

# South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 1, NO. 18

50 CENTS

MAY 21, 1998

MAY 22 1998



At an open house on held Sunday, May 16 The South Plainfield Rescue Squad demonstrated how they do vehicle extrications, CPR and other medical emergency services. The squad is currently seeking new members. Contact a squad member for more information.

## SPHS Hall Of Fame Candidates Selected

A "Hall of Fame" has been established at South Plainfield High School to recognize graduates for achievement in business, government, academia, community services and the humanities. Honoring these successful graduates recognizes them as leaders in their fields and also provides current high school students with positive role models from their own community. The candidates selected for this year are Joseph Belardo, Robert Hunter, James Muglia and Steven Timko.

Joseph Belardo, a long-time South Plainfield resident, was nominated to the Hall of Fame for his commitment to serve humanity through his dedication to the support of Vietnam Veterans. His selfless efforts have helped veterans by providing them with the assistance, support and the promise of hope to pursue a better life. He freely donates his time

and is constantly striving to improve the quality of life for veterans. He is the recipient of Bronze Star, the highest military medal awarded for acts of valor.

James Muglia has been a dental practitioner for the past 25 years. It was through his involvement with the Jaycees that Muglia's civic aptitude was born and matured. He was awarded Jaycee of the Year and through his "get involved" philosophy he has become affiliated with many civic organizations, including the Lion's Club, which promotes projects that benefit youth. Muglia credits his experience growing up in South Plainfield as the template for his future accomplishments. He is a resident of Fairfield, NJ.

Steven Timko, director of Athletics, Phys. Ed and Health at Hopewell Valley High School in Pennington, was born and raised in South Plainfield. He currently resides in Belle Mead with his wife and two children. His dedication to develop all student athletes to the height of their poten-

See HALL OF FAME on Page 8

## Elks Honor Citizen of the Year, Mike Zushma

On Sunday evening, May 17, the Elks enjoyed the privilege of honoring Mike Zushma of South Plainfield as "Citizen of the Year." Mike and his wife Linda were "Guests of the Lodge" at the Elks Central District, Americanism Committee's dinner dance held at East Brunswick Elks Lodge on Farrington Lake.

The "Citizens of Year" (not all of whom are Elks) were honored by over one hundred and fifty attendees. Mr. Zushma and his wife, who are not Elks, are excep-



tionally active with the South Plainfield Rescue Squad as members and certified trainers. Additionally, Mike is active in his official capacity as South Plainfield's Emergency Management Coordinator, and is a certified trainer in many of the disciplines involving emergency response. Together they are a terrific team and the Elks were proud to honor him as their "Citizen of the Year."

## Pulaski Street Cleanup Underway

After foreclosing on a property on Pulaski Street May 1, Borough officials found unsealed drums on the property and called the Middlesex County Hazardous Materials Response Unit who then contacted the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the EPA.

Approximately 40 drums and 200 jars of chemicals were found, some containing chromic acid, a chemical that can burn the skin. Tests are being conducted to find out what other chemicals might be present.

The property, owned by Non-Ferrous Recycling Company, had amassed over \$400,000 in unpaid taxes and interest.

The EPA hired a full time guard to keep people away from the contaminated area. The clean-up

which has begun with the removal of the drums will be financed by the EPA's "Spill Fund" at no cost to the borough.

### BOROUGH NEWS

**COUNCIL:** ■ The Council passed an ordinance to establish a curfew on Oct. 30 and 31 (Mischief Night and Halloween) which states children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult between the hours of 7 p.m. and 6 a.m.

■ Virginia O'Brien from the Taxpayer's Advisory Group and Frances Greany from the South Plainfield Public Library Board of Trustees submitted their letters of resignation to the Council.

■ Steve Ales of Ten Eyck Ave. and Theodore Rubina of Hudson St. were appointed to the Taxpayer's Advisory Group by the Council.

■ Anthony W. Otlowski of Milrose Ave. was appointed as a member of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department.

■ The Rescue Squad responded to 101 emergency calls during

See BOROUGH NOTES on page 15

## BIKE RODEO



## Successful Bike Rally Due to Police Officer Bill Frink

Baron Von Pedaloff, bike thief extraordinaire, was created by South Plainfield Police Officer Bill Frink. He was searching for a way to teach youngsters more than just bike safety, but also how to keep their bikes safe. The Baron was born in 1983 with the help of former Mayor and talented artist Bob Baldwin. When Officer Frink was reassigned to the Special Problems unit of Traffic Safety, the Von Pedaloff character was resurrected and redesigned to assist in the Bike Rodeo.

"The Rodeo held May 2 in Spring Lake Park was a huge success," declared Bill. In four hours 110 bikes were registered, compared to 71 registered in the last three years, he explained. Those attending the rodeo were treated to hot dogs and soda and other refreshments. All who arrived with a helmet were entered

into a drawing for prizes including a bicycle and bicycle locks. Helmets were given away to riders who did not have them. The rodeo's purpose is two-fold: to register bicycles and help promote safety. The Baron reminds youths how easy it is for an unattended bike to be stolen. Last year 155 bikes were stolen Bill, pointed out.

Baron Von Pedaloff explains that bike thieves are prepared with tools such as wire cutters and pry bars. Being careless with a bike makes a thieves job even easier. The Baron offers the following tips. DON'T leave bikes laying on the ground. DON'T leave bikes unlocked. DON'T leave garage doors open. DON'T leave a bike laying out at night. DO keep an eye out for bikers riding 'double.' DO have your bike registered and marked.

See BIKE RODEO, Page 3



## PUBLISHER'S NOTE

### The Rose Patrol

While working on this issue South Plainfield has again proven to us why it's so special. We all complain about a lot of things around town, but most of those problems are the same in the most of the towns around here. However this Mother's Day Mohn's Flowers did something that probably doesn't happen in other towns.

On May 9 they allowed me to come along while they handed out their annual Mother's Day Essay Awards. I referred to it as "The Rose Patrol." Students from the grade schools wrote essays about their mothers. The essays, which did not have the students names on them, were judged by the teachers and the four best were chosen. Mohn's Flowers, which was very busy with their regular Mother's Day deliveries, donated a dozen roses to the mother of each essay winner. Bill Cochrane, co-owner of Mohn's spent Saturday morning driving to 16 South Plainfield homes to deliver a dozen roses to each winner, along with a copy of the essay their child wrote. This was a complete surprise to each mom.

What a great Mother's Day present! Both Georgeann and Bill of Mohn's Flowers should be commended for running this contest, donating the flowers and taking the time to give 16 moms a very special Mother's Day!

### CORRECTION

Last issue we incorrectly identified William Holden as a republican candidate for council. Mr. Holden is an independent candidate. The Observer regrets the error.

### UPCOMING OBSERVER PUBLICATION DATES:

Issue Date	Copy Deadline
June 4 .....	May 28
June 18 .....	June 11

Copy can be dropped off at Mohn's Flowers on Plainfield Ave., Twice Is Nice on Front St. or E-mail us at nancyg@spobserver.com. Mail to G&G Graphics 530 Union Ave., Suite 3, Middlesex, NJ 08846 or fax at 732-805-0815.



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## South Plainfield Observer

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### SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

We look forward to hearing from all of you and encourage you to send in your stories and photos. The *South Plainfield Observer* is your paper. Please let us know what you would like to see in it.

To get an article published in South Plainfield Observer:

1. Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.
2. Mail or fax it to: Editorial Department  
South Plainfield Observer, 530 Union Ave., Suite 3, Middlesex, NJ 08846 or drop it in the box at Mohn's Flowers on Plainfield Ave. or Twice Is Nice, Front St. or fax us at (732) 805-0815 or email us on the web page at spobserver.com. Include your name, address, telephone number.

To Submit Photographs:

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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.

### To the Editor:

Bravo to a decent and informative local newspaper! We are delighted with your coverage, willingness to cover, enthusiasm and involvement in our town and community activities.

You have been most kind and cooperative with our club during the past year. We applaud you, we thank you, and we wish you great success for many years to come in South Plainfield.

**SINCERELY,  
MARGE REIDY, PRESIDENT  
SUBURBAN WOMAN'S CLUB**

### To the Editor:

On May 21 South Plainfield High School Project Graduation held its first Auction/Raffle. Thanks to the very generous donations of the SPSHS families and staff, Marriott Food Services, and many area businesses, the auction was a great success. It was an enormous undertaking, involving months of planning and hard work by the Project Graduation Committee.

The main purpose of Project Graduation is to eliminate the tradition of party-hopping on graduation night and to provide a safe, drug and alcohol free environment where graduating seniors can celebrate with each other one of the most important days of their lives. SPSHS's Project Graduation has hosted this celebration for the past ten years.

The success of our auction was a direct result of the dedication of many people working side by side. Thank you again everyone! **IT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN DONE WITHOUT YOU!** Please support all our area businesses. Without their generous support, we would not have had this evening.

Many thanks to A.K.A., A&P, Acme Food Stores, Ampco Office Machine, B&C Deli, Walter Bauman Jewelers, Bradlees, The Brass Lantern, Bruno's Pizza Factory, The Brush Stop, Burger King, C & R Auto, Caldors, Candle Elegance, Capitol Lighting, Ciccio Pizza, Color Craft Television, Columbia Savings Bank, A.T. Cross Co., Cross Stitch Only, Cutting Crew, Diane Nails, Domino's Pizza, Dynasty Kitchen, Easy Video, Edwards, Flanagan's, Fragrance Plus, Freihofer's, Friendly's, The Gap, Gertrude Hawk Chocolates, Harry's Liquor, Holly Park Diner, Holly Park Video, Home Depot, Hometown Auto Service and Jennifer's Hair Design.

K's Catering, K-C's Komer, KFC, W. Kodak Jewelers, Loews Theatres, Meadowlands Race-track, Mohn's Flowers & Plants, Munchies Texas Weiner, NJ Performing Art Center, Not Just Illusions, Noville Inc., On The Border Mexican Cafe, Park Travel Agency, Pathmark, Pep Boys, Peter Pan Pharmacy, Pizza Hut, Razor's Edge, Regal Cinemas, Resnick Distributors, Roma Foods, Sal's Spirit Shoppe, Salerno Pizza Ristorante, Sam Ash Music Stores, Sears Hardware, Service Plus, Six Flags Great Adventure, Small's Formal Wear, Sneaker Stadium, Sports-world, Spring Printing Center, Superior Trailer, Twin City Pharmacy, Village Salon, Von Graf's and Yogurt Express.

**PAT ANDERSON, NANCY REGAN  
AUCTION/RAFFLE  
CHAIRPERSONS**

## In my OPINION



Carousel Hair Salon owner Marty Papa (second from left) presents South Plainfield Suburban Woman's Club members with a check for \$911 raised at the second annual Cut-a-thon. Pictured are Loretta Conroy, Margaret Reidy and Rose Cucurello.

### To the Editor:

The South Plainfield Suburban Woman's Club members wish to express their appreciation and thanks to the South Plainfield merchants and all participants for their generous donations and support of the Cut-a-Thon Scholarship Fund-raiser which took place on April 26.

Very special thanks goes to the sponsor and creator of the Cut-a-Thon, Marta "Martie" Papa, owner of the Carousel Beauty Salon located on 307 Oak Tree Ave. and her staff assistant, Jean Rahill; her daughter, Annette and Natalie Zeno for their skill, expertise, time and effort in making the cut-a-thon a success.

This was the second annual cut-a-thon. Mrs. Papa recently presented a check for \$911 to Club President Margaret Reidy. The Cut-a-Thon benefits a

scholarship fund. This year a \$1000 scholarship will be awarded to Jennifer Lesniak, a South Plainfield graduating senior.

The following merchants and individuals donated to the fundraiser: Marty's Carousel, Rudolpho's Pizzeria, Mohn's Florist, Sherban's Diner, Bagel Pantry, Robert Hunter-James W. Conroy Funeral Home, Haisch's Bakery, Drug Fair, Photo Processing, Mary Jo Cucurello, Rose Cucurello, Loretta Conroy, Margaret Reidy, Connie Crafts, Beverly Montwid, Paula George, Lydia DeAndrea.

Rose Cucurello and Loretta Conroy chaired this event. Many thanks to all participants and club members.

**SINCERELY,  
FILOMENA VIOLA  
PUBLICITY CHAIRWOMAN  
SUBURBAN WOMAN'S CLUB**

### To the Editor:

On April 23 the third grade class at John F. Kennedy Elementary School held their first annual Grandparents' Day. The day was a huge success because of the efforts of so many people.

We would like to acknowledge the businesses in South Plainfield who so willingly welcomed us and donated prizes for us to give to the grandparents. Our thanks and appreciation go out to the following: Sherban's, The Razor's Edge, Services Plus, Flanagan's, Holly Park Diner, Sal's Spirit Shoppe, Easy Video, Domino's Pizza, Yogurt Express, Cross Stitch Only, Bagel Pantry, Cookie's Bagels and Bakery, Mohn's Florist, and Marriott. We sincerely appreciate your generosity.

We would also like to thank Mr. Czech, our Principal, all the teachers who so willingly helped in all the planning, and the third graders and their parents. You all made the day extra special for the grandparents!

**SINCERELY,  
GRANDPARENTS' DAY  
COMMITTEE  
JFK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

### To the Editor:

As a resident of South Plainfield for the past 49 years and a senior citizen as well, I feel compelled to speak out about unjust tactics. I raised a family in town, so I am aware of certain slights that take place. Such things as little league and recreation baseball, Pop Warner and now high school.

What I see is a clique that you are either in or you are not. This goes back to when I had young

sons. You would think by the time they reach high school it is over — Oh no! Now it is my grandson for whom I want to speak out. He has played recreation baseball about eight years, starting with T-ball.

Through the years he has emerged as a good ball player that knows the game and gives it his all. This year he is playing freshmen baseball as well as recreation. The freshmen coach is a very biased and favoritism coach. He plays the little clique in every game. I saw a game he lost 14-0, but the same inept kids played, while some pretty good players warmed the bench. Wouldn't it have made more sense when losing by that much to give the rest of the kids a chance? They couldn't have done any worse than the starters.

Every game isn't about winning, it is about being fair and giving everyone a chance to participate, whether they play well or bad. You, Mr. Matticola, are robbing them of their self-confidence and esteem. I hope you don't pass on a list of names of your favorites next year. Let the boys make it on their own merits. Maybe you have been at this job too long and you can't see the trees for the forest.

**BEATRICE ALLARA**

### To the Editor:

Sacred Heart School's Second Annual Chinese Auction — Beach Party '98 was an outstanding success! On behalf of the children, parents of the Home School Association of Sacred Heart School, I wish to thank

*Continued on page 15*

## County to Take Over Health Department

The Council passed a resolution at the May 14 meeting to enter into an agreement with Middlesex County for the County Health Department to assume the duties presently provided by the South Plainfield Health Department.

Councilman Jim Vokral said the cost would be approximately \$160,000 a year, and will show savings to the Borough of about \$70,000. Vokral also said borough residents would benefit with the expanded health services the county can provide which have

not been available on a local basis before.

John Pulomena said that even if the costs were the same, the Borough would benefit because the health department will be offering expanded services to South Plainfield residents.

Middlesex County has taken over the health services for 19 municipalities. The takeover date is tentatively set for July 1. South Plainfield Board of Health employees will become county workers.

## Samptown Cemetery History Walk to be Repeated June 6

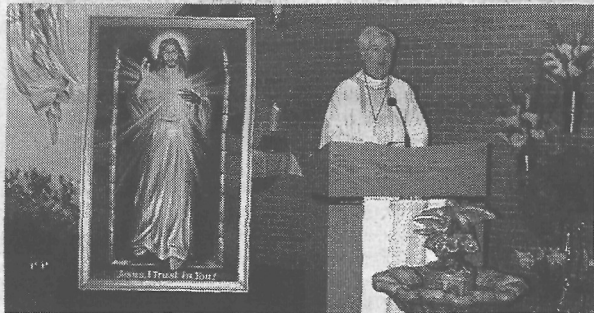
The South Plainfield Environmental Commission's History Walk was nearly rained out on May 9. Despite a steady rainfall, a small group toured the Baptist Cemetery on New Market Avenue. They learned how the people buried beneath the crumbling tombstones contributed to the settlement and development of this part of Central New Jersey. Damp but enthusiastic, the group had many questions for the tour leader, Mr. Larry Randolph.

After receiving a number of inquiries from people who assumed the walk was canceled by the weather, the Environmental Commission decided to schedule a repeat program. The next History

Walk will be held on June 6 at 1 p.m. in the cemetery. One of the oldest cemeteries in the area, it contains the graves of many people who were prominent in the area's history. It is located in what was once the churchyard of the Samptown Baptist Church, founded in 1792. Mr. Randolph, a local historian and chairman of the Environmental Commission, will lead the walk.

There is limited parking on the cemetery grounds. Additional parking is available along side streets in the neighborhood. Rain will cancel the event. For more information, call A. Tempel, environmental specialist at (908) 226-7621.

## Our Lady of Czestochowa Celebrates Divine Mercy Week



Father Thomas Ganley

By Maria Seliga

Our Lady of Czestochowa Roman Catholic Church celebrated "Divine Mercy Sunday" on April 19 with a special service by Father Thomas P. Ganley, associate pastor of Our Lady of Fatima Church in Piscataway. Father John Skwara, pastor, assisted Father Ganley in the blessing and dedication of a life-sized portrait of Christ painted by master artist Andrzej Praszczky. The portrait is

a depiction of the Divine Mercy vision which appeared to Sister Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938) on February 22, 1931, in Cracow, Poland. The Vatican is currently conducting an examination of her life and of miracles attributed to the vision in expectation of elevating St. Faustina to Sainthood, a process which takes many years to document. Catholics throughout our area joined Father Ganley for a five hour devotion and celebration later in the day.

## The Observer Spotlights.....

### Margaret Sheldon, A Friend and Neighbor

By Patricia Abbott

*Writers Note: I grew up across the street from the Sheldon family. I can recall being surrounded by Sheldon children. Most of them were older than I. I was amazed at how close the family was. My strongest memory of the Sheldon family was the effervescent center of the family, the core and slightly intimidating woman who could send young boys scrambling home with a single call of their name, Margaret Sheldon. I am proud to call her my friend.*

Born and raised here in town, Margaret Staats Sheldon, exemplifies the spirit of South Plainfield. Her outgoing personality, keen wit, and sense of humor are widely known throughout town. This life long resident attended Grant School and graduated from North Plainfield High School because there was no high school in town at the time. She became engaged



Margaret Sheldon

to Wayne Sheldon, a soldier stationed at the former Camp Kilmer in Edison. Following World War II, they married and lived in Illinois for several years before returning to South Plainfield in the late 50's.

Neighbor Elenore LoMonte

has known Marge Sheldon for forty years. The LoMonte family had just moved into town and Elenore was a young mother with two toddlers. "Marge introduced us to the town," Elenore said, "she showed us where to shop, got us involved in the schools, in volunteer projects and more." She spoke fondly of how Marge called her the 'Back Door Neighbor'. Elenore has many memories of their long friendship but one in particular stands out. She recalls how Marge walked through the snow barefoot and pregnant, to help with her with a child who had suffered a convulsion. Elenore said, "She was my mentor. She was always there when I needed her."

On May 17, 1972, Marge, or Peg as she is known to some, took a job as a clerk/typist for the Board of Assessors office. Twenty-six

Continued on page 13

## Bike Rodeo

Continued from page 1

Copy number and keep it in a safe place. DO use a tamper proof lock. DO keep an eye on your bike.

Sal's Spirit Shoppe donated many of the locks given away during the rodeo. Many other area businesses also contributed to the event. Caldor was approached to donate locks but surprised Bill by donating a bike. Pepsi, Freihoffers, A&P, Edwards, and Pathmark helped provide the goodies and Yogurt Express turned the concession stand over to the Rodeo for the afternoon. Other sponsors include Classic Signs, Flanagan's Pub, N.J. Division of Motor Vehicles, A.K.A. Printing, Home Depot, KMart and Danko. Two hundred people were in attendance. Officer Bill Frink and the evil-doer Baron Von Pedaloff provided a day of fun and education to all.



## Drama Club Holds Auditions

The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop announces audition dates for this year's production of the Hit Musical ANNIE. Auditions will be held on Tuesday, June 9 and Thursday June 11 from 6-9 p.m. at South Plainfield High School.

The workshop is open to South Plainfield residents entering sixth grade in the fall to '98 high school

graduates. Auditioners should be prepared to sing a song of their choice, an accompanist will be provided. Wear comfortable shoes and clothing for dancing.

Also needed; help in all areas of the production; backstage, props, costumes, fundraising, chaperones and more. For more information or to volunteer call Patricia Abbott at 908-756-8011.

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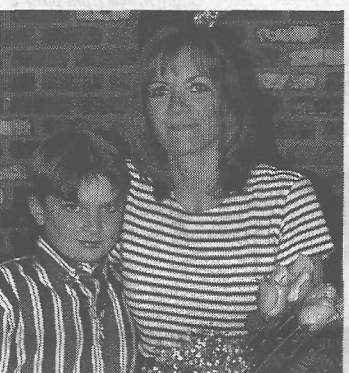
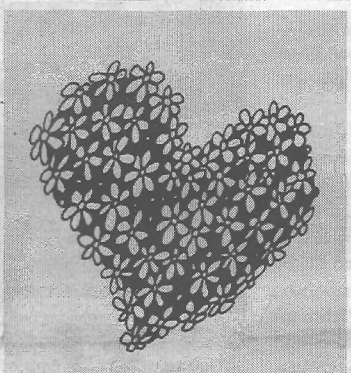
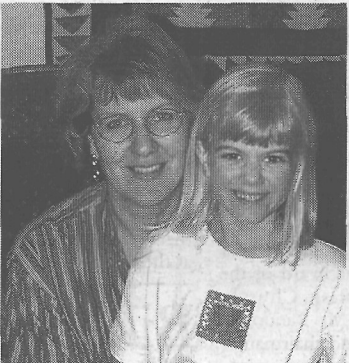
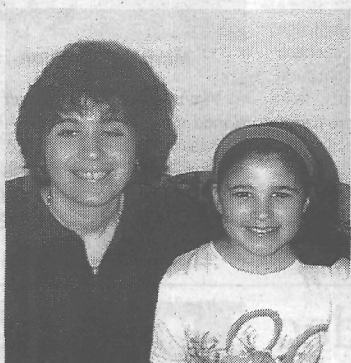
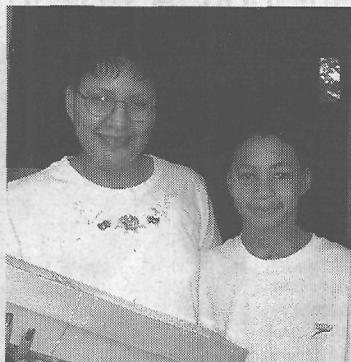
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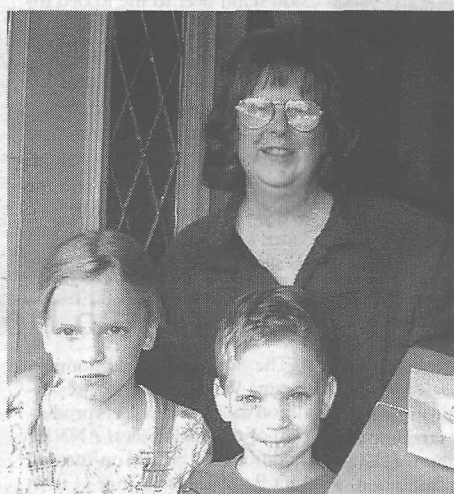
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## Mohn's Flowers Helps Celebrate Moms



On May 9 Mohn's Flowers went on their annual "Rose Patrol." Students wrote *Best Mom* essays which were judged by their teachers. Four winners were chosen from each school. Mohn's Flowers donated a dozen roses to the mother of each winner. Bill Cochrane, co-owner of Mohn's Flowers, presented the roses, along with a copy of their child's essay. Pictured here are some of the happy winners. The winning moms were Cynthia Chang, Suzanne Butrico, Jackie Sandoval, Lisa Smith, Arlene Patenell, Linda Kelly, Mary Honerm, Rose Grazan, Alyssa Bubnick, Donna Roibal, Meg Ventriglia, Natilie Hunt, Dawn Mottola, Cynthia Watts and Barbara Mennuti. Congratulations to all the moms and essay winners!



## Junior Woman's Club to Sponsor SafetyTown '98

The South Plainfield Junior Woman's Club will sponsor South Plainfield's SafetyTown for its twenty-third summer this year, for one 2 week session from July 13 to July 24. SafetyTown is a 17½ hour early childhood education program designed to introduce all types of safety conditions to young children. They learn through role playing in simulated and actual life conditions under the guidance of a certified teacher and volunteers. SafetyTown is open to all children entering kindergarten or first grade.

SafetyTown is a miniature layout of a "real town" consisting of painted streets, traffic controls, "big wheels" as cars complete with seat belts, buildings, crosswalks and other safety aids. Classroom activities include songs, poems, stories, movies and visits from various safety personnel along with field trips. Actual practice is made on the SafetyTown layout, located behind the Administration Building facilities on Cromwell Place in South Plainfield, where the classes will be held for 1½ hours each day.

The registration fee is \$35. For further information, call Tracey Hartmann (755-4349) or Dawn Jeffreys (755-3986).

## State Includes Borough Nature Reserve in Wildlife Viewing Guide

The Highland Avenue Woods Environmental Education Reserve has been included in New Jersey's Watchable Wildlife Program. The program identifies the State's best wildlife viewing areas. South Plainfield's nature reserve is one of 87 sites featured in the new publication, *New Jersey Wildlife Viewing Guide*. The 165-page guide is full of color photos and illustrations. It gives directions to each site and information about facilities, which animals and habitats to look for, and best viewing seasons.

The reserve was nominated for the program by Friends of the Woods (FOW), a group of local residents who work with the South Plainfield Environmental Commission to maintain the reserve and offer educational and recreational programs. Once accepted, the reserve became eligible for a grant to improve the site's accessibility to wildlife watchers. FOW and the Environmental Commission will receive over \$3,700 to develop a nature trail and guidebook. The trail improvements will include permanent marked stations and an information bulletin board and a demonstration table at the trailhead.

Anyone interested in getting involved in the trail improvement project should call the Environmental Specialist for information at (908) 226-7621. *The New Jersey Wildlife Viewing Guide* is available in larger bookstores or directly from the NJ Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife, Endangered Species Program, PO Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400, for \$10.95 plus \$3.95 s/h. Call (908) 735-8975 for more information.

**Carousel Hair Salon**

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# events around town

## Take Me Out to the Ball Game!

The Recreation Commission will be sponsoring a trip on Friday, May 29 to see the Phillies vs. NY Mets at Veteran's Stadium. The bus leaves at 4:45 p.m. from the PAL Building on Maple Ave.

The cost of the trip is \$28 for adults, \$18 for children (16 and younger) and \$38 for nonresidents. It includes tickets, deluxe motorcoach transportation and excellent seats.

For more information or to register, call 226-07713 or visit the PAL Building on Maple Ave.

## Man of LaMancha to Benefit SPSHS Scholarship

The David Pasacrita Memorial Scholarship Committee will host a benefit performance of the hit musical Man of LaMancha on Sunday, May 31. The performance is at 3 p.m. A pre-show wine and cheese/desert reception will be held at 1:30 p.m. Reservations are required. Tickets are \$25 and include the reception and show. Reservations are needed by May 25.

Proceeds from the benefit will be used to support the South Plainfield High School Scholarship that was established in memory of David, (class of '76) after he passed away in 1996. The annual scholarship of \$500 is awarded to a graduating Senior with plans to continue studies in music or musical theatre.

The show is presented by Barn Theatre of Morris County. The theatre is celebrating its 70th season. Barn Theatre is located on Skyline Drive off of Rt 202 in Montville. For reservations call John Graf at 908 781-0470.

## Registration For New Girl/Adult Scouts—All Levels For 1998/1999 Year

The South Plainfield Girl Scout community will be hosting a reception and registration for girls who will be new to girl scouting and any adult who is interested in volunteering. The registration reception will be held on Tuesday, June 2 at the Wesley United Methodist Church on Plainfield Avenue in South Plainfield from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

The cost for registration is \$7. this year. Along with registration will be a display of interesting facts and activities as well as experienced girl scouts and leaders who will answer any questions you may have about girl scouting. Please plan to attend.

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.

## Celebration Dinner Planned for Father Michael McGuire

Sacred Heart is planning to hold a dinner dance in celebration of the 40th anniversary of Father McGuire's ordination to the priesthood.

The affair will be held at the Pines Manor, Rt. 27, Edison on June 29 starting at 5 p.m. with a cocktail hour and hors d'oeuvres followed by dinner. The price is \$50 per person. For information and reservations call the Parish Center at 765-0633.

## Book Fair to be Held at John E. Riley

On June 3, 4 and 5, a Scholastic Book Fair will be held at John E. Riley School. The Fair will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. The public is welcome to come and shop. Outsiders are requested to sign in at the main office prior to going to the fair in the gym/all purpose room if shopping during school hours.

Proceeds will go towards needed library materials. For further information or questions, call Janice Gray at 754-7524.

## Historical Society to Hold Yard Sale

The South Plainfield Historical Society will be holding a yard sale on June 13 at 711 Thompkins Avenue from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.

The Historical Society will be accepting small furniture, household items, etc. Items may be dropped off at 126 Baker Avenue or 510 Franklin Avenue. For information call 756-9654 or 753-7852.

## Fire Department to Sponsor Golden Oldies Concert

The South Plainfield Fire Department is sponsoring a Golden Oldies Concert on Saturday, May 30 at 8 p.m. in the South Plainfield Auditorium. The concert will feature "The Vouges," a popular sixties recording group, and comedian Dave Cooperman. Tickets are \$14 and will be sold at the door.

## Elks to Hold Memorial Day Services

On Saturday May 23, from 2-3 p.m., Elks from several Central New Jersey lodges will be hosting a "Memorial Day Service" at the Woodbridge Mall in the foyer near Sterns. If you happen to be in the Mall or in the area, you are cordially invited to stop by to witness a very impressive ceremony. We wish you all a safe Memorial Day weekend as we enter another summer season.

## Play and Learn Spring Session

Parents of young children won't want to miss the spring session of Play and Learn, the parent/child play program for children ages 6 months to 5 years.

Each 45 minute weekly class is filled with warm up exercises, songs and finger plays, over 50 pieces of pre-school gym equipment, parachute rides and more!

The program is held at the American Legion on Oak Tree Road in South Plainfield. Anyone interested in attending a free trial class can call Denise at 668-0666.



## Elks Club Holds Annual Mother's Day Breakfast



Pictured left are members of the Elks Club busy cooking breakfast for mom at their annual Mother's Day Breakfast. Pictured above is one of the families who enjoyed breakfast. From left: Ruth and Art Murphy, their grandson Brian, his mother Nancy, and Kevin, Lindsey and Josephine Murtagh.

## Recycling Center & Yard Waste Site Closed Memorial Day

The Recycling Center on Kenneth Avenue will be closed on Tuesday, May 26 following the Memorial Day weekend. The Yard Waste Site will also be closed. Both facilities will be open as usual on Saturday, May 23 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Recycling Center will be open on Wednesday, May from 1 to 8 p.m., to make up for the holiday closing. The Yard Waste Site

will also be open on Wednesday from 1 to 8 as usual.

Regular summer hours through Labor Day at the Recycling Center are Tuesdays and Fridays, 1 to 8 p.m. and Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Regular summer hours at the Yard Waste Site are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 8 and Saturdays from 8 to 3.

For updates call the Hotline at 226-7620.

# May/June

The South Plainfield Observer

# 1998

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
				Publication of So. Plfd. Observer		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	MEMORIAL DAY	Council Agenda Meeting 8 pm	Traffic Safety Advisory Comm. 7:00 pm Court 9:30 am 7:00 pm	Recycling Comm. 8:00 pm Council Meeting 8 pm Copy Deadline for So. Plfd. Observer		
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Recreation Comm. 7 pm	SP Library Bd of Trustees 7:30 pm Historical Society 7:30 SP High School Bd. of Health 8:00 pm Planning Bd. 8:00 pm	Court 9:30 am Business Advisory Group 6:30 pm	Taxpayers Advisory Group 7:00 pm Publication of So. Plfd. Observer		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Council Agenda Meeting 8 pm	Board of Adjustment 8 pm	Environmental Comm 8:00 pm Cultural Arts Comm. 8:00 pm PAL Court 9:30 am & 7:00 pm	Council Meeting 8 pm Copy Deadline for So. Plfd. Observer		

# The Alternative View

By Dr. Anthony J. DeCosta, D.C.



What should I look for in choosing an alternative health care doctor? - S.R.

Dear S.R.:

The choice to explore alternative medicine can be a crucial turning point in one's life, affecting physical as well as mental and emotional health. With the help of an alternative practitioner, it is possible to take control of one's personal health, and thereby eliminate the sense of frustration and helplessness that many feel when dealing with conventional medicine.

Alternative medicine offers a wide variety of treatment options. Some of these, such as chiropractic, osteopathy, craniosacral therapy, and the various systems of bodywork, address structural imbalances within the body. Others focus on maintaining the body's biochemical balance of hormones, enzymes, and nutrients, in order to maintain proper cellular function. These include diet, nutritional supplements, herbal medicine, and enzyme therapy. Still others seek to restore mental and emotional balance, including mind/body medicine, biofeedback training, meditation, hypnotherapy, guided imagery, and neuro-linguistic programming. Finally, systems such as acupuncture, homeopathy, energy medicine, magnetic field therapy, and neural therapy address the energetic levels of the body.

Same systems of alternative medicine, such as Chiropractic, Naturopathic medicine, and Traditional Chinese medicine, incorporate a wide range of these methods to offer complete systems of health care.

But how does one go about selecting an alternative practitioner? Not surprisingly, many of the same criteria used to choose a conventional doctor are important in seeking out an expert in natural healing. Yet, because the very nature of the alternative approach is far more encompassing than the conventional one, there are a number of other critical factors that should be taken into account in the selection process.

The following suggestions offer basic guidelines for choosing an alternative practitioner:

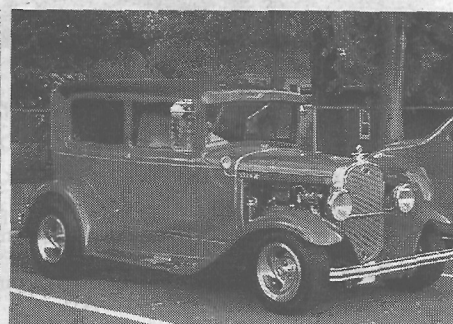
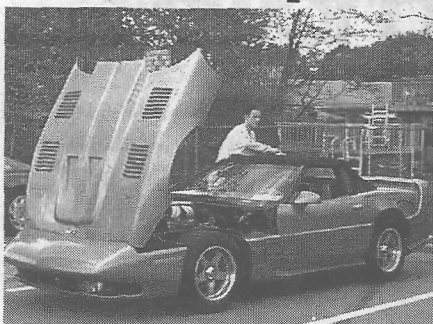
- **Educate yourself about the general principles of alternative health care.** The success of alternative care is dependent upon an informed patient as well as a knowledgeable practitioner. Even after selecting a practitioner, the education process must continue, becoming an ongoing aspect of a person's approach to alternative care. As I often say to my patients, to paraphrase Sy Sim's, "An educated patient is our best client."

- **Find a practitioner with whom you can communicate openly and with whom you have a good rapport.** With any health care practitioner, you should feel comfortable about communicating adequately and getting your questions properly answered. If your doctor seems threatened or put off by your questions, (what is termed "The Ivory Tower" attitude), it's time to change doctors and find one who will take the necessary time to fully explain your treatment and answer your questions fully. Remember, there is no such thing as a stupid question, especially when one does not know or understand their health problem and treatment.

- **Choose an alternative approach in which you have confidence.** In alternative healing, the mental and emotional aspects of healing cannot be separated from the physical. It is vital, therefore, that one "believe" in the alternative method one has chosen. Results are not predicated on belief. However, I could show you stacks of information and evidence about chiropractic, but even after I had fully explained it to you and how it works, if you tell me that you will never understand chiropractic and how it works, and that you are not able or willing to follow through with our recommendations, I'm not going to get half the results from you that I would have from another patient who had a friend who was saved from a life of suffering by chiropractic when all else had failed, was well informed about chiropractic care, and was ready to follow through with a chiropractic treatment plan when they walked in the door.

Questions for *The Alternative View* should be addressed to: The Alternative View, c/o Dr. Anthony J. DeCosta, D.C., 129 South Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

## Vision 2001 Sponsors Car and Truck Show



The All Car and Truck Show was held on May 3 in the parking lot of South Plainfield High School. Approximately 100 vehicles entered the show. The varieties of styles and ages ranged from a 1931 Model "A" Ford 2 door Sedan (modified) to very late model Camaros. Some of the cars were valued at over \$30,000.

The show was held to benefit The South Plainfield Vision 2001 Education Foundation.

A highlight of the show was the presence of Kathy Nejat, Miss New Jersey 1997-1998, who presented the awards. Ms. Nejat is from Voorhees, N.J., located near Cherry Hill. She is attending Temple University and majoring in journalism.

Plans are already in the works to hold the event again next year.

Some of the winners were:

- Class 1-1st place, Bill Bayne, 1969 Camaro RS SS; 2nd place Bill Macellar, 1968 Camaro.
- Class 2-1st place, Jeff Pelligrino,



Emil Leporino helps Miss New Jersey, Kathy Nejat present one of the winning trophies to Art Petridis.

1968 Camaro; 2nd place, Al Galidi, 1968 Camaro SS. Class 4-1st place, David Butler, 1979 Camaro.

- Class 6-1st place George Fender, 1985 Camaro Z28; 2nd place Jefferey Ditmar, 1984

Camaro. Class 9-1st place, Richard Walker, 1997 Plymouth NEON. Class 10-1st place, Frank Grillo, 1987 Toyota Supra.

- Class 11-1st place, Lou Alvino, 1975 Cosworth Vega; 2nd place, Jenny Lukacs, 1970 Chevelle; 2nd place, Roy and Ruth Hardgrove, 1976 town Car. Class 12-1st place, Leon Skorupski, 1969 Chevelle; 2nd place Frank Tarantino, 1964 Plymouth CUDA.

- Class 14-1st place, Art Petridis, 1949 Hudson. Class 15- Mike and Joyce Calabrese, 1970 Olds 442. Class 17-1st place, Rich and Bonnie Robertson, 1991 Corvette; 2nd place, David Sexton, 1985 Corvette.

## South Plainfield Rescue Squad Selling 50/50 Tickets

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad is holding its annual 50/50 ticket sale. Tickets will be sold until drawing day, Labor Day, Sept. 7. Tickets are available at the squad building, 2520 Plainfield Ave. (behind the library) or from any squad member.

Tickets are \$1. Proceeds go to the South Plainfield Volunteer Rescue Squad. Last year's winner took home more than \$3,000.

**ob•serve:** 1. to celebrate ceremonially // 2. to notice (something), to pay special attention to // 3. (a) to look at with attention // 4. to perceive, notice, come to know by seeing // 5. to comment, to note attentively

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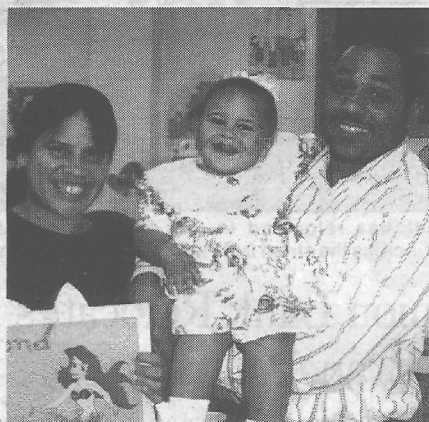
Enclosed is my check or money order for \$13.00 for 26 issues (Out of State-\$23). Mail to: The South Plainfield Observer, c/o G&G Graphics, 530 Union Ave., Suite 3, Middlesex, NJ 08846.

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## Junior Woman's Club Announces Beautiful Baby Contest Winners

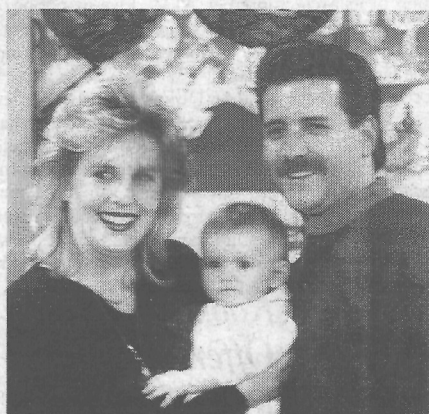


The Junior Woman's Club of South Plainfield recently presented prizes to the top three winners of the Annual Beautiful Baby Contest.

An annual event, the contest raises money for a nursing scholarship for a graduating high school senior. \$750 was raised from the event.

The winners were: first place—Diamond Pender (pictured left), daughter of Diane and Dominic Pender; second place—Kelly Brigid Simpson (below left), daughter of Kathy and Seth Simpson and third place—Philip Aquilina IV (below right), son of Doris and Philip Aquilina III. The children were awarded prizes and gift certificates donated from businesses around town.

The Junior Woman's Club is a non-profit organization which meets the first Wednesday of the month at Pilgrim Covenant Church on Park Ave. They welcome newcomers.



## Why Should You Be a Girl Scout Volunteer?

By Neva Jankoski

It has become a growing concern of mine since I took on the position of Registrar in town that many parents are under the wrong assumption of who and what a Girl Scout leader/volunteer is. Some of the myths that exist are: 1) Girl Scouts are a "women only" organization. We accept volunteers in all shapes, sizes, colors, sex, age and religion. 2) A volunteer need be a "stay at

home" mom in order to be a leader of a troop. To the contrary, most of the existing leaders have jobs outside the home. Some volunteers are self-employed or hold positions in large companies. 3) Leaders must have troop meetings after school. Although many volunteers find this to be more convenient for them, meetings may be conducted in a home, church or other meeting place during the day or evening hours that would be acceptable to our

Safety Wise Guidebooks. 4) Not knowing what to do as a Leader. Girl Scouts provide training and support to all volunteers from how to run troop meetings to camping.

There are a lot of excuses out there on why people can not volunteer, but for every excuse there is a good reason to get involved with your children and the youth of this community. We hope to have a significant registration this year and are in great need of Girl Scout leaders and co-leaders. Scouting develops skills and values in our youth. A shortage of leaders can severely limit the Girl Scout programs. Last year we turned away girls who wanted to become Girl Scouts because we did not have enough leaders. Please consider this opportunity when approached by a Girl Scout representative. For more information on becoming a volunteer, contact Neva Jankoski at 757-2579.

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From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Regardless of the calendar, as well as the axial tilt and orbital path of the Earth, summer more or less starts this weekend. So, let's kick off the season with some news from South Plainfield Library:

The Library will be closed on Monday, May 25, in honor of Memorial Day.

For the next two weeks, our children's storytime program for children age 3-6 will be held on Tuesday at 10:15 a.m. and Thursday at 1:30 p.m.; the program for children ages 1½-3 years will be held on Thursday at 11 a.m. The Monday program for 3-6 year-olds will return on June 1 at 6:30 p.m. For more details talk to Judy Fischer, children's librarian.

The Friends of the Library will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, June 2, at 7:30 p.m. Members and non-members are welcome to attend; refreshments will be served.

Speaking of the *Friends*, their Book and Bake Sale was held on May 2. They would like to thank everyone who donated items for the sale, particularly children's books. While the big sale is history, their ongoing sale is still, well...ongoing. Several items, including recent best sellers, are available. Feel free to stop in and browse.

A display of hand carved birds by Fred Sonnenfeld can be seen at the library for the rest of the month.

Our third Internet terminal is now running. It replaces our previously-available Infotrac terminal that was used for periodical reference. However, this terminal

can be switched back to the Infotrac program, if you prefer. Check with the reference library for help on how to do this, though. Don't try it on your own.

We have a couple of bad news items for you. First, effective June 1, there will be an additional charge for overdue items for which we have to send notices. 50 cents will be added to cover postage, as well as the cost of the mailer. We'll also be assessing a processing fee on patrons who lose the bar-code cards for circuit items. Don't forget this, as those fees really add up.

A word about our videocassettes. Some people have borrowed tapes and returned them thinking they were damaged because the picture looked narrow. Usually, this is not because the tape is damaged, but because it's "letterboxed". Letterboxing is a process by which the image on a video is presented in the rectangular style of a movie screen, instead of the square shape of a TV screen. This allows viewers to see the entire image as it was originally presented. It's the mode of choice for film buffs, particularly for large-scale sequences like the chariot race in "Ben-Hur". A few of our tapes are letterboxed, like "Spartacus" and "Apollo 13". If you see your video presented in this format and you're not sure, check the display box; it should tell you if you're seeing the big picture, or if you're actually looking at some VCR repairs. Or, as always, just ask us and we'll check on it.

That's about it for this issue. Thanks very much for reading. Now go enjoy what everyone says is summertime.

## May Crowning at Our Lady Of Czestochowa Church



Kim Bulla, daughter of Ken and Beverly Bulla, is shown crowning the Blessed Mother while Brooke De Nitzio placed the crown on the Baby Jesus. The crowning ceremony took place after the 7 p.m. mass on May 6 at Our Lady of Czestochowa Church on Hamilton Boulevard.

Other girls who were escorts at the crowning were Melissa Colina, Johanna Michaelski, Lauren Yulick, Christina De Matos, Robyn Stayvas, Carly Yulick. Brooke De Nitzio was the crown bearer and Alexa Sainbar was the Angel. Members of the First Communion class also served as escorts.

Photo by Ellis Williams

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## ENGAGEMENTS

### Laura Zaluska to Wed Terry O'Shaughnessy

Ronald and Sandra Zaluska of South Plainfield have announced the engagement of their daughter, Laura, to Terry O'Shaughnessy of South Plainfield.



Terry O'Shaughnessy is the son of Pat and Kathleen Quigley of Cameron Park, Ca. and the late Edward O'Shaughnessy.

The future bride is a graduate of South Plainfield High School. She is a nurse at All Health Care in Metuchen.

The future bridegroom is a graduate of South Plainfield High School. He is a mechanic at Ingersoll-Rand in Edison.

An October 24 wedding is planned.

## GRADUATIONS

### Joseph's High School Graduate Receives Degree from York College of PA

Patrick J. Harris, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Harris of Putnam Ave., will graduate from York College of Pennsylvania on May 16, 1998.

A graduate of St. Joseph's High School, Metuchen, Patrick earned a Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communications. Patrick's activities/awards at York College included *The Spartan Newspaper*, WVYC College Radio Station, Zeta Beta Tau-Secretary and WVYC Award.

## BOROUGH NOTES

*Continued from page one*

April. The fire department answered 75 calls.

■ Dennis Cerami reported that the police department has had an increase in motor vehicle stops and arrests since instituting its new work schedule. During the first quarter this year police have made 31 DWI arrests. Among the cars stopped police found 411 revoked licensed drivers, 165 speeders, 180 unregistered vehicles and 276 drivers with no insurance. "This is a substantial increase from last year," Cerami said. "Chief Merkler should be commended for this."

■ John Corica announced the De-

partment of Transportation has expanded the grant program to include bicycle paths, sidewalks and roads. Belmont Ave., from Roosevelt School to the ball field, may be one of the projects that will be realized with the grant money. This will save the school system money by eliminating busing in that area. Montrose Ave. and Morris Ave. are two of the roads being considered for the road grant program. Putnam Park may be considered for a bike path.

■ Ray Petronko reported that the cement has been poured at the Community Pool and it is ready to be filled. The grounds still require sod. He reminded everyone to sign up now for pool membership. Petronko also reported that Putnam Park has completed a tree line. Halls Trucking donated 41 trees to help complete the tree planting.

■ The Senior Citizens will be awarding a scholarship for the first time to a high school student.

### Moriello Family Opens Mr. Porky's

Mario Moriello and his family have opened a new bar b'que take out and catering restaurant. They use an open pit grill for their special bar b'que ribs, chicken, steak and seafood. A full menu of lunch and dinner items is also available.

Mr. Porky's is located on 2341 Plainfield Ave. For take-out orders call 753-5252 or fax your order to 753-4010.

## Hall Of Fame Candidates Selected

*Continued from page one*  
tial has earned him a membership in the Hall of Fame.

Along with his affiliations with funeral directors associations, Robert Hunter Jr. of South Plainfield has demonstrated dedication to community through his membership in the Rotary Club, Knights of Columbus, South Plainfield Alliance for Substance Awareness, Vision 2001 Education Foundation and Environmental Commission. He currently serves on the Brookside Commission for Senior Citizens Housing and is coordinator for South Plainfield Freestyle & Greco Wrestling, a program he founded five years ago.

The inductees will be honored on June 2 with a luncheon at Holiday Inn in South Plainfield. An induction ceremony will take place at 7 p.m. on June 2 in South Plainfield High School's Joseph Mondoro Auditorium during the annual academic awards ceremony.

### William Tuthill Book Signing at Local Bank



William Tuthill

On June 12 Bill Tuthill will be signing his book, "Mission to Haiti: Stories of Some of Our Experiences While Serving at Mission at Haiti" at United National Bank on St. Nicholas Ave., South Plainfield, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.



First Union Bank has relocated to Oak Park Commons Shopping Center, across the street from their previous location.

## First Union Bank Relocates Second Branch Office

First Union Bank has announced the opening of its Stelton Road office at a new location near Middlesex Mall. This is the second branch office First Union has opened in recent months. Both branches are newly designed prototype banks First Union plans to build in the future. South Plainfield is the first to have these new bank prototypes. The first bank opened on Oak Tree Rd. and Park Avenue. It moved from across the street a few months ago when the Oak Park Shopping Center opened. The second is on the corner of Stelton Road and Hadley Blvd. and is relocating from just down the street.

In conjunction with the opening celebration First Union will be holding a drawing. First prize is a color TV with a built-in VCR, second prize is dinner for two at Caffe Piancone and third prize is a gift certificate for \$75 from Menlo Park Mall. To enter the drawing just pick up an entry form in the lobby in any of the three branches in town, 905 Oak Tree Rd., 4801 Hadley Blvd. or 2325 Plainfield Ave. Forms are also available at two Edison branches, 1063 Inman Ave. or 1899 Rt. 27 and Stony Post Rd.; and in the Piscataway branch at 151 Centennial Ave.

First Union spokesman Mark Tasy said the prototype banks are designed with a look to the future in banking concepts. "The idea is to give the bank back to the people," said Tasy. Customers will have the choice of several different options to do their banking. There are telephones located in the lobby of each new bank. They can be used for loans, CDs, stocks, insurance and all sorts of banking services. Customers will be able to make several choice

when banking. They can use the internet, ATM, drive-in, phone or bank personnel. These choices allow customers to bank 24 hours a day.

First Union recently merged with CoreStates Bank, which has a branch located on Plainfield Ave. Mr. Tasy stated that customers can now use the ATM machines at either bank. However, he said, customers must still use their own bank for regular bank

## Roosevelt PTA Offers Welcome Program for New Students

The Roosevelt School P.T.A. will be offering a "Welcome" program to those students entering Roosevelt School Kindergarten this September. Parents may choose either 9-10 a.m. or 1-2:30 p.m. for the week of June 1 through June 5th.

All children wishing to participate must be previously registered for kindergarten through the town, at the Administration Building, in order to attend.

Questions about this fun-filled program, featuring a tour of the school, meeting some of the teachers, games, songs and crafts, can be answered at the "sign up" or you may call the main office at Roosevelt School at 754-4620 ext. 336.

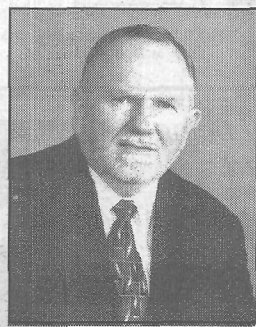
### ATTENTION GRADUATES!

The Observer would like to recognize your accomplishments. Send us your high school, college or graduate school bio, along with your photo, and we will publish them in the June 14 issue of the Observer.

### CKL to Donate Proceeds to Playground

Riley School parent Scott MacKenzie, owner of CKL Pest Control, has generously offered to donate 10% of proceeds from his pest control services purchased during the month of May to Riley's Playground Committee.

Call 756-2268 to schedule your appointment today! This offer is available to all South Plainfield residents.



**Wayne Grennier**  
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

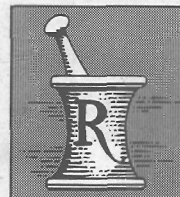
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Memorial Day Weekend**  
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## **GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION**

May 18th - May 23

905 Oak Tree Road *and* 4801 Stelton Road

### **BRANCH HOURS**

**Monday-Wednesday & Friday:** Lobby 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.; Drive-in: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
**Thursday:** Lobby 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.; Drive-in: 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
**Saturday:** Lobby and Drive-in are open from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

### **Three Lucky Winners Will Take Home One of the Following Prizes:**

- 1st Prize: 20" Optimus Color TV with built in VCR  
(Radio Shack, Middlesex Mall)
- 2nd Prize: \$100 Dinner for Two at Caffe Piancone
- 3rd Prize: \$75 Menlo Park Mall Gift Certificate

Entry Forms\* are available at the above offices along with the following locations:

Edison: 1063 Inman Ave.; 1899 Rte. 27 & Stony Post Rd.; and 1630 Oak Tree Rd.  
 Piscataway: 151 Centennial Ave. South Plainfield: 2325 Plainfield Ave.

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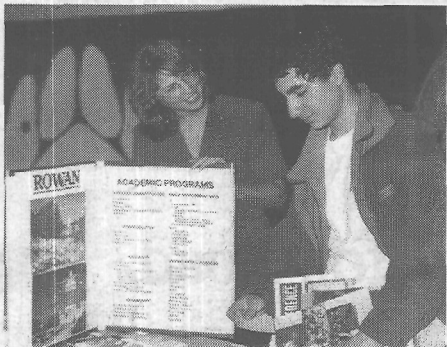
**Coupons Expire June 30, 1998. Coupons are valid at the seven offices listed above.**

\*One entry per person. Entrants must be at least 18 years of age. Employees of First Union, its affiliates and their family members are not eligible. See rules for complete details. \*\*Investments are NOT FDIC INSURED/NOT BANK GUARANTEED/MAY LOSE VALUE. \*\*\*Includes no monthly maintenance fees or transaction charges for 6 months and a free initial order of First Union Checks. New accounts only. Other activity charges such as overdraft and night depository may apply.





Left to right: Jennifer Infante, Lina Infante and St. Peter's College representative Maureen Pergola



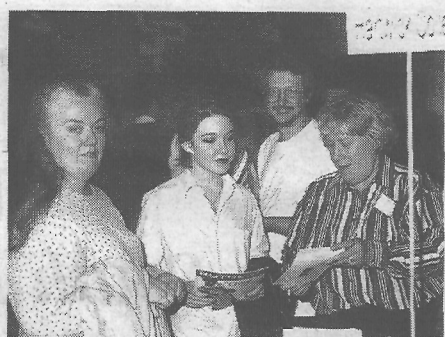
Jeanne Lewis, Rowan University representative, with Matthew La Sparta

# School Work

## SPHS Sponsors College/Career Fair

The South Plainfield High School Guidance Department sponsored a College/Career Fair on Tuesday, April 28. The fair provided parents and students the opportunity to meet with over 100 representatives from all types of schools: technical, business, nursing, as well as colleges and universities and members of the armed forces.

Team Leader Melinda Lally stated that "the Fair was a Huge Success! Parents and students were well informed of the college process and they had ample time to speak with the various representatives. The fair coincided with the Junior Career and College Planning Week which was held by all counselors prior to the fair."



Left to right: Mrs. Brenda Fore, Dana Fore, Mr. Michael Fore and Hartwick College representative Renee Goldberg



Back row, left to right are Melinda Lally, team leader; Elaine Bolger, secretary and Nancy Flannery, secretary from the Guidance Dept. and front row, left to right, Nadine Knight, counselor; Eileen Boettger, counselor; Neil Torrino, counselor; Frank Vatalare, vice principal and Cheryl Fox, counselor.

## SPHS Students Take Top Honors at Middlesex County Writing Conference

By LeeAnn Errico  
Tiger Times Staff Reporter

In March, South Plainfield High School students attended the Middlesex County Writing Conference held at Middlesex County College. The day was filled with writing workshops, creativity and awards.

This year SPHS students won more awards than ever before.

In the poetry category, LeeAnn Errico won first place for her poem "Rainbow Room," Daniel Nieves won second place for his poem "Puerto Rican Mamasitas," and Diane Ringel also won second place for her poem "Love Mr. R.E." Janie Joy placed third for her poem "Desire," Leticia Donegan received an honorable mention for her poem "Last Time," and LeeAnn Errico received an honorable mention for "If We Only Took Time Out For the Little Things."

In the short story/fiction category, Lindsey Noonan, a freshman and the only SPHS student to place at the MCC conference, received a third place award for her story "My Angel."

SPHS students won every award in the journalism category. Michael Calderone won first place for his article "The Great Salad Debate," LeeAnn Errico won second place for her article "Trendflash," and Justin Woo won third place for his article "What to Do When Your Alternative Is No Longer Alternative." LeeAnn Errico received an

honorable mention for her article "Fading Quickly," Desha Abe received an honorable mention for her article "The Final Round" and Ryan O'Keefe was awarded an honorable mention for his article "Ouch! My Butt!"

Michael Calderone, senior veteran winner (he also won first place for journalism in 1997), stated, "I am very honored to be selected as first place winner. It is great that our journalism class swept the category. We worked hard and deserved the recognition."

English/Journalism Teacher and Advisor Ms. Pecora said, "I think that even more of our talented students should have won, but the ones who did deserved it. Our success in the contest just proves what I have known all along: our students are the best."

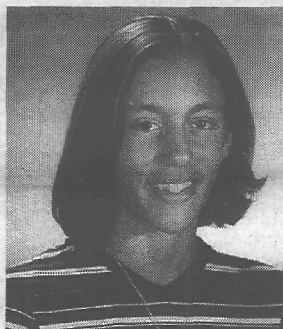
## SHANNON AND KHRISTINA... Notes from the Middle School



Khristina Theobald

Hi! This is Shannon Dabrio and Khristina Theobald reporting from the South Plainfield Middle School for the month of May. Here's what's going.

The Paper Bag Bandit was held on April 30 and May 1. This was a drama club production held for all students. The play is one of the first melodramas ever performed. The 6th and 7th graders saw the



Shannon Dabrio

play on April 30 and the 8th graders saw the play on May 1. Congratulations to all cast and crew members for a job well done!

Attention to all 8th graders! The 8th grade Washington trip was May 11 and 12. Students visited the Baltimore Aquarium, Inner City Harbor of Baltimore, the Capitol, and much more! Speaking of trips, the 7th graders go on the trip to the Museum of

Natural History from 8:45 A.M. - 3:15 P.M. on May 29th.

May 14 was the South Plainfield Middle School instrumental concert. The concert was held at 7:30 p.m. The audience was treated to many songs for all to enjoy. Thanks to all musicians!

May 15 was the Battle of the Books Finals in Englishtown, N.J. The top 7th and 8th grade teams attended.

The Middle School vocal concert is May 21 at 7:30 p.m. The concert will feature a variety of songs for all to enjoy. Good luck to all the singers!

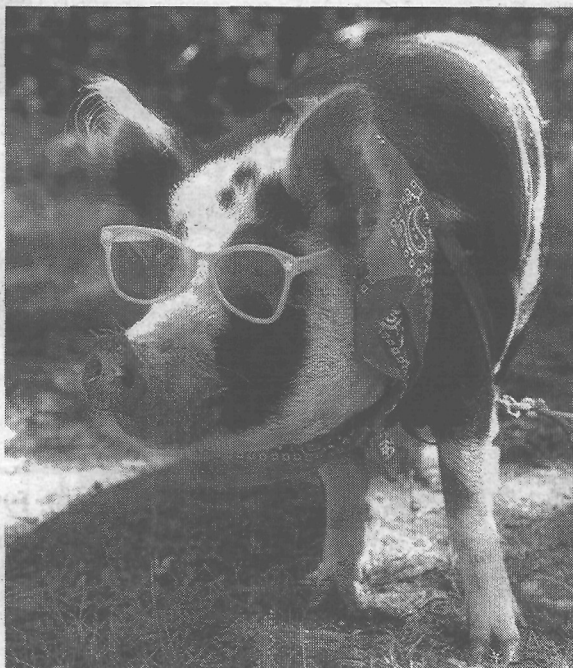
Also, taking place this month is the 6th grade orientation for future South Plainfield Middle School students. The orientation will be held for 5th graders from the four elementary schools in South Plainfield.

Well, that's all the news for now! Remember, school is closed May 22 and May 25 in observance of Memorial Day.

# Stand out from the crowd...

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## Sacred Heart Students...



By Dana Boyer, Lauren Campos  
and Kaila Randolph

Even though the school year is coming to a close, Sacred Heart School's activities never seem to end. Here are some of the events going on throughout the school and parish.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Ladies Auxiliary sponsored an essay contest on "What Patriotism Means to Me". The winners from Sacred Heart and their prizes are as follows: seventh grade - Margaret Monroe, first place \$150; eighth grade - Lauren Reed, second place \$100; and seventh grade - Katie Selby, third place \$75.

They were awarded their prize money on April 29. A special thanks to seventh and eighth grade English teacher Mrs. Geene for all her help. Congratulations to all the winners!

### Practice Makes Perfect

Lauren A. Campos, eighth

grader and co-author of this column, was the winner of the Russell E. Laming Piano Solo competition, sponsored by the Piano Teachers Society of America, held at Drew University on April 28. The winners recital will take place at Carnegie Hall on May 23. Lauren will play "General Lavine" — eccentric by Debussy. At the age of three, Lauren began studying with Sister Mary Sharon Gross at the Mercy Conservatory of Music, in Scotch Plains. We wish her luck and success.

### Fun at the Festival

Sacred Heart Parish is holding their annual Funstival through May 23. There are rides for all ages, games with prizes, and food from various cultures.

Everyone is invited to join in on all the fun at this event which gets better and better each year. Hope to see you there.

Thank you for reading this column. Stay tuned for more news "Write from the Heart."

## The Fabulous French Club

by Lisa Sepkowski  
Tiger Times Staff Reporter

This year's French club has a Memorial weekend trip to Quebec planned from May 21 to the 24. The French Club will be staying in the Raddison Hotel and doing a great deal of sightseeing.

However, this trip is only one of the enjoyable activities that the French Club has participated in this year. With the help of officers Jennifer Borja, Mohammed Shiliwala, Rocco Borja, Thais Petrocelli, and advisor Ms. Sicola, the officers have been planning entertaining activities for their club all year long.

The first activity the French Club organized was a Mardi Gras

celebration in February which included a Sundae party. In March, they took a trip to see the Broadway musical "Beauty and the Beast." Also in March, they had a delicious breakfast before school in honor of culture day which included a sundae party. Mohammed Shiliwala, vice-president, feels that club has been very successful. "This year, the club has been very enjoyable because of the amount of fun-filled activities we planned. Next year, a trip to France may be planned," he said.

So, if you like French culture and fun trips, sign up for the French Club next year. You do not even have to be in a French class to join. You might just get to go to France.

## Spring Fling 1998



Pre-schoolers perform "Spring Fling 1998" at Creative Kids Academy on South Clinton Avenue.

## SCHOOL HAPPENINGS SACRED HEART

### Culture Fair 5 8 98

Music, laughter, delicious aromas, conversation and general exuberance radiated from the cafeteria of Sacred Heart school as the Social Studies Culture Fair got underway. During the school year, the sixth grade students did research, collected data and wrote papers about their country of origin. All their efforts came together on May 8, 1998 with the Culture Fair. Under the direction of Miss Carolyn Alfonso, 6th grade Social Studies teacher, students with similar backgrounds formed groups and created displays, including maps, national costumes, ethnic food and music. On the day of the fair, students dressed in native clothing, and with the assistance of many parents, served a large variety of ethnic foods. The countries repre-



Sacred Heart Walk-A-Thon

sented were Poland, Germany, the Philippines, Vietnam, Italy, Ireland, England, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Ecuador, Peru, Panama, Colombia, Nigeria Uganda, Ghana and Jamaica. Students, teachers and parents learned a lot, sampled delicious and exotic food and generally enjoyed the music and festive atmosphere.

### Walk-a-thon 5 1 98

The overcast skies and threatening rain held off just long enough on Friday morning, May 1, to allow 250 students to complete Sacred Heart's annual fund raising Walk-a-thon. Sponsored by the Home & School Association, walkers solicited per lap and flat amount pledges from friends and family and then walked as many laps as possible in 45 minutes on a course laid out behind the school. With rock music keeping the pace, some students went for speed completing up to 50+ laps, other walked with friends, while many older walkers helped little ones along. The morning finished up with bottles water and ice pops all around. This event provided a welcome opportunity for exercise and friendship, while raising money for the school.

### Pastor Appreciation Day 5 6 98

The entire student body and faculty assembled to honor Fr. Michael McGuire on Pastor Appreciation Day. Many of the students had prepared performances for him. Allison and Kathryn Paterek, twins (2nd grade) sang "When Irish Eyes are Smiling", Lisa Revolinski and Lauren Campos (8th graders) played piano pieces, the Pre-K students sang,



Sixth grade students in native dress at the Culture Fair.

and music teacher Mr. Paul DeLoia's Mini-Choir performed three pieces. As Principal Sr. Cornelia Ramirez stated for all assembled "We are grateful, not only for what you do, but who you are for us, for devotion, guid-

of Excellence held by the Diocese of Metuchen at the Pines Manor on May 4, 1998. Her commended accomplishments were "Outstanding service in advancing cardiovascular health and fitness, organization of all activities



Debbie Fusco

ance and love.

### Miss Debbie Fusco Honored for Excellence 5 4 98

Sacred Heart's Gym teacher, Miss Debbie Fusco, was honored for her contributions and her 12 years of service as "Outstanding Educator" of 1998 at the Dinner

for annual Field Day and excellence in general Physical Education." Among Fusco's other activities: holding annual Jump-a-thon to raise money for the American Heart Association, fitness testing for students 4<sup>th</sup> grade-up and promoting more physical exercise. Her succinct philosophy is good advice for everyone - "Get Moving, Play Fair and Have Fun."



Fr. Michael McGuire and students on Pastor Appreciation Day

## Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.  
South Plainfield, NJ

Very Rev. Michael A.  
McGuire, Pastor

### Mass Schedule:

Saturday Evening Mass 5:45 p.m.

Sunday 7:45, 9:00, 10:30 a.m. and 12 Noon

Weekdays 9:00 a.m. (church)

Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.

Holy Days 7 p.m. (Vigil); 7, 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m. and 7 p.m.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 11 a.m.- 12 noon, 5:15 -5:45 p.m.  
and after 5:45 p.m. Vigil Mass







Pictured above is Auxiliary President Joan Jefferson and Commander George Green.

## VFW Post 6763 Holds Installation

VFW Post 6763 held their installation of officers on May 16. Sworn in were Commander George Green, Sr. Vice Commander Thomas Adams, Quartermaster John Trocideo, Chaplain Michael Pancza, Post Advocate Arthur Bullwinkel, Three Year Trustee Philip Cortese, Second Year Trustee and Adjutant Carl Zakzewski, One Year Trustee Rody Poczak, Service Officer Otto Sodoma and House Committee Members Robert Nilan and Joseph Riccardi.

The Women's Auxiliary installed the following new officers were President Joan Jefferson, Sr. Vice President Jean Youngman, Jr. Vice President Helen Vargas, Conductress Marlene Poczak, Chaplain Marilyn Bird, Patriotic Instructor Carol Parkas, Treasurer Mary Ann Rauer, Guard Margaret Anderson, Secretary Viola Gratta, Historian Alice McHughand. Also installed as Trustees were Dorothy DeWolf, Jean Ksenzakodie and Harriet Square.

## Girl Scouts Hold Awards and Recognition Dinner



Pat Anderson (left) and Arlene Kelly.

The South Plainfield Girl Scout Community held the Awards and Recognition Dinner recently. Awards presented were: Outstanding Leader to Nancy Regan, Dede Barletta and Neva Jankoski; Outstanding Volunteer to Maria Huber, Michelle Billich and Linda Kelly; Twenty Year Pin-Membership to Arlene Kelly; Fifteen Year Pin-Membership to Annmarie Stoeckel; Ten Year Pin-Membership to Cindy Bossee, Cathy Piwowar, Kathy Thomas and Joanne Miller; Ten Years Pins-Service to Sue Butrico; Five

year Pin-Service to Kathy Thomas, Joanne Miller and Kathy Manning; Leadership Development Pin to Maria Huber, Michelle Billich; Leaves for Dev. Pin to Michelle Billich, four leaves and Joanne Orlowski, one leave.

Community awards were given to Louis Robustelli, President, Jesco, Inc.; Richochet Racquet Club and Westfield Orthopedic Group. The dinner was held at the Polish Home on New Market. The Polish Home donates the use of the hall for their meetings.

## Armstead Court Named After Resident

A special reception was held at the VFW on May 9 to celebrate the naming of Armstead Court after the former Wilbur Armstead. Mayor Gallagher presented the actual street sign to his widow, Esther Armstead. Many residents and relatives were there to join in the celebration. Betty Hill, his niece served as Master of Ceremonies.

James McBane was the guest speaker. He was a long time friend and neighbor of the Armsteads. He remembered Wilbur starting the Neighborhood Committee when he saw families living in town that were in need and he wanted to help them. When the unrest was going on in Plainfield, he walked the streets to keep people calm. He was also an active member of the John Riley PTA even though he had no children in the school. Mr. McBane said "Wilbur was a caring person who went out his way to help people."

Former Superintendent of Schools Leonard Tobias also praised him



Mayor Dan Gallagher presents the Armstead Ct. street sign to Esther Armstead, widow of Wilbur and James McBane.

for all the help he gave to Riley. He planted trees and bushes around the school, recruiting volunteers and getting businesses to donate shrubs. Mayor Gallagher also spoke of Wilbur saying that

he made a significant difference in our community.

Armstead Court is located off of Hogan Drive in a new development being built on Durham Ave.

## Marge Sheldon, Friend and Neighbor

*Continued from page 3*

years later finds her retiring as supervisor in the same office. Over the years she worked her way up the ranks to supervisor, making an untold number of friends. She often goes above and beyond the call of duty as she patiently assists senior citizens and others fill out seemingly complicated paperwork.

Marge has seen six mayors serve seven terms of office in her 26 years in the Assessors Office: Bill Pentergrass, Joe Coughlin, Mike English, Hank Pellone, Mike Woskey, and Dan Gallagher who is in a second term. Retirement in January began with a trip to Panama, where she was invited as a house guest of a friend. April 23 saw her honored with a dinner held at the Italian-American club, celebrating her quarter century working for South Plainfield. The mayor and council were present at the dinner and presented her with a certificate of appreciation award.

Before she began her career at Borough Hall her days were far from quiet. Marge raised seven children. She now has 12 grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Her family may have been a full-time job in itself but in addition to juggling all those schedules she found time to become involved with Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. She was the first president of the High School PTA. She has served as the President of the Terra Nova Garden Club and the Sacred Heart Rosary Society. She served on the by-laws committee of Catholic Daughters of America

and the Polish Home Scholarship Committee.

She helps with the fish dinners at Sacred Heart during Lent. Three days each year she travels to Greymore, NY to help with a fundraiser for the Sisters of Atonement.

Many residents will miss stopping by the office just to say hi to

Marge, but she won't be hard to find around town. Marge is active in the Sacred Heart Fair and in the Lady of Czestochowa's Feast of St. Anthony. Marge may be retired, but you'll not find any dust settling around her. She will probably just be more active than ever!

## Godspell Production Receives Rave Reviews

On May 7 the lights went down and the energy went up as the cast of GODSPELL took to the stage at South Plainfield High School. With a record crowd, the cast started the opening of the show with music arranged by the director Shayne Miller. He also rearranged the script to bring the story up to date.

The music rang out through the auditorium and was complemented by the choreography. The entire first act of the show was full of non-stop laughing by the audience and the only phrase heard during intermission was that they could not wait to see the second act.

The second act was very different from the first. Jesus (Steve Ambielli) showed the wrath of

God. He was able to portray his wrath without the typical yelling and physical anger. Although there were several points in the show that the entire audience felt chills, none were as moving as the song, "On the Willows". The combination of the singing and the staging made it impossible for a dry tear to remain in the house.

This was one of the most successful productions at South Plainfield High School in the past decade. The profits were four times what the production team spent. The cast members were enthusiastic and emotional. Their hard work paid off because one of the positive comments heard while leaving the theatre. Congratulations to the cast, crew, band, and production staff of GODSPELL.

### J&S

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## Obituaries

### ■ THOMAS P. CANFIELD, 77

Thomas P. Canfield died on Monday, May 11, at the JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Mr. Canfield was born in Mt. Carmel, Pa. and had resided in South Plainfield since 1955.

He had been employed with Sobel Brothers, Inc. of Perth Amboy as plant manager for 25 years before his retirement in 1985. Prior to that, Mr. Canfield had worked as a line supervisor for 10 years at Westinghouse of Edison.

Mr. Canfield was an Veteran of WW II having served with the Army Air Corps.

He was a communicant of Our Lady of Czestochowa RC Church.

His wife, Mary A. Carlow Canfield, died in 1985. He was also predeceased by his brother, James Canfield and by his sister, Mary Canfield.

Surviving are two sons, Thomas J. Canfield of South Plainfield and Robert R. Canfield of Kinnelon and by four grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Memorial donations may be made to the Thomas J. Canfield, Jr. College Fund care of the funeral home.

### ■ Michael DeLello, 82

Michael DeLello, died on Saturday May 16, at the home of his grandson in Lacey Twp.

He was born in Plainfield and had resided in South Plainfield for the last 53 years.

Mr. DeLello was a crane operator for Harris Structural Steel company in South Plainfield for 25 years before retiring in 1977.

He was predeceased by his wife Florence DeCaprio DeLello who died in 1994 and his daughter Annette DiMaggio who died in 1984.

He is survived by his grandson Michael DiMaggio of Lacey Twp.; two great granddaughters Annette and Kathleen DiMaggio; four brothers, John and Salvatore DeLello both of Piscataway, Henry of Plainfield and Anthony DeLello of Los Alamitos, Ca; two sisters Lee DeRose of Plainfield and Rose Hunter of South Plainfield.

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

### ■ JOHN R. HELBO, 74

John R. Helbo, Jr. died on Saturday, May 9 at home.

Born in South Plainfield, he had been a lifelong resident of the

Borough.

He had been employed as a pipefitter in the maintenance department for Union Carbide of Bound Brook for 44 years retiring in 1990.

Mr. Helbo was a life member of the South Plainfield Polish National Home and a former member of the American Legion Chaumont Post # 245 of South Plainfield. He had served in the United States Army during WW II in the Tank Battalion Division.

Surviving are his wife of 50 years, Jean M. (Zwolak) Helbo; two daughters, Doreen Pickett of Sayreville, Deborah Helbo of Basking Ridge; a son, Gary Helbo of East Stroudsburg, Pa.; five sisters, Marie Kavanaugh of Paterson, Ann Helbo of Florida, Helen Vargi of Jamesburg and Margaret Helbo of Canada; two brothers, Charles Helbo of North Plainfield and George Helbo of South Plainfield. Also surviving are two grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

### ■ NICK A. IPPOLITO, 27

Nick A. Ippolito died on Friday, May 8, in Tampa, Fla.

Born in Newark he had resided in Piscataway for most of his life before moving to Tampa, Florida 3 years ago.

He was employed as a chef in many restaurants in the Tampa, Florida area for the past three years.

He was a graduate of Piscataway High School in 1988, and was a avid fan of the rock star Joan Jet. He was very interested in the ecology, and had admired and bred different species of birds.

Surviving are his parents, Donald G. Ippolito, Sr. and Salomea "Sally" Ippolito of Piscataway; two sisters, Dina Pompa of Piscataway, Sallianne Ippolito of Long Branch; two brothers, Dennis Ippolito of Martinsville and Donald, Jr. of Piscataway; paternal grandmother, Lillian Searpa of Toms River; four nephews, Donald and Anthony Stevens of Piscataway, Dennis Ippolito Jr. of Martinsville and Jack Michael Ensel of Long Branch and one niece, Melissa Ippolito.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Memorial contributions in his memory may be made to the American Heart Association, 2550 Rt.1, North Brunswick, NJ 08902.

### ■ BOLESŁAW REJMAN, 73

Boleslaw Rejman died on Saturday, May 9, at his home.

He was born in Poland and came to the United States in 1949 settling in Dunellen before moving to South Plainfield 47 years ago.

Mr. Rejman was employed in the paint repair department of the Ford Motor company in Edison for 34 years before retiring in 1986.

He was a member of Sacred Heart R.C. Church and a member of the South Plainfield Polish National Home.

He was predeceased by his son, Leon Rajman, who died in 1992.

He is survived by his wife, Rose Bernzicki Rejman, three daughters, Stella Schoonover, Nina Zeccardo and Ela Tomala, all of South Plainfield and five grandchildren.

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

### ■ ROBERT JASHUA BLANTON, 86

Robert Jashua Blanton of Philadelphia, formerly of South Plainfield, died on Sunday, May 3 at home.

He was born in Beaufort, South Carolina and was a former 28 year resident of South Plainfield before moving to Philadelphia in 1995.

Mr. Blanton was a 1934 graduate of Hampton University and received his masters degree from Harvard University in 1938.

Mr. Blanton was the data processing manager for field operations and the manager for the Eastern Regional Data Processing Division of the Manville Corporation.

He was a veteran of the US Army during WW II serving as a First Lieutenant in the Adjutant Generals Department.

Mr. Blanton was a member of The Church of the Holy Cross in North Plainfield.

He was predeceased by his wife, Mary C. Moskal Blanton, who died in 1991.

He is survived by a niece, Alma Blanton Rountree of Baltimore Md.; a cousin, Thomas S. Blanton of Philadelphia and many other cousins.

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

### ■ LUCY BOMMINO SANTORO, 88

Lucy Bommino Santoro of Piscataway died on Saturday, May 9 at the Woodlands Genesis Edlercare Center in Plainfield.

She was born in Roselle Park and has resided in Piscataway for the last 35 years.

Mrs. Santoro was an assembler for Thermionics Products Company in North Plainfield for 10 years before retiring in 1976.

She was a member of Our Lady Fatima R.C. Church in Piscataway.

She was predeceased by her husband, Jack Santoro, who died in 1985.

She is survived by a son, Vincent M. Santoro of Califon; a daughter, Rose Marie Garofalo of South Plainfield; four sisters, Rose Londino and Helen Cange, both of Union; Mary Tango of Roselle Park and Theresa Reeves of Summit; four grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

## Interactive Computer Corner

By Briggs Longbothum and Eric Tillman



In closing out last issue's column, I mentioned a website that tracks, in real time, the progress of the RussiLibrary, an MIR spacecraft. It's really a pretty cool site and well worth a visit. Another real goodie to look into is the (unofficial) NASA WATCH site at [www.reston.com/nasa/watch.html](http://www.reston.com/nasa/watch.html). From here you can follow a link to a page where you can pick from a listing of dozens of earth orbiting satellites and then "click" on a button to view the Earth from that satellite. (Now that's something to do in your spare time!) You can choose your view through several spectral "windows" from the far infrared through visible to radar depending on the satellite you choose. And from here on Earth, a simple search under keyword "astronomy" will turn up a site where you can do just the opposite! That is, pick a part of the sky, choose your window and location on the planet, and take a peek at what's out there. Like, what's the Southern Cross look like from Tristan da Cunha. You may still have trouble finding lost needles in haystacks, but you can sure as heck can do a superb job of looking. There is a lot of impressive stuff available on the net today, and if you come across a site or two that you find to be unusually good, please share it with us. Send an email to me and I'll pass it along in a future column.

Here's an update on South Plainfield's wait for Comcast's cable internet access. I spoke with Comcast's office again several weeks ago to rattle the cages of those who have been promising us this high speed internet access since last August. They did agree to update their website, which shows their rollout schedule. They now say South Plainfield is to online by the end of Q2 '98. That would be in another six weeks, so once again, "we'll see about that." Stay tuned! If anyone else wants to squeak the wheels, you could call them at 1-888-793-5800 or email them at [signon@home.net](mailto:signon@home.net). Their rollout schedule is graphically displayed at [www.comcastonline.com/gardenstate/njmap.htm](http://www.comcastonline.com/gardenstate/njmap.htm). Check them out and get loud. The feedback I've received from South Plainfielders who have called them seems to confirm that they do indeed need some "prodding."

Here's a tip that came new to me:

Tip: If you are working in an MS-DOS window in Win95 and you want to view the contents of a folder, you are not restricted to just DOS commands! Try typing

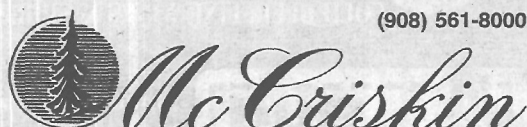
"explorer." at the prompt and then hit "enter." (Note the space and period after "explorer") This gives a window on the current directory. By omitting the space and period, you will open a similar window, but in the "root directory!" Should you prefer the "explorer style, two-paned window, type "explorer /e" at the prompt, then hit "enter."

And another helpful tip for Win95 version information and updating:

Tip: Right click on My Computer, select Properties, and go to the General tab. The version is listed under System. Version 4.00.950 is the original Windows95 (sometimes called Win95 "classic"). If the letter "A" follows, that means the original version was updated with "Service Release 1," whereas a letter "B" indicates an update to Service Release 2. Don't forget, if you have the MSIE 4.0 browser on your on your system and want to take advantage of either upgrade at any time, you must uninstall that browser first! Then reinstall your browser. MSIE 4.0 does make changes to Win95 and you need to be aware of that. Stay tuned to "download.com" (formerly win95.com) for some very up to date and helpful information before tinkering with Windows95.

Some time back I posed a trivia question and have since been suggested to do it again. This time it will be easy for everyone who has any idea of how to use a library, or in our case, the internet. By the way, our very own South Plainfield Public Library has three computers with internet connections, and everyone is free to use them. And if you do not know how, the reference librarian will be glad to show you how. So here comes one question for each computer, get busy and find the answers wherever you can and email me if you think you've got them right. Question 1) What are Mizaru, Kikazaru, and Iwazaru? Hint: They are not Japanese tugboat names! Question 2) Where do you find the Wa-Benzi and what are they? Question 3) When you order "bamboo chicken" in your favorite restaurant in Belize, what do you get? Good luck till the answers appear next time.

Send us the names and photos of 1998 high school and college graduates and dean's list students. We will publish them in the June 18 issue of the Observer. Send to 530 Union Ave., Ste.3, Middlesex, NJ 08846.



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## Junior Baseball Club Playing Again After Numerous Rainouts

With so many rainouts in the last few weeks the Junior Baseball is finally getting back to playing ball.

The standings as of May 17 are:

League/Team			League/Team		
Pony A	Wins	Loses	SFB American	Wins	Loses
Marlins	4	1	White Sox	7	1
Madners	3	1	Athletics	6	1
Devil Rays	2	1	Yankees	4	4
Mets	2	2	Mariners	2	6
Diamond Backs	0	2	Devil Rays	0	7
Yankees	0	4			
Pony B			SFB National	Wins	Loses
Yankees	4	0	Marlins	5	2
Diamond Backs	2	2	Dodgers	3	2
Devil Rays	2	2	Braves	3	3
Marlins	3	4	Diamond Backs	3	4
Mets	1	4	Mets	2	5



**HOT DOG CART**—Joe Cupido, along with Andrew and Rachel are ready to take the hog dog cart to the Pony Field. Volunteers are still needed to help with the cart.

## May is National Stroke Awareness Month

More than 150,000 Americans die from a Brain Attack each year. While most of us are familiar with the term heart attack, we seldom consider the seriousness of a brain attack ... or stroke. Yet 500,000 Americans suffer a new or recurrent stroke each year, making it the leading cause of serious disability in the United States.

The majority of strokes occur when an artery that carries oxygenated blood and nutrients to the brain becomes clogged by a blood clot. When the supply of oxygen-rich blood to a part of the brain is disrupted, it can't work and neither can the part of the body it controls.

Sometimes major strokes are preceded by *Transient Ischemic Attacks* (TIAs). These "mini" strokes produce symptoms like those of a major stroke, except they usually last for less than 24 hours. TIAs can occur days, weeks or months before a severe stroke and should be considered warning signs to be taken seriously. Prompt medical or surgical attention to these symptoms can prevent a major stroke.

Unfortunately, there are uncontrollable risk factors — age 45 or older, being male, race (African American), family history of car-

diovascular disease, or personal history of TIA(s) or high red blood cell count — that increases the likelihood of having a stroke. However, many risk factors can be controlled by following these suggestions.

- Control high blood pressure (hypertension) with diet, exercise and weight control. Take any prescribed medications as directed: never increase, decrease or stop any medication without consulting with your physician.

- Control high blood cholesterol with a "heart healthy" diet that is low in total fat, especially saturated (animal) fat and dietary cholesterol, include at least five servings of fruits and vegetables every day and limit its high sodium foods.

- If you drink, use alcohol in moderation.

- Exercise on a regular basis.
- Maintain a healthy weight with a balanced, low-fat diet and moderate exercises.

- Keep diabetes under control. The majority of diabetics have Type II, non-insulin dependent diabetes and can control their disease through a healthy dietary plan and moderate exercise.

- Become familiar with the symptoms of a stroke:

1. Sudden weakness or numbness of the face, arm or leg on one

side of the body;

2. Sudden dimness or loss of vision, particularly in one eye;

3. Loss of speech, or trouble talking or understanding speech;

4. Sudden, severe headaches with no apparent cause;

5. Unexplained dizziness, unsteadiness or sudden falls, especially along with any of the previous symptoms; and

6. Unexplained forgetfulness, disorientation or confusion.

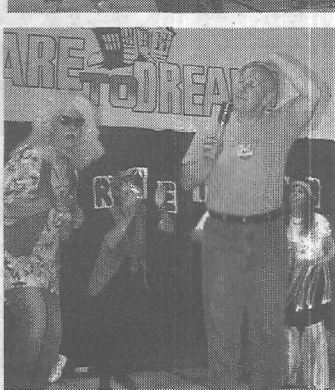
In January 1996, the FDA approved the clot-dissolving drug Tissue Plasminogen Activator (TPA) to treat stroke caused by blood clots, which constitute 80% of all brain attacks. A risk of bleeding in the brain accompanies use of this drug — however, the risk is outweighed by its benefits when used appropriately and properly.

"Since TPA is effective only if given promptly, therapy must be started within three hours after the onset of a stroke," stated Michael Bonk, Health Officer for the South Plainfield Health Department. "It is critical that individuals become familiar with the signs of a stroke and seek immediate medical care."

A stroke is an emergency: call 911 immediately, if you can get the victim to a hospital quicker than an ambulance can respond, drive him/her yourself.

lowing businesses for their donations for our Chinese auction: K's catering — Kay Roberts, Norville, NBS Card Services, Florence Salerno, Macy's of Menlo Park, Walter Bauman's, Pepsi, Aiello Chiropractic, Aramark, THL Inc., Twin City Pharmacy, L.A. Erhard, Bagel Chateau, Gem Limo, A.J. Maglio, Giving Nest Preschool, R.A.B. Enterprises, NJ Nets Basketball, Dr. William Carone, Von Graf Florists, Your Pet's Place, Flynn & O'Hara, Applebee's, East Street Salon, Lube Express, Personal Touch, Winfall, Inc., Vincent Butrico, Joanne Crane, Plainfield Animal Hospital, P.J. Panzarella, Nutro Labs, Fun Jungle, Access, South Plainfield Democratic Organization, West Coast Video, Hyatt Regency, Hall's Warehouse, Quick Check, Le Peep Restaurant, CKL Pest Control, Everything Angels And More, Conover Beyer Associates, Jo Ann's Dance Studio, Holly Park Plumbing, United Skates, Panel Overn Engineering, Bruno's Pizza Factory, Arm-R-Lite, White Castle, Feigley's, Caldor, McCrisky's Funeral Home, Sanitation Truck Repair, Entenmann's, Muglia Enterprises — Art Muglia, Dr. Herbert H. Portnoff, MHA Travel, New York Knicks, Regal Cinema, Boston Market, Edward's, Playhouse 22, Services Plus, Medicine Shoppe, George Street Playhouse, Land Of Make Believe, Flo's Piano Studio, Spring Garden, Butrico's Auto Body, Thatcher & Lanza, The State Theatre, Elaine's Hair, Easy Street, Dr. Deciscio, Lea Computer Services, Mr. Porky's, Sharon Strasser-Massage Therapy, New Jersey Symphony, Hometown Buffet, Westwood

## Kennedy Presents Variety '98



Teachers from J.F. Kennedy performed their Annual Talent Night Show. It was hard to tell who had more fun, the teachers, or the audience. Pictured on the left are the Spice Girls now and below in twenty years. Principal Al Czech shaved his head again for the show.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Continued from page 2

all those who contributed and attended Beach Party '98. The event was such an outstanding success because of your support and generous donations.

We would like to thank the fol-

John Cecchetti Insurance, Sacred Heart Student Council, Eileen Boosmann-Caldwell Bankers, Bruno's Pizzeria, Mei Huas, Capital Lighting, VW Liquors, South Plainfield Liquor Store, Lakeview Karate, Ciccio's Pizzeria, Yogurt Express, Marie Pinto, Looking Upward, Domino's Pizza, White Star Diner, Pinto Brothers Disposal, Dr. P.J. Sellino, Mohn's Florist, The Ray Family, Presto Printing, Twice Is Nice, Firemaster, Witty's Liquors, Carpets Plus, CVS Pharmacy, Village Salon and many friends who wish not to be acknowledged.

Once again "thank you" for all your support and very generous donations.

**SINCERELY,  
DARLENE M. PINTO  
CHAIRPERSON  
HOME SCHOOL ASSN.  
SACRED HEART SCHOOL**

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the Junior Woman's Club of South Plainfield, I'd like to acknowledge all the merchants who donated prizes for the winners for our Annual Beautiful Baby Contest. They are: Columbia Savings Bank, Pilgrim Covenant Church-Preschool, Flanagan's, Michael Anthony's Italian Restaurant, Crystals Restaurant at the Holiday Inn, Carousel Hair Salon, Razor's Edge, Dunkin' Donuts, Maple Ave., Bagel Pantry, Rita's Italian Ice, Yogurt Express, Ciccio Bagel & Bakery, Services Plus, Ciccio Pizza, Rudolfo Restorante & Pizza, Bruno's Pizza Factory, Mohn's Flowers, Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center.

The generosity of these owners/managers has helped once again to make our contest a success.

Thank you also to A&P and Sherbans Restaurant for allowing us to display our poster with the ballot box at their place of business.

Lastly, thanks to all the parents who entered their beautiful babies in our contest. Without their support, this contest could not go on.

**CAROL ULLOM  
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**DIRECTOR, VOCAL, BAND, TECH** directors, choreographers needed for So. Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop. Submit resume to: So. Plfd Summer Drama Workshop, So. Plfd Adult School, 305 Cromwell Place, South Plainfield, NJ 07080

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**HISTORIC PHOTOS** of South Plainfield buildings, landmarks and/or businesses. 732-469-4381.

**Classified deadline  
for June 4 issue is  
May 28.**

## Classified Advertising Works.

Call (732) 469-4380  
to place your classified ad.

3 line minimum at \$10.00 and \$2.00 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.

# POLICE REPORT

• Canada Dry located on Durham Ave. reported someone attempted to break in a bay door by kicking it in. No actual entry was done but the door was significantly damaged.

• Two residents from Florence Street complained someone threw red nail polish on their parked cars while they were parked in front of their house. The drivers side door and window were damaged.

• A car was reported stolen while parked on St. Nicholas Ave. The car had been parked at Montrose Mold-ing. Police are investigating.

• Someone lifted the hood of a car parked at Home Depot and cut the battery cable and then left a nasty note on the window. Apparently the victim's car was taking up two parking spaces. There are no suspects at the present time.

• Complete Quality Inc. on Oak Tree Rd. reported the burglary of a '97 Bobcat. The Bobcat was parked in the locked warehouse, loaded with carpet. No forced entry was found. Tire marks indicated the Bobcat was driven out of the garage on a ramp and possibly loaded onto a flatbed wrecker.

• Two fraudulent checks, valued at a total of \$1838. were reportedly cashed at Columbia Savings Bank. Police have copies of the checks as

well bank photos of the suspect.

• Continental Brokers on Hadley Blvd. said a man called saying there was a bomb in the building. The building was evacuated and searched. No bomb was found. Hall Trucking has a similar bomb threat.

• James Mortini, of New Brunswick was arrested for shoplifting

video tapes from Caldors. They were valued at \$34.

• Felicia Jenkins of Plainfield was arrested for shoplifting and assault at K-Mart in the Middlesex Mal. After chasing and arresting her police found a Bradlees bag full of merchandise. The bag was turned over to Bradlees.

## South Plainfield Observer

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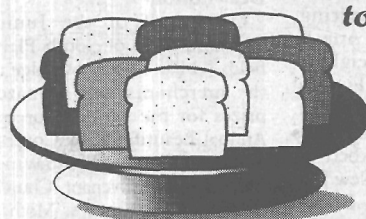
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- Copolas Farm, New Durham Ave.
- Corner Deli, Hamilton Blvd.
- Carousel Hair Salon, Oak Tree Rd.
- Freihofer's, Montrose Ave.
- Dave's Stationery, Sampton Ave.
- Holly Park Video, Park Ave.
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- Krauser's Food Store, Oak Tree Rd.
- Twin City Pharmacy, Park Ave.
- The Little Store
- Mohn's Flowers, Plainfield Ave.
- Oak Tree Farms, Oak Tree Road
- Pauls Stationery, Hamilton Blvd.
- Quick Foods, Park Ave.
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- Service Plus, South Plainfield Ave.
- Sunrise Foods, Front & Maple
- Twice Is Nice, Front Street
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South Plainfield Observer Advertisers are Listed in Bold Print

# Once in a while, the tastiest things in life are free!

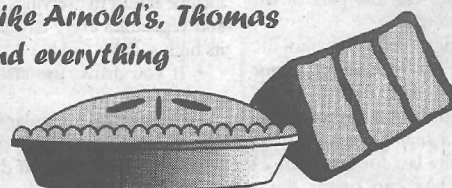
**Good bread and fun desserts really add to the quality of everyday life. We're happy to provide you with both - at savings that permit you to enjoy the best often!**



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## FREE DESSERT! (Buy two, get one free)

Feast your eyes on all the goodies we carry from master-bakers at Freihofer's! Pick three, any kind whatsoever, and the lowest price box is your free. Only at Freihofer's Outlet in South Plainfield with this coupon. Limit two free boxes per customer per visit. While supplies last.



## FREE BREAD! (Buy two, get one free)

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