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# South Plainfield Observer

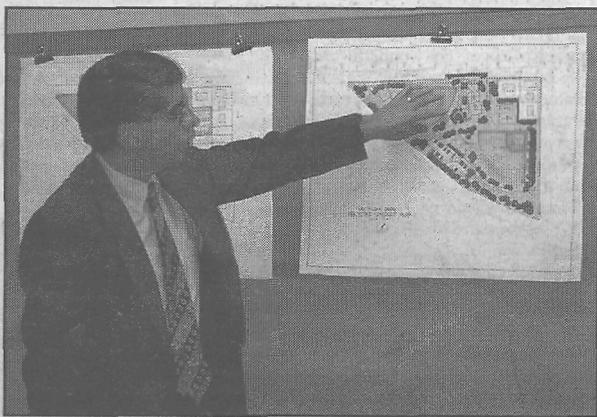
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VOL. 2, NO. 4

50 CENTS

OCTOBER 15, 1998



Ralph G. Albanir explains the proposed expansion of Putnam Park.

## Borough Receives \$1M Grant for Park Expansion

Middlesex County Freeholder Director Daniel Crabel and Deputy Director Stephen J. Dalina were special guests at last week's Borough Council meeting. Also attending the meeting was Ralph G. Albanir, Director of Parks and Recreation.

The reason for their visit was to give a \$1 million dollar grant to South Plainfield from the Middlesex County Freeholders, to be used to further improve Putnam Park.

In 1993, the Board of Chosen Freeholders established a Municipal

Facilities Development Account in the amount of \$2M. In 1994, the Board placed another \$2M in a similar account. The purpose of these capital accounts was to permit the County to enter into special arrangements with municipalities to develop recreational facilities for all County residents. They wanted to provide the children of Middlesex County with more and improved fields on which to play.

The \$1M contributed by the County toward the refurbishing and expansion of Putnam Park will come from the Municipal Facilities Development Capital Budget Account.

The grant will also allow the Borough to preserve three acres of additional land on the corner of Park Ave. and Oak Tree Ave., now occupied by rental homes. Earlier this year a developer proposed to build a pharmacy at this corner. The Mayor opposed it and said he was concerned that another developer might attempt to develop the corner some time in the future. The corner already has Golden Acres shopping center, Oak Park Commons and Oak Tree Business Center, which is being converted to retail stores.

## Franklin Teacher Expecting Quadruplets

By Patricia Abbott

As a Franklin School teacher Danielle Lacasale has always had her hands full taking care of children. Danielle is currently on maternity leave. However, she and her husband Joseph will soon have their hands full at home. Danielle is expecting quadruplets! Two boys and two girls are due within the next few weeks.

While four babies are certainly a surprise for anyone, Danielle and Joseph were prepared for the chance of more than one child. They married in June of 1997 and knew they wanted a family right away. Fertility drugs have granted them their wish.

The second grade teacher told her students about the four babies in late May. The excited students had a variety of reactions. Dean Berkowitz said that he was happy and surprised. Sydney Gentile said "I didn't believe her

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

## Residents Arrested on Embezzling Charges

An almost year long investigation by the Somerset County Prosecutor's Office resulted in the Oct. 7 arrest of Carl and Loraine Bossert and their niece, Deborah Caggiano.

Detectives from the Somerset County Prosecutors Office, assisted by Middlesex County, arrested the three at their Greenwich St. home.

Each defendant was charged with second degree conspiracy to commit theft by deception and second degree theft by deception of more than \$2.5 million from the Beumer Corporation, which was formerly located in North Plainfield and is now located in Bridgewater. Beumer Corporation is a wholly owned subsidiary



Detectives from Somerset County Prosecutor's Office confiscate property and other items as evidence from the residence of Carl and Loraine Bossert and Deborah Caggiano.

of Beumer Machine and Fabrik of Germany and is a materials handling specialist company. The Beumer Corporation has been co-operative and were instrumental in the investigation.

Prosecutor Wayne J. Forrest stated that Deborah Caggiano had been a secretary, then a book-

keeper and office manager of the corporation since January 1990.

From April, 1991 through December, 1997, Caggiano, along with Carl and Loraine Bossert, are accused of making wire transfers to their personal and family owned businesses, Lodero, Ltd. Caggiano is also accused of writing checks from the corporation's petty cash account to Carl and Loraine Bossert and recording them as payments to vendors. She then either destroyed or altered the records to conceal the theft. In all over 300 checks of the Beumer Corp. were deposited to accounts in the names of either Caggiano, Carl and/or Loraine Bossert and Lodero, Ltd.

Lodero, Ltd. does business as Cross Stitch Only, Delicious Delights and Ralph's Italian Ices located on South Plainfield Ave.

Detectives executed a search warrant at the time of the arrest covering their home, business and vehicles. Computers, numerous records, property and other items believed to have been purchased with the stolen monies were seized by detectives, as well as three vehicles. Detectives could be seen packing the contents of their house and hauling them away as evidence the entire afternoon.

Bail was set at \$250,000 cash on each defendant with the condition that each defendant surrender their passports and birth certificates.



Smokey the Bear makes an appearance as part of Fire Prevention Week. Story and photos on page 5.

## Cast an informed vote on November 3.

Attend Candidates Debate on Thursday, Oct. 15 at SPHS, 7 p.m. For political views, see pages 6&7.

Not pictured: Independent candidate running for Borough Council, William Hogan



Seeking re-election  
Mayor Dan Gallagher



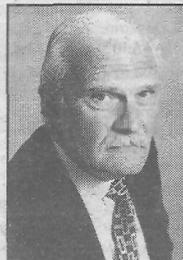
For Borough Council  
Darlene Pinto



Seeking reelection  
Borough Councilman  
Dennis Cerami



Mayoral Candidate  
Jake Cataldo



For Borough Council  
Hank Grabarz



For Borough Council  
Sue Krystopik

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Please Note Date Change of Next Issue

The next issue of the South Plainfield Observer will be published on Thursday, Oct. 29. It will replace the issue scheduled for Nov. 5. Due to the upcoming election, it is important to report on the Oct. 15 debates being held at the High School. We feel it is important for the residents to be aware of the issues and publishing once more before the election will assist voters in making an informed decision in the voting booth.

We will not publish as scheduled on the first week of November. However, publication will resume on its regular schedule in the third week.

Please be sure to read all the available literature the candidates are distributing and ask questions! Voting is a privilege and a duty! Show our children a good example by voting on Nov. 3!

CORRECTION

In the Oct. 1 issue we failed to identify Art Muglia (pictured fourth from left). The Observer regrets the omission.



(Left to right) Tookie Harris, Paulette Giroux, Murial Harris, Art Muglia, Mayor Dan Gallagher, Rusty Spooner, Stan Martin and Joe Massa standing in front of the walking bridge that will eventually lead to the Historical Society Museum.

UPCOMING OBSERVER PUBLICATION DATES:

Table with 4 columns: Issue Date, Copy Deadline, Issue Date, Copy Deadline. Rows: October 29.....October 22, November 19.....November 22

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2. Black and white pictures are preferred.
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In my

OPINION

Dear Editor,

In October of 1997, our family set out to have a street named after our family name, Pisaniello.

We submitted a list of contributions that our family made to our country including the service of several Veterans. Our family tree dates back to the early 1900s. My mother also has a large family which settled in South Plainfield in the early 1920s and they contributed their share to the town.

My father's uncle was a charter member of the town and signed the original Charter of South Plainfield when the Borough broke away from Piscataway. My father's family consists of the Spisso's, Calderones, Cannes and many Pisaniello's.

All the Veterans from South Plainfield who were drafted from WWI to Vietnam appear on the Veterans Memorial in front of Borough Hall, including my dad. He is also a Life Member of the American Legion along with his father and uncles.

My family members were also volunteer firemen and I am a life member of the fire department and also the South Plainfield Exempt Firemen's Association. Many also served the borough as police officers and special volunteer police, who helped patrol our town. My dad's uncle, Gene Pisaniello, Sr and Mayoral Candidate "Jake" Cataldo's father Tony Cataldo, were the first Borough Road Department workers.

The letter requesting the street naming was accepted by the Mayor and Council, and in turn submitted to Mr. John Hogan, Chairman of the Planning Board. Our name was added to the list of new streets to be named.

We asked to have Day Street named after our family because we have lived on that street for 42 years and also because the street was named after a non-resident. The Mayor advised us to get as many signatures as we could from the residents on the street. We investigated any potential costs to the other residents. We didn't want the street changed if it would cost anyone any expense. We contacted the post office, DMV, credit card companies, etc. They all advised us there would be no cost to change a street name on the paperwork and the postal service will not be affected in anyway.

After explaining our request to the residents and advising them there would be no cost, many understood and signed our request and wished us well. After submitting our paperwork to the Mayor, we found out from Mr. John Hogan that our name had been on the list of new streets since June 1, 1996, which we were not aware of previously.

At that time we asked the Mayor to forego renaming Day Street at our request because we preferred having a new street named after our family. At this time we wish to thank those residents who supported us and a special thanks to John Hogan for his help and information. We also urge the Mayor and Council and the Planning Board to do all they can to name or rename streets, buildings, local parks or even shopping malls after our veterans. It means so much to them and their families to be recognized by their fellow residents.

Most people don't know what it is like to be 18 years old and shot at day after day and miles from home. I hope the children of the residents never have to experience this situation.

THANK YOU TONY PISANIELLO

To the Editor:

I'd like to say a special "Thank You" to Judy Fischer, Children's Librarian at the South Plainfield Public Library. When my sons and I entered the library this past month, we were upset to find her gone. As a result of this loss, I felt compelled to

write this letter and express my deep gratitude to Judy for sharing her knowledge and appreciation of the environment with my sons, for exposing them to many interesting living creatures and instilling in them a deep appreciation for books and a love of reading.

Judy had an amazing collection of bits and pieces of nature which she generously shared with the children at story hour. Shells, animal bones, artifacts, pelts, bugs of all kinds, leaves, seeds and much more, helped to create an exciting environment for learning. In the spring, a carefully-tended terrarium would appear on her desk with butterfly eggs attached to leaves. The wonderful life cycle of caterpillar to butterfly then became an exciting addition to each library visit. Always respectful of living creatures and responsive to eager questions, Judy would patiently explain the wonders of nature to our children. How sad we were when we didn't see these marvelous collections in the library.

Soon after attending one of Judy's butterfly lessons with my sons, I mentioned not seeing any in our yard. Before I knew it, files and books were in my hands on how to create a butterfly garden, accompanied by expert advice on how to go about remedying this situation. For the past two summers, my sons and I watch butterflies and even a hummingbird or two visit our own flowers and bushes, thanks to this special librarian.

The other day my six year old son, who has gone to story hour since he was three, suggested that we build a machine using recycled materials. Small boxes, bottle caps, bits of paper and yarn scraps were soon transformed into a sewing machine. Undoubtedly, this idea came from Judy. She often used scrap materials for the delightful crafts that were inspired by the reading selections for each story hour. I was so impressed, that as chairperson for the Conservation Department of the Junior Woman's Club of South Plainfield, I suggested a scrap collection as an annual project. Old calendar pictures, shoe boxes, coffee cans for drums, film containers for bug boxes, cardboard from cereal boxes and other items that normally would

have gone to waste were collected throughout the year. Judy's example of reusing materials inspired our club to offer these types of craft ideas to other community institutions. Many, many items large and small have been rescued from the trash and put to creative use by the children in our community. What a great way to teach respect for the environment and have fun at the same time!

In closing, I would encourage Judy to continue to share her many talents with children. She has had a lasting and positive impact upon my family, as well as many other families in the community.

DR. PATRICIA LANDY

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Sixth District Junior Alumni Women's Club, I would like to thank all the residents of South Plainfield who responded to our request and contributed Back to School supplies for the homeless children. It is through the generosity of our neighbors that we were able to donate over 150 pencils, 200 pens, a dozen glue sticks, assorted crayon packs and construction paper, several pencil cases and "school kits," a ring binder filled with loose leaf paper and even a back pack to the FISH organization of Middlesex County for distribution to needy children. We greatly appreciate everyone's assistance in our efforts to help the underprivileged children in our area.

SINCERELY, LINDA MAZZEO PROJECT CHAIRPERSON

To The Editor,

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to all of our friends in South Plainfield who surrounded us with love and moral support this summer. A myxoma (benign tumor) was successfully removed from Sharon's heart.

We thank God for seeing us through and we thank you for loving us in a million ways, especially through your prayers. We would not have made it without you. We treasure your friendship and carry you in our hearts.

FRANK, PAT, SHARON AND TIM MCGRATH

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GENTLY USED CLOTHING FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN



Sixty plus crafters attended the Sacred Heart Craft Show, sponsored by the HSA. Pictured left to right are Shirley Abel, Carol Ray, chairperson and Gail Del Negro.

**BOROUGH NOTES**

**Council News**

■ The Council moved the final vote on the 1999 Fiscal budget to the Oct. 22 meeting after receiving notification that the discretionary aid South Plainfield receives from the State would be cut by \$75,000. South Plainfield requested \$500,000 in discretionary aid this year. Last year the town received \$300,000 and that same amount was allotted in this year's budget. The Mayor asked that the budget be reviewed again in an attempt to see if the numbers can be crunched to allow for the \$75,000 shortage.

■ The Council awarded a contract to Joseph B. DeAndrea, Jr. AIA for the design drawings and construction documents for PAL renovations.

■ The bids for the new senior bus were opened. The bid fell within the \$50,000 grant the Borough received to purchase a new bus.

■ Councilman Ray Petronko announced that resumes are being accepted for the position of Recreation Director. Applicants should send a resume to: c/o Borough Administrator, Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, So. Plainfield, NJ 07080. He also announced the addition of three new pieces of equipment in the PAL weight room.

■ An ordinance was passed to appropriate \$234,000 for capital improvements to New Market Ave.

■ An ordinance was passed appropriating \$117,6000 toward road surfacing and curb repair to 17 Borough roads.

**Board of Adjustment**

■ Home Depot was granted a variance to use a portion of their property for their Loan 'N Go program.

■ Robert and Pat Stilo of Anderson St. were granted a variance to use the current building for offices and storage of their paving and excavating and vehicles. They were also granted a variance for a contractor's paving/excavating storage yard at 2907 South Clinton Ave.

■ Rodger Johansen of Schindler Dr. was granted permission to build a garage which exceeds the height limit.

■ Russell Frank of Marsh Ave. was granted permission to build a screened porch and a side addition with non conforming sidelines.

■ Statewide Environmental Contractors, Inc. was granted a variance to remove two 2,000 gallon underground storage tanks and install an above ground 10,000 gallon fuel storage tank.

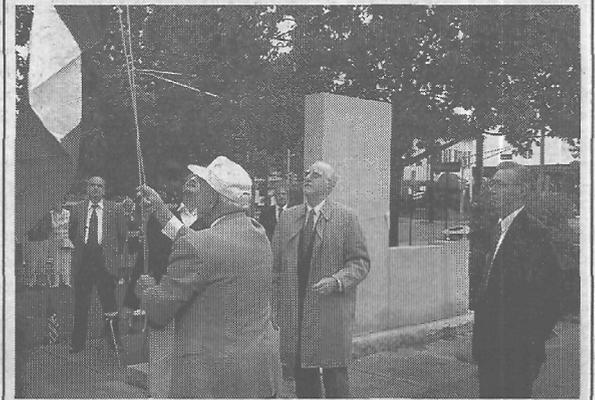
■ Bell Atlantic, Inc. is requesting to install telecommunications equipment within a 7,053 sq. ft. easement for fiber optic lines. This hearing was carried over until Nov. 17 as the Board just passed a variance for Oak Tree Associates and Summit Bank on this property and no mention of this easement was in their plans.

**Giakas' Donates Use of Recording Studio**

Wallace Giakas, S.P.H.S. Wall of Fame honoree, has offered the services of his recording studio free of charge to the South Plainfield High School band and chorus. They will be given the opportunity to make professional recordings which will eventually become CDs available for purchase. Chorus Director Tracy Murrey explained that the chorus will record Handel's *Messiah* which they are currently working on for their holiday concert in December. The chorus is scheduled to go into the studio on Jan. 8.

The jazz band will enter the studio on Jan. 15 with plans for the rest of the band to record at a later date. The Jazz band was selected because they will be entering competitions at this time. Band Director Mark Tweed is excited about this opportunity for the students. A CD of the students' recordings would make an excellent fundraiser for band and chorus. Mark Tweed said, "The bottom line is it will be a tremendous experience for the kids." Both the band and chorus hope to bring in professional vocalists and musicians to work with and share their talents with the students.

Wallace Giakas has recently donated \$100,000 to the Vision 2001 Fund to be used for programs in the High School and Middle School as well as the elementary schools.



Frank P. Licatros, Past President UNICO International and Dr. John Farinella, Dist. Gov. UNICO led the 29th Annual Columbus Day Ceremony at Borough Hall. Mayor Dan Gallagher and dignitaries, councilmembers, as well as candidates, past Council members and residents attended.

**Mayor Asks Residents to Appeal to Governor**

The Mayor has asked residents to appeal to Governor Whitman in writing to request that South Plainfield be declared a disaster zone.

The Labor Day storm that hit South Plainfield and surrounding areas caused widespread damage. The Borough has incurred considerable costs in the extensive cleanup.

By declaring the town a disaster zone, South Plainfield would become eligible for Federal aid and grants.

The Mayor also asked residents to write the Governor concerning the amount of discretionary aid the Borough currently receives. Each year South Plainfield sees a decline in its discretionary aid putting an unfair burden on the local taxpayers.

A number of parents at a recent Board of Education meeting voiced negative reactions to the uniforms. Some opposed them entirely, but for most the lack of advance notification was the main issue. Mrs. Ellen Gentile, mother of a seventh grade student said

**Gym Uniforms Surprise to Parents**

By Patricia Abbott

The issue of uniforms is once again making the rounds at the Middle School. Last year parents, teachers and students held meetings to discuss the feasibility of school uniforms or gym uniforms. A decision was reached to institute a gym uniform policy. The new dress code requirement was not known to many parents until after the beginning of the school year. The new uniform will consist of sweat pants and sweat shirts or tee shirts and shorts along with grey or white socks and appropriate sneakers. The colors grey, green or black have been chosen. Deadline for compliance with the new uniform policy is set for October 19.

Board of Education President Marjorie Reedy said that the policy was not enacted by the Board of Education, but was strictly an administrative decision on the part of the Middle School. She said that as a parent, she was against school uniforms but found the gym uniforms acceptable. Middle School Principal Robert Dogget confirmed that the gym uniform policy was an administrative decision and that the school can legally enforce the dress code. He said that the uniforms have been generally well received.

Gym teacher Mr. Donald Panzarella stated that the school has always had a policy requiring students to change for gym. If a

student did not change, the teachers had no way of knowing. The new policy eliminates this problem. He also said the new sixth grade students seem to readily accept the uniforms and he noted he had heard no complaints from parents or students.

Middle School Principal Robert Doggett said the student council will soon offer gym clothing for sale at minimal prices. Teacher Mrs. Donna Tierny is coordinating the service. She noted that this is not a fundraiser. The items available are tee shirts,

sweat shorts, mesh shorts and sweat pants. All will carry the Tiger logo. The school hopes to stencil students' names on the uniforms at a later date. This will additionally solve the problem of stolen or misplaced gym clothes.

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*Continued on page 12*

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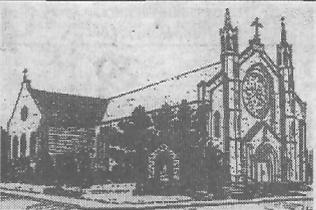


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Saturday Evening Mass 5:45 p.m.  
Sunday 7:45, 9:00, 10:30 a.m. and 12 Noon  
Weekdays 9:00 a.m. (church)  
Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.  
Holy Days 7 p.m. (Vigil); 7, 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m. and 7 p.m.

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and after 5:45 p.m. Vigil Mass

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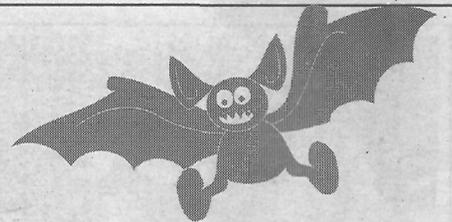


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# events around town



## Pumpkin Decorating at the Library

The Friends of the Library will hold their Annual Pumpkin Decorating Activity on Oct. 24 for children ages five to 10. The event will run from 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Contact Eileen Boosmann at (908) 756-1803 if you would like to donate pumpkins, paint, buttons, old jewelry, sewing notions, etc., for the children to use. Required registration at the library.



## Ladies Auxiliary to Sponsor Fashion Show/Brunch

South Plainfield Rescue Squad Ladies Auxiliary will sponsor the Annual Fashion Show/Brunch on Sunday, Oct. 25 at the Polish Home on New Market Ave. Doors will open at 12 noon. Fashions are by Dress Barn and Dress Barn Woman. Raffles will feature holiday baskets, a weekend at the Double Tree Hotel and many more exciting prizes. Tickets are \$25 each and may be purchased by calling (908) 754-8275 or from any member of the auxiliary.

## Columbiettes Announce Country Western Night

The South Plainfield Columbiettes will hold their Second Annual Country Western Night on Saturday, Oct. 17, from 8 p.m. to midnight at the Polish Home on New Market Ave.

There will be a DJ and dance lessons with Boot Scootin' Slim and Pam. Tickets are \$10 and refreshments will be served.

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

## Polish Home Sponsoring Bus Trip

The Polish National Home is sponsoring a bus trip to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Oct. 18. The bus leaves the Polish Home parking lot at 11 a.m. The trip cost is \$15. Vouchers for \$17 at the casino and \$2.50 for food will be given.

For reservations call, Ann at 561-6551 or Emily at 757-3428.

## Father Ganley to Conduct Mission

Father Tom Ganley, Associate Pastor of Sacred Heart Church, will be conducting a "Divine Mercy Parish Mission" at St. Rose of Lima Church in Oxford, NJ Monday, Oct. 26-Wednesday, Oct. 28 from 7:30-9 p.m.

For information and directions, call Tom at (908) 453-4674.

## Friends of the Library Book Sale

On Saturday, Oct. 24 the Friends of the Library will hold a \$1 for a bag of books book sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## Polish Home Halloween Party

The Polish National Home is holding its Annual Halloween Party on Saturday, Oct. 24. There will be music, prizes, finger foods and an open bar. For further information call 668-9442.

## AARP Chapter 4144 to Hold OctoberFest

AARP, Chapter 4144 of South Plainfield will meet on Oct. 16 at 12:30 p.m. at the PAL Building on Maple Ave. The guest speaker will be Roberta Smith, Coordinator of the Lifeline Adult Care Program at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center. Ms. Smith will inform us of Health and Social Service Programs available.

Don't forget the Octoberfest on Thursday, Oct. 22. The trip will start at 10 a.m. and the cost is \$40 per ticket. It will be a fun trip for all who attend and you will be able to stop on the way back at Delicious Orchards, where you can purchase a variety of spectacular desserts for Thanksgiving, etc. For information, call Mary at (732) 752-3764 or Lee at (732) 968-6613.

## Spaghetti Dinner at Our Lady of Czestochowa

Our Lady of Czestochowa's Annual Spaghetti Dinner will be held on Saturday, Oct. 17, from 4 to 8 p.m. It will be held in Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish Hall located on Hamilton Blvd.

The dinner is sponsored by the OLC Rosary Society. The cost for adults is \$7; senior citizens, \$6; children 5-12, \$3.50 and children under five are free.

For tickets or additional information, call Millie at (908) 757-3925 or Mary at (908) 757-4490.

## Lions Club to Hold Eye & Ear Screening

The Lions Club of South Plainfield will be conducting Eye & Ear Screenings on Sunday, Oct. 25, between 1-4 p.m. in conjunction with the Music Festival at the High School Football Field behind the PAL on Maple Ave.

Dubbed as "Knights of the Blind" by Helen Keller, Lions have been serving the visually and hearing impaired since 1925. The South Plainfield Lions have been serving South Plainfield since 1947. Along with the eye and ear screenings, the Lions will have educational material on Glaucoma, Diabetic Eye Disease and others to help educate the public as to the dangers of eye disease.

For information, the Lions Club of South Plainfield can be reached via PO Box 721, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

## Columbiettes Sponsor Bus Trip

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 8 a.m. and return at 7 p.m. En route to New Jersey, the bus will stop at the Cracker Barrel for an

early dinner (not included).

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

## Czestochowa Plans Special Trip

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

Cost of trip is double-\$160 each, triple-\$150 each or single \$205 each. A \$25 deposit is necessary to make a reservation. For reservations and information, please call Isabelle at 561-6367.

## Roosevelt Sponsors Bus Trip to Caesars

Roosevelt School is sponsoring a bus trip to Caesars in Atlantic City on Friday, Oct. 23. The bus will leave the school parking lot at 6 p.m. sharp. The cost is \$20 with a \$20 return in coins. For reservations call Michele at (908) 753-0124.

## Franklin Harvest Festival to be Held

Franklin School PTA announced their first annual Harvest Festival on Oct. 17, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. will take place on the school grounds. The festival will be held indoors if it rains.

Activities include pony rides and moon walk. In addition to the flea market and craft tables, the school will offer pumpkins, apples and fresh fall flowers for sale. They will also have a raffle table with gifts donated by many local merchants. Breakfast and lunch will be available at a food court.

Costumed characters such as Elmo and Cookie Monster will be

available for pictures. Andy the Clown, a Ringling Brothers Circus clown, will be on hand to entertain.

Children are encouraged to attend in costume and get in some early trick or treating at the carnival game stand. The Police Department will provide fingerprinting and Halloween safety tips.

## High School Chorus to Hold Flea Market

The SPHS Chorus will hold their 1998 Town Flea Market on Saturday, Oct. 31 in the SPHS gym. The event runs from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Along with the many vendors, the chorus will provide live entertainment, 50/50 door prizes, a live DJ, a concession stand, scavenger hunts, games and prizes. Support the SPHS Chorus and enjoy an afternoon of fun before the trick or treating begins. Vendor spaces at \$15 are still available. For more information, contact Mr. Tracy Murray at (908) 755-4620, ext. 287.

## "Christmas Spectacular" Bus Trip Planned

The Recreation Dept. is planning a bus trip to the "Christmas Spectacular" at Radio City Music Hall on Thurs., Dec. 10. The bus will leave the P.A.L. parking lot at 6 p.m. and the show will begin at 8 p.m. The cost is \$60, adults; \$48, children under 16 and \$65, nonresidents. (Children must be accompanied by an adult.)

Seating is limited to the first 46 registrants. To register visit the Recreation Office located in the PAL Building or call (908) 226-7713.

October							1998
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
11	12	13	14	15 Candidates Debate High School 7 p.m. Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	16	17 Franklin School Fall Harvest Festival 9-4	
18	19 Land Management Advisory Committee 7:30 pm Borough Council Agenda Meeting 8 pm	20 Board of Ed. Special Mtg. 7 pm Dedication of Web Page HS Library Reg. Mtg 8 pm HS Library Board of Adjustment 8 pm	21 Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	22 Borough Council Meeting 8 pm Copy Deadline for So. Plfd. Observer	23	24 Pumpkin Decorating Library 10-11.30 Library Book Sale 9-3	
25 South Plainfield High School Marching Band Festival 1 p.m. Frank R. Jost Memorial Field	26 Flu & Pneumococcal Shots PAL Bldg 11am-2pm	27 Recycling Comm. Meeting 8 pm Planning Board Meeting 8 pm	28 Traffic Safety Advisory Comm. 7 pm Court 9:30 am 7 pm	29 Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	30 	31 Happy Halloween Trick or Treat Hours 3-7pm High School Chorus Flea Market 9am-4pm	
NOVEMBER 1	2	3 Vote	4	5	6	7	
		Board of Adjustment 8 pm	Business Advisory Group 6:30 pm Court 9:30 am	Taxpayers Advisory Group 7 pm			

## Join the Fall Festival at the Nature Reserve

Friends of the Woods invites all nature lovers to a Fall Festival at the Highland Ave. Woods Environmental Education Reserve on Saturday, Oct. 17. Enjoy the fall foliage, the crisp autumn air and mushrooms. Dorothy Smullen of the NJ Mycological Society will help us search out and identify some of the many different kinds of fungi (both edible and poisonous) that grow in the Reserve.

The Fall Festival will be the last scheduled event in the 1998 Walks 'N Talks program. Participants should meet at Sylvania Place gate at 10 a.m. Events are held rain or shine unless the weather is severe.

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

## Culturally Speaking

By Gordon Fladger

Well, there is sort of a chill in the air which indicates that Fall is upon us and that means that the South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission is about to embark on their "Wesley" concert series.

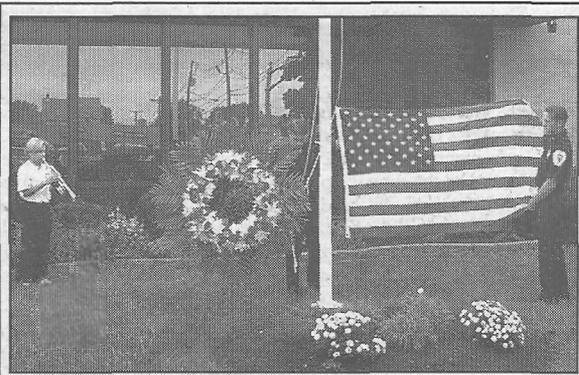
On Sunday, Oct. 25, at 4 p.m. the South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission will present The Refuge Temple Mass Choir and Youth Orchestra in a spirited concert.

The concert will be held at Wesley United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 1500 Plainfield Ave.

As always, this concert is free and refreshments will be served during intermission. We urge everyone to come out and enjoy this musical afternoon.

On Sunday, Nov. 8 at 3 p.m. the Cultural Arts Commission will present "The Magic of Movie Music" featuring the one and only Florence Lazzari and friends. This musical treat will also be held in the Fellowship Hall of the Wesley United Methodist Church. (More information about this concert at a later date.)

As you know, we design this entertainment for your pleasure, so come out and enjoy it, after all it is free. For information, contact Gordon Fladger at (908) 561-9557.



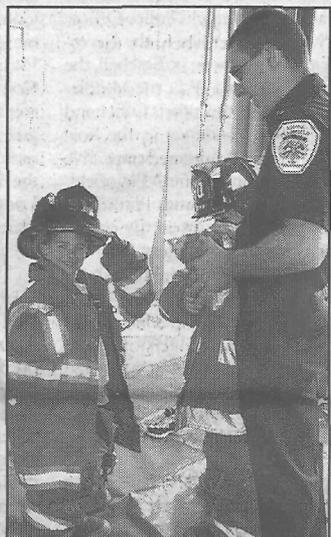
Danny Sierzega performs while Joe Altomare and Luke Melick raise the flag at open house ceremonies held at the fire house last Saturday, Oct. 10.

## Open House Held at Fire Department

The Fire Department celebrated Fire Prevention Month last Saturday with an open house. The day started with a ceremony recognizing all former fire fighters who have served South Plainfield. Free fire hats, coloring books, tops, rulers, balloons and magnet fire trucks were distributed to children as they arrived at the open house. Fire trucks were on display and the children were able to get in the engines and look around them.

St. Barnabus Burn Foundation brought a trailer set up like a house. Children toured the house and learned safety rules. Smoke was circulated into the house and the children learned how to escape a smoke-filled house.

Kids were encouraged to try on firefighters uniforms and found they needed help because of their size and weight. PSE&G set up a miniature display called "Shocking Facts About Electricity." Various demonstrations showed the



Firefighter Phil Esposito helps Paul Zushma and Rick Sierzega try on firefighters uniforms.

dangers concerning electricity and safety points on how to handle electrical fires. The day was complete when Smokey the Bear arrived and greeted the kids.

## ELKS NEWS

The South Plainfield Elks will be presenting an International Buffet on Saturday Oct. 24 from 6 p.m. until the food is gone! Tickets are available at the Lodge 1254 New Market Rd. in advance or at the door for \$10 each. This event is to raise money for the Social and Community Welfare and Americanism Committees to help offset their costs in providing for the

needy families in our town.

Please join all of us for a terrific and delicious evening. Kids under 10 years eat free. Bring the whole family and friends and help us support a worthwhile effort in our community.

The Elks remind all high school seniors to start early with college and scholarships applications. We wish all of you the very best.

## INTERACTIVE COMPUTER CORNER

By Briggs Longbottom



Last Wednesday I caught the 6:30 a.m. commuter out of Netherwood to the Big Apple.

Twelve hours later and after walking seventy-four city blocks plus four hours at the Javits Center hiking about the Fall Internet World Conference, I had a big day and sore feet! A meeting with IBM uptown, the internet show at Javits and a side visit to see Grand Central Station. What a day!

The IBM meeting was all business, the Grand Central visit was just to check out the cleanup job that was just completed (a real Wow!) and the Internet World show was for "tech-recon (a super-Wow!). I do have to say that there are some terrific Internet applications available today and they were all on display. Some of the big highlights involved video streaming and Internet Telephony. I was invited to make a long distance phone call over the Internet and I couldn't tell the difference between that and my "old fashioned" copper connection from home. I was very impressed.

Video streaming is a great way to add some impressiveness to your website. Capturing a video clip is easier than making your own video with a camera. Just search for a clip you'd like to use with a video search engine. Say you wanted to use an "automobile explosion" scene in a clip on your site. You can actually search the web for "explosion" scenes to fit your criteria. Technically, that is very cool stuff and it's available now. Wow wow wow!

TIP: How to use the "print screen" key. Hit the print screen key to send the current screen image to the clipboard. Open MS Paint from (start, programs, accessories) and select "edit" and click on "paste." You can now go to "file" and "print" to get your image onto paper. Simple, yes, but I bet most people didn't know how to do this!

TIP: Try internet telephony for yourself. Besides the quality, you get to ditch your long distance bills too! And who doesn't like that idea? Telephony over the Internet is essentially free except for the software to do it with and/or the telephone and sound card you'll need to speak and hear with if you don't already have speakers and a microphone.

This show and others like it are usually free for anyone to visit the exhibits. You do have to pay to attend the conferences and seminars but there are lots of cool freebies from CD/floppy demo programs, t-shirts, hats, stuffed animals etc. Lots of fun, but lots of walking around too. It's easy to burn up a few miles of shoe leather at these shows.

Okay now! With the Internet in our library and in our schools too, let's get back to a quiz and see what you can do. The librarians are there to show how to find the answers and the teachers are on the job for students. Take a shot at these easy ones, have some fun, and learn something too. Answers next issue. Good luck - see you next issue.

Q1: On which continent is the farthest spot below sea level?

Q2: Which continent has the fewest hills and mountains, and the lowest average elevation?

Q3: What do Lake Eyre, the Salton Sea, the Dead Sea and the Caspian Sea have in common besides water (this will take a thought or two)?

Q4: Where is the world's deepest lake and what is its name?

Q5: Where is the world's lowest land depression?

## Elks Veterans Selling Entertainment Books

The South Plainfield Elks Veterans Committee is selling the Entertainment Book at \$30. Call Lou Peralta at 756-6406.

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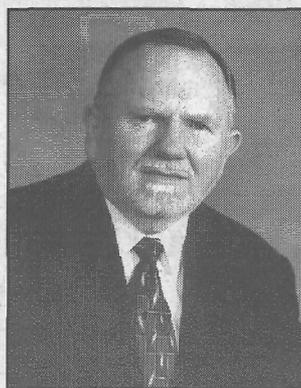
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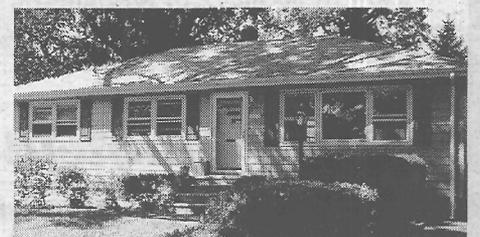
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# Political View

# '98 Vote

## From the Democratic Candidates...

Mayor Daniel Gallagher, Councilperson Dennis Ceraini and Darlene Pinto commented this week on their commitment to preserve open space within South Plainfield. "I'm thrilled by the support our Middlesex County Freeholders showed the citizens of our Borough last week," Mayor Gallagher said. "When we told them of our concern of protecting the intersection of Oak Tree and Park Aves. from development, our Freeholders came through with a \$1M grant to acquire the property and expand Putnam Park.

Councilperson Dennis Ceraini joined in the Mayor's praises say-

ing, "Freeholder Director Dave Crabiell and Freeholder Stephen 'Pete' Dalina deserve special thanks. They saw a need and responded to it. This action clearly shows the commitment of South Plainfield and Middlesex County to preserve open space. More open space has been preserved during Dan Gallagher's term than any mayor in South Plainfield history. Over the last four years we have permanently protected from development the 30 acre environmental preserve, the nine acre tract on Park Ave. and now the intersection of Oak Tree and Park Aves."

Darlene Pinto summed up the Democrats position saying, "It's nice to know that South Plainfield is a town where people want to live and work but we must also preserve our environment. The new Democratic majority has shown its commitment to open space. We intend to continue to increase that effort in the years ahead."

# Republican Candidates Speak

"After five straight years of total one party control of South Plainfield's government by the democrats, it looks like the time is ripe for a needed change," said Linda Dashuta, chairperson of the South Plainfield Republican Committee. "The election of Jake Cataldo as Mayor and Hank Grabarz and Sue Krystopik to the Council will bring a different view and voice to the stereotype *me too-ism* that has become the hallmark of the Gallagher administration," she added. "Doesn't anyone on this Council ever have a thought of their own?"

The South Plainfield Republican Organization is proud to present this year's ticket of Cataldo, Grabarz and Krystopik, announced Dashuta. Jake's 25 years of service as a South Plainfield Police Officer as well as his service to the Recreation Commission, Jr. Baseball, the South Plainfield PAL, the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office and his lifelong residency in the borough brings a unique perspective to government in South Plainfield, Dashuta said. Cataldo presently assists his wife Lois in the operation of the Brass Lantern, a family owned business in Metuchen. Cataldo served in the 160th Engineer Group in the US Army in Fort Knox and on the DEW Line in Alaska and Canada. He is a member of the Metuchen Chamber of Commerce. In speaking of his mayoral bid, Cataldo said, "We should learn from the past to profit in the present and from the present we can enjoy a better future."

Sue Krystopik, a 40-year resident of the borough and a graduate of South Plainfield public schools and the Berkeley School of Business, brings a strong combination of government and business acumen to her candidacy for the Borough Council. She presently is employed as a vice president and secretary of

KLK Trucking Company, Inc., a South Plainfield based business. Sue and her husband Ken have three children. Sue is an active member of the New Jersey Motor Truck Association and has served on the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment and five years on the South Plainfield Land Management Advisory Board.

Hank Grabarz has been employed in the engineering field for 35 years. He and his wife Maryellen live on West Nassau Ave. Hank brings a balanced government and civic involvement and experience to his bid for a council seat. In addition to his long service as a South Plainfield Planning Board member, Hank has served seven years on the South Plainfield Environmental Commission; and he was a long time member of the South Plainfield Public Celebrations Committee where he played a key role in the planning, organization and conduct of the Labor Day Parade. He is an active member of the South Plainfield B.P.O.E. Elks Lodge #2298 and the New Jersey Planners Organization.

Cataldo, Grabarz and Krystopik will bring a different voice to borough government. "South Plainfield is a great town and we want to see it kept that way. We will bring our focus to protecting the single-family residential character that has made South Plainfield the great community it is. The past has its place and we should all learn from it. It appears our opponents are anchored in the past. They make constant reference to past Republican administrations. "We weren't a part of any past administrations and have nothing to defend," Cataldo added.

On the other hand, the Gallagher

team does have a record to run on. Do you think just maybe — their attack on past administrations is an effort to keep the spotlight off Mayor Gallagher's inability to provide Senior Housing as required by a Mount Laurel court order? Or do they want to cloud the advent of apartment houses on the fringes of town that threaten to bring the already slow traffic movement out of town to a complete standstill and clog our schools? Or, is it the increasing dependence on Middlesex County's Democrat organization in the business of running and planning South Plainfield's future growth that they want to disguise? Would they hope you won't notice the fact that your local taxes have increased over 40% since Dan Gallagher took office? And, most importantly, despite his January campaign speech, and the Democrat campaign signs, your local taxes have increased this year? Next year's prediction of no tax increase is political fortune telling!

Mayor Gallagher is finishing almost two decades of government service, two terms as mayor. His administration members are all in their second terms. It's time for a new voice; fresh eyes; different ideas; free and open discussion on issues affecting our lives. Save our single-family character before a way of life we have prospered under, fades in front of the bulldozers of short-term interests. Outside interests that are eating at our dwindling valuable resources.

A vote on November 3rd for Jake Cataldo for Mayor and Sue Krystopik and Hank Grabarz for Council is a start. It's your town. Come to the rescue. Vote Republican this time!

**PLEASE NOTE:** 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 upcoming issues before the election.

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## School Board Meeting Moved

The Regular Public Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 20 at 8 p.m. has been moved to the High School Library on 200 Lake Street. There will be a special meeting the same evening at 7 p.m. at the High School Library for the ribbon cutting for opening of website.

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**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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# Political View

# In my OPINION

**To the Editor,**

Although I can't always attend Council meetings, I do keep up on South Plainfield government by following the Council meetings in the newspaper. I was amazed to read that none of the Republican candidates for Mayor or Council even bothered to attend one budget meeting this year. Can you imagine wanting to hold the highest office in our town and not bothering to find out about the budget process? That is enough to convince me that the Republican candidates for Mayor and Council don't deserve to be taken seriously.

I noticed that the Democratic signs say "No tax increase this year and next year." That's because the Democrats work hard to do what is best for South Plainfield and they deserve our support on election day. I'm voting for Mayor Dan Gallagher, Dennis Cerami and Darlene Pinto and if you care about your pocketbook you should do the same.

**ARLENE HASSELGREN**

**To the Editor,**

I follow political campaigns pretty closely and one thing that I always find interesting are the slogans that the parties use for their campaign literature and signs. In South Plainfield this year, I noticed the Democratic slogan is "No Tax Increase" and the Republican slogan is "Think." The no tax increase slogan speaks for itself. With the hard work of Mayor Gallagher and the new Democratic majority there will be no tax increase for the next two years at least.

The Republican slogan is a little more confusing. Do the Republicans "think" that our taxpayers have forgotten about the chaos they left behind when they were voted out of office? Do they "think" we forgot about their \$20 million borrowing? Do they "think" we don't remember about the Republican \$1 million per year budget increases.

Well I "think" the Republicans are wrong and I will prove it by voting for Dan Gallagher, Dennis Cerami and Darlene Pinto on Election Day.

**WILLIAM A. NAGY, JR.**

**To the Editor,**

It seems like a 100 years ago, but believe it or not it was only 1994 when South Plainfield was literally on the brink of disaster.

Do you remember overflowing council meetings with residents pleading with the Republican Mayor and Council to listen to them and stop the spend, borrow and tax philosophy? Do you remember people being laughed at the Council meetings? Do you remember council agendas that were so complicated you needed your lawyer with you to understand what they were all about?

All of that ended when Dan Gallagher was elected Mayor. That's when "pay as you go" became the law in South Plainfield, that's when Democracy Day was started, where you get the final say on borrowing. That's when responsibility and accountability returned to Borough government.

Sometimes we take things for granted. Don't make that mistake on Election Day. Don't risk South Plainfield's future on individuals who want to bring us back to the old Republican recklessness.

Vote for a Mayor and Councilpeople who we all know we can trust with our future - Mayor Dan Gallagher, Councilperson Dennis Cerami and Darlene Pinto.

**PAT GUARRACI**

**Dear Editor,**

I was reading in the paper the other day that some towns are attempting to limit their tax increases this year. Well, here in South Plainfield, we don't have that problem. We have Mayor Dan Gallagher and Councilperson Dennis Cerami watching our "store."

Since both have been in office, significant improvements have been made in our Public Library, our PAL Building and the Municipal Building. Also, roads in every section of town have been upgraded and our parks are in better shape than they have ever been in. The most amazing part of all these improvements is that we have not borrowed one penny to pay for them. Simply amazing! We need leaders who are going to act responsibly with our tax dollars. Mayor Gallagher and Councilman Cerami are those leaders. Please cast your vote on Nov. 3 for the Democratic team of Mayor Dan Gallagher, Councilman Dennis Cerami and Darlene Pinto. Thank you for your time.

**SINCERELY,  
BLASE MCCARTHY**

**To the Editor,**

South Plainfield Democrats have plastered the town with signs proclaiming "no tax increase this year and next year." I presume this year means 1998. As a taxpayer, I wish that statement was true. Unfortunately, it isn't. When I received my tax bill last July, I compared my 1998 bill with my 1997 bill and found I am paying more municipal taxes this year than I did last year. Along with the tax bill came a letter from Council President James Vokral boasting that "there will be no municipal tax increase this year." Since this statement was not supported by my tax bills, I wrote to Mr. Vokral and asked him to justify his statement. I did not receive a reply, so I wrote him a second time again asking him to justify his statement. Again, no reply.

The fact that he didn't answer two letters from a taxpayer leads me to believe Vokral has no answer and can't back up his statement. His failure to respond also reflects the arrogance that prevails when one party totally controls local government.

Since I did not get an answer from my local elected official, I obtained the tax rates from the Middlesex County Board of Taxation which is the agency responsible for certifying tax rates. Here are the rates as certified for South Plainfield:

	1998	1997	Difference
County	0.55	0.53	+0.02
School	2.06	2.01	+0.05
Local Gov.	0.76	0.72	+0.04
Open Space	0.01	0.01	—
Total	3.38	3.27	+0.11

As you can see, taxes did increase this year and the statement you received with your tax bill is false and the statement on the green signs littering the town is also false. In fact, in checking past tax rates, I found an increase in every single year since Mr. Gallagher has been Mayor. The local rate in 1994 was 0.55. What does this mean to you in dollars? For a house assessed at \$100,000 it means you are paying \$210 more in local government (municipal) taxes this year than you did when Mr. Gallagher and the Democrats took control four years ago.

It's time to end one party control in South Plainfield and elect people who will tell the truth. Bring back the two party system by electing Cataldo, Grabarz and Krystopik.

**CHARLES C. HAUS**

**To the Editor,**

I have been following the politics in South Plainfield for quite a few years. Sometimes the choices we have to make regarding who we are voting for is difficult. Not this year. Councilperson Dennis Cerami has decided to seek re-election. For the last three years, Dennis has been an integral part of all the progress that has occurred. He has been in charge of Public Safety and has helped bring to fruition the installation of a state of the art communication system. This has helped the police, fire and rescue squad react to our needs. Thank You Dennis!

I believe that the safety of the residents of our town is, and always should be, paramount in the governing bodies decision-making process. We need elected officials who share that sentiment. We need to reelect Councilman Dennis Cerami and his running mates, Mayor Dan Gallagher and Darlene Pinto on Nov. 3.

**MARY AGRISTA**

**To the Editor,**

Six years ago, I met a special person, Darlene Pinto. Our sons were starting kindergarten together at Sacred Heart School. We had a lot in common, first and foremost our children. Darlene and I began to volunteer for various activities together, from being on the refreshment committee for Cub Scouts, to classroom mothers, to fundraising for athletics. She has always been there, amazingly organized and always with a sense of humor.

Through all of this, Darlene had always talked about different ideas of fundraising for our children's school. Within a couple of years, she had organized Sacred Heart School's most successful fundraiser, the first Chinese Auction and the second was an even bigger hit!

During this time, Darlene has become my dear friend. A friend with the wonderful qualities of honesty, integrity and the ability to get things done right the first time.

On Nov. 3, vote for Mayor Dan Gallagher, Councilman Dennis Cerami and my friend Darlene Pinto for council. I know she will be a dear friend to our community, too.

**SINCERELY,  
ALICE R. BACH**

**To the editor:**

I just reviewed my property tax bill along with a letter from Councilman Vokral stating there is no increase in the municipal taxes. I took the trouble to compare this bill with the one I received last year. Much to my surprise, I found I paid \$754.56 in municipal taxes in 1997 and this year I will pay \$796.48. That is an increase of about \$42. How can Vokral claim it is a decrease?

Is he trying to protect Mayor Gallagher who promised no tax increase in his New Year Day message? This statement by Vokral is clearly wrong and he should be ashamed of himself for trying to mislead taxpayers. I took the time to check back further and found I paid \$576.40 in 1994 so since Mr. Gallagher became Mayor the municipal portion of my taxes have increased by \$220!!!

I guess this is the kind of stuff you can expect when one party controls everything.

**DIANE BIRATH**

**Dear Editor,**

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage South Plainfield residents to cast their vote for Darlene Pinto on Nov. 3.

Darlene's unwavering commitment to South Plainfield is clearly evident by her steadfast participation in community service. She is a respected member of both the Planning Board and the South Plainfield Business Association and she has played an active role on the South Plainfield Public Celebrations Committee for the past two years. She has also been active in both girl scouts and cub scouts, and she was instrumental in organizing Sacred Heart school's most profitable fundraiser to date.

Darlene Pinto is a successful local business owner who understands that a town can only develop and thrive when its citizens are willing to invest their own dreams in its future.

Darlene's strong business acumen, tireless community involvement and unyielding commitment to South Plainfield make her an ideal candidate for Borough Council. We urge all of South Plainfield to support Darlene Pinto, Councilman Cerami and Mayor Dan Gallagher and make a sound investment in South Plainfield's future.

**LARRY AND GAIL DE NEGRO**

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# The Alternative View

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



Dear Dr. DeCosta: It's that time of year again when flu shots are being pushed. Rather than injecting a virus or a viral derivative into our bodies, what can be done through alternative means to fight off the flu? - E.L.

Dear E.L.

The symptoms of both the common cold and the flu are often used (incorrectly) interchangeably because both are caused by the same family of respiratory viruses. A flu is more severe than a cold and is usually accompanied by a moderate to high fever, aching muscles, fatigue and sometimes vomiting and diarrhea. A cold also occurs at any time of year while the flu usually develops in epidemics, normally in late fall and winter.

William M. Cargile, B.S., D.C., F.I.A.C.A., Chairman of Research for the American Academy of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine questions, "When everyone in the workplace and at home seems to have a cold or flu, why do some of my patients not get it? I treat people with the flu all day. Why don't I get it?"

Dr. Cargile believes some patients can resist viral attacks, while the immune systems in others are weakened and run down to such a degree that they become susceptible to a viral assault. "It comes down to available energy. The chemicals in the body which regulate stress are deficient and as a result the ability to adapt to stress is diminished. These are the kinds of people who are much more susceptible to getting the flu every year."

Emmanuel Cheraskin, M.D., D.M.D., of Birmingham, Alabama, agrees, "Three healthy people can breathe the same germs at the same moment. One may develop pneumonia, another sniffle his way through a cold and the third goes unscathed. After all, in the case of most epidemics, those people who succumb represent only a fraction of the number of people exposed."

"It's time to lay to rest the notion that germs jump into people and cause diseases," Dr. Cheraskin continues. "The evidence is adequate that microbes challenge the internal environment. The end result depends upon the organism's ability to resist by means of its army of defense systems."

Some physicians go a step further, stating that a cold or flu can actually be one of the ways the body detoxifies itself. John Hibbs, N.D., of Seattle, Washington states that "seen from this viewpoint, you can say that the virus causing the cold or flu is an accessory to a natural process. Nature is very homeostatic. When we run our immune systems down, a cold or flu can arise to detoxify ourselves and bring us back into balance."

Maintaining a healthy immune system is generally considered to be the key to avoiding the cold and flu. With prevention being the key, proper diet, along with nutritional supplements and the avoidance of alcohol and tobacco, contribute to enhanced immune functions.

Dr. Hibbs states that getting extra sleep, cutting simple sugar intake and drinking large amounts of herb tea, water, vegetable juices and broths for a dehydrated respiratory tract, will strengthen immune function and enhance detoxification.

Also, garlic is a strong antimicrobial and antiviral plant and has been shown to protect against flu viruses and enhance antibody production. In fact, Garry F. Gordon, M.D. of Tempe, Arizona, recommends that at the first sign of a cold or flu to take vitamin A, vitamin C and garlic at the same time.

There are also numerous herbs which are used to treat colds and flu. Mary Bove, N.D., Chair of Botanical Medicine at Bastyr College, in Seattle, Washington, recommends yarrow, eyebright, elecampagne and elderflower. She notes that these herbs can be easily combined or used singly as teas or tinctures.

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.

# Scout Beautifies Footbridge Area As Part of Eagle Scout Project

By William Tutbill

The area around the newly installed footbridge leading to the Historical Society's rail car has been improved dramatically thanks to Eagle Scout candidate Michael Gulla from Troop 124. Michael contacted Bob Bengivenga who heads up the railcar restoration project and asked him what should be done in the area.

Michael then planned, laid out and organized the clearing and cleaning up of the area as part of his Eagle Scout project. The area around the footbridge has been in the state of neglect for some time, with weeds and bushes growing out of control.

Michael met Bob Bengivenga at the site and were looking over the project when Bill Tutbill came by. Because of his experience as a former Scout leader, he was asked if he would return on Saturday and supervise the work of the scouts.

Michael had a list of other



Michael Gulla and Ryan Woods cleaning up footbridge area.

scouts scheduled to help on the project on Saturday, Oct. 3. Ryan Woods, Matt La Spata and his brother, Daniel La Spata joined the project. All four scouts worked at cutting and pulling weeds.

Mr. Bengivenga brought his chain saw and a cut few half-dead trees and one that would have been

a problem in the future. The trees were cut into short lengths and the scouts carried them to one area and piled them up. Also present as an observer was Mrs. Gulla. The scouts worked until 3 p.m.

Visit the area around the bridge and see the great job the scouts have done. The area looks like a park!

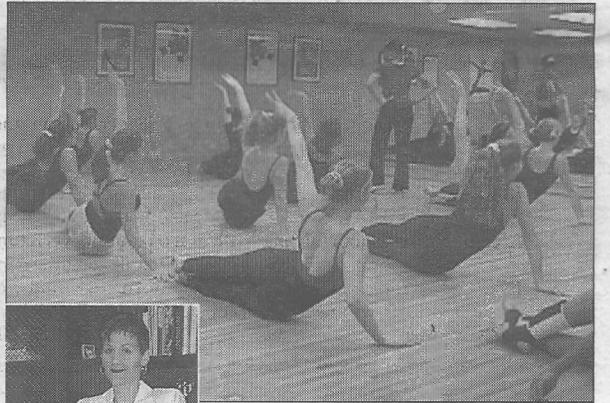
# Jo-Ann's Dance Studio Takes Center Stage in Observer Spotlight

By Patricia Abbott

In 1978 Jo-Ann Faulkner was the proud director of a small dance studio called Jo-Ann Ortmann's Dance Studio, which opened in Sept. 1978, operated part time with about 65 students. Jo-Ann was a single mother at the time and her children spent many hours in the studio with her. Daughter Tara literally grew up surrounded by dance. She helped out answering phones in the studio and spent countless hours watching classes.

Dance was a part of Jo-Ann's life long before her dream became a reality. Her love of dance began at an early age. She started dance lessons at age three. As a teenager she paid for her lessons by assisting teachers in dance classes. When her children were young, Jo-Ann freelanced at several dance studios which gave her the opportunity to see how they were run.

Twenty years later Jo-Ann is still the proud director. The studio is now called Jo-Ann's Dance Studio — The Performing Arts Centre. Instead of 65 students there are over 500. In order to accommodate ever increasing enrollment, the studio has moved several times. They are now settled in their new location at 4475 So. Clinton Ave. Their most recent move was a relocation to a larger downstairs studio in the building they now occupy. A long way from that first, one-room studio, Jo-Ann now has three classrooms that run simultaneously. The studio has grown and expanded at an astounding rate.



Jo-Ann Faulkner (seated) and Tara Faulkner-Catalina

Classes are taught in all areas of dance, as well as music and the theatre arts. The studio's musical theatre classes are under the direction of Michelle Olekna.

Tara Faulkner-Catalina has followed in her mother's footsteps. She has attended classes with the Princeton Ballet and at age 15 she was traveling to New York City to attend the prestigious Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance. Her goal was to be a career dancing performer. At age 14 she began assisting in classes and by 17 she was teaching her own classes for young children. Her love of this led her to continue teaching and choreographing. She teaches ballet, pointe and moderne at the studio. Tara is

now the studio's Artistic Director. Tara does all the choreography for the student dance company, Le Centre Dance Ensemble. The award-winning company is made up of 25 dancers, ages 13-18. The girls are chosen by an invitation-only audition process. The group hosts and attends dance workshops with guest artists and master teachers as well as competes in various dance competitions. They have performed in numerous cultural programs and have presented many of their own works at theatres throughout the area.

For the past ten years the studio has been the official dance training center for the Bridgette's, a highly competitive gymnastics team from Feigley's School of Gymnastics. The dance for gymnastics classes are under the direction of Jill Cookingham. The studio's teachers have also provided dance and flexibility training for skaters and athletes of all kinds.

The studio has worked with special needs students with physical and learning disabilities and a hearing-impaired student who wanted to perform a dance as she competed in the Miss Deaf New Jersey pageant.

The studio offers over \$3,000 in artistic scholarships each year. Many of Jo-Ann's students have gone on to study various aspects of dance from choreography to dance therapy.

Jo-Ann and the studio have come a long way. A special moment for Jo-Ann is when a former student returns to enroll her own child in classes at the studio.

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# Teen Night Set to Begin Third Year

The Recreation Department announced the Teen Night program will be starting on Saturday, Oct. 24 from 8 to 11 p.m.

Teen Night is open to young adults grades 8 through 11. This supervised program consists of sports, games, music and evenings of socializing.

Volunteers are needed to help as well as donations of prizes for the contests. Residents are asked for suggestions on how to make Teen Night more successful. Contact the Recreation Department

or Ray Petronko. Any suggestions will be welcomed.

The Council has approved the hiring of several Teen Night supervisors for the program. They are Jennifer Bellew, Pat D'Allesandro, Margaret Devlin, Joyce Drew, Nancy Mercurio, Ed Niemczyk, Peter Rachwal, Mary Ann Schnyderite and Ron Schnyderite.

For more information on Teen Night, call 226-7713 or drop by the PAL Building on Maple Ave.

## Grand Slam USA Lists Upcoming Tournaments

Grand Slam USA, located on the corner of Park and Oak Tree Aves., has scheduled several sports tournaments.

An Iron Man 2 Hockey Tournament will be held on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 17 and 18. Groups will be formed in 12, 14 and 16 and under. The top prize is \$750 with special give-a-ways throughout the tournament. The fee is \$35.

A roller and street hockey tournament will be held Friday through Sunday, Oct. 30-Nov. 1. Divisions include ages 12-, 14-, 16- and 18- and under as well as a men's street division. Trophies will be awarded for first, second place, most valuable player, high scorer, defencemen and to goaltender. The fee is \$275 per team.

A competitive indoor hitting league is being formed. Teams will consist of four players and one alternative. It will begin in early November. There will be

nine games, with the top six going to the playoffs. The fee is \$50.

For more information, visit Grand Slam at 910 Oak Tree Rd. or call (908) 756-4446.

## NJ Devils Bus Trip Planned

South Plainfield Columbiettes and Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a bus trip to see the New Jersey Devils play the Pittsburgh Penguins in November.

The game is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 13 at 7:35 p.m. The cost is \$58 per person and includes ticket, transportation and bus driver gratuity.

The bus will leave from the Knights Hall, 334 Hamilton Blvd. at 6 p.m. and will return immediately following the game.

For information and tickets, contact Mary Ann at (908) 226-1222 or Al at (908) 757-6063.



(Left to right) Juliet Falacco, Lenora Zerbian, Roger Vroom, Thais Petrocelli, Jennifer Ward, Erica McGrath

## SPHS Marching Band Festival October 25

The 17th Annual South Plainfield High School Marching Band Festival will be held Sunday, Oct. 25 at 1 p.m. at the Frank R. Jost Memorial Field on Maple Ave. The event will feature marching bands from across the state in competition.

Scheduled to compete are John F Kennedy High School from Iselin, Lakeland High School, Matawan High School, Memorial High School from West New York, NJ, Metuchen High School, Nottingham High School, Warchung Regional High School and Voorhees High School from Voorhees, NJ.

The musical selections will range from the classics to pop and everything in-between. Each band will perform for about 10 minutes, and be judged on marching, music, color guard, percussion and overall effectiveness.

The SPHS Marching Band will perform in exhibition, playing selections from Pagliacci, Carmen and Samson & Delilah. Drum Majors Roger Vroom and Thais Petrocelli along with Color Guard Captains, Erica McGrath, Jennifer Ward, Lenora Zerbian and Juliette Falacco will lead the 109 members of the band and color guard, who have worked very hard to reach a level of perfection. The realization of perfection will lead the band to the Atlantic Coast Championships on November 7 in Pennsylvania.

For an afternoon of great music, stop by and support the High School Music Department. General admission is \$5, and students and senior citizens is \$3. All proceeds benefit the scholarship fund for South Plainfield High School Seniors. The raindate is Sunday Nov. 1.

### New Band Uniforms

The Tiger Marching Band is anxiously awaiting their new uniforms which are due to arrive on Oct. 21.

The uniform consists of four pieces - a white jacket with green and gold accents, a hat and two pair of pants. Green pants with white piping will be worn for football games and white with green piping for competitions. Band Director Mark Tweed explained that the band has not had

new uniforms for almost fifteen years. The old uniforms were green with a longer coat. The new uniforms have a shorter jacket that gives the band a whole new look. The uniforms will be proudly displayed at the Band Festival.

### Marching Band Places Third

The Marching Band placed third in Group 3 of the Shore Area Cavalcade of Bands held last Sunday at Southern Regional High School, Manahawkin. In their third week of competition, the band earned a score of 80.1 (out of 100) for their efforts. Band Director Mark Tweed told the band that their work during the past week showed marked improvement on the field.

First place in group 3 went to Apsceami HS (Absecon, NJ) and Brick Memorial HS. First place overall for the Pit - those faithful fathers who cart the props and pit equipment for the bands - went to South Plainfield, under the leadership of Tom Falacco and Mike Reedy.

## Tigers 9-1; Lead Fall Ball

Submitted by John Atcachunas

The South Plainfield High School Fall Baseball Team is alone on top of the standings with nine wins and only one defeat.

The Tigers beat Linden 6-5. With Kean University coaches at the game, South was down 5-0 going into the seventh inning. Chris Atcachunas had a key double with the bases loaded to drive in two runs. Pat Sarrullo followed with a bases loaded double to drive in three more. Kevin Krystopik singled in the winning run. Steve Bucchinagno raised his pitching record to 3-1.

In beating Roselle Catholic 13-0, Mike Vito earned his second pitching victory, was two for three at the plate and drove in two runs. Sarrullo, Mike Kapsch and Joe Scott had multiple hit games.

Atcachunas and Bucchinagno split the pitching duties as the Tigers beat St. Joe's of Metuchen 7-1. Chris went the first three innings allowing only one hit, no runs and striking out five Falcons.

In the fourth inning he yielded the mound to Steve with the no score. Tiger bats finally got to St. Joe's ace Brian Spillane in the fifth inning. Pete Glowackis' key double drove in Sam Alexander and Chris Malecki, who had singled. Pat Sarrullo knocked in Mike Vito and Steve Bucchinagno. Bucchinagno allowed no earned runs, two hits and struck out seven in raising his pitching record to 4-1.

Tigers complete regular season play with Roselle Park on Sat. at 10 a.m. and Perth Amboy on Sun. at 12:30 p.m. and head into single elimination play-offs the following week. With victories, South Plainfield will be the number one seed in the tournament.

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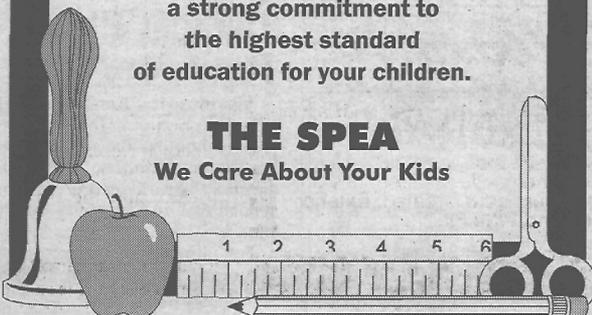
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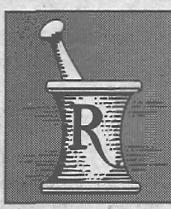
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# Obituaries

## Rosalie Indigiviglia Approvato, 63

Rosalie Indigiviglia Approvato of South Plainfield died on Thursday, Oct. 1, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

She was born in South Plainfield and has been a life long resident of the Borough.

Mrs. Approvato was a secretary at North Plainfield High School for 29 years before retiring in 1998.

She was a member of Sacred Heart Church and the New Jersey Education Association.

She is survived by her husband, Frank A. Approvato; three sons, Charles of Toms River, Frank A., Jr. of South Plainfield and Paul Approvato of Anandale; two sisters, Mary Ribar of Bridgewater and Theresa Perry of Martinsville and three grandchildren.

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

## Joseph M. Hladish, 80

Joseph M. Hladish died on Friday, Oct. 2, at his home.

Born in Clinton, he has resided in North Plainfield, where he had been educated through the North Plainfield school system and had graduated North Plainfield High School. Mr. Hladish moved to South Plainfield in 1940.

He had been employed as Millwright in New York City for the Millwright Union of New York City for 10 years. He had retired in 1980. By trade, Mr. Hladish was a ceramic tile installer. He and his brother, Al, were the co-owners of PermAstone Company, formerly of South Plainfield and had served Union and Middlesex County. He

was for a period of time, the owner of Cool Vent Awnings in Oakland, Calif. He and his brother were also the co-owners of Lifetime Aluminum Roofing Shingles were they had served Middlesex, Union and Monmouth County.

Mr. Hladish had served for six years in the United States Marine Corp. during WWII, and had served at Iowa Jima and Okanowa. He had also served on the cruiser U.S.S. Wichita for three of the six years as a seagoing Marine and had served as the personal aide to Admiral Buckler.

He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Post #6763 and the American Legion Chaumont Post #243, both of South Plainfield. He was a member of the F & AM Masons Jerusalem Lodge #026 of Plainfield.

Surviving are his brother, Albert, with whom he lived; a sister, Mary Olga and a niece, Carol Lynn Stranahan, both of Belfair, Fla.

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

## Raymond J. Mount, 78

Raymond J. Mount died on Saturday, Oct. 3, in Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Born in Jersey City, he had resided in Plainfield and South Plainfield before moving to Sunrise, Fla., for 11 years. Mr. Mount returned to South Plainfield to live three years ago.

Mr. Mount was employed as a milkman for the former Schmaltz & All Star Dairy of Plainfield for 25 years. He had also been employed former Burrough's Corp. of Piscataway as a warehouse manager for 15 years. He retired in 1986.

Mr. Mount had served in the United States Army during WWII, serving in Normandy, Northern France, and in the D Day Invasion. He was honorably discharged as a Technician Fourth Grade and had been awarded the American Service Medal.

Mr. Mount was a member of the former South Plainfield Police Reserve for over 25 years and had been issued a Platinum PBA card for his dedication and contribution to the Borough of South Plainfield. He was a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Post #6763 in South Plainfield. He had been active with the South Plainfield Pop Warner Football Organization as the team's Medical Manager. He was also active with the South Plainfield Jr. Baseball Club as an assistant coach.

He was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church.

Surviving are his wife, Adele R. Mount; three daughters, Roseanne Kerek of Matawan; Susan Smith of Manassas, Va. and Frances Mount of South Plainfield; two sons, Daniel of South Plainfield and Timothy of Piscataway; two brothers, Jack Mount of Sacramento, Calif. and William Mount of Asbury Park. Also surviving are five grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

## Anna (Abbate) Pacino, 78

Anna (Abbate) Pacino of South Plainfield died on Sunday, Sept. 27 at Muhlenberg Regional Center in Plainfield.

She was born in Brooklyn, NY and had resided in South Plainfield for the last 45 years.

Mrs. Pacino was a seamstress for the former Irene's Dress Shop in Plainfield.

She was a member of Sacred Heart Church and a former member of the Alter Rosary Society. She was a member of the South Plainfield Senior Citizens.

She is survived by her husband, Benny Pacino; two daughters, Kathleen Rummel of Branchburg and Jo-Ann Dietzold of South Plainfield; three sisters, Cathy Sbeglia of Garden City, Long Island; Lenora Spoldi and Jo Ann Battista both of Floral Park, Long Island and five grandchildren.

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

## Clarence C. Robertson, Sr., 74

Clarence C. Robertson, Sr. of Lakehurst, formerly of Piscataway, died on Thursday, Oct. 11, at the Paul Kimble Medical Center in Lakewood.

He was born in Trenton and resided in Piscataway for 38 years before moving to Lakehurst three months ago.

Mr. Robertson was a mason for the Brick Layers Mason & Plasterer International Union Local 26 in Somerville where he became a gold card member with more than 50 years of service. He was an avid saltwater fisherman.

He was a member of our Lady of Fatima Church in Piscataway.

He was an Army veteran of WWII and was a member of the VFW Memorial Post 6763 in South Plainfield.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Virginia Tedesco Robertson; two sons, Clarence C. Robertson, Jr. of Berlin, Germany and Keith Robertson of Mifflinburg Pa.; two daughters, Janice McCann of Piscataway and Denise Tori of Jackson and five grandchildren and one great grandchild.

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

## Helen C. (Mastroguiseppe) Ciampi, 66

Helen C. (Mastroguiseppe) Ciampi died on Oct. 7 at her home.

Born in Plainfield, Mrs. Ciampi had resided in No. Plainfield until she settled in South Plainfield in 1958.

Mrs. Ciampi was employed by Western Electric in Clark in the assembly department during the 1960's. She was later employed as a cashier for Quick Check in South Plainfield for 12 years before her retirement in 1995.

She is a communicant of Sacred Heart Church.

She is predeceased by her two sons, Pasquale Ciampi, who died in 1987 and Frank, Jr., who died in April of 1996 and her three brothers, Raymond, John and Dominick Mastroguiseppe.

Surviving are her husband, Frank Ciampi, Sr., three daughters, Karen Ciampi, Rosemary Barry and Joan Sauer, all of South Plainfield. Also surviving are eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Donations in her memory may be made to Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center Home Hospice Program, Park Ave. and Randolph Rd. Plainfield, NJ. 07060.



In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month the South Plainfield Domestic Violence Educational Outreach Program held an all day exhibit at the Middlesex Mall on Saturday, Oct. 10. Three silhouettes pictured above represent women victims who have died due to domestic violence. If feel you need to talk to someone about domestic violence, call (908) 755-0700. All calls are confidential.

## From the South Plainfield Library

# Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Okay, turn off the TV, turn down the radio and tell the person on the phone you'll call back, please. We at the South Plainfield Library have got some pretty major announcements today, so please give us your undivided attention.

First, after along delay, we're finally putting in the new carpeting in our main area. We'll be closed to the public Thursday and Friday for the installation and we'll reopen on Saturday. Please be sure to wipe your feet.

The next day, Sunday, something unusual will happen: we'll be open. We've decided to resurrect our popular Sunday operating hours. We'll be open 1:30-5 p.m. and offer the same services available on Saturday. Please stop by and greet our Sunday staff members.

Back by popular demand! We've brought back our regular children's storytimes. Each program is for children ages 3 and over; they're held on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. You don't need to register for these programs. And parents, please don't hesitate to pass along your comments and suggestions about the new schedule.

For good books at rock bottom prices, the place to go is ... the Library? Yep, that's right, The Friends of the Library are holding a "dollar-a-bag" overstock book sale on Saturday, Oct. 24. Please be sure to come out and check on the bargains.

Here are a few notes for the kids. The aforementioned Oct. 24 also marks the Friends of the Library Pumpkin Painting Program at 10 a.m. Please call ahead to

make sure there's space available. It also marks the deadline for our Scary Story Contest, where children can try to give Stephen King a run for his money by writing their scariest story. The winner will get a prize, as well as have their story read during our children's Halloween program. "What Halloween program" you ask? The one set for Tuesday, Oct. 27, at 6:30 p.m. It'll also feature scares, games and refreshments. And to finish out the month, there's a children's craft program for those six and older, on Thursday, Oct. 29, at 4 p.m. (You must register for these two program.)

The South Plainfield Juniors have been collecting new, unused hats to be given to children undergoing cancer treatments. You can still make a donation until Saturday. The collection box is near our main doors.

The new groups for the circuit video, audio book and large print circuits are in and available. However, we're between groups on the circuit compact discs; they'll be back soon.

Finally, don't forget that October is Fire Prevention Month. The Smoky the Bear sign in the children's room will remind you about forest fires. For fire safety at home, check out the children's video, "Donald's Fire Survival Plan," a revised version of the film they showed us in school every October (and still show, as far as I know). In it Donald Duck gets some very sound advice about what to do and not do in a fire. It's informative and recommended.

That's just about all for this issue. Thanks for your undivided attention. You may now turn on the TV, turn up the radio and answer the phone, if you wish.

## High School Class of 1993-94 Plan Reunion

The South Plainfield High School classes of 1993 and 1994 will be holding their 25th Class Reunion on Saturday, Nov. 21, at Embassy Suites located at 121 Centennial Ave. in Piscataway from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m.

For information please contact Reunionz International at 888-477-2789, ext. 105.

## Because We Care



by Robert Hunter

## CHILDREN AND GRIEVING

When parents consider the question of whether their children are old enough to attend a funeral, they should take more than age into account. Important factors include the circumstances surrounding the death, the child's temperament, the family's attitude, and the wishes of the child. Generally speaking, funerals provide children with the same opportunity that they allow grownups - the ability to say good-bye to the deceased. Children also benefit from knowing that their daily routines will not be disrupted, from talking openly about their feelings, and from knowing that they can cry or feel sad. Including children in the grieving process, to the extent that they are able to participate, enables them to mitigate their losses.

At the JAMES W. CONROY FUNERAL HOME, we understand your concerns, and will work closely with you to advise and provide the right setting and structure to accommodate the special needs of family and friends. Our many years of service have given us a deep understanding of the many feelings and issues that arise at the death of a loved one. To schedule a private consultation at your convenience, please call 756-2800. We are located at 2456 Plainfield Avenue in South Plainfield. Cremation services available.

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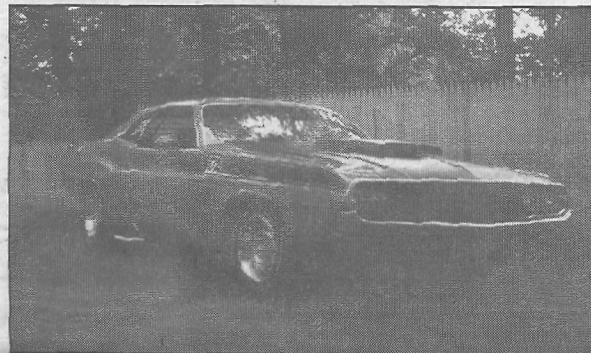


## Vandals Damage Museum Rail Car

Story and photo by William Tuthill

On Friday afternoon, Oct. 9, vandals punched out six windows on the rail car that is to be the South Plainfield Historical Society Museum. The panes are made of Lexan, which prevented them from being smashed like glass. A nearby businessman heard the

bang on the car and called the police. The youths were seen fleeing from the car and the man gave their description to the police. A few minutes later they were picked up at the railroad overpass. Charges will be filed against them for trespassing, vandalism and truancy.



## Resident Wins First Place At Englishtown Auto Show

Mark and Alison Axelson's 1970 Dodge Challenger T/A won first place in its class at the 22nd Annual Fall Englishtown '98 Swap Meet & Auto Show, held on Sunday, Sept. 27 at Old Bridge Township Raceway Park in Englishtown.

The Axelsons, residents of South Plainfield, displayed their

Challenger along with hundreds of antiques, classics and stock production vehicles up to 1983, including all the muscle cars from the sixties and seventies, military vehicles and farm equipment in a judged competition. The Axelsons have owned the Dodge Challenger since 1996. This is the second year they showed the car.

## Lions Club Announces Labor Day Raffle Winner

The Lions Club of South Plainfield is pleased to announce that the winner of their 1998 50/50 Labor Day Raffle was Elsie Russo of Scotch Plains. Mrs. Russo won the \$300 prize.

The money raised by Lions activities goes towards sponsoring seeing eye dogs for the blind, scholarships, eye and ear exams

and other eye and ear related problems for children and adults.

The Lions Club of South Plainfield also does eye and ear screenings.

For more information please contact the club at the following address: Lions Club of South Plainfield, PO Box 721, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

## POLICE REPORT

- An employee at United National Bank became suspicious of a drive-up customer who was making a withdrawal. Two other people were in the car with her and she looked uncomfortable, so she was told to come in the bank to finish her transaction. The teller inside the bank also felt uneasy and called the manager and then contacted the police. At that point the two people tried to leave the bank, but the manager refused to let them leave with the customer. Police received a description of their car and they were stopped a short while later. The suspects had several outstanding warrants and were placed under arrest. An investigation is underway involving the bank incident.

- As a woman was parking her car at Bradley's, she was approached by a man who told her she was getting a flat tire. She got out of the car to look and when she returned to her car, her pocketbook containing \$900 was gone. The man fled on foot.

- A wallet containing credit cards, a gift certificate, bank cards and \$65 in cash was stolen while a woman attended a house party on North Madison.

- A Ford Truck valued at \$34,000 was stolen from the parking lot at Days Inn. Inside were tools valued at \$1,000. Police found broken tinted glass near where the truck was parked. The truck had tinted windows.

## Riley Students Go To Stokes

John E. Riley fifth grade students went to Stokes from Sept. 16-8. The students participated in various environmental programs designed to stimulate environmental awareness, problem solving skills, cooperation in group settings and self-esteem. Dr. Janet Munger, Principal of Riley School, coordinated the program and was assisted in chaperoning the students by faculty and parental input. The students had a great time at Stokes.

### Fall flower sale

John E Riley school held a fall flower sale on Fri. and Sat., Sept. 25 and 26. Many beautiful mums, perennials, asters, cabbage, kale and oriental peppers were sold. Debra Herbster chaired the event with lots of parental and staff assistance.

## Maxim's International Opens After Delay

By William Tuthill

The scheduled grand opening of Maxim's International on Oct. 3 was delayed for one day because of a computer glitch.

"Murphys Law" played havoc with Maxim's, located on the corner of Oak Tree and Park Aves. Two hours before the doors were to open, the computers controlling the check-out counter registers went down. Hundreds of people waited outside, but the market couldn't operate without the computers, and the opening was postponed until the next day.

Coupons for the "free-rice deal" were handed out and the market explained the computer problem and asked customers to return the following day. Although disappointed, most customers were understanding and agreed to return the following day.

The opening was rescheduled the following day. Sunday at 8:30 a.m. the parking lot was full and most of the shopping carts were "claimed". Many customers had to park in the parking lot in front of the former Friendly's store.

Everyone seemed in a festive mood and by 10 a.m. most of the areas in the store were crowded with shoppers. At the hot food counters people waited quietly or chatted among themselves. As orders were filled, customers made their way to the seating area and many enjoyed their family "Sunday afternoon" meal.

A display booth was set up by The Culligan Water Conditioning Company. As parents passed by with their kids, they received free balloons. Customers could sign up for a drawing of a \$100 prize to be held on Oct. 31 in Maxim's and are invited to continue to sign up until just before the drawing at 3 p.m. All the water used in the coffee, tea and ice making and cooking at Maxim's is softened by Culligan equipment.

At the coffee and tea counter, sample cups were handed out to the customers. At the Oriental cookie counter people picked up samples to go with their drinks.

Maxim's International Market is open Mon.-Thurs. 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Fri., Sat. and Sun. 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

# Classified

### BABYSITTING POSITIONS WANTED

**13-YEAR-OLD EXPERIENCED** and certified babysitter to watch your kids after school and weekends. 908-668-8155.

### LOOKING FOR A BABYSITTER?

Well, you found just the right person. My name is Heather. I'm an 8th grader at SPMS. Very responsible. See for yourself. 908-668-7754. Weekdays 3:30-9:30pm, weekends 11am-9:30pm.

### FOR SALE

**1989 RENKIN BOWRIDER** Classic with Trailer. Excellent condition. Inboard/Outboard 125 HP Mercruiser. Great family boat for fishing or cruising. New in 1998: Boat cover, trailer tires, Hummingbird fish finder and AM/FM cassette stereo. Used in both fresh and salt water. Hate to sell it but moving on to a bigger boat! Asking \$5,200.00. Contact: Mike at 908-226-7673 or 908-757-4894.

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

### REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

**SO. PLFD. BY OWNER.** Move-in condition, 3 BR ranch, 1 car att. gar. Quiet residential area close to schools & major highways. Large EIK, 1 bath, fin. bsmt., Fenced yard w/large deck. \$154,900 908-7534-1667.

**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

### REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

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

**1/2 ACRE BLDG: LOT IN SOMERSET.** \$69,900. Call Susan Kaneps @ Prudential Golden Key, 560-0665, ext. 30.

**Starr Radiator Service**  
 "26 YEARS AT SAME LOCATION"  
 700 Hamilton Blvd. • So. Plainfield  
**561-6263**

Auto • Truck • Industrial Parts & Service • Radiators • Heaters  
 Air Conditioner Service  
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### 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 TEEN AGE BABYSITTERS...**Are you looking for sitting jobs? Would you like to be in a baby-sitting 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

**WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE—**Snowblowers, air conditioners, drums and cymbals. Cash paid in any condition, call Ed at 732-463-3923.

**CHILDREN'S CLOTHES FOR CONSIGNMENT.** Clothes must be clean, pressed and on hangers. 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.

**Classified Deadline for OCTOBER 29 issue is OCTOBER 22.**

## Classified Advertising Works.

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

3 line minimum, \$10.00. \$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.

## WE WANT YOUR NEWS!!

If you have news about South Plainfield people or events, send us a note or give us a call at (732) 469-4380. We would like to include your story in the paper.

## 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, Hampton Ave.
- Details, So. Clinton Ave.
- Freihofers, 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.
- Mohr'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.

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

South Plainfield Observer Advertisers are Listed in Bold Print

## RM Rosary

Custom Handmade Gemstone & Lead Crystal Rosaries

908-769-7735

First Holy Communion • Bead Jewelry • Bridal Party Sets

# Quadruplets

Continued from page 1

Danielle said she was shocked and pleased with the reactions of the parents of last year's class. She received phone calls from many of them as well as donations of clothing and gifts. She was surprised and grateful for the generosity of everyone. Her former students send messages to her via

their teachers. She joked that teachers keep asking her when she is going to have the babies so that the kids will calm down.

The soon to be proud parents have turned their dining room into a temporary nursery with two cribs, one for the boys and one for the girls. When the babies are ready, they will move into the two additional bedrooms in

their home. Danielle said that once they arrive at home she and her husband will need help with the care and feedings. Four babies will be a handful and the Lacasale's welcome anyone who is willing to help out with the babies. At-home-moms, grandmothers and college students are welcome to contact the *Observer* at 732-469-4380 if interested in helping with the Lacasale quadruplets.

The *Observer's* telephone interview with Danielle found her resting and ready for the arrival of the babies right down to their names. The first boy born will be named Joseph Frank the 3rd, for his father and grandfather. Danielle noted that Frank is also her father's name and Joseph is her grandfather's name. The rest of the infants will also be given family names. Anthony Patrick will be named for Danielle's brother, Patrick. Patricia Loretta will be named for Danielle's and Joseph's mothers and Stephanie Theresa will receive her name for Danielle's grandmother, Theresa.

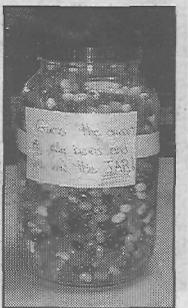
All at Franklin School, especially a number of students now in the third grade are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the infants, as do so many others. In this hurried world, with so much negative news just waiting to become headlines, the *Observer* looks forward to welcoming these four miracles! Watch for an update and photos of South Plainfield's newest residents!

# Mohn's Flowers Jelly Belly Contest Continues

Mohn's Flowers, located on Plainfield Ave., is holding a "Guess the Jelly Belly Beans" in the jar contest.

Georgeann of Mohn's says she hopes a lot of the younger children in town will come in and join in the fun of guessing the number of jelly beans in the jar. She plans to conduct a different contest each month during the next few months. Stop at Mohn's Flowers and put the amount you guess on a piece of paper along with your name, address and telephone number.

The contest will end on Oct. 31 and the winner will receive the Jelly Belly jar delivered to their house.



## Congratulations...

### Cargil's Announce Birth of a Daughter

Mary and Brian Cargill of South Plainfield proudly announce the birth of their daughter, Sara Jordan on Sept. 25. Sara weighed in at 9 lbs. 5 oz. and 21 inches long.

She joins her sister Alexis, 4½; her maternal grandparents, Sebastian and Dorothy Pasquale of Clark and her paternal grandparents, Thomas and Marie Cargill of Roselle.

### Sharon McGrath Receives Master of Arts Degree

Sharon Marie McGrath, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank McGrath of Pawleys Island, SC, was awarded a Master of Arts degree in learning disabilities at Kean University's May com-

mencement. Sharon achieved a 4.0 cumulative average and was inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

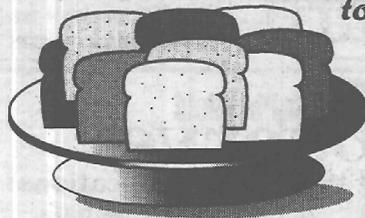
Her undergraduate studies were completed at Seton Hall University in 1991, graduating cum laude with a double major in elementary education and developmental disorders. She was named to the Dean's List and National Dean's list for eight semesters.

Sharon joined the staff at Roosevelt School in South Plainfield in 1991. She has taught fifth grade for the past seven years.

Sharon has been a resident of South Plainfield since 1971. She attended South Plainfield public schools graduating from South Plainfield High School in 1987 where she was a member of the Drama Club, Chorus and served as Captain of the Twirling Squad.

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

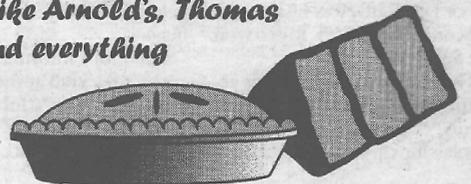
Good bread and fun desserts really add to the quality of everyday life. We're happy to provide you with both - at savings that permit you to enjoy the best often!



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

purchase. Each entitles you to a free item from our shelves.

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



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

Feast your eyes on all the goodies we carry from master-bakers at Freihofers! Pick three, any kind whatsoever, and the lowest price box is your free. Only at Freihofers 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 Freihofers! Pick any three loaves, and the lowest price loaf is your free. Only at Freihofers Outlet in So. Plainfield with this coupon. Limit one free loaf per customer per visit. While supplies last.



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