number is: (732) 469-4380. Our Fax Number is (732) 805-0815. You can e-mail us at our web page: spobserver.com



## Letter to the Editor

### Ricochet Health and Racquet Club

Dear Gary:

I want to formally and officially thank you for your most generous donation of the Smith weight machine to South Plainfield High School. It is an extremely valuable and functional piece of equipment. I anticipate — as does our Athletic Director — that it will become an integral part of our weight training program at South Plainfield High School.

Moreover, please know that I fully appreciate all of the ongoing courtesies which you have extended to us. Our Project Graduation is a singularly successful enterprise in part because of your cooperation, especially in terms of scheduling and accommodating changes in the school calendar due to inclement weather.

You have been an active and vocal supporter of South Plainfield High School. I appreciate that and look forward to a continuation of that relationship.

**SINCERELY,  
ANTHONY F. MASSARO,  
SOUTH PLAINFIELD HIGH  
SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

Dear Editor,

As a taxpayer, I am opposed to the building of a emergency services building in South Plainfield. Despite the fact that the cost of a new building would be yet another tax burden to South Plainfield taxpayers, such a building would reduce the efficiency of emergency services.

Aside from the expense of building a new building, there

would be significant additional costs for equipment, supplies and personnel. The cost for new communication equipment alone would be tremendous.

In addition to cost, emergency service response time would be reduced if emergency personnel were required to go back and forth between two different locations to pick-up emergency vehicles. South Plainfield is a small community and the south end of town is very easily reached by emergency services from the current central location. A new emergency service building is simply not needed.

Those in favor of an emergency services building should first consider the upcoming school funding problem. A significant number of new homes are scheduled to be built in our town over the next few years. These homes will produce several school age children, which taxpayers will be required to fund their education. This is enough of a tax burden even without building a emergency services building that is not needed.

I suggest that all taxpayers stand up against any proposal to build an emergency services building and voice their opposition to the mayor and council. Please, when it comes to taxes enough is enough.

**SINCERELY,  
THOMAS D. STILLMAN**

To the Editor:

On November 6, there was a real team effort from parents, teachers and students to make South Plainfield High School's Project Graduation's first fund-

raiser of the year a great success. The Scoop Dinner has become an annual event at the high school. Each October every parent of a high school student receives a call from someone asking them to prepare an entree, vegetable or dessert, or donate bread or soda to help raise money for Project Graduation. Every year, the response is overwhelming, and this year was no exception. The variety of food dishes was phenomenal. The donations from parents were supplemented with tossed salad and trays of cookies donated from Marriott Food Services. The hit of the evening was the Apple Crisp dessert prepared by students in the high school's food preparation classes.

But it took a lot more than the food itself to make a successful Scoop Dinner. It took a lot of people to set tables, clear tables, serve beverages and desserts, collect money, scoop over 4000 scoops of food and clean up after it was all done. It took parents, teachers and students working side-by-side to get the job done.

All the members of Project Graduation would like to thank all the parents, teachers and students for their hard work and team effort that evening. We would also like to thank the kitchen and custodial staff of the Marriott for organizing the kitchen and the eating area. Last but not least, we thank everyone who came to eat with us, and enjoy the fruits of all those efforts.

**CONNIE PALMER AND  
NANCY REGAN,  
CO-CHAIRS, SCOOP DINNER**

## State-Aid Reduction To Affect Borough

At the council meeting, Borough Council President John Pulomena reported the borough expects to receive \$200,000 less in state-aid. Pulomena is not satisfied with the reduced amount of state-aid because of the impact it will have the budget. The borough has kept the municipal budget at a flat rate for the past few years. He feels that state aid, should at the very least be kept at the same level. The borough should be recognized for its effectiveness in maintaining a flat

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## Riley School Playground Becomes Reality

*Continued from page one*

Riley School PTSO raised \$10,000 for the new state-of-the-art, safety/ADA compliant piece of playground equipment. The company will supply a Certified Playground Inspector to supervise the installation. Weather permitting, the PTSO hopes to have the equipment in before next spring.

Deanna Fredericks, who headed the organization's Recreation Committee, thanked the board members for their help and support in resolving the issue of insurance.

Superintendent of Schools Guy Ferri said the board always encourages volunteerism and is delighted to have the donation of \$10,000 towards the playground.

## Stinky Stuff Update

A meeting was held recently at the Middlesex County Health Office concerning the offensive odors coming from Recycle Inc. In attendance were the Edison and South Plainfield Health Departments as well as the Middlesex County Health Dept.

Recycle Inc. presented their long-term solution to the problem. The plan could take up to one year. The Middlesex County Health Dept. also asked that they submit a short-term relief plan.

Recycle reported they are now having the perfume drums shredded off-site by an outside vendor. The drums are one source of the odor emanating from the site.

The next issue of *The South Plainfield Observer* is **DECEMBER 18**. Deadline for copy is **December 11**.

To subscribe, see form on page 4.

## 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  
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Fax (732) 805-0815 or email us on the web page at [spobserver.com](http://spobserver.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.
4. Type the names of all the photographs, or accurately describe the action in the photograph. Do not write on back of photograph, except with non-reproducing pen or pencil.
5. All unsolicited photographs 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 Observer

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## United Way Sponsors Poinsettia Card Sale for the Needy

The United Way of South Plainfield would like to help make the holiday season brighter for the neediest families in South Plainfield by conducting a holiday poinsettia card sale. The poinsettia cards are \$1.00 each and every participant will place their name on a card to be used as a festive decoration at one of a number of South Plainfield businesses and companies. Many South Plainfield businesses and organizations have already demonstrated their holiday spirit and are proud supporters of the United Way poinsettia sale.

The goal is to raise \$5,000. All proceeds are earmarked for South Plainfield's neediest. Many

other companies and businesses will be asked to participate. If your company or business would like to participate, please call Rich Stefany or Tracey Kennedy at 412-7737 or Jim Lenox at 754-4620 Ext. 217.

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# "The Blue Comet" Renovations On Track

By Patrician Abbott

A luxury railroad car named "The Blue Comet" promises to lead future generations down a colorful track of historical perspective, providing examples of what South Plainfield used to be .... when "The Blue Comet" was still new.

It was in 1926, while South Plainfield was being incorporated, that the Blue Comet was being built. As the community grew and was taking shape, "The Blue Comet" passed through on regular runs from Newark to Atlantic City from 1929 until 1941. Only three of these luxury cars were made. Three months ago, "The Blue Comet" returned to South Plainfield, this time to stay. One of three original luxury cars constructed, this survivor is now leased for \$1 from the Tri-County Historical Society in Morristown and sits on railroad tracks behind Sherban's Diner on Front Street. Another one of the three cars is a restaurant in Clinton, NJ and the other is used by the Governor for touring.

The South Plainfield Business Association has arranged for fifteen carpentry students from Middlesex County Vocational and Technical School in Piscataway to begin restoring the car. Along with their instructor John Ujobai, the students have begun work restoring the car that will, in the not too distant future, become the museum housing the history of our town. The exterior of the train car has boarded up windows and graffiti scattered across the surface. The interior currently displays the effects of time and neglect. The students are cleaning, sanding, and stripping the interior and will also install a tile floor and rebuild woodwork. Both instructor Ujobai and students are excited about this opportunity for hands-on experience.

Mayor Dan Gallagher and Council have been very supportive of this endeavor. There is no burden on taxpayers, as members of the Business Association and the Historical Society have donated materials needed for the work. They also sponsor the bus that brings the students to the site. The Business Association is seeking people to donate time or material to the reconstruction of this historic rail car. Ujobai is pleased with the work the students have accomplished to date



Students from Middlesex County Vocational and Technical School (above), along with Instructor John Ujobai (pictured top on the left), Paula Giroux, South Plainfield Business Association president (second from right on top) and Art Muglia (far right on top) preparing to work on "The Blue Comet".

and he hopes to get more people from Vo-Tech involved with the project.

Art Muglia of the Business Association has indicated that they hope the work will be done by next spring. Additional plans include handicap accessibility of the museum and renovating the area around the car by building a park with a gazebo, and a pe-

destrian bridge linking the park with the old section of Hamilton Boulevard. While the City Council, the Business Association and the Historical Society work to bring the people back to the center of town, the addition of "The Blue Comet" will act as a draw and a reminder of other times, another age, when life in South Plainfield was less complicated.

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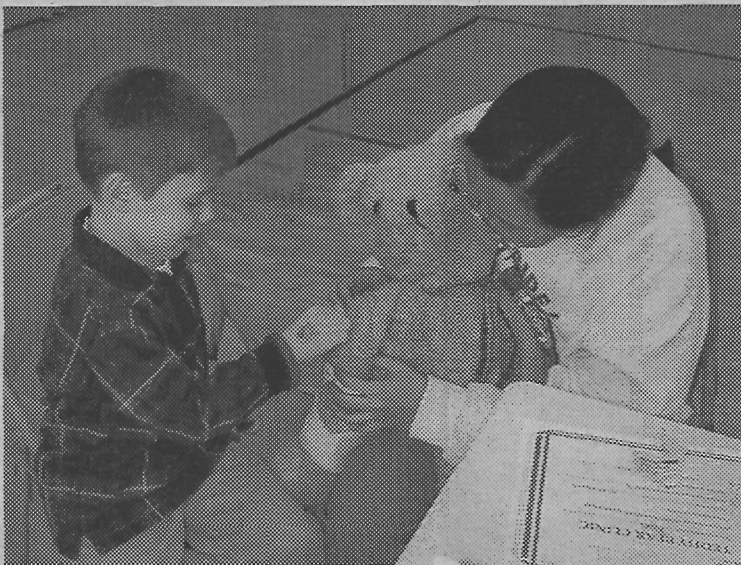
# SCHOOL DAYS: What's News?

## Future Stars Holds Teddy Bear Clinic

The children at Future Stars Preschool in South Plainfield participated the "Teddy Bear Clinic," sponsored by Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center. The clinic provides a way for children to ease their fears of physician's offices and hospitals through early health education.

Students brought their stuffed toys to school so that the "doctor" and "nurse" could examine the "patient" and teach the children about medical care. The staff from Muhlenberg Hospital weighed and measured the stuffed animals and gave them check-ups. Broken legs were splinted, bandages were placed, and all cuts and bruises were attended to.

The Teddy Bear Clinics, sponsored by volunteer nurses and other staff members from Muhlenberg Hospital, provide an enjoyable opportunity to teach health awareness to children in a safe and fun setting. All hospital staff participants volunteer to do Teddy Bear Clinics because it is a fun opportunity to teach good health habits to children in a safe playful way.



Volunteers from Muhlenberg Regional Center "diagnose and treat" the teddy bears of children from Future Stars Preschool.

## Marching Band Ends Successful Season with First Place Win

The 1997 SPHS Marching Band completed a successful marching band season by winning the Chapter 10, Group 3 title. The Tigers competed in the 1997 Atlantic Coast Championships at Lackawanna Stadium in Scranton, Pa., on Saturday, Nov. 8, under the direction of Mark S. Tweed and assistant director Mr. Andrew Weiss. The marching band entered the competition in 26th place and under the field direction of Drum Majors Jose Pineda and John Drangula, moved up four places finishing 22nd on the east coast.

Parent Conference Night will be held at South Plainfield High School December 4, at 7:00 p.m. in the gymnasium.

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## December Calendar

- 4 Kennedy/Roosevelt: Holiday Boutique High School Parent Conferences
- 5 Kennedy/Roosevelt: Holiday Boutique Riley: 5th Grade Stokes Environmental Trip
- 6 Franklin: Holiday Breakfast/Boutique Future Stars: Breakfast with Santa Clause
- 8 Franklin: Holiday Boutique Riley: Holiday Concert Middle School PTA meeting
- 10 Kennedy: PTA meeting
- 11 Middle School: Parent Conferences, Early Dismissal MS only Riley: Holiday Boutique Roosevelt: Holiday Concert PTA General Meeting
- 12 SEPA: Holiday Party Riley: Holiday Boutique
- 13 Riley: Breakfast with Santa Clause Roosevelt: Holiday Craft Morning
- 15 Franklin: Holiday Concert
- 16 Board of Education Meeting, Public Meeting
- 17 Kennedy: Holiday Concert
- 18 Middleschool: Holiday Concert

## Riley School First Graders Videotaped

By Dr. Munger

During October, Silver Burdett Ginn, a publisher of science programs, visited several schools throughout New Jersey researching how teachers use their products. Their goal was to find a first or fifth grade class that they could use to produce an instructional video. This video will be used to show other teachers around the nation how to best utilize their materials. One of the schools visited was John E. Riley School in South Plainfield.

First grade teachers, Miss Iannacone, Miss Lepore, Mrs. Glowacki and fifth grade teacher, Mrs. Gaffney volunteered to participate. Each teacher was asked to present a lesson from the science program. Silver Burdett Ginn was highly impressed with the way the teachers interacted and used instructional techniques. They were so pleased with the demonstrations provided that they decided to produce their video at Riley School.

The first grade class will be videotaped on Dec. 2. Approximately 20 children will participate in our videotaping with teacher Mrs. Glowacki. Silver Burdett Ginn representatives will be flying in from Arizona to be at Riley School for the filming production.

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South Plainfield Observer

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## events around town

### Holiday Craft Fair

The 14th Annual Holiday Craft Fair will be held Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of South Plainfield, 201 Hamilton Blvd. The event is sponsored by the Women's Evening Circle, who will provide baked goods, crafts, Kids Korner (no adults, please!) and a hot lunch in the kitchen. Proceeds from these areas will be distributed among various church functions and charity work for our community. The crafters joining us will be offering items which include holiday decorations and gifts for year-round giving.

Please start your holiday shopping with us.

### Road to Recovery —Loss Strategies

A panel discussion and lengthy question and answer period on loss and how to deal with it will be held on Monday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m. in the South Plainfield Middle School Cafeteria. The panel will include: Dr. Mary Slavin, nurse and hospice caretaker; Dennis O'Neil, pastor and counselor; Fr. Anthony Cerami, pediatric grief counselor and pastor at Robert Wood Johnson Hospital and Robert Hunter Jr., owner-manager of James W. Conroy Funeral Home.

With the holidays a few weeks away, this seems to be a time when families need additional assistance in dealing with loss, whether death, divorce, job, etc.

You are encouraged to participate and bring a friend. If you have any questions, call M. Kopacsi, Middle School Counselor, at 754-4620, ext. 327.

### Dinner Dance at Our Lady of Czestochowa

On Sunday, Dec. 7, 1997, a dinner-dance will be held at Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish Hall to raise money for Orchard Lake Seminary and

for the Induction of Honorary Alumni. Music is by Frank Sendzik and his Orchestra. Cocktails at 4 p.m. followed by dinner and dancing. Those to be inducted from Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish are: Josephine Chylko, Ann M. Grzybowski, Don Jackson, Gene Kataryniak, Ed Larson, Carolyn A. Yankoski, Mary Jane Pluscauski, Joseph Pluscauski, Jim Pawlikowski and Joseph Wojack. For tickets or reservations, please call Carolyn at (908) 755-2516.

### Environmental Commission Sponsors Walks 'N Talks

The South Plainfield Environmental Commission will hold a "Who's Left" Walks 'N Talks Program on Saturday, Dec. 6 at 10:00 a.m. at Highland Avenue Woods. For information call 226-7621.

### Rosary-Altar, Holy Name Will Hold Christmas Party

The combined societies, Rosary-Altar and Holy Name, of Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish will hold their annual Christmas Party on Sunday, December 14, 1997 at The Spain Inn on West Ninth Street, Piscataway. Buffet for members is \$20 per person, for all others \$22 per person. For reservations, please call Marie at (908) 755-7328.

### Historical Society Meeting to be Held

"All Aboard—50 Years on the Right Track" will be presented at the Dec. 9 meeting of the Historical Society, courtesy of local resident Ralph Nodes. The Society meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the media center of South Plainfield High School. Guests are welcome, and train enthusiasts, especially, will enjoy this railroad film.

There will also be an update on progress of refurbishing the railroad car and the status of the Hadley Airport display at the Holiday Inn, Stelton Road.

To have your organization included in events around town, submit your information to the Observer editorial department at 530 Union Ave. Suite 3, Middlesex, NJ 08846 or fax to 732 805-0815.

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## Peter Tabisz Celebrates 80th Birthday in Style

By Patricia Abbott

"Happy Birthday Peter Tabisz!" These words were echoed throughout the evening on Saturday, Nov. 22 as South Plainfield resident Peter Tabisz celebrated his 80th birthday with a party at Cafe Piacone. The party was given by his children, daughter Marcella Tabisz Martin of Neptune City, NJ and son, Peter C. Tabisz of Plano, Texas. The guests came from all over the country and Germany as well as many from South Plainfield. Among those celebrating with Peter were great granddaughter, two year old Linda Ann and Peter's sister, Ann Florio. Also attending was Father Frank of New York state. Father Frank met the Tabisz's on a cruise when they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. He held a mass for family and friends in their home on Sunday, November 23.

Peter and wife Irma recall their roots in South Plainfield. They moved here in 1949 and resided



Peter and Irma Tabisz, along with their children, Marcella Tabisz Martin and Peter Tabisz, celebrate Peter's 80th birthday at Cafe Piacone.

on Harrison Street. Irma recalls the dirt roads and her home being near the race track that was once part of South Plainfield.

Both the Tabisz children attended Sacred Heart School and graduated from South Plainfield High School, Marcella in 1966 and Peter in 1968. Marcella attended kindergarten at Willis School on New Brunswick Ave. The school later became the board of education administration building and is now a private school. It was important to the family that the birthday celebration be held here in South Plainfield. They are proud to be part of this close-knit community.

*Editor's Note: Peter's wife, Irma Tabisz, wrote a letter to the Observer requesting a subscription. She mentioned the family's many happy years residing in South Plainfield and commented on how the town had grown in the time they had lived here, "...from a small farm-speckled area to the lovely borough we have today." She wrote about the party and inquired if the Observer would cover the event. The Observer is committed to covering local news and events and plans to do articles on South Plainfield residents in upcoming issues. Covering the Tabisz celebration was a step towards this goal and the growth of the newspaper.*

### From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

Here we are in December and smack dab in the Holiday season. You're probably busy right now, what with shopping, wrapping, mailing, and all that. But if you can spare a moment, we at the South Plainfield Library have news.

During our long and arduous renovation period, our patrons have had to put up with a lot of problems (dust, paint fumes, etc). In appreciation for your patience, here's a gift for the Holiday season. Until further notice, videos may be borrowed for free. No it's not a typo. The word used was "FREE". We're suspending the fee we imposed in January. Tapes may still be borrowed for two days, with the possibility of renewal; limit four per patron. And thanks very much.

Also for the Holidays, we are supporting a number of charitable causes. First, as we have in years past, "Food for Fines" is in effect. Patrons may take care of outstanding fines and overdue fees by donating canned goods for the needy, in lieu of cash. The food will be turned over to the Borough Welfare Department for distribution. So until December 22, you can clear up our paperwork while helping those less fortunate. One catch: this does not extend towards payment for lost or damaged items.

Second, we're again a part of the "Books to Keep" program. Patrons may donate new books for needy children. Just bring the books to the main desk or give them to Judy Fischer, our children's librarian. If you prefer, you can make a monetary donation to the program. Donation envelopes are available at the desk. Please help out kids who otherwise would be deprived of the joy of reading. (We're really big on reading here at the library. Contributions will be accepted until Dec. 15.

Third, the Friends of the Library is sponsoring a collection of new mittens, scarves, and hats for the needy. The collection basket is on the table next to the main doors. You can contribute to this cause until Dec. 19.

We'll be continuing with our present schedule for children's

storytimes. The program for children age 3-6 take place on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. The program for children age 18 months-3 years is on Thursdays at 11:30 a.m.

Just a reminder, we're back on our normal operating schedule. Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Tuesdays and Fridays 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Saturdays 9 a.m.-5 p.m. We're will be closed on Sundays until further notice.

Lastly, how do you feel about the Library and the services we provide? You can respond by filling, out the questionnaire available at the main desk. We'd really appreciate knowing your views. Thank for reading our column. Feel free to return to your hectic activity now.

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# Youth Bowling

## Standings as of November 8, 1997

Name	Won	Lost	PC
1. Strikers	33.00	23.00	.589
2. Life of Agonists	32.0	24.0	.571
3. MPM Killers	31.0	25.0	.553
4. Losers	30.0	19.0	.612
5. New World Order	29.0	27.0	.517
6. Three Musketeers	29.0	27.0	.517
7. No Names	27.0	29.0	.482
8. Team 7	27.0	27.0	.500
9. The Smakers	22.0	34.0	.392
10. Strike Force	18.0	38.0	.321

### Individuals Boys High Game Scratch

Anthony Pipolo	225
Christopher Horn	162
Joey DeAndrea	135

### Individuals Girls High Game Scratch

Vicki Boley	166
Jacque Herzog	159
Melanie Foscolo	92

### Individuals Boys High Game Handicap

Jeff Smith	249
Anthony Rowlands	222
Matthew Bowley	212

### Individual Girls High Game Handicap

Kristine Herzog	223
Drin Gyurisin	212

## HIGHLIGHTED TEAM OF THE WEEK

MPM Killers	T Pins	Avg.
M. Mocerino	1080	72
M. Duquette	1191	66
P. Cantarella	1557	64

## Registration Now Underway For 1998 Indoor Soccer

Registration for Indoor Soccer, sponsored by the South

Plainfield Recreation Department, is now under way and will continue through Dec. 26.

Boys and girls in grades 6-12 are eligible. The teams will be co-ed. Games will be played on Sunday afternoons from Jan 11-March 8. The fee is \$22 per participant.

Registration is held at the Recreation office, located in the PAL Building on Maple Ave., Mon-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The office will also be open from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 15. Applicants must present a birth certificate and proof of residency if they haven't participated in a Recreation Youth League program within the past year. Checks should be made payable to South Plainfield Recreation. For further information call (908) 226-7713.

## Gymnastics

### Bridgettes Advance to State Championships

The Bridgettes Level 5 Open Gymnastic Team has qualified to advance to USAG State Championships. Lauren Darr and Morgan Walters had great all-around scores at the Level 5 Sectional Meet held at Head Over Heels Gym in Middletown, N.J. on Nov. 17.

These scores allowed them to advance to the final competition. Lauren and Morgan had great scores on the vault and beam and won places in these events. The state competition will be held at Trenton State College at the end of January.

# Wrestling

## Tigers Have Depth and Experience

By Bob Hunter

The South Plainfield Middle School wrestling team is about to embark on the 1997-98 season. The Tigers kicked off the season with the Randolph Tournament which was held the weekend of Nov. 22.

The Tigers, along with new coach Kevin McCann at the helm, look forward to another successful season.

In the 75 lb. weight class the Tigers have depth in Ryan Mack and Billy Weaver, both strong and experienced wrestlers. Also watch out for Alex Tiemey, a much improved wrestler, along with newcomer Jed Lush. In the 80 lb. weight class the Tigers will be looking to Brandon Lindgren and state tournament qualifier Dan DeAndrea.

Jimmy Curcio will handle the 85 lb. weight class. Curcio is well schooled and has experience.

In the 90 lb. weight class, Matt Anderson last years third place finisher at the state tournament will look improve on last year.

In the 95 lb. weight class, the Tigers have Rickey Ringel returning from a state tournament showing. He will battle Joey Reach for a starting spot in the lineup.

In the 100 lb. weight class, Kyle Stoeckel will be tough to beat but newcomer Gary Curico will battle for a starting position.

In the 107 lb. weight class the Tigers again have depth with last years starter Steve Johnston battling Joey DeAndrea another veteran for a starting spot.

The Tigers look good in the 112 lb. weight class with Glenn Gross coming off a fourth place finish in last years state tournament. He will battle Joe DeBaise a fifth-sixth finisher in last years tournament. Also watch for Sean Wilson, who is coming off an

injury from a year ago. He will be in the hunt for a starting spot.

Scott Doerr a starter for the past two years will anchor the 117 lb. weight class. In the 125 lb. weight class Eric Demamst has made great improvements and continues to work hard in practice. He should win a starting spot over Tyler Huslage and first year wrestler Mike Buteas.

The Tigers are weak in the upper weights including 135, 175 and unlimited heavyweight. Sal Carrano will wrestle in the 150 lb. weight class.

Coach McCann praised his young wrestlers by saying that the practices are tough and the younger wrestlers are doing a nice job stepping it up to meet the challenge. If they continue to work hard in practice, they all should have successful season. Coach McCann is assisted by Jamie Larson.

# Basketball

## Youth League

The South Plainfield Recreation Commission started its Youth Basketball program with 51 teams taking part (Ages 7-8 D-League; ages 9-10 C-League and ages 13-14 A-League). Over 400 boys and girls will participate in the program. Games are played at the Middle school and P.A.L. Building every Saturday.

### A-League Basketball Standings

Team	Win	Loss
Connecticut	1	0
Notre Dame	1	0
St. Johns	1	0
UCLA	1	0
Georgetown	0	1

Seton Hall	0	1
N. Carolina	0	1
Duke	0	1

### B-League Basketball Standings

Team	Win	Loss
Princeton	1	0
Michigan 1	0	
UNLV	1	0
Indiana	0	1
Syracuse 1	0	
Virginia	1	0
Penn State	0	1
Arizona	0	1
Boston	0	1
Miami	0	1

### C-League Basketball Standings

Team	Win	Loss
Lakers	1	0
Rockets	1	0
Nuggets	1	0
Mavericks	1	0
Raptors	1	0
Clippers	1	0
Sonic	0	1
Jazz	0	1
King	0	1
Trail Blazers	0	1
Suns	0	1
Warriors	0	1

### D-League Basketball Standings

Team	Win	Loss
Cavaliers	1	0
Hornets	1	0
Pacers	1	0
Bulls	1	0
Bullets	1	0
Magic	1	0
Bucks	0	1
Celtics	0	1
Nets	0	1
Sixers	0	1
Pistons	0	1
Knicks	0	1
Hawks	0	0

## Adult League

Name	Won	Loss	PCT
1. Petrillo			
Landscaping	1	0	1.000
2. Roadrunners	1	0	1.000
3. Harry's			
Liquors	1	0	1.000
4. Roughriders	0	1	.000
5. Bricklayers	0	1	.000
6. Degussa	0	1	.000

## High School Plans Holiday Concert

The South Plainfield High School Music Department will present a Holiday Concert on Friday, December 12 at 7 P.M. The concert features the Chorus, Concert Band, and Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Tracy Glenn Murray, Chorus; Mr. Mark S. Tweed, Concert & Stage Band and Mr. Bruce Mikolon, Orchestra.

The concert will be held in the Joseph A. Mondoro Auditorium at South Plainfield High School. Tickets are \$2.00 for students/seniors and \$3.00 for adults. Any student with a Gold Card gets free entrance. Also proceeds will benefit the Music Boosters Scholarship Fund.



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## Obituaries

### Victor T. Bykowski

Victor T. Bykowski Sr., 81, of Spring Hill, Fla., died on Thursday, Nov. 13, at his home.

He was born in Newark and was a former 21 year resident of Irvington and a former 20 year resident of South Plainfield before moving to Spring Hill in January.

He is survived by his wife, Virginia Courter Bykowski; two sons, Victor T. Jr. and John J. Bykowski, both of Spring Hill, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at Brewers Funeral Home in Spring Hill. Memorial donations in his memory may be made to the Hernando Pasco Hospice Inc., 12107 Majestic Blvd., Hudson, Fla. 34667.

### Patsy Ciccone

Patsy Ciccone, 91, of South Plainfield died on Wednesday, Nov. 26, at his home.

He was born in Newark and was a former resident of Somerset before moving to South Plainfield three years ago.

Mr. Ciccone was a carpenter for the Laborer's International Union of North America Local 472 in Newark for 40 years before retiring in 1984.

He is survived by his wife Maria Azevedo Ciccone of South Plainfield and one niece, Maria Azavedo Ladino of Woodbridge.

Private services were held at James Conroy Funeral Home.

### Joseph M. Danyo

Joseph M. Danyo, 75, died Wednesday, Nov. 19, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center.

Mr. Danyo was born in Plainfield and had resided in South Plainfield for the past 40 years.

He had been a self-employed carpenter working in the Plainfield and South Plainfield areas for over 50 years before his retirement six years ago.

During WWII, he had been stationed in England, serving in the US Army with 756th Railways Shop Battalion.

He was predeceased by his brothers, Andrew Danyo and John Danyo.

Surviving are his wife, Bea (Kuhlthau) Danyo, his two sons, Joseph A. Danyo of Cherry Hill and Steven A. Danyo of South Plainfield; three sisters, Mary Kassey of Plainfield, Margaret Giddes of Whiting and Anna Spangler of Kenova, West Vir-

ginia. Also surviving are two grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Memorial donations can be made to the United Church of Christ Helping Hands Fund, 220 West 7th Street, Plainfield, NJ 07060.

### Mary A. DeRose

Mary A. DeRose, 86, of Plainfield, died on Thursday, Nov. 20 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center.

She was born in Staten Island and was a lifelong resident of Plainfield.

She was a Floor Lady for the Gold Star Hat & Cap Company in New York City for 20 years before retiring in 1976. Prior to that she worked for the Bronson Hat Company in Plainfield for many years.

Ms. DeRose was a member of St. Marys R.C. Church in Plainfield and a member of the Altar Rosary Society.

She was predeceased by her brothers Anthony, Joseph and Louis DeRose and a sister, Margaret Crescenzi.

She is survived by her brother Clement DeRose of South Plainfield and 12 nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at James W. Conroy Funeral Home.

### Jeannette Rohde Siddons

Jeannette Rohde Siddons, 81, died on Friday, Nov. 24, at Ashbrook Nursing Home in Scotch Plains.

She was born in Jersey City and was a former resident of Plainfield and a 30 year resident of Carteret before moving to South Plainfield six months ago.

Mrs. Siddons was a salesperson for W.T. Grants in Carteret for 15 years.

Mrs. Siddons was a member of the Eastern Star in Carteret and a member of the Trinity Episcopal Church in Woodbridge and the St. Anne's Club.

She was predeceased by her husband, George Siddons, who died in 1991.

Mrs. Siddons is survived by two sons, George J. Siddons of South Plainfield and Dennis W. Siddons of Toms River; one sister, Thelma Zuccaro of Port Reading and six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held James W. Conroy Funeral Home. Memorial donations may be made to the Ashbrook Nursing

Home, 1610 Raritan Rd., Scotch Plains 07076.

### Joseph H. Slover

Joseph H. Slover, 69, died on Saturday, Nov. 22, at his home.

Born in Belle Mead, Mr. Slover had resided in Newark before settling in South Plainfield in 1951.

He was employed by S&M carpeting of Middlesex for 35 years as a carpet installer before his retirement in November of 1993.

Mr. Slover had served in the U.S. Navy as a Gunners Mate Third Class where he earned the WWII Victory Medal, the Good Conduct Medal and the American Theater Campaign Medal while serving on the USS Missouri and the USS Joseph P. Kennedy.

He was an avid bowler and golfer.

Surviving are his wife, Mary (Esken) Slover; his two daughters; Mary Jo Bishop of Lake Worth, Fla. and Jane DeRose of Scotch Plains; his two sons, Joseph E. Slover of Colonia and Michael J. Slover of South Plainfield and his sister Mary Russomanno of Toms River. Also surviving are six grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

### James G. Thomas

James G. Thomas, 74, died on Wednesday, Nov. 19, at his home. Born in Wilkes-Barre, he had resided in Plymouth, Pa., for many years before moving to Newark, NJ, in 1955, before settling in South Plainfield in 1959.

Mr. Thomas attended Kings College in Wilkes-Barre before earning his B.S. in Accounting from St. Louis University in 1951.

He had been employed as an accountant for Johnson and Johnson in New Brunswick with their credit union before his retirement in 1995. He had been previously employed by the NJ Educational Computer Network in Edison from 1974-1981 and from 1957-1974 he previously was employed by Exxon Research and Engineering as an accountant in Florham Park and in Linden.

Mr. Thomas was a WWII Veteran of the Navy where he served as an Aviation Machinist Mate First Class from 1942-1946.

He was a Fourth Degree member of the Bishop Charles P. Greco Assembly of the Knights of Columbus of South Plainfield, and a member of the Knights of Columbus South Plainfield Council #6203, where he served as Grand Knight from 1989 to 1991.

Thomas was a member of the American Legion Chaumont Post 243 of South Plainfield where he served as the commander from 1965 to 1966 and a member of the South Plainfield Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Post 6763.

Mr. Thomas was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church where he served as an usher for many years at the 12 noon mass.

He was also an avid hunter

and golfer, a member of the Plainfield West Nine Golf Course and he was a fan of the New York Rangers Hockey team.

He is predeceased by his two sisters, Catherine Mahon and Gertrude Thomas and his three brothers, William, John and David.

Surviving are his wife, Marcella (Bergan) Thomas; his two daughters, Regina Thomas of New York City and Noreen Rotondo of Warren; his three sons, James G. Thomas, Jr. of Cedar Knolls, William Thomas of South Plainfield and Vincent Thomas of New Milford, Conn.; his three sisters, Rita Pethound of Plymouth, Pa., Margaret Tosh of Wilkes-Barre, Pa. and Alice Polonchak of Oklahoma.

Also surviving are six grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Donations in his memory may be made to Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center Home Hospice Program, Park Avenue and Randolph Road Plainfield, New Jersey 07060, or McAuley School for the Developmentally Disabled, 1633 HWY 22, Watchung, New Jersey 07060.

### Paul S. Wysocki

Paul S. Wysocki, 79, died on Tuesday, Nov. 25, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center.

Born in Elizabeth, he had resided in South Plainfield since 1950.

He was the owner of the former Dante Auto Body of Dunellen for many years before his retirement in 1987. Previously, he was employed as an auto body mechanic for the former Park Auto Clinic in South Plainfield. He was also employed as a custodian for Sacred Heart Church and Sacred Heart School.

Mr. Wysocki was a member

and past president of The St. Vincent DePaul Society and the Holy Name Society, both of Sacred Heart Church. He was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church, where he had served as an usher for the 7:45 a.m. mass. He was a third degree member of the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Post #6763 of South Plainfield. He had served in the U.S. Navy during WWII.

His wife, Dorothy C. Wysocki, died in 1987.

Surviving are a son, Paul M. of Edison; two daughters, Anne Daley of South Plainfield and Jane K. Bilka of Keansburg and a sister, Elizabeth Tumas of Manville. Also surviving are three grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

### Charles J. Yurinko

Charles J. Yurinko, 54, of Cokesbury, formerly of South Plainfield, died on Thursday, Nov. 13, at Easton Hospital in Easton, Pa.

He was born in Ashland, Pa. and was a former long time resident of South Plainfield before moving to Cokesbury six years ago.

Mr. Yurinko was the owner and operator of Hair We Are in Sterling for the last 25 years.

He was a peacetime veteran of the United States Navy serving in the CB'S.

He is survived by his fiancée, Lori Buchner of Cokesbury; two sons, Douglas and Michael Yurinko, both of Bangor, Pa.; his mother, Jennie Barnosky Yurinko of South Plainfield and one brother, Ronald Yurinko of South Plainfield.

Funeral services were held at James W. Conroy Funeral Home.



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## South Plainfield Police Report

- Two victims told police that after cashing twelve payroll checks for their fellow workers at the First Union Bank on Stelton Rd. they went next door to the White Castle for lunch. Upon leaving the White Castle they were approached by a man who was asked directions to New Brunswick and if they could spare a few dollars or change to make a phone call. The man then pulled a gun and said, "Give me the pay roll." One of the victims was struck on the left side of his head and mouth. They were then told to put their heads down and not look up. Both victims ran to the bank to report the theft. Over \$3,500 in cash was stolen.
- The groundskeeper at the Yard Waste Site at the Recycling Center reported that someone put crazy glue into a lock on an external shed and also on the recycling gate lock. He reported that this has happened before.
- A woman shopping at Sterns in the Middlesex Mall placed her pocket book on the floor in the sportswear department and it disappeared. She called back late to say found the pocket book in her car.
- An employee was supposed to make two cash deposits for Small's Formalwear at the Middlesex Mall while the manager was on vacation. The bank recorded neither deposit. The employee was terminated before the missing deposit was discovered.

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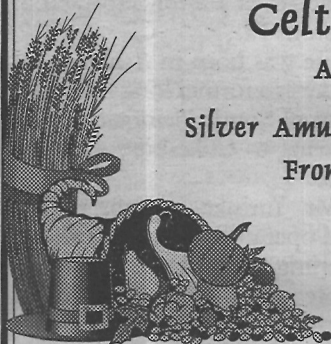
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## Poetry on Display at Borough Hall

Susan Marie Summers has been a resident of Piscataway, NJ since 1984. She began her journey into poetry in 1993. She was first published in 1995 for one of her earlier works, *Grand Passion*, in the National Library of Poetry's *Forever and A Day*. In 1996 she was the sixth place winner in the publication *Show and Tell* for her poem *Healing*. While Susan's poems deal mainly with affairs of the heart, other issues have played an important role in her work.

Her children, Christopher and Jessica, as well as family and friends, inspired some of her more poignant work. Her vision has always been to convey her feelings of love in all of her work and for this she credits a very special man, who through his love, compassion and honesty was the true inspiration for many of her romantic works.

"The all consuming issues of the love in my life have moved me to create my work. Love is the most important element of human nature and truly the fire in my soul. Love is the light that guides us through each day and, if we allow it, will bring us the peace we all search for."

This collection of poetry is entitled *Surrender My Heart*. Into these works Susan puts all the ranges of love that can bring total elation or drag our souls into the pit of hell! The pain, passion and wonder of all her emotions are displayed in these poems.

Her daughter, Jessica Rae, is also included in this collection. She displays a great capacity for



Susan Marie Summers with her daughter, Jessica Rae.

being in touch with her feelings through poetry. We hope you will enjoy the perspective of a teenager in her works.

Susan's poems are being displayed at the South Plainfield Municipal building, Monday

through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., through the end of December.

If you have any questions please contact Annette Juliano, Art Coordinator of South Plainfield Business Association, at 548-8595.

## South Plainfield Observer

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- Holly Park Video, Park Ave.
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- Oak Tree Farms, Oak Tree Road
- Pauls Stationery, Hamilton Blvd.
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- Sals Liquor Store, Park Ave.
- Service Plus, South Plainfield Ave.
- Sunrise Foods, Front & Maple
- The Little Store, Clinton Ave.
- Twice Is Nice, Front Street
- Twin City Pharmacy, Park Ave.
- Yogurt Express, Maple Ave.

South Plainfield Advertisers are Listed in Bold Print

# 1997 December

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			3  Court 9:30 a.m. Business Advisory 6:30 p.m.	4  Tax Payer's Advisory Group 7 p.m. Publication of <b>So. Plfd. Observer</b>	5	6
7	8  Council Agenda Meeting 8 p.m.	9  Board of Health 7:30 p.m. Planning Board 8 p.m. Library Board 7:30 p.m.	10  Court 9:30 a.m. Court 7 p.m. Cultural Arts 8 p.m. Environmental Commission 8 p.m.	11  Business Association Christmas Party 12 noon-Sherban's Diner Council Meeting 8 p.m. Copy Deadline for <b>So. Plfd. Observer</b>	12	13
14	15  Land Management 7:30 p.m.	16  Board of Adjustment 8 p.m. Board of Education Monthly Meeting Admin. Bldg. 8 p.m.	17  Court 9:30 a.m. Court 7 p.m.	18  Publication of <b>So. Plfd. Observer</b>	19	20
21	22	23  <i>Hanakkah</i> Begins at Sundown	24  <i>Hanakkah</i>	25  <i>Christmas Day</i>	26	27
28	29	30	31	<p>To add your listing to the next calander, send event, date and time to the SOUTH PLAINFIELD OBSERVER, c/o G &amp; G Graphics, 530 Union Blvd, Suite 3, Middlesex, NJ 08846, or fax to 805-0815</p>		