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# South Plainfield Observer

SEP 18 1998

VOL. 2, NO. 2

50 CENTS

SEPTEMBER 17, 1998

## Mayor Seeks Answers PSE&G Lags In Emergency Response

Mayor Gallagher is asking the Board of Utilities to investigate Public Service's lack of response to last week's storm emergency in South Plainfield. When the storm hit on Labor Day, the town declared a state of emergency within hours. However, Public Service Electric & Gas did not respond with the same swiftness when called upon.

The emergency center started calling Public Service at 2:30 p.m. and as of 10 p.m. no one had answered the calls for assistance, nor had one truck come into the Borough. A PSE&G supervisor was finally reached and instructed the Emergency Management group to fax a list of priorities. At 1 a.m. the first truck arrived in town. No other trucks were seen in South Plainfield that night.

At 7 a.m. on Tuesday morning, eight public service trucks were seen parked in the Drug Fair lot along with two supervisor's cars. The Mayor drove over to ask where they were going to start working in the Borough. He found the crews having breakfast at Sherbans. When they came out at 8 a.m. the Mayor was told they had not heard of any problems in South Plainfield and they were on the way to Plainfield, North Plainfield and Westfield.

*Continued on page 16*



Photo by Ron Hepburn

## Labor Day Festivities Cut Short By Damaging Storm

Labor Day in South Plainfield began in the usual tradition. A few morning clouds appeared just to make folks nervous. There was even a quick shower before the 5K Race start time. But in keeping with tradition, it *did not rain on our parade!* Excited revelers lined the parade route. Five divisions of participants proudly displayed

the fruits of their labor with floats or walking units. Weary but happy parade marshals kept things running smoothly. Police, fire and the rescue squad were on hand to ensure that everyone safely enjoyed the day.

Balloons and burgers, sausage sandwiches and soda, races and raffles – all part of the South

Plainfield Labor Day festivities are our own slice of Americana. And as always, the day ended with a bang – not the normally bangs associated with the traditional fireworks display in Spring Lake Park. This year, the “bang” and ensuing havoc were the result of a violent and fast-moving storm. South Plainfield Police

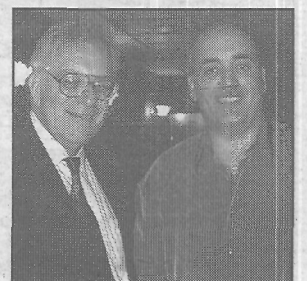
Sgt. Michael Grennier had been tracking the storm's progress at the parade command center. As the storm's approach to town became imminent, Sgt. Grennier alerted Emergency Management Coordinator Mike Zushma. Already on hand for the parade, police, fire and the rescue squad

*Continued on page 6*

## Giakas Donates \$100,000 To Vision 2001 Fund

Wallace Giakas, chairman of Planet Entertainment, Inc. and a 1997 South Plainfield High School Hall of Fame inductee, has recently donated approximately \$100,000 to South Plainfield Vision 2001 Education Foundation to be distributed to students in the school system.

\$4,325 will fund Middle School programs including the eighth grade Washington Trip, Battle of the Books, sixth grade Math Olympiad, Child Care Club, Tiger Gold, languages, Science and Social Studies Olympiads, orientation folders for new students and a Macintosh computer and printer for the Middle School Student Council. \$8,000 for the elementary schools will help fund the annual Stokes Forest Environmental Education Trip.



Emil Leporino (left) of Vision 2001 with Wallace Giakas

The District Music Department and Special Education each have \$10,000 set aside. Each department must request the funds indicating how they will be used. Approximately \$50,000 will also be awarded in scholarships in June 1999.

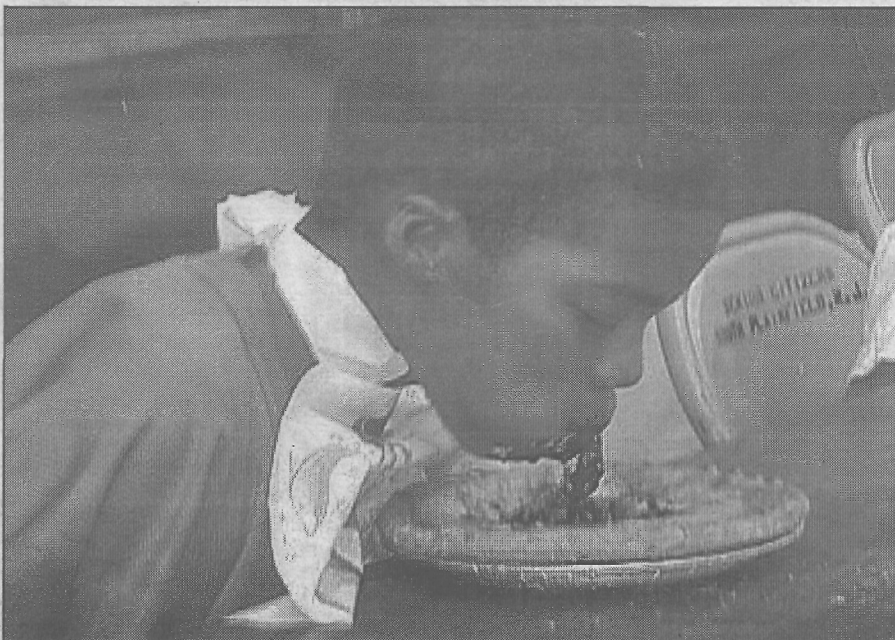


Photo by Patti Abbott



In my

OPINION

Dear Editor,

Did you ever hear of the expression "You can't make this stuff up?" In last week's newspaper Hank Grabarz, one of the Republicans running for council asked what happened to the \$10M the Republican Mayor and Council borrowed in 1993. Can you believe it? The same Hank Grabarz who previously ran for council with Republican Chairperson Linda Dashuta, who cast the deciding vote to quadruple South Plainfield's debt! By now you would think Hank would know that the \$10M was used by those same Republicans to pay day to day expenses. We'll all be paying the bill for the next 20 years.

Remember, the bill is actually \$20M with interest. That's \$1M tax dollars a year. By comparison over the last four years not

one penny has been borrowed by Mayor Gallagher and the new Democratic majority. Our overall budget is less today than in 1994. Maybe Hank wouldn't be so confused if he attended the budget meeting, which Mayor Gallagher has opened up to the public. Not one Republican running for office bothered to show up at any budget meetings.

Well, maybe Hank's confused but our taxpayers know the difference. On election day they will support Mayor Gallagher's economic plan that has resulted in no tax increase this year and next year too!

**ED KUBALA,  
COUNCILPERSON**

**Letter to the Superintendent of Recreation:**

I wish to thank you and the Recreation Department for giv-

ing us the opportunity to enjoy a fantastic summer of tennis and swimming. The Department does a fantastic job at providing our children with quality programs.

The tennis program was headed by two very patient and professional young adults. I commend them for the hard work and dedication they put forth for our children. During the whole summer, neither one of them ever seemed to be bored nor tired of the job at hand. Thanks to the program, my family was able to get out early each morning to exercise and meet some new friends in the park. My son has acquired an interest in tennis and looks forward to signing up again next year.

I also wish to extend my gratitude to the staff at the community pool. They are always so friendly and courteous to all of us and they do a fantastic job at teaching our children how to swim.

Thank you once again and please extend this letter to all.

**SINCERELY,  
COLLEEN KACZKA  
MOM OF KYLE, KENNY AND  
KRISTA**

**To the Editor,**

By now the weekly letter campaign from the South Plainfield Republican hierarchy is getting to be almost funny. Last week's letter signed by former Councilman Ferdie Thiel is the most comical to date. He's upset that I informed our citizens in the letter which is always included in the tax bills that there will be no municipal tax increase this year or next year, too! The Republicans just can't accept that under Mayor Gallagher's leadership South Plainfield has been turned from a town, that in 1993 when the Republicans were in control, had to borrow \$20 million just to pay bills, to a town that never borrows money and has kept the municipal budget flat for five years in a row.

Well, maybe the Republicans are upset, but the rest of our taxpayers will be happy to know that there will also be a letter next year saying there will be no tax increase in South Plainfield!

**JAMES VOKRAL  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

**To the Editor:**

Recently while attending our 40th picnic in the street on Revere Road, five of us were asked to pose for a picture in the same manner in which we were standing for our communion, many years prior. After the photo we began talking about tradition and reunions. Speaking of which, "We guess we are not having our 20 year high school reunion?" We all asked each other if any of us heard anything or if anybody we knew had been contacted.

**UPCOMING OBSERVER  
PUBLICATION DATES:**

Issue Date	Copy Deadline
October 1.....	September 24
October 15.....	October 8

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](mailto:nancyg@spobserver.com). Mail to G&G Graphics 530 Union Ave., Suite 3, Middlesex, NJ 08846 or fax at 732-805-0815.

**To The Two Unknown Police Officers Who Aided Us**

Special thanks to the two police officers who helped me get out of Veteran's Park in the midst of the storm on Labor Day. At the height of the storm, I could not see where I was going and the wind prevented me from moving my wheelchair. My mother and son were struggling to carry things and could not help me. Out of seemingly nowhere, two unknown officers appeared and safely escorted me to the car.

Thanks from the Abbott Family!  
**PATTIE, JOAN AND CHRIS ABBOTT**

We all replied, NO. The reason we are writing is to find out what's the story? Where are our elected council people and why aren't we having a reunion? All the people we talked to didn't know anything and hadn't heard anything.

Does anybody know anything? Please let us and everyone from the class of 1978 know where we stand. Many of us would and could help if needed.

**RESPECTFULLY,  
KEVIN JACKSON  
SUSAN LYONS-BAUCHAMON  
JOE MACELLARA  
JOE SCARPITTO  
LINDA WEBER-SMITH**

**To the Editor**

We would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to Georgeann DiGrazia, a citizen and business owner who shows her concern and caring every year for our district school staff.

For many years on the opening day of school, Georgeann of Mohn's Flowers and Fancy Foods located on Plainfield Ave. has presented the staff with splendid fruit and cheese baskets. The note attached reflects her wishes for a good year and her thanks for the job we do. We salute you, Georgeann!

**THE STAFF AT  
THE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Girl Scout Committee Says  
Thank You!**

The South Plainfield Girl Scouts would like to give thanks to the following people, without whom we would not have been able to have won this year's Grand Marshal's Trophy:

- Mel Tome for driving our winning float (so many times);
- Halls Warehouse Corp. for supplying us with a truck and flatbed trailer. (Thanks Warren);
- Ocean Gallery for the loan of your fountain (Thanks Gary);
- Red Waldron for the use of his generator (Thanks Dad);
- Aunt Caroline and Uncle Tom for their kiddie pool (a.k.a. Lake); and
- All the moms and dads of Troop 259.

On behalf of Troop 259 who chaired this year's float, thank you all!

**YOURS IN SCOUTING,  
GINA ZARA**

**To the Editor:**

For the past three years I have been the manager for the now 11-year-old American Traveling All Stars. This has been one of if not the most successful teams the Junior Baseball Club has ever had. It is not such an easy job as it may seem. Among the many responsibilities are forwarding information to the newspapers. In past years the only paper that I sent information to was the *Reporter*. Working with their sports department, I was told to send a summary, stats and a general feel for that game...such as game turning point etc., plays or other things that only someone that viewed the game could pass on. At the conclusion of the year I have always sent in the final stats sheets which include batting averages, runs batted in and runs scored. Then the sports writers would do a year end story on the team. We always had the understanding the stat sheet was not to be printed! This year the *Reporter* had a new sports writer whom also kept to this tradition. I do not write the articles for the *Reporter*. Their stories are based on the official score book which is not done by me, my summaries which are not intended to be printed in the form they are sent and some telephone interviews at which I am not very good. Based on this the *Reporter* chose to make my son their lead story on the final season article, they even gave him a headline. The new writer assigned to the Junior Baseball Club is not at fault here, I am. I should have had the foresight to inform him we do not single out kids at this age level in our club. I want everyone to know that Chris Bakazan is no more important than any other player on that team and deserves no more credit than anyone else. The fact is, there are many kids on that team that could be headliners. I

*Continued on page 15*

**PUBLISHER'S  
NOTE**

**A Big Thank You!**

The storm that blew through Central Jersey caused havoc in South Plainfield. Numerous power outages, uprooted trees and closed roads affected our schools, homes and many businesses throughout the entire town. But there is one thing we must all keep in mind during the devastation - no one was killed. Yes, eight were injured, one with a broken neck, but it could have been so much worse.

I believe the alert work of our police department and Emergency Management Team played no small part in preventing havoc from turning into tragedy.

If ever there was a time to express thanks, this is it! It is a perfect time for us all to send a donation to the fire department and rescue squad. No one complained about the time spent doing his or her job. They felt it was their honor and duty to serve this town.

We should all have this unselfish attitude. What more can we say but a humble thank you.

**South Plainfield  
Observer**

The South Plainfield Observer is published every first and third Thursday of the month by

G&G Graphics, Inc.  
530 Union Avenue, Suite 3,  
Middlesex, NJ 08846

(732) 469-4380 • FAX (732) 805-0815

Web page at <http://www.spobserver.com>

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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.

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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 *South Plainfield Observer* will be considered the property of *South Plainfield Observer* and will not be returned, unless a self-addressed stamped envelope accompanies material.

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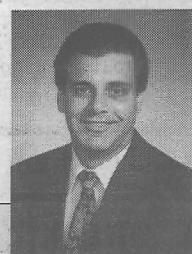
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# George and Edith Goodrich Say Thanks to Rescue Squad and Fire Department

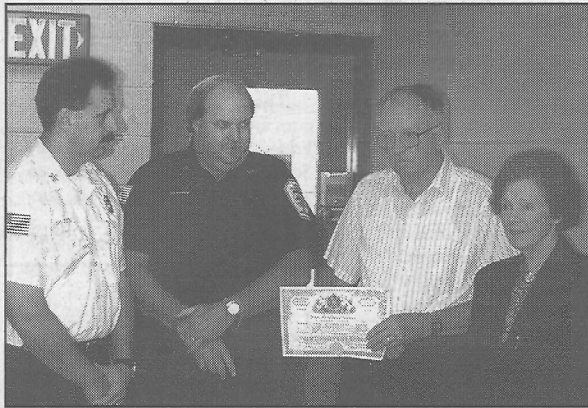
By Patricia Abbott

The Goodrich family recently made very generous donations to the Rescue Squad and the Fire Department.

Edith Miller Goodrich is a life long resident of this town. She was born in South Plainfield on May 26, 1915. Not in a nearby hospital but right here in town. Her grandfather, August Norway, had four daughters. He had a ten room farmhouse with five bedrooms. After each daughter married each came back to the farm to have their children. If the name Norway seems familiar and you are not thinking of a European country, then you are correct! Norway Lane, off of Sampton Ave., was named for August Norway.

Edith fondly recalls the 160 acre asparagus farm that ran from Sampton Ave. area all the way to the railroad tracks. She remembers how her grandmother would take her horse and wagon and ride off to peddle the asparagus to markets. August Norway gave a piece of property, now Norway Lane, to Edith's parents. The barn, converted to a house, is still there. Edith spoke proudly of watching South Plainfield grow from a sleepy farming town to the community it is today.

Edith attended the original Grant School. One of her teachers was Mr. Riley, for whom Riley Elementary School is named. South Plainfield had no high school at that time; students at-



Fire Chief Joe Abbruzzese and Edward Silhanek accept the stock donation from George and Edith Goodrich. The Goodrich's were driven to the Fire Department in a limousine and treated to a buffet dinner in recognition of their gift.

tended North Plainfield High School, where Edith graduated in 1934.

On August 23, 1941 Edith Miller married George Goodrich. Their son George, Jr. was born in 1942. Edith traveled with George, who was enlisted in the army, from camp to camp until he was sent overseas in January of 1944. She came home to South Plainfield while he was away. She took a job, at Camp Kilmer where she was in charge of all the dry cleaning. Returning soldiers were discharged from the camp and she was able to keep track of George's whereabouts. In July of 1944 George was wounded, but because he was in enemy territory, details were sketchy and he was

listed as missing in action. The job, along with the information from the soldiers who passed through the camp, kept Edith

going.

George returned home in February of 1946. George and Edith lived with her family for several years and moved into their present home on Plainfield Ave. in 1950. It was then Edith and George had their only encounter with the South Plainfield Fire Department. After they moved into their home, there was much unpacking to do because of the time spent traveling while George was in the service. George took all the boxes and empty packing materials and started to burn them in the field behind his home. The fire grew and spread to the field. The Fire Department was called and spent some time putting out the blaze. George laughed as he recalled, "They charged me five bucks and a case of beer!" After the war George joined the VFW. The mayor made him the Civil Defense Director, today called Emergency Management Coordi-

nator. George held that position for many months during 1948-49. He recalls the town being hit by a bad hurricane during this time. He spent that day rushing around dealing with all the calls. Exhausted and finally able to return home, he found his own roof had been ripped off by the storm.

In the 50's Edith was very active with the Suburban Woman's Club and would design their floats for the parade. In the mid-1950's there was a shortage of teachers and Edith took a job as a substitute teacher teaching grades seven through high school. She often substituted in the high school library. In 1956 she became the school librarian and remained there until 1964, when all teachers were required to have teaching credentials. She left the school and took a job at the South Plainfield Library. A cousin who was a librarian, taught her the

*Continued on page 15*

## Rescue Squad Wins Glitter Award

South Plainfield Rescue Squad President Linda Zushma and Captain Michael Zushma accepted the South Plainfield Clean Business Association's Glitter Award from Joe Diegnan, CBA President. Emil Leporino, Chairman of the Clean Communities Advisory Board, was also on hand to honor the Rescue Squad for its contribution to the Borough's visual environment.

Mr. Zushma explained that in 1964 the Rescue Squad building was constructed at 2520 Plainfield Avenue with little attention to landscaping beyond lawns and shade trees. A major interior renovation was completed six years ago, including new plumbing and wiring. However, it was only two years ago that the Rescue Squad hired Distinctive Landscaping of Edison, to design and install the plantings that now grace the frontage.

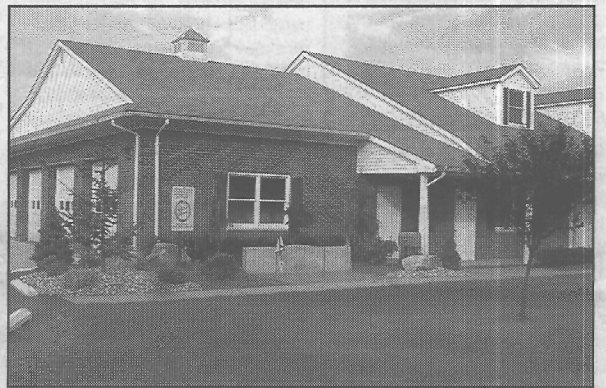
The Rescue Squad is a private organization, not a Borough agency. Captain Zushma is in charge of rigs, bays and operations, while administration and building are the responsibility of the President. Inside and outside maintenance are handled by the Buildings Committee, chaired by Ken Seidel. This is one of several committees needed to keep the Squad operating. Each of the forty-two active members belongs to at least one committee.

The Buildings Committee handles the landscaping maintenance and keeps the grounds litter-free. It hung the bunting for the Labor Day Parade and cleaned the building inside and out in preparation for their Parade activities.

The Squad has attracted eleven new members in the last three months, but the captain and president agree that more volunteers are needed to handle the work. The Squad averages 155 calls a month.

Ms. Zushma said she is very pleased to receive the CBA's Glitter Award. Mr. Zushma commented that along with saving lives in South Plainfield, the Rescue Squad is also environmentally friendly: no plastic shrubs or flowers are used in their landscaping.

The Clean Business Association gives Glitter Awards to South



Plainfield businesses that are unusually well-maintained or have recently improved their appearance through renovation or landscaping. Membership in the CBA is open to all businesses that share

its goals of enhancing the appearance of commercial districts through property maintenance and litter control. For more information, contact A. Tempel at (908) 226-7621.

### BOROUGH NOTES

#### Council News

- An ordinance to exchange several properties between the Borough and Lawrence Massaro was introduced. The land will be used to expand the Highland Woods area.
- Two capital improvement ordinances, one for \$234,000 for repaving on New Market Ave. and the other for \$117,00 for road resurfacing, sidewalk and curb repair in the Borough was introduced at the Council meeting held Sept. 10. A public meeting will be held on Oct. 8 at Borough Hall.
- A contract has been awarded to Garden State Laboratories for monitoring and sampling of wells and streams in connection with the NJDEP requirements for the closure of a former Borough landfill site. The amount of the contract is \$9,695.
- The Tax Collector has placed a lien on two properties on 210 New Market Ave. for \$308.52 and 127 Kosciusko Ave. for \$917.88. The liens are for the cost of work performed by the South Plainfield Department of Public Works in abating the cited nuisances.
- The Council accepted the resignation of Mary Ann Kochut from the Planning Board.
- There will be a public hearing on Oct 1 from 4-7:30 p.m. to update the public on the Helen Street project. The public will be able to study maps and ask questions on the progress.

#### Board of Adjustments

- Stephen Yu announced he is resigning from the Board, due to relocating to Pennsylvania.
- Omnipoint Communications Inc. is requesting a height variance to mount an antenna on the existing water tank on Hamilton Blvd. This case was carried from the June 2 and Aug. 4 meeting. After questioning the applicant on the structural soundness of the water tank and cat walk, the board requested that the applicant arrange to have a thorough inspection of the tower and cat walk and return to the Oct. 6 meeting with a written report.



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# events around town

## Spaghetti Dinner at Czestochowa

Our Lady of Czestochowa Rosary-Altar Society is sponsoring their Annual Spaghetti Dinner to be held on Saturday, Oct. 17, at Our Lady of Czestochowa Hall, 905 Hamilton Boulevard, from 4 pm to 8 pm. Adults-\$7. each, senior citizens-\$6. each, children 5-12, \$3.50 each and children under 5 are free. For reservations or tickets, Call Millie at (908) 757-3925 or Mary at (908) 757-4490.

## Car Wash & Bake Sale

Fifth grade students from Roosevelt School will sponsor a Car Wash and Bake Sale on Saturday, Sept. 19 from 9 to 12 noon in the Roosevelt School parking lot off Jackson Avenue and Hamilton Blvd. The raindate is Sunday, Sept. 20, 9 to 12 noon.

All proceeds from this event will go to the fifth grade students who will be attending the Stokes Environmental Trip in November. The fee for all vehicles is \$6. During the car wash customers may purchase baked goods while they wait.

## Mum Sale at Roosevelt

Roosevelt School will be sponsoring a mum sale on Wednesday, Sept. 23 and Thursday, Sept. 24. There will be a huge selection of mum plants and decorative cabbages from which to choose. The cost of the plants are \$3.50 each or three plants for \$10. The proceeds of the sale will go to fifth grade students who will be attending the Stokes Environmental Trip in November.

## Highland Woods "Edible Complex" Nature Walk

The South Plainfield Environmental Commission and Friends of the Woods will cosponsor a nature walk at the Highland Ave. Woods Environmental Education Reserve on Saturday, Sept. 19.

Walkers will meet at the Sylvania Place entrance at 1 p.m. The walk will be led by Robert 'Bobcat' Saunders, a naturalist who specializes in identifying, cooking and eating wild foods.

The Walks 'N Talks program is

happy to welcome Bobcat back to the Nature Reserve. He led a walk here in July 1997, which the group found interesting and delicious. A different season will no doubt reveal new foods (and different seasonings).

The walk is free of charge and will be held rain or shine, unless the weather is severe. The trails are flat and easy, but sturdy shoes are recommended. For more information, contact the Environmental Specialist at (908) 226-7621.

## AARP Chapter 4144 Meeting

AARP Chapter 4144 of South Plainfield will meet at the PAL Building on Maple Ave. at 12:30 p.m. on Sept. 18. Mr. Edward Daly State Coordinator for AARP's Widowed Persons Service will present a program designed to establish one-on-one relationships between trained volunteers who have been widowed themselves and persons who are newly bereaved, by encouraging partnerships between AARP chapters and local organizations to make these programs more visible to those who have lost a spouse and to their families and friends who have been affected by the loss of that loved one.

## Flue Vaccine Clinic at Twin City Pharmacy

Twin City Pharmacy is sponsoring a "Flu Vaccine" clinic on Saturday, Sept. 26 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Shots are free for Medicare Part B Members. This does not apply for Medical HMO members.

The cost to all others is \$8.

## Columbiettes Sponsor Bus Trip to Reading, PA

The South Plainfield Columbiettes are sponsoring a bus trip to Reading, Pa. on Saturday, Nov. 7. The cost is \$15 and includes bus, \$100 in coupons, a food court coupon and bus driver gratuity. Seats are limited.

The bus will leave from the Knights of Columbus Hall at 334 Hamilton Blvd. at 8 a.m. and return at approximately 7 p.m. En route to New Jersey, the bus will stop at the Cracker Barrel for an early dinner (not included) and will include time to browse in the country store.

For reservations or information, call Mary Ann or Helen at (908) 757-8332.

## Columbiettes Holding Auction

The South Plainfield Columbiettes are sponsoring an auction on Friday, Sept. 18 in the Sacred Heart School cafeteria. Doors will open at 5:15 for inspection and the auction will begin at 7:30.

A tag sale will be held from 5:45 to 7:30 p.m., for items not being auctioned off.

The auction will feature new and used items, as well as collectibles. Admission is \$3.50 and only cash and checks will be accepted for purchases.

Food and beverages will be available throughout the evening.

For tickets or additional information, call Mary Ann or Helen at (908) 757-8332.

## Roosevelt School Annual Craft Night

Roosevelt School will be sponsoring its annual Craft Night on Friday, Oct. 2 from 6 to 10 p.m. and is currently looking for crafters to participate. No flea or home party vendors will be accepted. Call Michele Kunie at (908) 753-0124 or Lori Jankoski at (908) 756-9477 for an application.

## Czestochowa Plans Special Trip

The Ladies of the Rosary Society from Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish are sponsoring a special trip to "Pinegrove Dude Ranch" in Pine Grove, New York on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, Nov. 4-5-6.

We must have reservations to keep those dates available. The food is great, the rates are exceptionally good and the fun is guar-

anteed.

Cost of trip is Double-\$160 each, Triple-\$150 each or Single \$205 each. A deposit of \$25 is necessary to make your reservation. Come on a get-a-way trip — complete relaxation before the holidays. For reservations or additional information, please call Isabelle at 561-6367.

## Post Office Holds Blood Drive

A Blood Drive will be held on Sept. 26 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the South Plainfield Post Office located on Oak Tree Avenue. A complimentary cholesterol test will be available to all donors.

## Board of Education Special Meetings Announced

Please be advised of the following meeting of the South Plainfield Board of Education. This meeting will be held in the South Plainfield High School Auditorium at 200 Lake Street. **Special Public Meeting - Tuesday, Discussion:** Feasibility Committee Report Demographic Study Action to be taken to update.

**October 6, 1998 at 8 p.m.** Please be advised of the following meeting of the South Plainfield Board of Education. This Meeting will be held in room 4, Administration Building on Cromwell Place.

**Board Retreat - Wednesday Review Goals 1997/98 October 7, 1998 -7-10 p.m. Set Goals 1998/99**

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.

## September

# 1998

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Board of Adjustment 8:00 pm	Court 9:30 am 7:00 pm	Publication of So. Plfd. Observer		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Land Management Advisory Committee 7:30 p.m. Council Agenda Meeting 8 p.m.	Planning Board Meeting 8 p.m. Recycling Comm Meeting 8 p.m.	Traffic Safety Advisory Comm. 7:00 P.M. Court 9:30 am 7:00 pm	Copy Deadline for So. Plfd. Observer Borough Council Meeting 8:00 pm		
27	28	29	30	OCTOBER 1	2	3
		Board of Adjustment 8:00 pm	Court 9:30 am & 7:00 pm	Publication of So. Plfd. Observer		
5	6	7	8	9	10	
	Friends of the Library 7:30 p.m. in the Library Borough Council Agenda Meeting 8:00 pm		Court 9:30 am	Borough Council Meeting 8 p.m. Copy Deadline for So. Plfd. Observer		

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## INTERACTIVE COMPUTER CORNER

By Briggs Longbottom



Well, I (ahem) hope everyone had a great time on Labor Day with the BBQs, Labor Day Parade and celebration (oops!) in the park. And wasn't I the one who, in the last issue, touted how cool it was to watch the hurricane progress on the Internet? We sure didn't need any Internet for this last piece of weather did we? I had actually been in a tornado once before and I already knew that you don't want to be so up close and personal with these things. When I could finally get around town to see how hard we had been hit, I was truly stunned. My heart goes out to all of us who were hit and hurt by the devastation. If there's a plus side to any of this, it has to be found in the teamwork and help that seemed to come from all over to help friend and neighbor.

I also have to apologize for not being present at the *Observer's* birthday party in the park. Having marched in the parade with our Elks Lodge, I joined them afterwards for lunch. It was then that the tornado came to town. I did get back to the park, but of course everyone was gone. I am sorry that I missed you.

With "back to school" purchases being considered, I want to recall a few basic issues. The first item has to do with the extremely fast central processors (CPUs) that are available now. Think about it this way: no matter how fast your processor is (400+MHz available now), all those computer signals have to get from one place to another inside your computer. To do that, they travel along a highway called the "data bus." The speed limit on that route is typically 100MHz on the newer and faster machines and maybe 66MHz on the older units like mine. That's still very fast, but much slower than your CPU. Hence, your microprocessor does a lot of "loafing!" most of the time. It should come as no surprise that state of the art is very expensive.

**TIP:** Since there are many factors that can determine the "speed" of your machine as you "see" it, a faster CPU may not be your best bet. A faster hard disk drive and more RAM are very worthwhile upgrades too. It is of the utmost importance to know

ahead of time what you expect of your machine and buy in to maximize that objective. One size does not fit all.

Also, as applications and accessories are added to a computer "system," the relationship between those on-board and off-board devices changes. This is where device "drivers" come into play. What works fine when you first turn on your new machine, may not work as fast or so well later on. These device drivers are constantly being re-written by device manufacturers to permit their products to work with newer stuff coming into the market. "Drivers" are a whole subject unto themselves, and a good idea for another week's column, but for now consider the next tip.

**TIP:** Use the Internet to check for newer drivers for various devices in your system. You can contact the manufacturers by phone, but the web is much faster and downloads of driver updates are immediate. Don't forget that there is such a thing as a "bios" update too. An old horse with new shoes can run faster!

**TIP:** The subject of drivers, bios and updates for these things is clearly on the more technical side for most computer owner/users. There is a lot of help on such technical subjects available over the Internet and it is time well spent when you search out and visit sites that cover these topics. I strongly advise every user to take some time and use the Internet to learn something about how to maintain their computers.

While we are on the subject of learning about our computers and applications, I would be remiss if I didn't remind everyone of the continually improving directed training and courseware that is interactively available today. You'll find courses that combine printed books with computer based training (CBT) both via the Internet and CD-ROMs. Go for it, it's out there.

By now, if you don't think the Internet is a big part of our lives today, just look at all the RBOC's (Regional Bell Operating Companies) that are moving to carry your next telephone call to and from the Internet. It's not just your kid's computer game room anymore! See you next issue.

## High School Students Plan Trip To Italy

Thirteen South Plainfield High School students will be travelling to Italy next March. The students are Melinda Agostino, Amanda Bertrand, Brian Donnelly, Eric Jackson, Elizabeth Keppel, Matthew Kravetsky, Rebecca Perez, Elaine Ramos, Jennifer Rayho, Elizabeth Serago, Carol Serago, Raymond Sheedy, Bradford Tierney and Nicole Wrublewski. Nicole's mom is also going.

The itinerary will begin in Venice and continue through Ravenna to Florence, with a side trip to Pisa. From Florence the students will go south to Sorrento where they will take a day trip to the isle of Capri and see the ruins of Pompeii. The trip will conclude in Rome after a visit to Monte Cassino. The students will be escorted by Ms. Susan Goldey, who is preparing them with cultural material and Italian lessons. The date of departure is March 30, 1999. They will be returning April 8.

It is still not too late to sign up for the trip. The approximate cost is \$1800.

For more information, please call Susan Goldey at South Plainfield High School, 754-4620, ext. 352 or (732) 563-1167.

## Congratulations McKnight's Mark 50th Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Charles McKnight celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary with a trip to the Outer Banks in North Carolina.

Accompanying the couple and hosting the celebration were their two sons, two daughter-in-laws and five grandchildren.

In the last issue of the *Observer* we incorrectly reported it was the McKnight's 25th wedding anniversary, it was their 50th. We are sorry for the error.



Rescue Squad President Linda Zushma and Captain Mike Zushma hold the winning ticket for the South Plainfield Rescue Squad Super 50/50. The winner, Alma Kenney from South Plainfield, won \$1,537.50. The drawing was originally scheduled to take place after the Labor Day Parade. The winner was chosen on Monday Sept. 14.

From the Democratic Candidates...

## Looking Forward to Upcoming Campaign

Mayor Daniel Gallagher and Councilperson Dennis Cerami and Darlene Pinto this week commented on the upcoming campaign. Mayor Gallagher said, "I look forward to a full discussion of the issues during the eight weeks between now and election day. Dennis Cerami, Darlene Pinto and I are proud to run on the Democratic record over the last four years."

Councilperson Dennis Cerami echoed the mayor's sentiments, "Mayor Gallagher and the new Democratic majority have been able to reverse the prior Republican administrations' disastrous record of borrow, spend and tax. The Borough budget is actually less today than when Dan Gallagher was elected. Pay as you go government is entering its fifth consecutive year. Remember when the Republicans said you can't have pay as you go government?"

Darlene Pinto joined with her running mates saying, "I'm proud to run on the Democratic ticket which has an unmatched record

of accomplishments, in four short years 50 roads have been repaved, the library, Borough Hall, public works building repaired, Putnam Park upgraded and the new hockey rink completed all on a pay as you go basis.

Mayor Gallagher summed up the Democratic positions. "Four years of hard work have paid off. There will be no municipal tax increase in South Plainfield this year or next year. In fact, if we stay the course, the days of big tax increases in South Plainfield should be a thing of the past. I ask our residents to look at the record. After doing so, I feel confident they will support the Democratic team of Gallagher, Cerami & Pinto."

*Please Note: Just as last year, the Observer invites all candidates to give their opinion on the issues. We hope the Republicans, Democrats and Independent candidates will take advantage of this offer in the remaining issues before the election.*



## A Heavenly Country Store

A New England Store in NJ

2125 Oak Tree Rd. • Edison, NJ

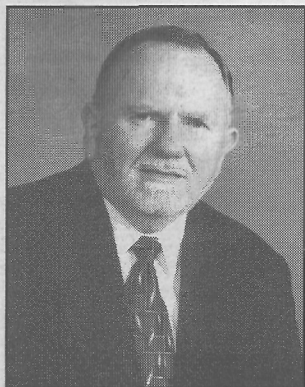
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LOVELY 6 ROOM RANCH— 3 bedrooms with a deck

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## Cookie's BAKERY & DELI

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The premier Bakery in the area  
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All Products Are FRESH BAKED DAILY  
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QUALITY BAKED PRODUCTS THAT PREPACKAGED  
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HOURS: Monday  
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Our deli offers Boars Head Meats, Over 30 Varieties  
of Bagels, Homemade Salads, Smoked Fish

New Store Opening at 279 Central Ave., Metuchen



# The Aftermath

## *South Plainfield Faced Extensive Clean Up*



Photos by Patti Abbott and Rich D'Urso



**South Plainfield**  
faced many days  
of cleanup and  
repair as a result  
of the storm.

## **Labor Day Festivities Cut Short**

*Continued from page one*  
jumped into action long before the storm hit. The games, rides and "moonwalk" were closed down and the field cleared and by the time the skies darkened, the park was already being evacuated. South Plainfield resembled the storm scene from *Wizard of Oz*.

The sudden and strong winds knocked over booths and tables with huge gusts. The "moonwalk" was yanked out of the hands of those attempting take it down. It flew across the soccer field and out of sight down the street. Those remaining quickly packed what they could and dashed out of the park. The huge yellow and white tent that normally provides shade was billowing and looked as if it were about to blow over. Police hustled stragglers out and helped guide people away from danger. The heavy rain and strong winds blew dirt, making it difficult to see. Within minutes everyone was safely out of the park. The police,

fire and rescue squad were already responding to distress calls. The parade command center became the Emergency Operations Center under the direction of Emergency Operations Coordinator Michael Zushma, Deputy Coordinator Michael Grennier and Lt. John Brembt, liaison between the police department and Emergency Management. R.A.C.E. operators, who assisted with communications between parade officials and police, were called back to help with the storm emergency.

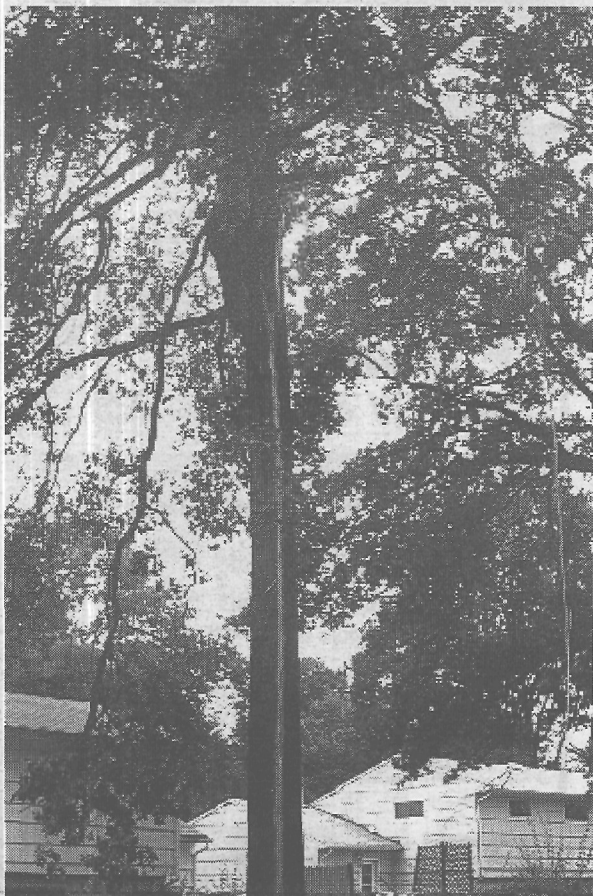
Mike Zushma reported over 400 calls to Emergency Management Center and Police Chief Merkle reported 1199-1-1 calls. Each call received a response by either the police or fire department.

The Mayor, council members and many others, worked throughout the night, doing whatever they could to assist the town and the untold number of volunteers working the storm ravaged streets and homes.

The storm quickly passed but sirens could be heard throughout the night and into the next day. Downed power lines and trees created dangerous situations. School were closed the entire week.

In addition to the storm, there was a major spill on Hamilton Blvd. and an armed robbery at Marty's Shoe Store on Stelton Rd.

Emergency Management was on top of each incident and roads were closed off to keep the public safe. Police, fire and the rescue squad — the same people who began the day helping and celebrating with the residents — ended their day some 48-plus hours later, still assisting a town in a state of emergency. It is these loyal and hard working people who keep our town safe and help to create South Plainfield's strong sense of community. It is these very people that should be remembered as we celebrate Labor Day, safely, each year.





# Public Celebrations Committee Awards 41st Annual Labor Day Parade Trophy Winners



*The South Plainfield Public Celebrations Committee along with the Mayor and the Borough Council would like to congratulate the Trophy Winners in the 1998 Labor Day Parade.*

## HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL TROPHY

Given by Honorary Grand Marshal to best overall entry in his/her opinion.

*Awarded to: South Plainfield Girl Scouts*

## JUDGES' TROPHY

Best overall entry as determined by judges Awarded to: Funny Factory Clown Band

**GEORGE W. L. PAGE TROPHY** - Given to the best civic entry.

*Awarded to: South Plainfield Fire Department*

## BEST YOUTH MUSICAL GROUP

Awarded by judges to the best youth (high school and under) musical performing group.

*Awarded to: South Plainfield High School Marching Band*

**BEST ADULT MUSICAL GROUP** - Awarded by judges to the best adult musical performing group.

*Awarded to: Cedarcroft Bible Chapel*

## BEST APPEARING MARCHING GROUP

*Awarded to: Pipe & Drum of Atlantic Watch*

## BEST MUNICIPAL GROUP

Given to the best overall entry connected to the borough government.

*Awarded to: South Plainfield Rescue Squad*

## BEST NON-INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMING GROUP

Awarded to the best appearing drill team, twirling group, gymnastic group, etc.

*Awarded to: Fiegley's Gymnastics*

## BEST YOUTH GROUP

Awarded to the best appearing youth (high school and under) entry.

*Awarded to: Football Eagles*

## MOST OUTSTANDING FLOAT - Best overall.

*Awarded to: PSE&G IBEW Local 94 Child Watch*

## BEST YOUTH GROUP FLOAT - High School and under.

*Awarded to: South Plainfield Tiger Sharks*

## BEST CIVIC FLOAT - Awarded to: South Plainfield Boy Scouts

*Awarded to: USS New Jersey Battleship*

## MOST OUTSTANDING VISITING ENTRY

Awarded to the best appearing entry from out of South Plainfield.

*Awarded to: Crescent Temple Shriners*

## BEST ANTIQUE VEHICLE

Awarded to the best appearing antique vehicle entry of any kind entered as a separate unit.

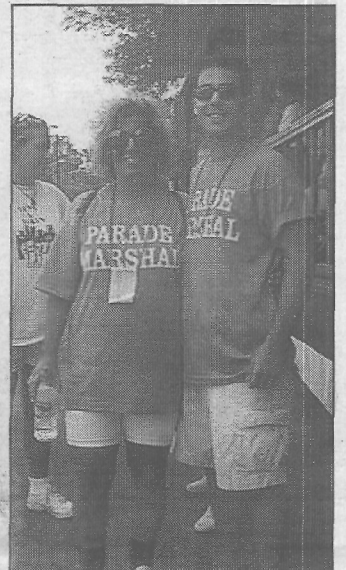
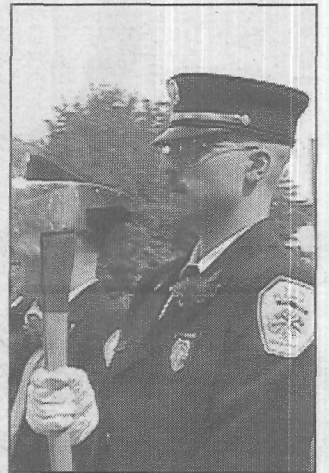
*Awarded to: 1968 Camaro By Gail Campbell*

## MARIE D. PAGE MUSICAL PERFORMANCE AWARD

Awarded to the best overall instrumental musical performance entry.

*Awarded to: Ragtimers*

*The Public Celebrations Committee would like to thank everyone for participating in this year's Labor Day festivities and look forward to seeing you all in 1999!*

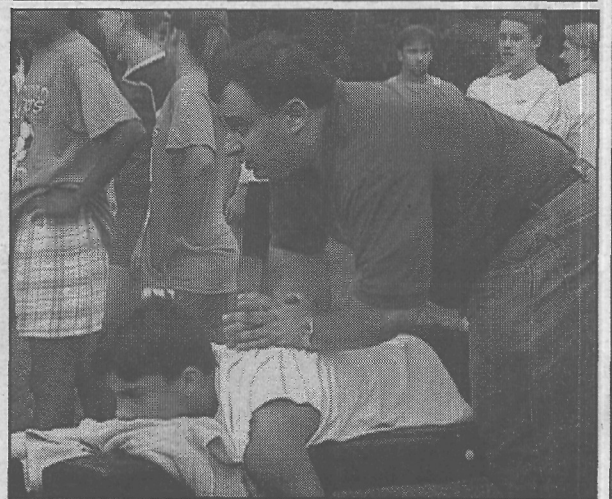


## Eighth Annual Labor Day 5K Race Winners

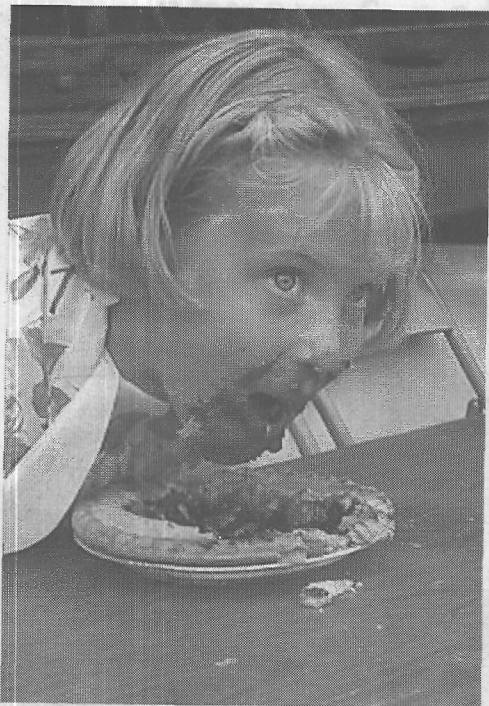
Men's First Place to Thomas Parlapiano of Honey Brook, PA; Second Place to Jeremy Stratton of Parlin, NJ and Third Place to Stephen Lewicki of South Amboy, NJ.

Women's First Place to Leslie Vandorn of Paquanock, NJ; Second Place to Monika Lehman of South Plainfield, NJ and Third Place to Cindy Carlson of South Plainfield.

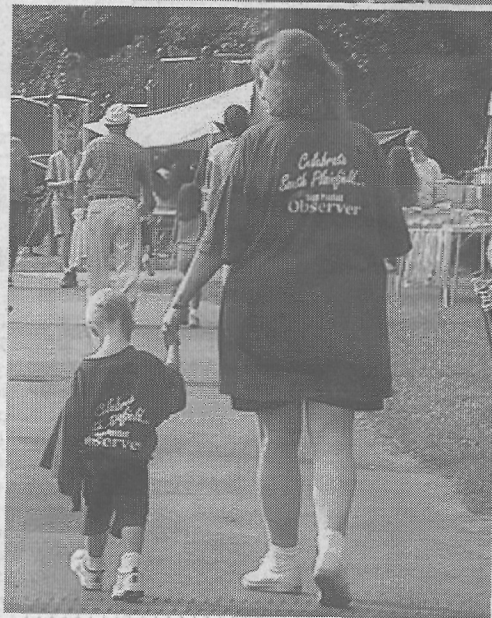
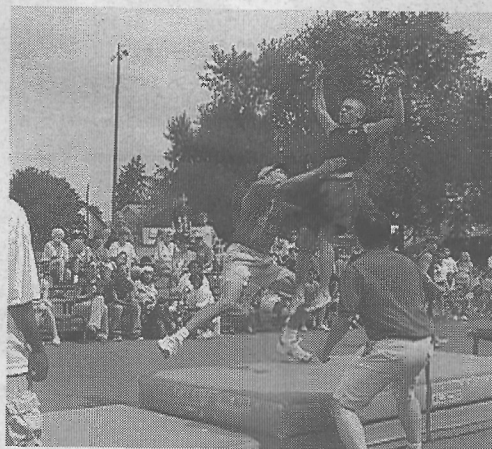
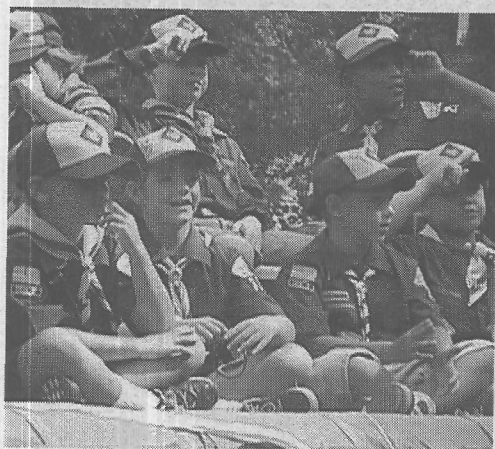
Awards included \$100 in cash, a one-month free membership to Ricochet Health and Racquet Club and trophies to overall winners, male and female and \$50 gift certificates donated by Home Depot and Nike running shoes donated by Sportworld to the second place finishers. (See partial list of runners on page 11)



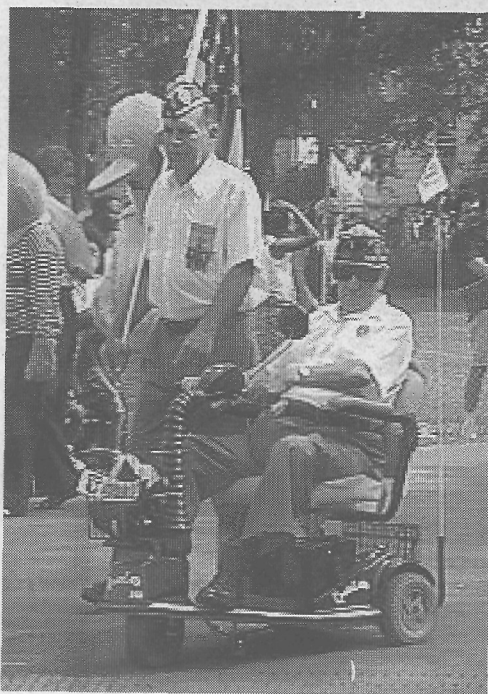
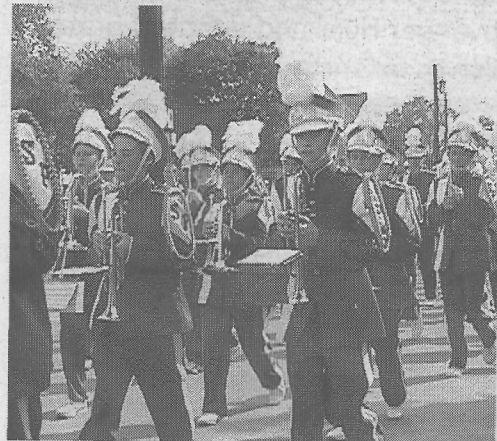
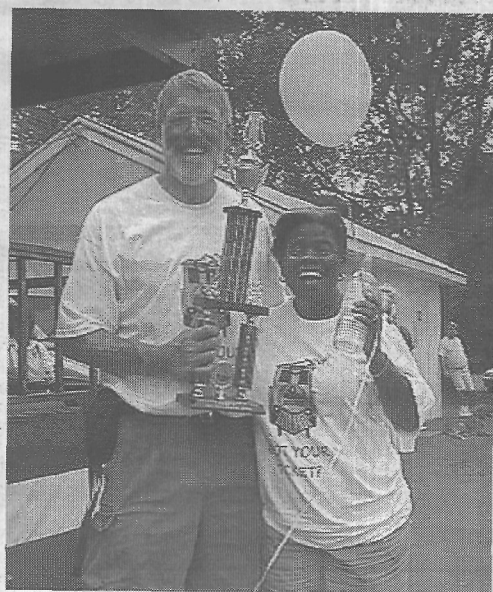
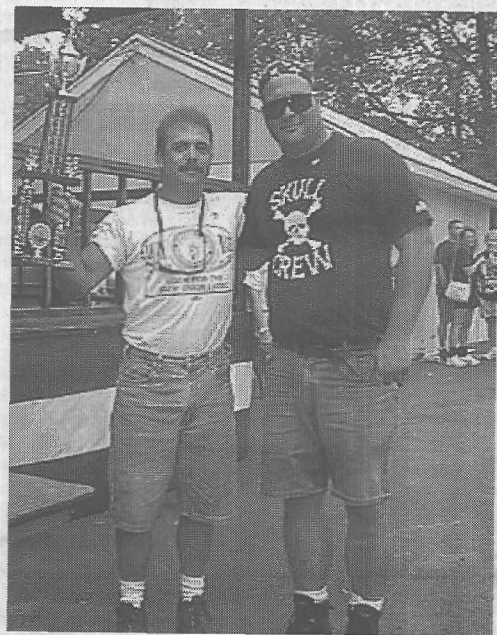
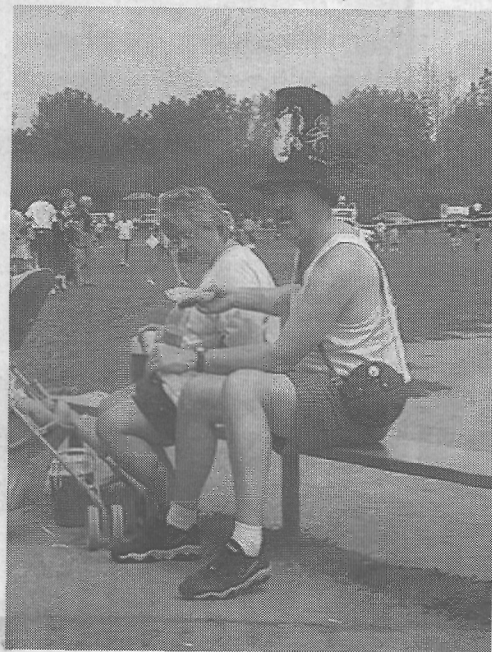
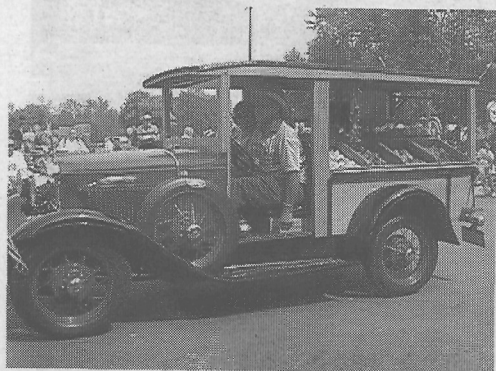




# SOUTH PLAINFIELD CELEBRATES FAMILY, FUN & HOMETOWN









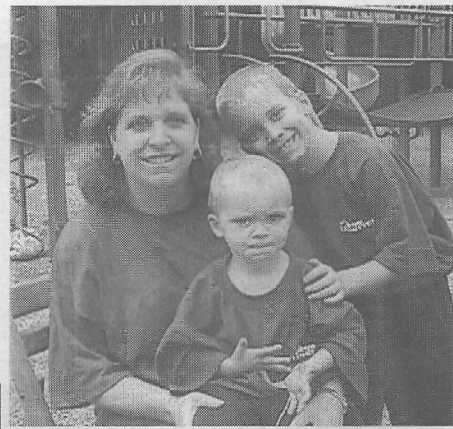
# Observer Celebrates South Plainfield

The *Observer* celebrated their first anniversary in style at the Annual Labor Day Parade, passing out balloons, frisbees, newspapers, donuts and cupcakes (donated by Friehofer's) and birthday cake (donated by Cookie's Bakery & Deli). Although the celebration was cut short by the storm, the *Observer* was able to begin the drawing for the Scavenger Hunt prizes. Although we were able to award some of the prizes, the storm cut short the drawing. As the wind picked up, the entry box flew away in the storm. The following prizes were awarded: grand prize of Beanie Baby Basket to Donna Ricotta; Twice Is Nice Pumpkin to Joann Pauls; Twin City Basket to Jessica Catalini; Holly Park Video certificate to Janet Iacovone; Yogurt Express cake certificate to Joseph P. Krawiec; Carousel Hair Care Gift Basket to Catherine Krawiec;

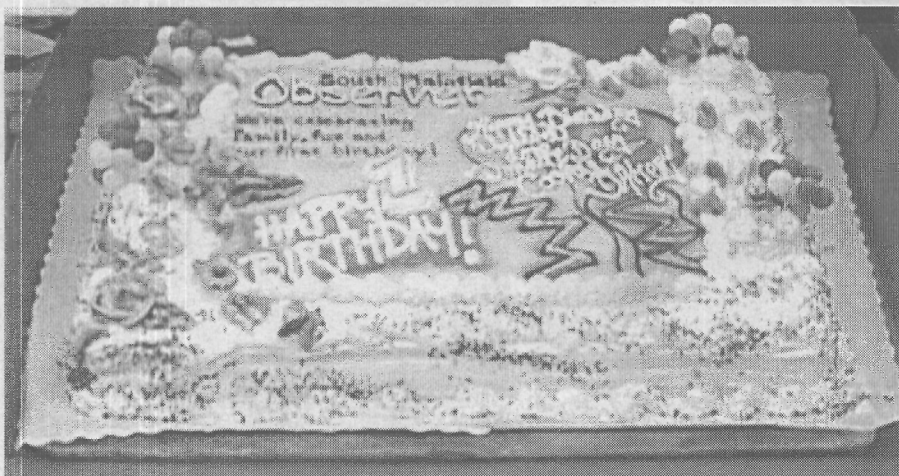
Mohn's Stuffed Animal to Nicole Cortese and Services Plus flag to Cookie Figler. We extend our apologies to anyone else who entered. We are considering alternative ways to award the remaining prizes.

The *Observer* thanks all the participants in the Scavenger Hunt and the following advertisers for their donations and support: Friehofer's for their generous donation of donuts and cupcakes which kept many participants smiling; Twice Is Nice, Twin City Pharmacy, Carousel Hair Salon, Aiello Chiropractic, Services Plus, Yogurt Express, Cookies Bakery & Deli whose cake was delicious, Sals Spirit Shoppe, Mohn's Flowers and Fancy Foods, Holly Park Video and Porky's Barbecue.

The *Observer* also extends thanks to the volunteers who assisted at the booth on Labor Day: Barbara Smith, Joey, Jonathon and Carol Grennier, Robert Seliga, Susan and Justin Kaneps, Christopher and Patti Abbott, Patti's mom, Joan Abbott and Wayne Grennier.



## Observer Celebrates First Birthday, Awards Prizes in Advertisers Scavenger Hunt



In celebration of our first anniversary, the South Plainfield Observer served birthday cake, donated by Cookie's Bakery, along with donuts and cupcakes donated by Friehofer's, to South Plainfield residents at the Labor Day Parade.

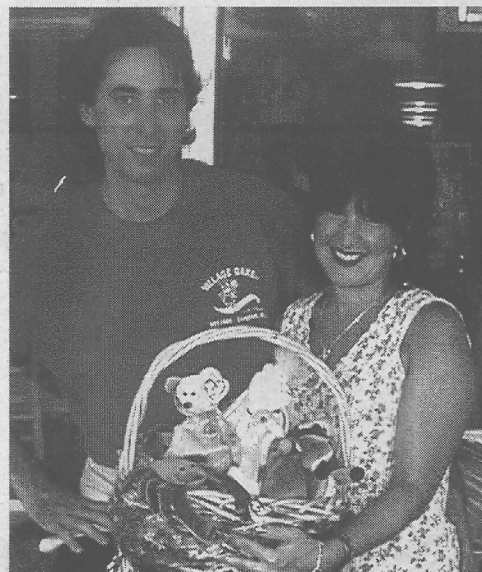
To all our advertisers who participated in the Scavenger Hunt and donated prizes, The Observer extends our sincere thanks and appreciation for all their continued support.



Jessica Catalini (left) and Nicole Cortese (right), winners in the *Observer's* Scavenger Hunt.



Brother and sister Joseph and Catherine Krawiec with their Scavenger Hunt prizes.



Donna Ricotta, the luckiest lady in town, grand prize winner in the *Observer's* Scavenger Hunt, pictured with Douglas Scheuerer.



# Top 100 Finishers in 5k Race

NAME	TOWN	TIME	NAME	TOWN	TIME
Thomas Parlapiano	Honey Brook, Pa	4:58	John Blondet	South Plainfield	6:44
Jeremy Stratton	Parlin	5:04	Joseph Nappe	South Plainfield	6:45
Stephen Lewicki	South Amboy	5:16	Ray Ostrowski	Mon. Junction	6:45
Shahid Jalil	Kendal Park	5:28	Eric Johnson	South Plainfield	6:46
Michael Panzarella	South Plainfield	5:32	Brian McMahon	South Plainfield	6:46
James Groben	South Plainfield	5:33	Donald Mayerbrown	Plainfield	6:46
Michael Loenser	South Plainfield	5:37	Cindy Carlson	South Plainfield	6:47
Gavin Sloane	North Bergen	5:40	Kathleen Higgins	Scotch Plains	6:50
Dennis McNerney	South Plainfield	5:42	Billy Wilson	South Plainfield	6:50
Michael Noonan	Piscataway	5:49	Mike Buteas	South Plainfield	6:51
Chris Malvone	South Plainfield	5:51	Orlando Calderon	Plainfield	6:51
Stephen Ritter	South Plainfield	5:54	Betty Otarola	West Orange	6:51
Sid Howerd	Plainfield	6:03	Chris Vandorn	Pequannock	6:52
Ed Halper	Kendal Park	6:04	Edward Wright	Green Brook	6:52
Thomas O'Connor	South Plainfield	6:06	Jeffrey St John	Park Ridge	6:52
Thomas Cannalange	South Plainfield	6:08	Mike Schaffer	Rockaway	6:54
Bill Pavlak	North Plainfield	6:08	Meghan Roquermore	Cranbury	6:54
Scott Runkel	Parlin	6:09	Marilyn Vaughan	Plainfield	6:54
Herbert O'Brien	South Plainfield	6:09	Steve Sherman	Madison	6:56
Martin Lillis	South Plainfield	6:11	Michael Capizolla	Bridgewater	6:57
Leslie Vandorn	Pequannock	6:13	Raymond Russo	Scotch Plains	6:59
Justin Gentles	Plainfield	6:13	Robert McGill	South Plainfield	7:03
Richard Gebauer	South Plainfield	6:15	Brad Carlton	South Plainfield	7:05
Richard Gebauer	South Plainfield	6:16	Jim Beam	Irvington	7:09
Rod Teach	Waynesboro	6:16	William Hinman	Millburn	7:09
Mickey Syrop	North Plainfield	6:19	Jim Zotti	South Plainfield	7:10
Chris M. Cyriax	South Amboy	6:20	Donald Palmer	South Plainfield	7:11
Finisher had No Number			Douglas Folton	South Plainfield	7:12
Gregory Cassion	South Plainfield	6:22	David Weigand	Somerset	7:17
Tomas Camayo	North Plainfield	6:22	Rick Edelman	Hillsborough	7:18
Brian Raiti	South Plainfield	6:24	Cliff Sobek	South Plainfield	7:22
Paci Gover	Frenchtown	6:25	Shannon Bishop	South Plainfield	7:22
Ross Buchole	Piscataway	6:26	Anthony Celentano	South Plainfield	7:28
Monika Lehman	South Plainfield	6:30	Michael Cardona	South Plainfield	7:28
John Scatter	Madison	6:30	Kathleen Dobato	South Plainfield	7:30
Saul Baez	Carteret	6:30	Jason Hawrylak	Parlin	7:30
Stuart Bruno	South Plainfield	6:30	James McConville	South Plainfield	7:30
Christopher Guiag	Old Bridge	6:31	John Garcia	South Plainfield	7:30
James Durgana	Colonia	6:32	Joseph Botunda	West Orange	7:31
Walt Kaczka	South Plainfield	6:32	Timothy Morgan, Jr.	South Plainfield	7:32
Raymond Forziati	Piscataway	6:33	Darla Dinizo	South Plainfield	7:32
Jim Karakowski	Carteret	6:34	Sean Wilson	South Plainfield	7:35
Greg Machos	South Plainfield	6:34	Humberto Torres	North Plainfield	7:39
Rick Macho	South Plainfield	6:34	China Goli	Plainfield	7:40
David Markey	South Plainfield	6:38	Robert Larmour	South Plainfield	7:40
Mark Ottaviani	Cranbury	6:38	Bill Roumy	Jamesburg	7:40
Matt Brooks	South Plainfield	6:41	Matthew Peterson	South Plainfield	7:40
Dane Doyle, Sr.	Plainfield	6:42	William Arends	South Plainfield	7:40
Michael McCall	Park Ridge	6:43	Harry Wilson	Middlesex	7:41
Robert Vanorden	Montclair	6:44	Gina Nobile	South Plainfield	7:41

## CRIME TIPS....

### Preventing Car Theft

Car theft is a widespread problem. A car is stolen every 32 seconds in the United States, over one million each year. One out of every 50 cars is stolen or has its contents stolen. Car theft results in accidents, economic loss, more than 4.5 billion annually, higher insurance premiums and major inconvenience. Our actions and attitudes are the keys to preventing theft, damage and misuse.

#### How car thieves operate

Any car can be a target. Most auto thefts occur between dusk to mid-evening hours, but a theft can occur any time so around the clock vigilance is needed to protect your car.

Most thefts occur in cities and residential areas, many from driveways. There are also some other high risk areas such as shopping center parking lots, sporting events parking lots and transportation terminals.

Most car thieves don't need to break in, they usually gain entry through unlocked doors and many times find the key left in the ignition.

#### Two kinds of thieves

**Joyriders**—they are usually juveniles or young offenders looking for a thrill or ride and often take cars with keys left in them. Joyriders often are inexperienced drivers and often get into accidents causing property damage, injuries and sometimes death.

**Professional thieves**—they usually take cars for order, for resale or to use for parts, or as getaway cars. Professionals need less than a minute to break into a locked car and start it, or they may tow it away. Recovery is much less likely with a professional thief. Cars are repainted, retagged with new V.I.N. plates, sold and shipped out of the country, or stripped for parts within hours in chop shops.

#### Take these common sense precautions

Lock your car and take your keys with you.

Shut the windows tightly. Even tiny gaps aid a car thief in gaining entry into your vehicle.

Lock your garage if you keep your car there. Some cars are taken right out of the garage.

Never leave your car running! This is like inviting someone to steal your car.

Don't conceal a spare key inside or outside your car. Thieves know the hiding places.

Avoid leaving keys with a garage or parking lot attendant

when possible. Don't let an attendant know where you are going, or how long you will be gone, and don't leave the trunk key with an attendant even if you have to leave the ignition key with him.

#### Park in well lit areas

Long term parking in an airport can be made safer by removing the rotor from your distributor and locking it in your trunk until your return.

Replace button type locks with tapered ones that can't be slipped with a coat hanger.

Alarms and kill switches can be very effective if you learn how to use them properly.

Steering wheel locking devices can also make it more difficult for someone to steal your car.

#### Protect your valuables

Don't leave money, packages or other items of value in your car that may attract a car thief.

**What if your car is stolen?** Report it to the police as soon as possible. The police will need a description of your car and the license plate number to put out a broadcast on the stolen vehicle, and to enter it into the computer as a stolen vehicle. If you locate your vehicle make sure the police remove the car from the computer as a stolen car or you may find yourself on the wrong end of a felony police stop.

#### Nothing is fool proof

A determined thief can defeat almost any means of protecting your car, but ask yourself this: If two similar cars are parked near each other and one is locked with an alarm light activated on it and the other car is unlocked with no alarm, which car do you think will be taken by a thief?

#### C.A.T. PROGRAM

**What is Combat auto theft?** A program offered by the South Plainfield Police Dept. Crime Prevention Unit. South Plainfield residents voluntarily register their vehicles as a vehicle that is not normally operated between the hours of 1 a.m. and 5 a.m.. A C.A.T. sticker is put in the rear window. A police officer observing this vehicle on the road between those hours may stop this vehicle to determine ownership. If the driver is other than the owner, police will contact the owner about a driver having vehicle.

For more information and any questions, contact Officer J. Papa or A. La Monda at (908) 226-7716.

**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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## Cub Pack 224 Renews Adoption

Cub Scout Pack 224, based at the Riley School, has renewed its Adopt-A-Spot agreement with the South Plainfield Clean Business Association for the coming year. Pack 224 will continue its monthly clean-ups of the Cedarbrook Ave. stream crossing.

The group first decided to adopt the area in 1995. They had been working there every spring during Volunteer Litter Clean-up Week and found themselves going back periodically on their own. One annual clean-up was not enough to keep this spot clear of litter. Lying between Spring Lake Park and the vacant Middlesex Water Company property, the roadside attracts not only litter but illegally dumped trash. The Cub Scouts are determined to keep this wooded area, located so close to their school, clean and attractive.

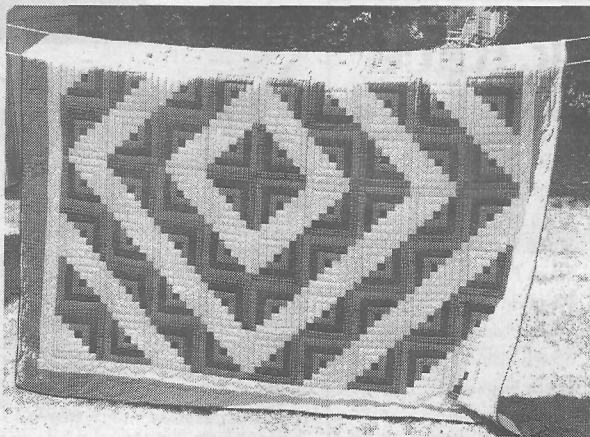
For more information about the Adopt-A-Spot program, contact the Clean Communities Coordinator at (908) 226-7621.

## Nature Reserve Spruced Up in Time for Next Nature Walk

Twenty volunteers came out for the Fall Trail Maintenance Day at the Highland Avenue Woods Environmental Education Reserve on Sunday, Sept. 13. They worked all morning trimming vegetation back from the trails and removing some old fencing to improve the appearance of the Sylvania Place entrance. The usual litter pickup found much less trash than past cleanups. One crew hand-pulled a patch of Japanese Knotweed, an invasive bamboo-like plant that threatens the native wildflowers in the Reserve. Others worked hard to clear the trails of large trees that were felled by the Labor Day storm. Another volunteer made good progress on a set of steps that will lead down to the stream.

The Borough recently acquired a public path easement along this stream from Hmielecki Trucking on New Era Drive. Friends of the Woods, which sponsored Trail Maintenance Day, is hoping to open up a new path along the stream within the year.

Friends of the Woods and the South Plainfield Environmental Commission are grateful to all the volunteers who took time off from cleaning up after the storm at their own homes to make the



### Historical Society News...

## Quilt Raffle Winner Announced; Yard Sale and Meeting Planned

Congratulations to Louise Abbuzzese, the winner of the South Plainfield Historical Society Quilt Raffle. The beautiful, handmade quilt is sewn in the current popular colors of the log cabin pattern. Quick action by Historical Society members saved the quilt from getting wet or damaged in the sudden storm on

Labor Day. Luckily, President Bill Tuthill's car was parked near the Society's Booth at Veterans Park.

A huge yard sale is planned for Sept. 19 at 711 Tompkins Ave. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Society has received many donations of furniture and collectibles from people moving into smaller homes or apartments.

On Sept. 26, "The Pampered Chef" will present a program at the First Baptist Church on Hamilton Blvd., to benefit the Historic Train Museum Fund. For further information, call Arline at 753-7852, Bill at 756-9654 or Linda at 754-2386.

The next meeting of the group will be on Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 7:30 p.m. in the Media Center of the High School Library. An interesting program is planned. Guests are always welcome.

## Recycling Center and Yard Waste Site Hours

Fall hours for the Recycling Center began Friday, Sept. 14. Regular fall hours at both the Recycling Center and the Yard Waste Site are: Tuesdays noon to 7 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

### Middlesex County Paint Drop Program (South Plainfield Recycling Center)

Third Saturday 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Open to Middlesex County Residents only. Proof of residency is required.

### Middlesex County Tire Recycling Program (Metuchen Recycling Center)

Hours are Mon., Wed. and Fri., 8 a.m.-2 p.m.; Tues., Thurs. 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Open to Middlesex County residents only. Proof of residency is required.

Note: The Metuchen Recycling Center is located on Jersey Avenue off Durham Avenue in Metuchen.

### Middlesex County Household Battery Collection Program

South Plainfield residents may bring all type of household batteries, except automobile batteries, to the following location during normal business hours: South Plainfield Public Library located at 2484 Plainfield Ave.

If you have question about any of the Middlesex County collection programs, call the Middlesex County Division of Solid Waste Management at (732) 745-4170.

## Vision Education Foundation Plans Golf Outing in October

The South Plainfield Vision 2001 Education Foundation is planning a Golf Outing on Monday, Oct. 5 at the Colonia Country Club in Colonia.

The cost for an individual is \$160 or if paid before Sept. 25 \$150 and includes 18 holes of golf, green fees and card, Continental breakfast, brunch at the turn, cocktail hour and a prime rib dinner. All gratuities are included. Casual attire is the order and rubber spikes only are allowed.

Prizes will include a new car, a vacation, a golf set and a camcorder for a hole in one. Prizes will also be given for low net, low gross, longest drive, closest to the hole, closest to the line, corporate team net and corporate team gross.

The day will begin with breakfast and registration at 9 a.m. and a shotgun start at 10:30 a.m. Lunch at the turn will begin at 12:30 p.m. The cocktail hour starts at 3 p.m. and dinner and awards will be at 4 p.m.

Corporate sponsors are also available. A Gold Sponsor is \$1000 and includes a foursome, flag and tee sign. A Silver Sponsor is \$500 and includes a two-some, flag and tee sign. Other Corporate Sponsors are \$250 Brunch at Turn, \$150 Breakfast Sponsor, \$150 Beverage Stand, \$150 Cocktail Bar, \$75 Sponsor Flags, \$75 Tee Signs, \$115 Golf Only and \$75 Cocktail Hour/Prime Rib Dinner.

The Vision 2001 Education Fund's objectives are:

- Financial support for incentive programs that encourage academic achievement and good citizenship;
- Annual scholarships;
- Internship and cooperative work opportunities;
- Opportunities for inventive industry/school partnerships; and
- Endowment funds for scholarships.

In four years the Vision 2001 Education Funds has awarded: 18 scholarships for a total of \$32,000; \$22,500 in Endowments; \$6,000 for Curriculum

Programs; \$5,597 for Academic Incentive Programs and \$9,575 for School Equipment.

For more information on the Golf Outing or Vision 2001, call Robert Hunter at (908) 756-0280 or Emil Leporino at (908) 756-8038.

## Labor Day Nature Walk Rescheduled

The South Plainfield Environmental Commission has rescheduled the walk on the Veterans Park Nature Trail that was to be part of the post-parade festivities on Labor Day.

The group was just starting out when the severe thunderstorm struck, canceling this event. The nature walk will be held instead on Sunday, Oct. 4 at 1 p.m. Walkers should meet at the start of the trail, at the foot of Elm St. where the log fence meets the Cedar Brook. Bring binoculars for bird watching and wear sturdy shoes. Free trail guidebooks will be available.

The Nature Trail is a generally flat, easy path that follows the Cedar Brook to where it flows into the Bound Brook, and comes back along the Bound Brook. The trail passes through several different habitats and a variety of plants and wildlife may be seen. Jay Scovronek, a member of the Environmental Commission, will lead the Oct. 4 walk.

For more information, call the South Plainfield Environmental Specialist at (908) 226-7621.

## Recycling Commission is Looking for New Members

The Recycling Commission is looking for community minded residents with an interest in public education, publicity and program development. If you are interested in becoming a member or for more information call Alice Tempel at (908) 226-7621.

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## Sacred Heart Church

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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)

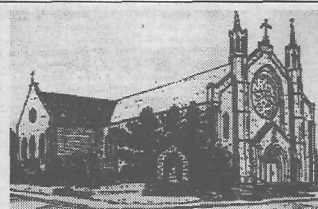
Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.

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





# Pop Warner Eagles Will Host Gatorade Punt, Pass and Kick Competition

The competition is open to all boys and girls ages 8-15. It will be held Sept. 26, at 11 a.m. at the South Plainfield Pop Warner Eagles football field on Kenneth Ave. in South Plainfield.

For competition information call Gary Prendergast at 753-6344. Entry forms are available at the fieldhouse. Registration will be held on Sept. 26, between 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

The NFL Gatorade Punt, Pass and Kick competition allows youngsters to showcase their talents in punting, passing and

placekicking with scores based on distance and accuracy. Age classification is as of Dec. 31, 1998.

The top finishers from each of the four age groups from the boys and girls divisions will advance to the sectional competition in New

Providence. Top finishers at the sectionals will advance to regional and national competition.

Proof of age is required, a copy of birth record. No football shoes are allowed, sneakers only.

## Pop Warner Football Sept. 13 Results

**Mighty Mites**  
Hillsborough - 7 So. Plfd. - 0  
**Jr. Pee Wee**  
Hillsborough - 14 So. Plfd. - 0  
**Jr. Midget**  
Hillsborough - 6 So. Plfd. 12

**Midget**  
Hillsborough - 28 So. Plfd. 6

**Mighty Mite**—defensive standouts were Bennie Gibson, Kyle Darr, Mark Wagner. The offensive standouts were Jalil Williams, A.J. Kunie and Scott Barton. A.J. Kunie made an interception.

**Jr. Pee Wee**—defensive standouts were Thomas Whalen, Mike Jakubik and Frank Stefanelli. The offensive standouts were Jeff Osley, Kyle Lendach and T.J. Brown.

**Jr. Midget**—defensive standouts were Jimmy Keane, George Watkins, Brian Patrusovich. The offense standouts were Joe DeBiase, Nick Jefferys, Michael Maher. Touchdown by David Gerena and Guy Severini.

**Midget**—defensive standouts were Steven Johnston, Steve Maione and Matthew Carella. The offensive standouts were Eric Forde, Phil DeRosa and Steven Parealli. Touchdown by Marcellus Abrams.

**Flag Squads**—defensive standouts were John Wylam, Patrick Millard, Kyle Hughes. Offensive standouts were Christopher Richard, Philip Longo and Tyler Driscoll.

## Soccer Team Wins Season Opener, 6-1

The Lady Tigers won their first game of the season against Carteret taking their record to 1-0-1. South Plainfield started out their season with a tie on the season opener against J.P. Stevens. The only goal scored for the Tigers was by Courtney English.

In the game against Carteret, the leading scorer for the Tigers was Senior striker Carolyn Schweers, with two goals in the second half. Other scorers for South Plainfield were Dana Curcio, Cortney English, Shannon Bishop and Laura Colicchio with one goal each.

## Recreation Introduces Line Dancing

The South Plainfield Recreation Department is introducing Line Dancing classes this fall.

What a great way to socialize and stay in shape! Participants will learn a great variety of popular dances—including New York, New York, the Achy Break, the Electric Slide and the Macarena.

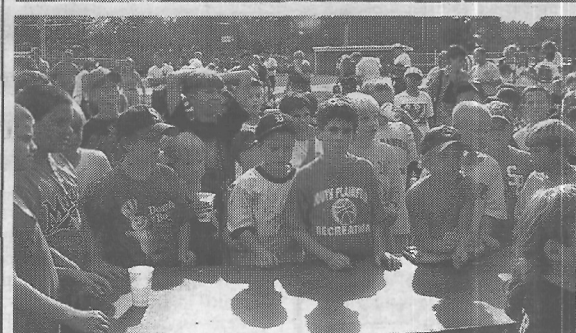
Classes are open to residents 55 and older and will be held Thursdays starting Sept. 24, 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the P.A.L. Building. Instructor will be Pat Suk. Cost for residents is \$20, \$30 for nonresidents.

For information, call the Recreation Office at (908) 754-1047. Register in person at the Recreation Office located inside the P.A.L. Building on Maple Ave. or mail registration to the S.P. Recreation Department, 1250 Maple Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.



## Junior Baseball Club Holds Annual Picnic

South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club Held their Annual End of the Year Picnic on Saturday, Sept. 12. Pictured above is the Small Fry B League Oakland Athletics, who won their division and World Series, with Manager Joe Maistickle and Coach Kevin Murtaugh. The team is Erika Blaszk, James Charneco, Vincent Genova, Matthew Gross, Rob Mastickie, Thomas Manolio, David Miglis, Billy Moates, Brian Murtaugh, Anthony Petriello and Daniel Piwowar.



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**SOUTH PLAINFIELD FOOTBALL**

## Eagles Schedule

September 17	General Membership Meeting 8 p.m.
September 17	GAME Maplewood (Away)
September 26	Punt/Pass/Kick Contest
September 27	GAME Somerset Hill (Home)
October 4	GAME: Hunterdon Hills (Home)
October 11	GAME: Flemington (Away)
October 15	General Membership Meeting 8 pm (Nominations)
October 18	GAME: Watchung Hills (Home)
October 24	MVC Cheerleading Competition 1-6pm
October 25	GAME: West Orange (Home)
November 1	GAME: Washington Rock (Away)
November 8	GAME: Somerville (Away)
November 13	Uniform Collection at Fieldhouse 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. ALL SQUADS
November 14	Uniform Collection at Fieldhouse 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. ALL SQUADS
November 14	Pizza Party 6 to 8 p.m. PAL Building
November 19	General Membership Meeting (Elections) 8pm

Dates and times are subject to change—Fieldhouse phone number 753-6344. Game times each week: Flag (10 a.m.) Mighty Mites (11 a.m.) Junior PeeWees (12:20 p.m.) Junior Midgets 2 p.m.) Midgets (3:30 p.m.)

The Observer is seeking a writer to cover local sports.  
Call 732-469-4380.

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## Obituaries

### Ruth S. Wright, 72

Ruth S. Wright died on Monday, Aug. 31, in Somerset Medical Center, Somerville.

Born in Dobbs Ferry, NY, Mrs. Wright had resided in Scotch Plains before moving to Piscataway in 1951.

She had been employed as a telephone operator supervisor for 12 years for New Jersey Bell Telephone Company, formerly of Plainfield.

Mrs. Wright had been a foster mother of 22 babies for the United Family Children's Society of Plainfield. She had participated in the program for seven years. She was a member of the Monmouth County Organ Club and the Hammond Organ Club of Linden.

Surviving are her husband, William R. Wright; a daughter, Linda R. Olekson of Piscataway and two sisters, Virginia Jonas of Bridgewater and Beverly Stephens of Scotch Plains. Also surviving are three grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

### John F. "Scott" Mathewson, 77

John F. "Scott" Mathewson died on Tuesday, Sept. 9, at his home.

Mr. Mathewson was born in New Bedford, Mass. and had resided in South Plainfield for most of his life.

He had attended the Guild Hall School of Music and Drama in London, England. He was an actor and over the years he had performed in various local playhouse productions. He also had limited appearances in television commer-

cials and television programs.

Mr. Mathewson was a member of the actor's guild.

Surviving are several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

### Henny (Wichterich) Ruthe, 75

Henny (Wichterich) Ruthe died on Saturday, Aug. 29, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Koln, Germany, Mrs. Ruthe came to the United States in 1951. She had resided in Plainfield before settling in South Plainfield 40 years ago.

She had been employed at the Gift Garden in South Plainfield and previously at the former E. J. Korvettes of Watchung as a cashier.

She was a member of the Sanger Halle German Club of North Plainfield.

Her husband, Fritz Ruthe, died in February of 1987.

Surviving are her daughter, Joanne Capobianco of Dunellen; her son, Gunther Ruthe of High Bridge and two brothers, Victor Wichterich of Piscataway and Heinz Wichterich of Burleson, Texas. Also surviving are five grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

### Martha M. (Wilton) Cavuoti, 98

Martha M. (Wilton) Cavuoti of South Plainfield died on Tuesday, Sept. 8, at her home.

She was born in Staten Island and was a former resident of Jackson before moving to South Plainfield 23 years ago.

Mrs. Cavuoti was a member of the Calvary Chapel in North Plainfield.

She was predeceased by her husband, John A. Cavuoti, who died in 1987 and a son, Louis Cavuoti, who died in 1986.

She is survived by three daughters, Martha Reebe of South Plainfield, Olive Gibney and Anita Spann, both of Staten Island. She is also survived by 21 grandchildren 41 great-grandchildren and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

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

### William M. Merring, Sr. 90

William M. Merring, Sr. died on Tuesday, Sept. 1, at Southern Ocean County Hospital in Manahawkin.

Born in Scranton Pa., Mr. Merring had resided in Newark and Union and in Clearwater, Fla. for 15 years before settling in Forked River in 1995.

He had been employed as a traveling operator for FSE&G of Newark for 39 years before his retirement in 1970.

He is predeceased by his wife, Marguerite C. Merring, who died in March of 1998.

Surviving are a daughter, June Ann Antonelli of Forked River and a son, William H. Merring Jr. of South Plainfield. Also surviving are six grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Donations may be made in his memory to the favorite charity of one's choice.

### Mary Elizabeth "Betsy" Neher, 81

Mary Elizabeth "Betsy" Neher, died on Thursday, Sept. 3, in her son's home in Bound Brook.

Born in Piscataway, Mrs. Neher had resided in South Plainfield and Plainfield before returning to South Plainfield in 1968.

She was employed for 20 years by the South Plainfield Board of Education as Secretary to the Superintendent of the School District and had worked primarily for Mr. Leonard Tobias. Mrs. Neher retired in 1992.

She was a member of the International Chapter of PEO Sisterhood Chapter V-Disabled of Plainfield. She was also a member of the Wesley United Methodist Church in South Plainfield, where she had served as a usher for the church.

Her husband, Frank N. Neher, died in 1976.

Surviving are two sons, Timothy E. Neher of Bound Brook and Nels J. Neher of Metairie, La.; a brother, John Saums of Warren. Also surviving are three grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

### John H. MacCormack, 79

John H. MacCormack died on Thursday, Sept. 10, in his home.

Born in Irvington, Mr. MacCormack had resided in Scotch Plains before moving to South Plainfield 36 years ago.

He was employed as a lineman for Bell Atlantic of Summit for 35 years before his retirement in 1981.

Mr. MacCormack had been serving in the New Jersey National Guard and was called to the United States Army on Sept. 16, 1940. He had participated in the Battle of the Bulge and had been awarded the Bronze Star Medal. He was honorably discharged on Oct. 15, 1945.

He was a member of the Telephone Pioneers of America and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Union Local No. 827 of East Windsor.

His wife, Philomena MacCormack, died in 1983.

Surviving are a daughter, Margaret A. MacCormack of South Plainfield; a son, John H. Jr. of Texas and two brothers, Bruce and Stuart MacCormack, both of Point Pleasant. Also surviving are five grandchildren.

Services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

## The Alternative View

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



Dear Dr. DeCosta: I have problems with allergies, especially during the change of seasons. Without resorting to allergy drugs, what can be done through alternative methods to help allergy sufferers such as myself? — B.R.

Dear B.R.:

It's probably no consolation, but if you're an allergy sufferer, you have lots of company. All through history, millions of people have shared the frustrating misery of allergies. Julius Caesar had an allergy problem and the Bible mentions hives.

What causes an allergy? Why can five people eat the same foods, live and sleep in the same house, fondle the same pet, breathe the same air, but only one of them have an allergic reaction?

The reason lies not in the allergen itself (the substance which triggers the allergic reaction), but in the body of the sufferer. Their resistance just isn't strong enough to combat the irritant and throw it off along with other waste products, the way a normal, healthy body does.

Allergies fall into two categories, those caused by environmental factors and those caused by food. The most common environmental allergens are the pollens of various plants such as trees, weeds and grass, house dust, mites, molds, tobacco smoke, cosmetics, perfumes, household cleaning agents, heating and cooking gas and clothing fabrics. The most common food allergens include wheat, corn, milk and other dairy products, egg whites, tomatoes, soy, shellfish, peanuts, chocolate and food dyes and additives.

Allergic reactions take many forms. Hay fever, sneezing, itchy, runny nose, inflamed eyes and coughing, makes millions miserable. Digestive allergies bring on vomiting, cramps and diarrhea. The labored breathing, wheezing and coughing attacks of asthma endanger children and adults. Seizures, hives, eczema, migraines and cluster headaches add to the long list of discomforts and illnesses that are traced to allergies.

The odd thing is that the same irritant can cause any of a dozen or more different reactions in as many people. Anything can cause anything, depending on the particular weakness the allergen finds in that body's defenses.

The real underlying cause of most allergies is not the allergen itself, but an impaired immune system, which will substantially increase the risk of allergic reactions.

That's why ordinary examinations such as scratch tests, patch tests, intranasal tests, trial-and-elimination tests and escalator diets seldom lead to treatments that produce cures. At best, they afford some relief if the sufferer can lead a restricted life and manage to avoid the substance that attacks their particular weakness. And one of the ironic and contradictory aspects is that many drugs that are supposed to produce cures are allergens themselves, which your body must struggle to combat.

The only real cure for allergies is to get rid of the weakness — to strengthen the body's natural defenses and restore the body's normal functioning.

In alternative health care, the following therapies have proven most effective in helping allergy sufferers: diet and nutrition, chiropractic, herbal medicine, acupuncture, Ayurvedic medicine and homeopathy. Used either singularly or when combined, these alternatives attempt to address the cause of the allergies rather than just treat the outward manifestations or symptoms.

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.

## From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

With the official, Earth-axis determined start of autumn on the horizon, here are a few hundred words from South Plainfield Library.

First off, here's a rundown of our operating hours, for those in need of a reminder. We're open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 10 a.m.-9 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. At present, the return of Sunday operating hours is under discussion. We'll keep you informed.

We'd like to make a request. One resource in our reference section that gets lots of use is the Thomas Register of American Manufacturers. Unfortunately, our copy has gotten pretty outdated. If any local companies have a recent copy of the Register that they'd like to donate, we appreciate your help. Please contact us at 754-7885 if you're interested.

We hope you're all recovering from the effects of Labor Day's storm. One effect that lingered for a while was the power outage in this area. But, now that your power has been restored (at least we hope it has), what are you going to do with all those candles you used? Here's one alternative. The Friends of the Library are again collecting used candles. You can put them in the marked box near our display wall.

On the audio/visual front, our present group of circuit videos will only be available until the end of next week. Meanwhile, the present group of circuit audiocassettes will only be around until the end of the month.

In both cases, please don't delay in picking up your selections.

We've got some more Internet news to pass along. First, due to the high cost of both ink and paper, we're charging a fee of ten cents a page for color printouts. Black and white printouts, however, are still free. We've noticed some patrons adjusting the settings on the Internet terminals. Please resist the temptation to "improve" them; leave that job to our trained professionals. Lastly, don't feel you need to suffer in silence if all the terminals are occupied and you want to use one. Please let us know; we'll see to it that patrons adhere to the 30-minute time limit and allow you your turn on the Web.

Throughout this month patrons have been enjoying our display of items from local teen David Allara's frog collection. A large variety of the amphibians (the non-living kind) are now in our display case; you can see them until the end of September. And, if you'd like more information about putting up a display of your own, please give us a call.

In closing, we'd like to welcome back a fixture to our Children's Room. Sammy Night, our celebrated black cat, has returned and rejoined other Children's Room denizens like Smoky the Bear, the Canned Wolf, the Cat in the Hat, and that big orangutan, among others.

That's about all for this column. As always, we're very interested in your comments and opinions. Don't hesitate to pass them along. We'll be back with more in October.

## Because We Care



## LESSONS LEARNED

As we get older, we must not forget that youth, too, has its dark moments that help cultivate an appreciation for illuminating thoughts. As reflected in the words of Edmund Wilson: "You cannot have ecstasy and divine vision without bitterness and despair, and both of these are the property of youth... For the young are not always lighthearted; youth bears a heavy heart. The earth quakes beneath his tread; the stars are combined against him; he is the battleground for a menagerie which is ready to spring at his throat. And when in the midst of these disasters he finds a moment of calm and freedom, his heart goes up like a rocket to the farthest reaches of the sky."

While all of us have incidents in our youth we wish to mercifully forget, maturity brings with it an acceptance of the inevitable, and thus we begin to consider how we will be remembered. The JAMES W. CONROY FUNERAL HOME invites members of all beliefs and financial circumstances to schedule a Pre-Arrangement consultation, in order to ensure that your end-of-life services will be carried out according to your wishes. For an appointment, please call 756-2800. We are located at 2456 Plainfield Avenue in South Plainfield. Cremation services available.

"A child becomes an adult when he realizes that he has a right not only to be right but also to be wrong."

—Thomas Szasz



McCriskin

HOME FOR FUNERALS

2425 PLAINFIELD AVENUE  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080  
FAX (908) 561-6744

RICHARD W. McCRISKIN, Pres., Mgr.  
William C. McCriskin, V. Pres., Dir.  
James A. Gustafson, Dir.  
James F. Connaughton, Assoc. Dir.

(908) 561-8000



## POLICE REPORT

• A bag containing \$670 in cash was taken from a drawer near the cash register in Staples located on Hadley Blvd. The store was open at the time and a list of names of employees was given to police.

• Police were dispatched to a home on South Central Ave. on the report of a bike theft in progress. The caller was on a cell phone watching as a man entered through the gate of the home across the street. The robber opened the unlocked shed and removed a red 10 speed bike and stole it. Police were given a description and a short time later, located the suspect on Randolph Ave. riding a bike fitting the description. Police attempted to stop and question him, but he dropped the bike and fled on foot through yards and over fences. He

was found a few minutes later hiding under a bush. The suspect was arrested and taken to Police Headquarters. He was later found to have an outstanding Contempt of Court citation from Plainfield for \$500.

• An employee working at Imperial Foods Inc. on St. Nicholas Ave. reported that she left her \$300 gold necklace, which she had placed on the top of her locker, was missing.

• A van belonging to an employee of CVS complained that someone flattened the tires, broke the side windows and scratched the side of his van. All damage was on the passenger side of van.

• A theft of several pieces of jewelry was reported from a person staying at Days Inn on New World Way. Stolen were a sapphire, ruby and diamond ring, along with several necklaces, earrings and numerous other items of jewelry. No value has been placed on the items as of presstime.

• John Deo from Kearney was arrested for shoplifting \$1135. worth of merchandise from Caldor's located on Stelton Rd. He was subsequently also charged with Obstruction of Justice for not giving police his correct name, age, address or telephone number.

• A diamond ring valued at \$4,800 was reported stolen from a resident on Maple Ave. No sign of entry was found.

• A shed at the Recycling Center was entered and several items were stolen. They include Compost ID Stickers, first-aid supplies and clear plastic bags. The door to the shed was apparently pried open.

• David McCarty was arrested for eluding police, possession of a stolen vehicle and Contempt of Court citation from Plainfield. Police pursued him in the stolen vehicle and he was arrested on Plainfield Ave.

• Metal veteran markers were removed from over half of the graves of veterans in Hillside Cemetery located on New Market Ave. American Flags were also found scattered around the area. The markers were later located at the back of the cemetery neatly piled to be apparently taken away.

## Warrant Issued for Kidnapping Suspect

The South Plainfield Police Department has issued warrants for the arrest of Charles Andre Jackson, Jr. of 1149 W. 7th St., Plainfield, in conjunction with the kidnapping of a sixteen-year-old female on August 31.

Mr. Jackson is presently a Wanted Person and is believed to have fled the state. He has been charged with Kidnapping, Aggravated Assault and Aggravated Sexual Contact.

He is believed to be operating a 1993 dark blue Mercury minivan, with dark tinted windows and Pennsylvania registration BRG 4649.

Mr. Jackson is described as a black male, 33 years of age, 6'10", 200 lbs. At the time of the crime he had a thin mustache and thin cut beard.

Anyone with information on Mr. Jackson's present whereabouts is asked to contact the South Plainfield Police Department at (908) 226-7660, Detective Bureau or (908) 755-0700 (Emergency Dispatch). All information will be kept confidential.

## In My Opinion

Continued from page 2

apologize for this oversight and want to assure everyone it was not intentional.

This year there was a also a second newspaper, the *Observer*. This is their first year in operation. As they serve only South Plainfield, I forwarded the same identical game summaries to them. Again I say these summaries were never intended to be printed in raw form. They were intended so that a sports writer could draw information from them including my gut feelings for the game and write their stories from there. I did not realize the *Observer* did not have a sports writer, they printed my summaries word for word and because there is a two week lag time before printing, the majority of the games went to press at the same time before I realized this. Again I do not blame the *Observer*, its just one of those things you can not foresee. Because I sent the same information to both newspapers, I had my computer set to automatically fax the information to both of them at the same time. Inadvertently at the conclusion of the season I faxed the stat sheet to the *Observer* at the same time as I faxed it to the *Reporter* and it was printed. I never intended to have this sheet printed. It looks as though I was trying to head line my son because he led the team in stats, but if that were true I would of certainly had it printed in the *Reporter*. I apologize to all the All Star parents for this oversight and in the future will assign this job to someone that can spend the time on it that it needs.

**TONY BAKAZAN**  
SOUTH PLAINFIELD JUNIOR  
BASEBALL CLUB

## George and Edith Goodrich

Continued from page 3

Dewey Decimal System and from 1964 to 1968 Edith was in charge of the children's area. Through the library she brought many cultural programs to South Plainfield. She once hired a 15 year old magician, now known as David Copperfield. She also brought in the Nifty Puppeteers run by the Knight family, to perform in the library. Among the events Edith helped the library sponsor were Dottie West, Madame Butterfly and the New York City Ballet.

George worked for Coca Cola for 17 years. Two vice presidents from Coke left and formed Neighborhood Beverage. George joined them and worked for this company for 20 years. He retired in 1977 at age 62. In 1982 at age 67, Edith retired from the library after 18 years of service. Over the years they have traveled extensively through Europe and Mexico.

When asked about their donations to the Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Edith and George expressed their pride and love of this town. They replied that it was a way to thank these volunteers for always being there for South Plainfield. They said when they hear an ambulance racing towards the hospital in the wee hours of the morning, they can take pride in knowing that once again someone in town is receiving assistance from our loyal volunteers.

## Classified

### HELP WANTED

#### SALES

**New School Yr/New Career**  
Co. seeks individual with Teaching, Coaching, PTA, or Music background to sell our Fund Raising Products to Schools, Teams, Music Dept., Classes & Sprt. Leagues. Pd Training, Luc. Comm, Immed. Opening. Fax Resume 302-366-8995

### FOR SALE

**ENLARGER**—Vessler 23C 756-4929

**KEYLESS LOCK** — never used. 908-757-6682

**HANDMADE ROSARIES**—ALL OCCASION. 908-769-7735

### REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

**SO. PLFD: 2-FAMILY**, 3 Bedroom and 2 Bedroom, 2 car garage. \$169,000. Call 732-248-0952.

**EDISON: HUGE CAPE** 100 x 200 ft lot, 2 car garage. \$239,900. Weichert Realtors 732-906-8200. Ask for Rick McElhiney

**EDISON: ONE BEDROOM CONDO** w/ attached oversize garage, close to major transportation. Weichert Realtors. 732-906-8200. Ask for Wayne Grennier

### SERVICES

**WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY** that Captures the Special Moments. Tom Stillman, 908-755-4161

**CUSTOM HANDMADE FURNITURE**, furniture repair. 732-545-3132.

**PHOTOGRAPHY**—Weddings, special occasions. Tuthill Photos (908) 756-9654

**ATTENTION TEENAGE BABYSITTERS**....Are you looking for sitting jobs? Would you like to be in a babysitting pool? Advertise in the classified section of the *Observer* at no charge. Call 732-469-4380 or fax your ad to 732-805-0815.

### WANTED

**CHILDREN'S CLOTHES FOR CONSIGNMENT**. Clothes must be clean, pressed and on hangars. call 561-6151.

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

**Lost your cat or dog? The Observer will print your "Lost and Found" classified ad at no charge. Call 732-469-4380.**

**LOST**—Set of Chrysler car keys, at Veterans Park on Labor Day. Call 732-469-4380.

## Classified Advertising Works.

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

3 line minimum at \$10.00 and \$1.00 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.

**CLASSIFIED DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER 17 ISSUE IS SEPTEMBER 10.**

## South Plainfield Observer

is sold at the following locations:

- 7-Eleven, Plainfield Ave.
- Bagel Pantry, Plainfield Ave.
- B & C Deli, Belmont Ave.
- Cookies, Oak Tree Ave.
- Corner Deli, Hamilton Blvd.
- Carousel Hair Salon, Oak Tree Rd.
- Dave's Stationery, Sampton Ave.
- Details, So. Clinton Ave.
- Freihofer's, Montrose Ave.
- Holly Park Video, Park Ave.
- K Foods, Park Ave.
- Krauser's Food Store, Oak Tree Rd.
- Twin City Pharmacy, Park Ave.
- The Little Store, South Clinton Ave.
- Mohn's Flowers, Plainfield Ave.
- Oak Tree Farms, Oak Tree Road
- Pauls Stationery, Hamilton Blvd
- Quick Foods, Park Ave.
- Sals Liquor Store, Park Ave.
- Service Plus, South Plainfield Ave.
- Sunrise Foods, Front & Maple
- Twice Is Nice, Front Street
- Yogurt Express, Maple Ave.

South Plainfield Observer Advertisers are Listed in Bold

If you would like to sell the newspaper, call (732) 469-4380.

To find out  
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happening  
in  
**South Plainfield**  
Visit our official web site at  
**southplainfieldnj.com**

Mayor & Council • Boro Officials and Agencies • Police - Fire - Rescue Squad • Recreation: summer fun, game scores & cancellations • Seniors Corner • Youth Activities • Professional & Business Directory • Community Bulletin Board • Yard & Garage Sales, Classifieds, Messages

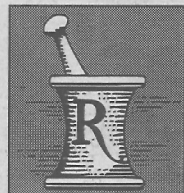
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Featuring Solgar and Hudson

Today's modern pharmacy with old fashioned values

**Twin City Pharmacy is sponsoring a "Flu Vaccine" clinic, Sat., Sept 26 - 9am-1pm**

Shots are free for Medicare Part B Members.  
Does not apply for Medicare HMO Members.  
\$8. otherwise for all customers.



# Recycling Commission Responsibilities

The Recycling Commission administers the Borough's recycling program and is responsible for promoting the practice of recycling in the residential, commercial and governmental sectors.

The Commission is responsible for public education about recycling and solid waste reduction, for publicity about the recycling program, for research into markets for existing and new recyclable materials and for outreach to the commercial sector to ensure compliance with the recycling ordinance.

clinging ordinance.

The Commission applies for grants and administers grant programs to increase recycling rates. It oversees the operation of the Recycling Center and the Yard Waste Site, establishes schedules and procedures, markets materials and deposits income into the Recycling Trust Fund. It also authorizes expenditures from the Trust Fund for operations and maintenance of the drop-off center.

In addition to operating the recycling drop-off center, the Recycling Program also works with the DPW to collect white goods at the curb in order to separate them out of the DPW's bulk pickups, which go directly to the landfill. DPW office staff set up separate appointments for residents with whitegoods and other metal scrap and recycling staff does the collection and takes the scrap to a dealer for sale.

The Recycling Program staff also works on roadside litter patrol as time and weather permit and sets up and repairs Borough littercans.

Meeting Schedule  
The recycling commission meets the fourth Thursday of every month at 8 p.m. at the Municipal Building. Meetings are open to the public and all are invited.

## Mayor Seeks Answers

Continued from page one

The Mayor called for a police officer and directed that the trucks to stay were they were. Calls were made to supervisors and the storm center and they all said they had no reports of calls for assistance. Several more calls were made to supervisors and various representatives of Public Service. Finally, PSE&G agreed to help out for a while and proceeded to work in the Borough for a total

of four hours.


"Public Service was very slow in mobilizing for this emergency," said Mayor Gallagher. "An investigation should be launched into their capability of handling emergencies." The Mayor praised South Plainfield's response to the emergency and said if PSE&G had the same response time, all electric would have been on by Tuesday evening.



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Fr. John invites you to worship with him at

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

807 Hamilton Blvd.,  
South Plainfield

Masses Daily at 8 AM  
Saturday evenings 5:30 PM  
Sunday mornings 8:00 and 11:00

**Join the team...**

Immediate opening for a part-time advertising salesperson to join the only newspaper dedicated exclusively to serving the residents of South Plainfield. Applicant should be a self-starter and deadline oriented. Call the South Plainfield Observer

**732-469-4380**

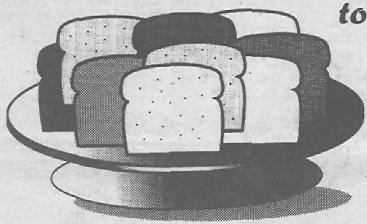
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# Once in a while, the tastiest things in life are free!

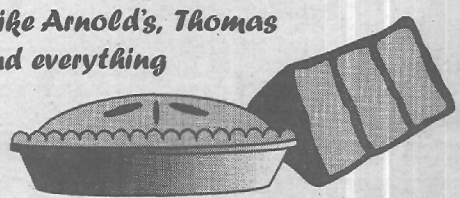
Good bread and fun desserts really add to the quality of everyday life. We're happy to provide you with both - at savings that permit you to enjoy the best often!



And to thank you for your business, we invite you to make use of the coupons below with your next

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You'll find plenty to choose from. We specialize in bakery seconds and market returns from quality bakeries like Arnold's, Thomas and Friehofer's. And everything in the store is discounted every day up to 70%.



**FREE DESSERT!**  
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Feast your eyes on all the goodies we carry from master-bakers at Friehofer's! Pick three, any kind whatsoever, and the lowest price box is your free. Only at Friehofer'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)

We're giving away top-quality bread baked by Arnold and Friehofer's! Pick any three loaves, and the lowest price loaf is your free. Only at Friehofer's Outlet in So. Plainfield with this coupon. Limit one free loaf per customer per visit. While supplies last.



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