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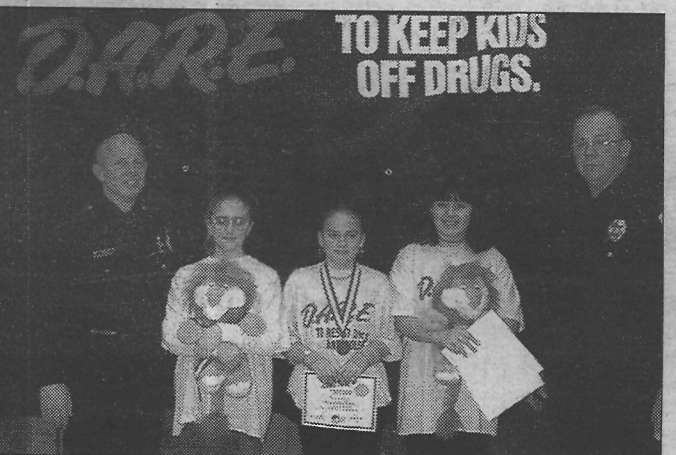
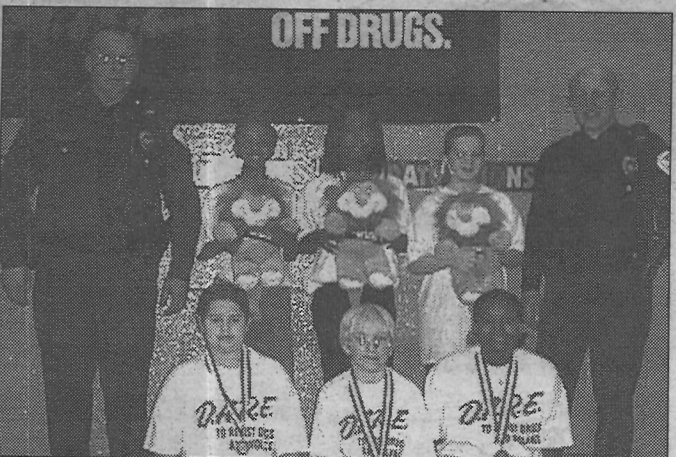
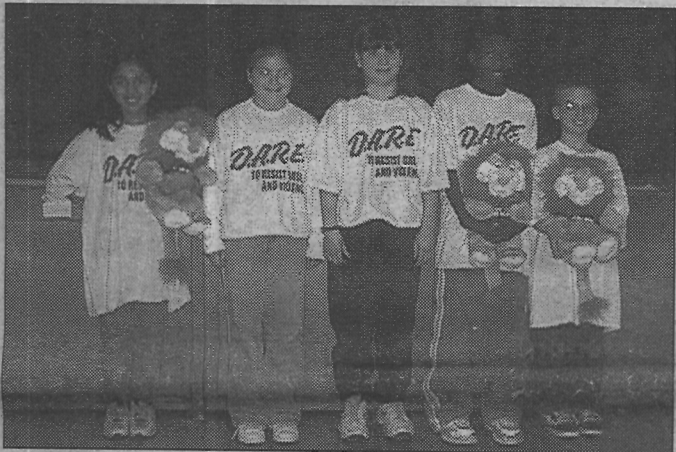
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VOL. 2, NO. 13

50 CENTS

FEBRUARY 5, 1999



Five Elementary Schools Hold D.A.R.E. Graduations

This year, as in past years, the five grade schools held D.A.R.E. graduations. These ceremonies honor students who have completed the 17 week course. Taught by South Plainfield Officers Joe Papa and Allen LaMonda, the DARE program helps students prepare to make the right choices. These students are just entering their teenage years. Next year they will be attending the Middle School.

Each school held a graduation ceremony attended by many dignitaries. Assistant Superintendent of Schools Dr. Lillian DeSimon and Chief Steven Merkler of the South Plainfield Police Department attended each of the five graduations. A member of the Borough Council also attended, as well as parents, relatives and siblings.

At the end of the 17 week course, students are required to submit an essay and a poster. Officer Joe Papa and Allen LaMonda had the dubious honor of judging them and declaring a winner for best essay and poster from each school class. A medal and calculator were presented to the poster winners and a Dare Lion was given to each essay winner. Winners read their essays at the ceremonies and the winning posters were on display. Officer Papa said each year it gets harder to chose a winner, since the posters and essays all have a unique message.

Each speaker at the graduation reiterated the same message: the D.A.R.E. program needs the cooperation of parents as well as teachers. Students must talk to their parents as they face the tough decisions that are part of

growing up. Parents must also remember that the examples they provide, not just with drugs, but with smoking and drinking, will have a lasting effect on their children.

Upon completion of the course, each student receives a D.A.R.E. tee shirt, a hat and a certificate. The tee shirts, hats and awards were donated by the South Plainfield Alliance for Substance Awareness (SPASA).

(Pictured on left, top to bottom) Sacred Heart School essay contest winners are Philip Compos and Paigja Spruill, poster contest winners were Caitlin Monroe and Diane Romano.

Riley School poster and essay winners are from left to right,

Sara Memon, Kathryn Koury, Courtney Esutice, Michael Everett, Brian Kelly. Not pictured is Ashley Britton.

Roosevelt School essay contest winners are Anjelica Brooks, Alyssa Kurilew and Shaunique Cisson; poster contest winners are James Olson, Jacqueline Matchett and Mallory Cooper.

Kennedy School-Nicole Cursiand Natalia Tamzoke won in poster and essay contests, respectively. Rebecca Watts won in both the poster and essay contests.

Franklin School essay contest winners were Jessica Garcia, Brett Morris and Christopher Weakley; poster contest winners were Cynthia Chang, Eric LaFontaine, Shanaye Thomas and Amanda Smalley.

Residents Beware: First Quarter Tax Bills are Due

The South Plainfield Tax Office announced that even though the first quarter tax bills were mailed on Jan. 11, not all residents have received them.

Despite this glitch, all first quarter tax bills are due to be paid by Feb. 19, whether or not residents have received a tax bill in the mail.

Chief Financial Officer Ron Zilinski is instructing residents who have not received their tax bill, to come down to the tax of-

fice and pay to their tax bills. Residents will be given the amount they owe and they will get a receipt for payment.

All tax bills were presented to the South Plainfield Post Office at the same time. Somehow, all them did not reach their destinations. The post office is presently conducting a search for the missing bills.

The tax office hours are Monday through Friday, 8-5.

Borough Notes

Council

■ Three ordinances were introduced during the last council meeting. The first ordinance was to prohibit left turns from Oak Commons Shopping Center at the corner of Park and Oak Tree Avenues onto Park Ave.; the second ordinance was to amend the Zoning Ordinance to require developers of multi-family housing to designate whether the units will be marketed for sale or for rent at the time of development; the third was to create a South Plainfield Health Advisory Board to replace the Board of Health. A public hearing will be held for each ordinance during the Feb. 25 council meeting, prior to their adoption.

■ The Council plans to hold a Public Hearing on Feb. 11, announcing the plans for use of the FY2000 Community Development Block Grant. A public hearing is required by HUD to receive input from residents as to the use

of the funds.

■ Vinnie Buttiligeri reported that he met with the Mayor of Piscataway to discuss the condition of New Brunswick Ave. The road is on the border of South Plainfield and Piscataway and any work that will be done must by a joint venture by both towns.

■ Accept the resignation of Howard Semon from the Land Management Advisory Committee.

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To subscribe, see page 10

Invitational Wrestling Tournament Feb. 13 & 14

The 24th annual South Plainfield Invitational Wrestling Tournament will be held on Feb. 13 and 14 at the High School. This yearly classic attracts wrestlers from around the tri-state area as far away as Danbury, Connecticut and Pennsylvania.

Over 1,200 wrestlers will compete over two days for a shot at becoming a South Plainfield Tournament Champion. Over the years this tournament has earned the reputation of being the toughest and best run tournament in the state. Winning this tournament heading into the state tournament is a big boost for the winners.

In My Opinion

Letters

Dear Editor:

It is very interesting that the only people that are complaining about the prohibit use of backpacks in the Middle School is Patricia Abbott and her son, Christopher. I too was quite shocked over the new rule. It has occurred to me that I was once a Middle School student also. I did not have a backpack. Backpacks were for hikers and campers back then. No one used them in school.

Has Patricia Abbott forgotten those days when we rushed through the halls trying to get to class carrying hordes of books in our arms. If the books fell out of our hands or into the aisles, we picked them up and went on our way.

This generation of children are pampered enough without us as parents helping it along. I am sure the school has enough reasons not to let the children have the backpacks during school hours, whether for health reasons or safety reasons.

My daughter has ADD and has found a solution to the prohibit use of backpacks. She uses a messenger bag which she calls a pocket-book and keeps it on her lap.

Instead of complaining and signing petitions, students should find a solution to their problems. I do agree that the early teen years are the hardest but I cannot think of a more intelligent or creative group of children than the children in our Middle School. I know that they will survive this

small problem.

**VERY TRULY YOURS,
LISA A. SPANH**

To The Editor,

I would like to share with the *Observer* some of what has been happening to me in dealing with the South Plainfield Post Office.

I think this is the worst post office in the state, county or maybe even the world. I know, because I was with the postal service for 30 years in Newark, Rahway and Bayville, NJ. In my experience, I have never seen a post office run like this one.

To start with, one Friday we didn't get any mail. Saturday at 7:30 a.m. we got Friday's mail, then we had a normal mail delivery that same afternoon.

Another time we didn't get mail on a Monday. Monday's mail came with the Tuesday mail delivery. After this happened, I called the post office and asked for the post master. I was told he was not in and was gone for the day. This was 11:30 a.m. I talked to the woman in charge and she explained they were short of help.

In my entire life, I have never seen the mail delivered at 7 or 9 p.m. In the past, our carrier would be here by 2-2:30 p.m. and no later.

Every time I call and ask what was going on, I get a different story. They lie about everything and pass the buck. Today as I am writing you, it's five o'clock and we have no mail.

I have noticed they have also misplaced the *South Plainfield Observer*, not one time, but twice. With all the papers that are sent, how can this happen?

A copy of this letter will be going to the Post Master in Washington, D.C. The people in charge of our post office should be replaced. The local postal workers cannot handle their

routes and an investigation should take place.

The post office is always giving me a hard time. My frustration is near the end. I am mad and want results, not excuses and lies.

Kindly do not use my name or address or I fear I will never get any mail.

**THANK YOU,
NAME WITHHELD**

Dear Editor:

The crosswalk at the post office is in my opinion a disaster waiting to happen. One resident has been struck by a vehicle while using this walkway already. I applaud the effort our Mayor and Council have made to make this area safe. However more must be done. The signs stating the State law make it mandatory for vehicles to stop for residents using the walkway, I feel gives a false sense of security thus setting up an accident to take place. Talk of changes to the curbing and or rumble strips in the pavement in my opinion is a band-aid to solve a major problem. I suggested to one of our Councilmen that a possible solution might be installing a traffic light either overhanging the crossway or short ones on each side between the sidewalk and curb with push buttons to change the signal from blinking yellow to red with enough time for residents to cross the street and then it will return to the blinking yellow mode. The comment from the Councilman led me to believe that the cost of such a solution may be too great. Needless to say I strongly disagree.

How does anyone put a price tag on the safety of our citizens? The post office is one of the few places within our Borough all of us visits on an ongoing basis. I believe it to be monies well spent.

JIM MC NABB



Everyone else is doing it, Why not you? Read the *Observer*

Borough Requests More Time For Response to Zoning Permits

The council will recommend to the governor and NJ Legislature that Bill #936 be amended to allow a 20 business day response time by municipal officials on zoning permit applications.

The original legislation allowed only a five day response time before an application would receive an automatic approval. The Governor conditionally vetoed the bill

suggesting the five-day review period before automatic approval be lengthened to seven days. The council thinks 20 days would be more applicable.

The council's concern is that municipalities like South Plainfield would have to add additional staff to comply with this time period or be faced with automatic approval of an application of zoning permit.

IMPORTANT MEETING DATES

Zoning Board of Adjustment 1999 Meeting Dates

First, third and fifth Tuesday of the month as follows:

February 2, February 16
March 2, March 16, March 30
April 6, April 20
May 4, May 18

Site-Plan Sub-Committee Meeting Dates: Fourth Thursday of the month as follows:

January 28, February 25, March 25, April 22, May 27,

Planning Board 1999 Meeting Dates

Second and fourth Tuesday of the month as follows:

February 9, February 23 May 11, May 25
March 9, March 23 June 8, June 22
April 13, April 27 July 13, July 27

Council Meetings

AGENDA MEETINGS	PUBLIC MEETINGS
Monday, Feb. 8	Thursday, Feb. 11
Monday, Feb. 22	Thursday, Feb. 25
Monday, March 8	Thursday, March 11
Monday, March 22	Thursday, March 25

All meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (NJSA 10:4-6 et seq) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, New Jersey.

Log on to southplainfieldnj.com for the latest meeting agenda.

DEADLINE FOR COPY

We invite you to send in your letter or opinion on subjects pertinent to South Plainfield. If you choose to not have your name published let us know, however, you must provide your name and phone number when submitting a letter.

To have your copy included it must be submitted by Friday, 5 p.m. for publication in the following week's edition.

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NANCY GRENNIER
Publisher/Editor

WAYNE GRENNIER
Associate Publisher

SUSAN KANEPS
Art Director/Associate Editor

PATRICIA ABBOTT
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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in South Plainfield Observer:

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

To Submit Photographs:

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

Recycling Center Closed President's Day

The South Plainfield Recycling Center will be closed on Feb. 12 for Lincoln's Birthday and Feb. 16 for President's Day.

It will instead be open on Saturday, Feb. 13, from 8-3 p.m. and Wednesday, Feb. 17 from 12-7 p.m.

Police Officer Applications

Deadline Extended for Police Officer Applications

The NJ Department of Personnel has extended the deadline for filing applications for the 1999 Law Enforcement Entrance Level Examination until February 26, 1999. Please note that, notwithstanding this change, the requirements for these positions must be met as of the original closing date of January 29, 1999.

The application is published by and must be returned to the N.J. Department of Personnel. Applications may be obtained any time of the day at the South Plainfield Police Department communications center.

RESIDENCY: Must be a resident of South Plainfield as of the closing date for filing the application and maintain continuous residency in South Plainfield up to and including the date of appointment.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS: As listed in the application.

STARTING SALARY: \$32,399.00 (1998)

BENEFITS: A listing of job benefits may be obtained with the application.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES: A brief summary of duties & responsibilities may be obtained with the application.

Any questions please contact Lt. Robert Merkler at (908) 226-7674.

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"Setting the Standards of Excellence"



The Alternative View

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

Dear Dr. DeCosta: My doctor suggested that Estrogen Replacement Therapy is something I should consider as I approach my mid 40's to ward off the symptoms of menopause. Is this wise or is there an alternative approach that I could consider? - S.K.

Dear S. K.

Perhaps the biggest debate today concerning women's health is the question of whether or not to supplement with hormones. Estrogen Replacement Therapy (ERT) is currently prescribed for osteoporosis and to relieve the symptoms of menopause. Some physicians recommend ERT when symptoms are "bothersome" while others use it only when symptoms become "disabling." Caution should be used because estrogen has been attributed to causing breast cancer, stroke, gallbladder disease, liver tumors and enlargement, fluid retention and weight gain, headaches and endometrial cancer and fibroids. Estrogen is not recommended for patients with uterine or breast cancer, a strong family history of breast cancer, obesity, phlebitis, varicose veins, diabetes, hypertension edema, fibroids, or fibrocystic breasts.

In the 1960's, Ayerst (a pharmaceutical company) found an ally in Dr. Robert A. Wilson, Brooklyn, N.Y. to usher their new conjugated estrogen product into the drug market, Premarin, (which, by the way, stands for pregnant mares urine, which is the product's source), which was claimed by Dr. Wilson as indicated to save women from becoming cranky, feeling tired and useless and unfeminine. It made menopause seem to become an illness or disease, rather than just a normal part of a woman's life cycle.

Two hormones are actually involved concerning menopause, estrogen and progesterone. Both hormones are needed by the body, but during menopause and often during premenstruation (PMS), these hormones tend to go out of balance.

Estrogen is responsible for stimulating the development of female secondary sex characteristics including enlargement of the breasts, the molding of the female contour, and maturation of the skeleton.

Progesterone is responsible for the changes in the endometrium in the second half of the menstrual cycle preparatory for implantation, development of the maternal placenta, development of mammary glands, and new bone growth.

However, many health authorities believe our society has become "estrogen dominant," meaning that women and men are making too much estrogen. This estrogen dominance does not allow the body to make the proper levels of progesterone. As a result, estrogen dominance has been linked to many of the conditions listed above.

Causes of estrogen dominance and progesterone deficiency includes premenopause (early ovarian follicle depletion); exposure to xenoestrogens (foreign estrogens found in herbicides and pesticides); birth control pills; hysterectomy, postmenopausal syndrome, (especially in overweight women as fat cells create excess estrogen), and Estrogen Replacement Therapy (ERT).

John Lee, M.D., author of *What Your Doctor May Not Tell You About Menopause*, states that "The Western perception of menopause as a threshold of undesirable symptoms and progressive illness due to estrogen deficiency is an error supported by fact. We should view our menopause problem as an abnormality brought about by industrialized cultures' deviation from a healthy lifestyle."

Jerilynn Prior, M.D., an endocrinology professor at the University of British Columbia, sites that "NO study proving the relationship between estrogen deficiency and menopausal symptoms and related disorders has yet been done." She further states that, "This is as ridiculous as calling headache an aspirin deficiency disease."

Sherrill Sellmann, certified NLP Practitioner, in her book *Hormone Heresy*, explains how women can live healthy, fulfilled and vibrant lives by staying away from synthetic estrogens and concentrating on natural ways of building progesterone. She states, "Progesterone, not estrogen, is the answer to dealing with menopausal symptoms."

Whenever a doctor issues a prescription, we should be informed about the risks associated with that drug. If the risks outweigh the benefits, then it is time to look to a different avenue to help you with your health problem. Relative to ERT, the literature indicates that nearly half of all women in this country are beginning to do just that.

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. Visit *The Alternative View* on the web at www.usalternativemedicine.com.



Councilman Jim Vokral presents Diane Perfit a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the Borough Council for her work on the Environmental Commission and the Highland Avenue Woods Environmental Reserve.

Girl Scouts Take It to the Top for the Cookie Sale

South Plainfield Girl Scouts will be taking orders for Girl Scout cookies starting Jan. 22 through Feb. 7. The annual Girl Scout Cookie Sale is an event that works in two ways. It raises funds for an organization that supports girls with fun, informal learning activities and teaches important life skills such as goal setting and money management.

This year the girls will be "Taking It To The Top" as they work together to reach their troop and council goals for the cookie sale. Proceeds from the cookie sale are used by troops for program activities and by the council to fund services and programs made available throughout the year. There are eight varieties of cookies available including the new Lemon Drops and Reduced Fat Apple Cinnamon.

Send Your Love With a Song

In an effort to meet their \$3,500 fundraising goal, The United Way of South Plainfield wants to serenade your valentine.

For a \$50 United Way donation, a barbershop quartet will visit your valentine at their home or business. They will arrive in tuxedo, croon a love song, and present them with a flower and a gift. See the ad below for further information.

Four members of The United

Way have been brushing up on their vocal skills to form this special group.

Please note that in last weeks *Observer*, the United Way advertisements phone number was incorrect. The number to call for information and reservations is (908) 412-7737.

This is a great way to impress your sweetheart and you will also be supporting the United Way!

Attention Board Members:

Please be advised of the following meeting of the South Plainfield Board of Ed., which will be held in the Board Conference Room, Administration Building on Cromwell Place.

Committee of the Whole Meeting - Tuesday Personnel February 9, 1999 - Action will be taken.

Singing Valentines Be Mine

Send a musical Valentine that will
impress your Sweetheart forever.

(Benefits South Plainfield United Way)



Two songs performed by a barbershop quartet at your location, candy, a flower and a photo for \$50.

Call for your quartet today:
(908) 412-7737, ask for Tracy

Available Friday, February 12 ONLY

To find out
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South Plainfield
Visit our OFFICIAL WEB SITE at
southplainfieldnj.com

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ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS ON OUR WEB PAGE

AROUND TOWN

EVENTS

AARP Chapter 4144 to Hold Meeting

The February meeting of Chapter 4144 will be held on Feb. 19, at the P.A.L. building located on Maple Ave. The Mental Health Association of NJ will present a program designed to bring attention to the many forms of emotional problems which can be helped by their services and how to find help that may be needed.

On March 15, we will be going to the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse Dinner Theater to see the show *Catch Me if You Can*. The cost is \$45, which includes transportation, dinner, show, taxes and gratuities. Please note the date change to March 15, not March 22 as previously reported.

The bus will leave from South Plainfield. For more information, call Lee at (732) 968-6613 or Mary at (732) 752-3764 for reservations.

Elks Ladies Auxiliary Plans Event

The Elks Ladies Auxiliary is planning two events. A fashion show sponsored by Dress Barn and Dress Barn Plus will be held on Feb. 28 from noon to 4 p.m. at the Holiday Inn on Stelton Rd. Tickets are \$25. There will be door prizes and raffles. For more information, call Kris Dziomba 753-0921.

They will also be holding "One Stop Shopping" on March 27 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Elks Lodge located on New Market Ave. Vendors will include Avon,

Pampered Chef, Tupperware, Party Lite and many more. For more information, call Barbara Shuleski 561-1663.

Senior Citizen Luncheon

On Thursday, Feb. 11 a senior citizen luncheon will be held at 1:30 p.m. at the PAL building. Doors will be open at 11:00 a.m. All senior citizens age 60 and over and living in South Plainfield are welcome to attend. Registration is at the PAL building. A \$2 donation is required. Transportation is available. Please call 754-1047 for further information.

Polish Home Plans Breakfast

The Polish Home located on New Market Ave. is sponsoring a breakfast to be held on Sunday, Feb. 7 from 8-12 noon.

The cost is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors, \$3 for children 12 and under. Children under five will be free. Portions of the breakfast will go towards Project Graduation.

A/C Bus Trip to Cesare's Palace

The Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 6763 will sponsor a bus trip to Cesare's Palace A/C on Feb. 21. The bus will leave the post on Front Street at 9 a.m. and return at 7 p.m. The cost is \$20. (\$20 returned at destination.)

For reservations or more information call (908) 668-9751 and ask for Carol or Joan Jepsen.

Polish Home Sponsoring Trip to AC

The Polish National Home is sponsoring a trip to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Feb. 21. The cost is \$15 and \$19, coin return.

The bus leaves the Polish National Home parking lot on New Market Ave. For reservations, call Ann at 561-6551 or Emily at 757-3428.

Sacred Heart Rosary Altar Society to Meet

The Rosary Altar Society will meet on Feb. 8 after the 7 p.m. Mass and Novena in the school cafeteria on Randolph Ave.

The agenda will include a fun time with a "Pound Night" auction. Everyone should bring a wrapped gift to be auctioned off. Each gift should weigh one pound.

Single Parents Group to Meet

If you are looking for a chance to get out and meet with others in your situation, the newly formed Single Parents of Central New Jersey group will meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month starting on Feb. 3 from 7:30-10:30 p.m.

For information, call Sandra 732-283-1250 or email snglprntnj@aol.com.

To be included in **Events Around Town**, submit your information to the Observer at 530 Union Ave. Suite 3, Middlesex, NJ 08846 or fax information to 732 805-0815.

MILESTONES

Births

Scott Daniel O'Brien

Joan and Mark O'Brien announce the birth of a bouncing baby boy, Scott Daniel. Born on Jan. 19 at 4:31 p.m., Scott weighed 9 pounds, 5 ounces and was 20 3/4 inches long.

The proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Donald O'Brien of South Plainfield and Dolores and Jim Fallon.



Elizabeth Ann Mason

Robert and Susan Mason are the proud parents of a baby girl, Elizabeth Ann Mason. Born on Dec. 30 at 2:09 p.m., she weighed 9 pounds, 11 3/4 ounces and was 21 3/4 inches long.

The proud grandparents are Elizabeth Gardiner of Edison and Robert Mason of Bradenton, Fla. and Mr. and Mrs. Donald O'Brien of South Plainfield.



Retirement

High School Teacher Robert Saul Retires

Robert Saul, who taught mathematics and science for 32 years in the high school since 1967, recently retired.

A party was given in his honor at Flanagan's. Twenty-five of his colleagues attended the retirement festivities.

When asked what he was going to do now, he answered that his fishing gear is all oiled up and ready to go. Robert's wife, Linda, is on the staff of the Middle School.



Robert and Linda Saul

Photo by William Tuhill

Do you know of a birth, marriage, promotion, etc? Send your information, along with a photo (if available), to So. Plainfield **Observer**, 530 Union Ave., Suite 3, Middlesex, NJ 08846 and we will publish it in **Milestones**. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you would like your photos returned.

February 1999

MEETINGS & EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Copy Deadline: Friday, 5 pm Advertising Deadline: Monday, 5 pm	1 Recreation Comm. Meeting 7 p.m. PAL	2 Board of Adjustment 8 pm	3 Business Advisory Group 5:30 pm Court 9:30 am	4 Taxpayers Advisory Group 7 pm	5 Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	6
7 Breakfast—Polish Home 8-12 noon	8 Borough Council Agenda Meeting 8 pm	9 Historical Society HS Library 7:30 pm Planning Board Meeting 8 pm	10 Environmental Comm. 8 pm Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	11 Senior Luncheon PAL 1:30 p.m. Borough Council Meeting 8 pm	12 Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	13
14	15 Land Management Advisory Committee 7:30 pm	16 Board of Adjustment 8 pm	17 Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	18	19 AARP Chapter 4144 Meeting Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	20
21	22 Borough Council Agenda Meeting 8 pm	23 Friends of the Library 7:30 pm Recycling Comm. 8 pm Planning Board 8 pm	24 Traffic Safety Advisory Comm. 7 pm Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	25 Borough Council Meeting 8 pm	26 Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	27
28 Elks Fashion Show at Holiday Inn, Noon-4	MARCH 1 Recreation Comm. Meeting 7 p.m. PAL	2 Board of Adjustment 8 pm	3 Business Advisory Group 5:30 pm Court 9:30 am	4 Taxpayers Advisory Group 7 pm	5 Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	6

Want to know what's going on in South Plainfield? Get home delivery of The Observer. Subscribe below.

IN OUR SCHOOLS

Franklin School Takes KJ Challenge

Friday, January 29th marked the end of Franklin School's Kindness and Justice Challenge. In its second year, the event is part of the national celebration of the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Thousands of schools and millions of young people all across the country seek to perform acts of kindness and justice toward friends, families and neighbors in the two week period following King Day. During the first year over 14,000 classrooms participated in the KJ Challenge. The website received over 3 million visits during that time. The friendly competition encourages students to keep track of their acts of kindness and to share and reflect on what they did with the rest of the class. There are a number of categories in the KJ Challenge. Each day a different aspect is discussed. At Franklin day one featured kindness and justice, day 2-caring and com-



Franklin School closes out the Kindness and Justice Challenge with a celebration.

passion, day 3-fairness and respect, day 4-honesty, day 5-non-violence, day 6 responsibility, day 7-service to the community, day 8-moral courage and day 9- the celebration.

Franklin School 4th grade concluded their two week K and J Challenge with a play presented to the combined 4th grades by Mrs. Marcus' 4th grade reading class. The group presented *Rosa Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott*. Mike Nguyen portrayed Rosa Parks. The rest of the cast included Irvin Arego, Harrison Donohue, Robert Gentile, Amanda Makowski,

Kim Marin, Tianna Ward and Sarah Brooks (Absent).

Immediately following the production the entire school gathered in the gym. Each grade had something special to contribute to the assembly. The awe-inspiring assembly ended with the entire school singing. One diverse group—all ages, races, nationalities united as they proudly sang *We Are The World*. Refrains from the song continued after the music ended much as the lessons learned will continue long after the school day has ended.

Riley School Escapes Winter At a Beach Party Night

By Patricia Abbott

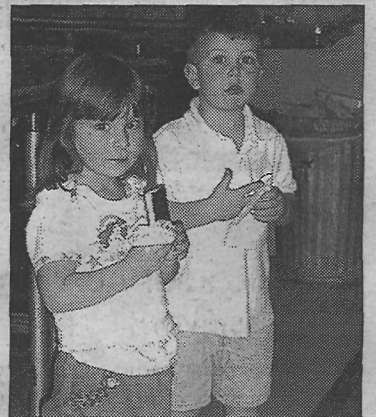
Beach Party Night at Riley School provided students and parents alike with a welcome break from the typical New Jersey winter. Shorts and bathing suits prevailed, as well as beach chairs and towels that outlined the gym. The event was a family fun night meant to provide relief from the winter doldrums. Hot dogs were the main course (of course!) followed by soda and chips. The perimeter of the gym was filled with parents in lawn chairs or on towels attempting to relax but more than likely being pulled into an activity.

The evening was loosely structured allowing the children to have fun just having 'fun'. Jump ropes, basketballs and hula hoops prevailed until the relay races and obstacle courses began. The evening ended with ice cream for everyone and memories of June and the carefree days of summer — A promise of days to come!

The evening ended with ice cream for all! (right)



Hot dogs and more hot dogs!



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reconnect....
.... LONELY 4U



Format B:

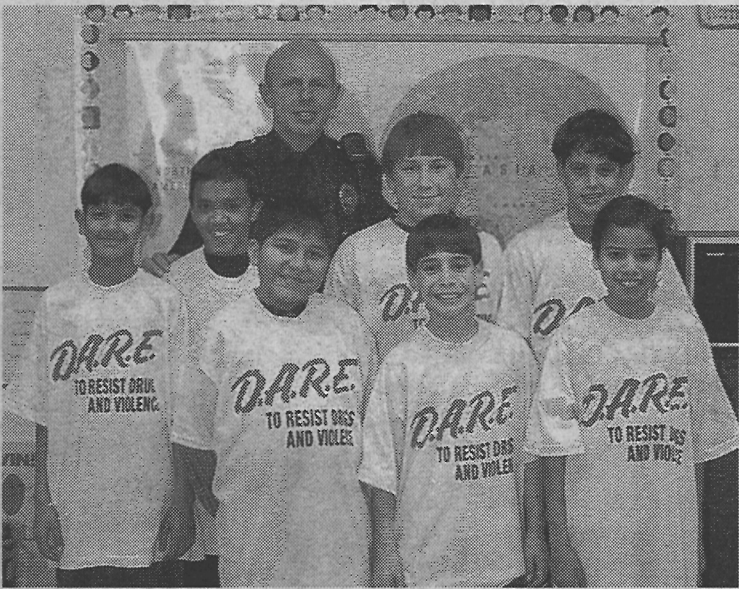
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on Dec.31 near the
gazebo and I can't
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DARE GRADUATIONS



Franklin School

Mr. Orfan's Class—
Hameda Ahmed, Nicholas Barone, Terrence Brown, William Daly, Samantha Deffler, Jessica Garcia, Keith Goddard, Toni Maiorino, Alexander Nau, Tony Nguyen, Matthew Perrette, Eric Reiner, James Riddles, Denise Scavone, Amanda Smalley, Logan Stagnitto, Alison Teal, Lee Tetreault, Ashley Welch, Edward Wilkinson and Carla Zappi.



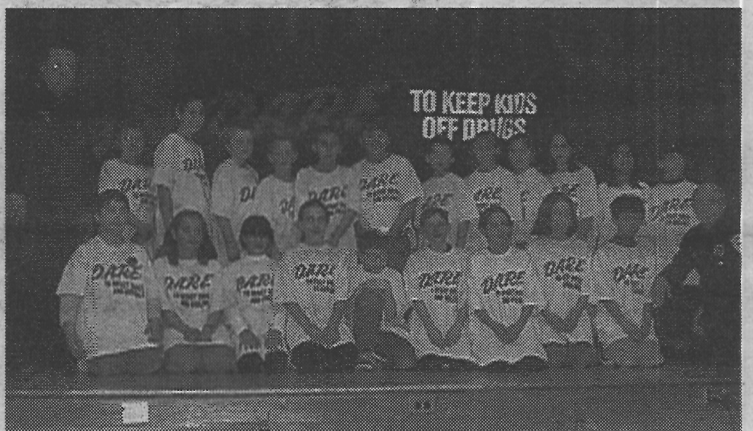
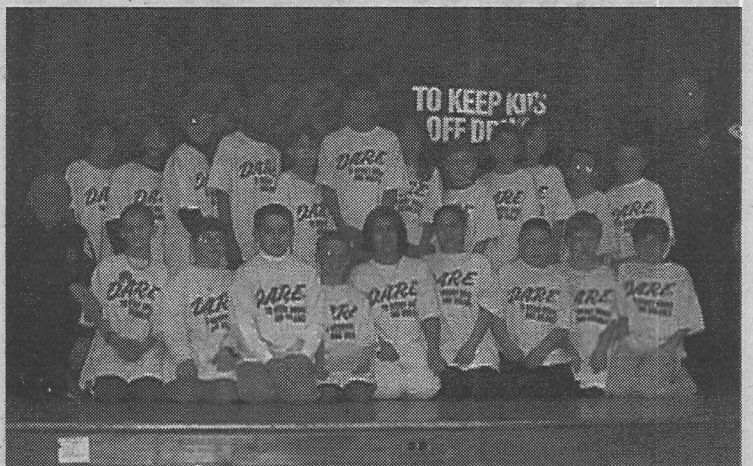
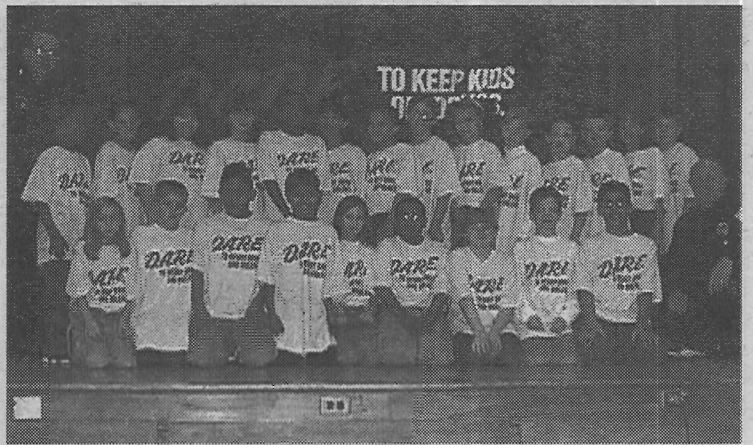
Mrs. Donahue's Class —
Gabriel Avalos, Frank Bechtle, Cynthia Chang, Jenny Cheng, Angelica Cirilli, Therese D'Adezzio, Azubuike Ejiochi, Francisco Farfan, Matthew Fladger, Jacob Levine, Rebekah Moore, Brett Morris, Christopher Nani, Jacqueline Ortega, Anthony Romano, Gary Smith, Ryan Smith, Bryan Wagner and Nadine Yon.



Mrs. Rogers' Class—
Debarius Alford, Gaelle Amazan, Troy Benson, Eileen Cameron, Vanessa Cassano, Francisco DeLaCruz, Kathryn Fasolo, Richard Galdamez, David Hackett, Beverly Jamieson, Carlie Kazimir, Justin Kelly, Michael Madalone, Jonathan Peppers, Kevin Siedenburgh, Denard Smith, Steven Tangorra, Shanaye Thomas, Christopher Weakley and Matthew Whitsitt.



Mrs. Stemmle and Mrs. D'Amico's Class—Alex Bisnauth, Mario Camino, Edwin Cruz, Eric LaFontaine, Joseph Pope, Amos Ramagado and Ruben Sanchez.



Riley School

Mrs. Elster's Class —
Brandon Alpert, Andrew Brown, Dana Chepulis, Matthew Coffey, James Conroy, Charles George, Ingrid Guardado, Stephen Holowka, Guiliana Kay, Kathryn Koury, Klye Lendach, Kaitlin Mackenzie, Saira Memon, Eric Occhipinti, Jena Rahmini, Lauren Santillo, Lacey Santone, Jeffrey Seesselberg, Steven Tietjen, Mark Warness, Stefanie Wiekowski and Matthew Zebrowski.

Koudriavtsev, Nicholas Kratz, Charlie Leon, Samuel Mootoo, Brittany Patrusевич, Roger Rodriguez, Andrew Roibal, Peter Schirripa, Michael Sivo, Melissa Szeliga, Ryan Taylor and Megan Wilson.

Mrs. Gaffney's Class —
James Botes, Autumn Boryeske, Alison Casey, Courtney Eustice, Michael Everett, Jane Gomez, Jeanette Gorman, Zachary Gray, Rose Marie Helmer, Jonathan Jarema, Leah Konops, Victor

Mrs. Mariani's Class—
Gabriel Acosta, Ashley Britton, Heather Chillemi, Kristen Dabrio, Brittny Dostal, Maurice Everett, Scott Hartje, Brian Kelly, Denise Lopez, Bryan Milicia, Michael Mocerino, Lihn Nguyen, Jeffrey Pham, Michael Piazza, Anthony Sheedy, Chelsea Smith, Laurie Sobel, Joseph Stasio, Jocelyn Thompson, Stephanie Troia, Francis Vedutis and John Weiser.

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Very Rev. Michael A.
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Mass Schedule:

Saturday Evening Mass 5:45 p.m.

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

Weekdays 9:00 a.m. (church)

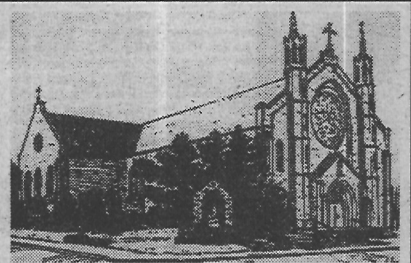
Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.

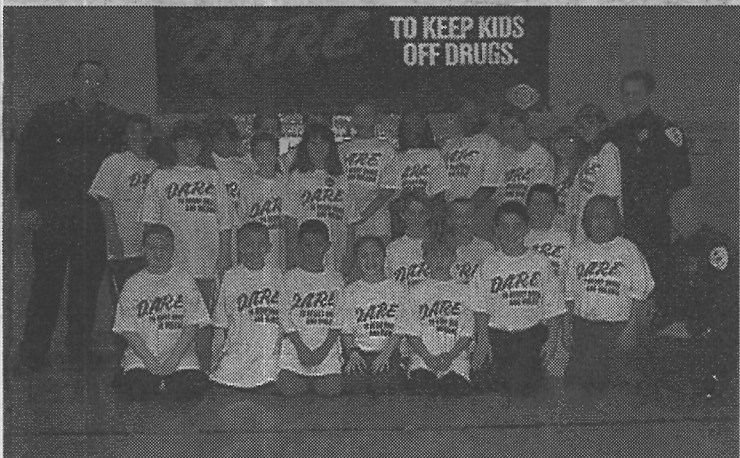
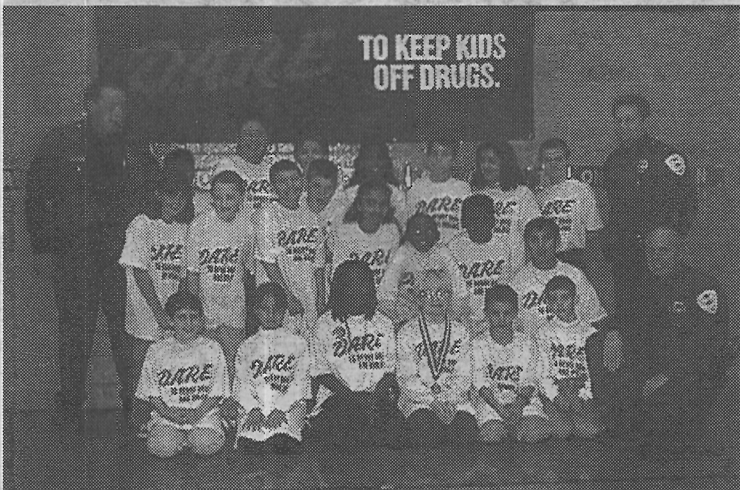
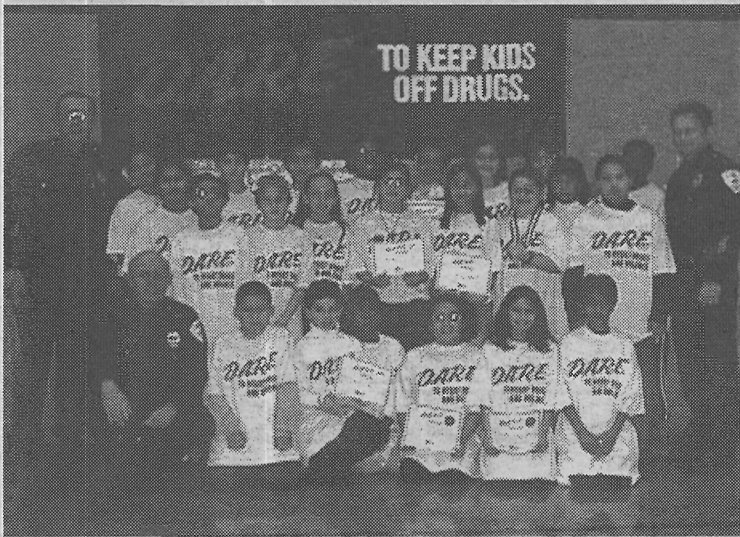
Holy Days 7 p.m. (Vigil); 7, 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 11 a.m.- 12 noon, 5:15 -5:45 p.m.

and after 5:45 p.m. Vigil Mass





Roosevelt School

Mrs. Allen's Class—

Anjelica Brooks, Jennifer Chiang, Mallory Cooper, Amanda Deba, Katherine Diaz, Dan Zalinsky, Clara Eskander, Christian Francia, Gabrielle Franco, Dunia Galarza, Aisha (Monique) Gray, Justin Huffsmith, Ramit Kalia, Cassie Krajick, Ryan O'Shea, Harshel Patel, Richard Patishnock, Ashley Rivera, Kelston Sabroach, Nicole Sacci, Jessica Schwartz and Divya Sindha.

Mrs. Frederickson's Class—

Thomas Burnett, Matthew D'Alessandro, Nicholas, DeCillis, Joseph DeFalco, Joseph DeNit-zio, Ryan Driscoll, Sandia Dundi, Anthony Fierro, Kirsten Gualano, Jonathan Guirguis, Lindsay

Hunsicker, Alyssa Kurilew, Ariana Makoski, Jacqueline Matchett, Shawn McCarthy, Alicia Montanaro, Anthony Petriello, Andrew Pinto, Kaitlyn Pollock, Thorne Ramirez, Gina Severini, Devanee Sewdat, Heather Thompson and Lea Visaggio.

Miss McGrath's Class —

Aliuska Borrero, Shaunique Cisson, Jeffrey Cupo, Sandya Dowlat, Jay Dowlat, Nicholas Fierro, Julianne Hudak, Shivani Itwaru, Victoria Kedmenec, Cheryl Kotelsky, Walter Menna, Maria Naylor, Anthony Niemczyk, James Olson, Kelly Orlandini, Jeffrey Osley, Thomas Pedersen, Larnardo Pittman, Harmeet Puar, Michael Schuetz, Brian Spisso and Gregory Yefko.

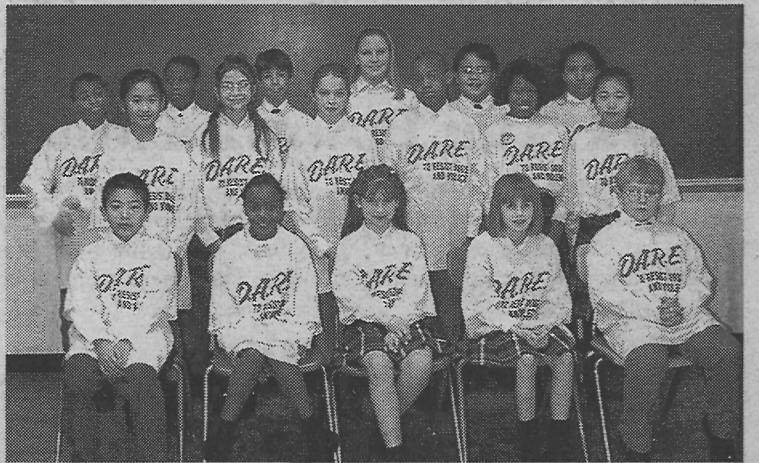
Sacred Heart School

Ms. Pryors' Class —

William Boturla, Joseph Chmielewski, Michael Clore, La Kerra Culver, Melody Feliciano, Brittany Frazer, Juliet Fryszczyn, Roseller Lapitan, Keisha Mapp, William McCall, Jr. Genna Pinto, Jeffrey Pierek-Page, Adam Pruss, Diane Romano, Lauren Sprott, Paigja Spruill, Stephen Vitello and Shanell Worrell.

Ms. Seltams' Class—

Kristin Barko, Khalid Bethea-Hudson, Kendall Brown, Philip Campos, Joseph Cem, Robert Didario, Julia Daugherty, Robyn Douglas, Samantha Moctezuma, Caitlin Monroe, Cristina Padilla, Marian Pho, Michael Ray, Daniel Russo, Brandon Simmons, Amanda Vienott, Jamie Williams and Jennifer Yeung.



Kennedy School

Mr. Montemuro's Class—

Nicole Aiello, Courtney Alston, Jason Alves, Alysa Babinetz, Daniel Bayak, Kristen Boyle, Joel Cortese, Nicole Cortese, Kevin Crilley, Nicole Cursi, Keith Dezmin, Daniel Erhardt, Zachariah Famula, Breanne Fore, Vincent Genova, Jonathan Lazar, Jennifer Olson, Nazreen Rushianally, Ravin Shivraj, Alexandra Stath, Robert Strani, Natalia Tamzoke and Morgan Walter.

Mr. Miller's Class —

Darice Bishop, Ashley Bodner, Michael Braco, Louis Caruso, Preet Dhal-iwal, Cassandra Elkasim, Kevin Graham, Brian Guevara, Michael Hanley, Richard Ianuale, Matthew Jeglinski, Stephen Lindgren, Lindsay Liacono, Kristina Mascolo, Kaitlyn Negron, Heather Palitto, Amber Pornovets, Scott Rann, Courtney Sacco, Brian Shulte, Amanda Smith, Rebecca Watts, Keith Winnsman and Jonathan Wiseman.



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BRIAN COCHRANE

SPORTS

High School Wrestling

Tiger Wrestlers Take Pair at Home

Last Friday night the Tiger wrestlers came home to face a tough Piscataway, a team that had only two losses on their record. Key pins by Roberto Ramos (112), Billy Wilson (119), David Stoeckel (125), Chris Francis (171), Danny Kunst (215), along with Colin Hunters night ender 24 seconds into the second period, helped the Tigers go on to

a 47-24 victory.

The following night Elizabeth came to town and they were brutally dispatched 62-12. South Plainfield won all but three matches and ALL of those wins were either pins, majors or technical falls. The one drawback of the night saw our own Colin Hunter lose his first match 3-1 to a tough Ismael Medley of

Elizabeth. The Tigers concluded the regular season undefeated and should enter the GMC tournament with the number one seed. The tournament begins this weekend in Piscataway. Friday starts with preliminaries at 7 p.m. Quarter finals and wrestle backs start Saturday at 10 a.m., semi-finals and wrestle backs are at 1 p.m., consolation at 4 p.m. and finals at 6 p.m.

Tigers Basketball

Boys Stun Powerful Middlesex

The South Plainfield boys basketball team went looking for revenge last Wednesday and got it by defeating a powerful Middle-

sex team 69-59. In one of the more exciting home games the boys have played this year, Dominique Pender once again led

the team in scoring with 22 on the strength of four 3 pointers.

The first half saw the Tigers totally dominate a Middlesex (9-3) squad that had previously handed South Plainfield a one point loss back in December and a team that is also going to be one of the upper seeds come tournament time. Coming out of the locker room with a 19 point lead, the Tigers cooled a bit as Middlesex furiously fought their way back but could only come within ten points. Vernon Sheppard stepped up on this night and scored a season high 13 in the victory.

The Tigers next traveled to Spotswood last Friday seeking redemption from an earlier six point defeat and came away with a 60-52 victory. Dominique Penders team high 21, coupled with Clint Robinsons 10 and Adam Gerbs three 3-pointers handed South Plainfield their third win in a row. The road trip continues on to Metuchen on Feb. 2, Monroe on the 4th, and a Saturday matinee against first place Highland Park tomorrow.

Greater Middlesex Conference Standings

Boys BB (blue division)

Highland Park	10-0	(8-0)
New Brunswick	5-7	(5-2)
Middlesex	9-3	(7-3)
Carteret	9-3	(7-3)
Spotswood	8-5	(5-4)
South Plainfield	5-8	(4-7)
J.F. Kennedy	2-10	(2-7)
Metuchen	3-11	(2-9)
South River	2-13	(1-10)

Girls BB (white div.)

Bishop Ahr	11-2	(9-0)
South Plainfield	8-2	(5-2)
North Brunswick	5-7	(5-2)
Monroe	9-4	(4-3)
Perth Amboy	6-8	(3-5)
Colonial	3-10	(2-7)
Sayerville	1-12	(0-8)

Wrestling (red division)

South Plainfield	8-0	(5-0)
Old Bridge	10-1	(4-1)
Piscataway	5-3	(3-2)
Edison	4-3	(2-3)
J.P. Stevens	5-4	(2-3)
East Brunswick	2-5	(1-3)
Woodbridge	3-5	(1-5)

Recreation Basketball

Submitted by South Plainfield Recreation

The South Plainfield Recreation Youth Basketball Program consists of 50 teams — 420 girls and boys ages seven to 14 years. Games are played at the Middle School and the PAL.

A LEAGUE STANDINGS

AGES 13-14		
So. Carolina	7	0
Tennessee	5	2
Texas	5	2
Georgia	5	3
Maryland	4	3
L.S.U.	3	4
North Carolina	2	5
Kentucky	1	6
Florida	0	7

A LEAGUE RESULTS-JAN. 30

Georgia 31
South Carolina 45
High scorers—Georgia: Phil DeRosa-16, Kelly Eustice-7 and Mike Wiczorek-6; SC: Mike Allocco-20, Joe Dezmin-6, Chris Addvensky-6, Victor Essien-6 and Steve Janiszak-4.
Texas 36
Tennessee 39
High scorers—Texas: Justin Toth-12, Francisco Guevara-8, Jerome Mason-7 and John Rayho-6; Tennessee: Jonathan Frederick-14, Marcellus Abrams-11, Christine Strani-8 and Ryan Mack-4.
Florida 41
Kentucky 43
High scorers—Florida: Melissa Scotto-16, Jessica Irber-14, Jay Pacifico-5 and Amit Kalie-4; Kentucky: Joe Smalley-13, Steven Sobel-10, Sean Keane-8, Juan Aguliar-7.
L.S.U. 40
North Carolina 32
High scorers—LSU: Matt Wells-11, James Ales-6, Mike Espin-6, Matt Grego-6 and Chris Baron-4; North Carolina: Mike Jaghab-22, Tom Haus-4 and John Buggy-4.
Maryland: Bye

B LEAGUE STANDINGS

AGE 11-12		
Illinois	8	0
Michigan	7	0
Ohio State	6	2
Kansas	5	3
Notre Dame	4	3
Pittsburgh	4	3
Arizona	4	3
Syracuse	3	4
Georgetown	3	4
Rutgers	2	6
U.C.L.A.	1	6
Seton Hall	1	7
Kentucky	0	7

B LEAGUE RESULTS-JAN. 30

Illinois 54
Kentucky 18
High scorers—Illinois: Ankit Patel-23, Andre Scott-15, Daniel Arndt-12 and Caitlin English-4; Kentucky: Jason Ortiz-12.
Ohio State 35
Pittsburgh 34
High scorers—Ohio State: Mike Downes-20, James Charneco-7 and Phu Huynh-4; Pittsburgh: Chris McKnight 11, Chris Horn-11 and Mike Salerno-9.
Kansas 36
U.C.L.A. 22
High scorers—Kansas: Vincent Velez-13, William Merkle-10, Eddie Kania-7 and Joe Jaghab-6; UCLA: Chris Czaplinski-12 and Allen Mazurak-5.
Arizona 49
Seton Hall 30
High scorers—Arizona: Brian Acin-22; Ryan Decker-16 and Danny Sierzega-5; Seton Hall: Andrew Miller-12, Daniel LaVerne-8, Erick Vesper-4, Chris Moore-4.
Michigan 37
Rutgers 18
High scorers—Michigan: Chris Bakazan-11, David Acevedo-10, Nick Jeffreys-8 and David Miglis-4; Rutgers: Brian Cantor-11, Jeffery Pollin-6.
Notre Dame 24
Syracuse 19
High scorers—Notre Dame: Mike Hanley-6, Amanda Fugate-6, Eileen Milcarek-6 and Galen Johnson-4; Syracuse: Andrew Cupid-11 and Greg Garbowski-4.
Syracuse: Bye

C LEAGUE STANDINGS

AGE 9-10		
Kings	7	1
Grizzlies	7	1
Warriors	6	2
Mavricks	5	3
Spurs	5	3
Nuggets	5	3

Rockets	5	3
Trail Blazers	4	4
Cavaliers	4	4
Suns	3	5
Hawks	3	5
Wizards	1	7
Bucks	1	7
Supersonics	0	8

C LEAGUE RESULTS-JAN. 30

Mavricks 18
Rockets 20
High scorers—Mavricks: Mike Piazza-22, Jonathan Guirguie-6; Rockets: Zachary Gray-27 and Harshel Patel-6.
Warriors 13
Grizzlies 18
High scorers—Warriors: Chris Pollin-5, Joey Turris-4 and Bill Daly-4; Grizzlies: Kyle Lendach-12 and Steve Dvorak-4.
Bucks 15
Wizards 14
High scorers—Bucks: Keith Dezmin-12; Wizards: Zack Famula-8, Tim Williams-4.
Cavaliers 30
Nuggets 15
High scorers—Cavaliers: A.J. Romano-8, Robert Strani-8, Brian Wiczowski-6; Nuggets: Kevin Siedenburg-8, Carlie Kazimir-4.
Suns 15
Spurs 33
High scorers—Suns: Tommy Smith-9 and Anthony Petriello-4; Spurs: Ryan Curtis-8, Joe DeFalco-7, Mat Jeglinski-6, Justin Basillone-6 and Justin Kelly-4.
Hawks 18
Supersonics 14
High scorers—Hawks: Jonathan O'Connor-6, Nicole Cortese-4 and Joey DeNizio-4; Supersonics: Scott Hartje-6.

Kings 28
Trail Blazers 22
High scorers—Kings: Dan McCreesh-4, Tim Kean-4, Charlie George-4 and Mike Stallone-4; Trail Blazers: Nick Giannakis-4 and Matt Fabino-4.

D LEAGUE STANDINGS

AGE 7-8		
Raptors	8	0
Bulls	6	2
Knicks	5	3
Nets	5	3
Celtics	5	3
Clippers	4	3
Jazz	4	4
Magic	4	4
Pistons	3	4
Timber Wolfs	3	5
76ers	3	5
Hornets	2	6
Heat	2	6
Lakers	1	7

D LEAGUE RESULTS-JAN. 30

Clippers 26
Timberwolves 19
High scorers—Clippers: Brian Fabino-12, Ryan Bunting-6, Andy Ohriska-4 and Peter Adorna-4; Timberwolves: Vinnie Padula-8, Justin Cantor-5 and Nick Levandowski-4.
Raptors 34
Lakers 12
High scorers—Raptors: Kevin Reviello-4, Dan Espin-12, Blaire Houston-8, Robbie Hoffman-4 and Jimmy Cox-4; Lakers: Brendan O'Shea-7 and Sohan Gupte-4.
76ers 27
Pistons 34
High scorers—76ers: Mike Muglia-16, Jonathan Marcoux-5 and Jeff Paqden-solan-4; Pistons: David Alston-18, Erick Paley-8 and Steve Wiczorek-6.
Hornets 17
Bulls 44
High scorers—Hornets: Jall Williams-8 and Jose Cameco-4; Bulls: Grey Coppi-14, Scott McDede-10, Greg Watts-10, Scott Barton-9.
Magic 10
Jazz 12
High scorers—Magic: Keith Heckel-6; Jazz: Matthew Seider-10.
Heat 7
Celtics 8
High scorers—Heat: Troy Russell-4; Celtics: Kyle Darr-4.
Knicks 16
Nets 12
High scorers—Knicks: Brian Hanley-10, Tim Durnak-4; Nets: Bobbie Harrington-9.

Youth Bowling

As of Jan. 23

NAME	WON	LOST	PCT
1. STRIKE FORCE	95.0	31.0	.753
2. ASRENELINE RUSH	82.0	44.0	.650
3. WHOPPERS	81.0	45.0	.642
4. STRIKERS	74.0	52.0	.587
5. SLAMMERS	73.0	53.0	.579
6. BULL DOGS	72.0	24.0	.750
7. THE MONKEYS	67.0	52.0	.563
8. DUMONT BOMBERS	59.0	39.0	.602
9. WOLF PAC	51.0	66.0	.435
10. I DON'T KNOW	47.0	75.0	.385
11. THE BEACH BUMS	45.0	58.0	.466
12. SUBS	00.0	00.0	.000

IND. BOYS HIGH GAME SCRATCH

Matthew Boley	200
Jon Jeglinski	146
Pat Cantarella	144

IND. BOYS HIGH GAME HANDICAP

Tim McGovern	248
Kevin Ciampi	230
Shawn Ferguson	222

IND. GIRLS HIGH GAME HANDICAP

Mallory Cooper	218
Melanie Foscolo	218



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Recreation Wrestling

Tigers Beat Bridgewater & Middlesex

Tigers Knock Off Middlesex

By Bob Hunter

The South Plainfield Recreation Wrestling Team posted their eighth win of the season with their only early season loss to North Hunterdon this past weekend.

The Tigers faced league rival Middlesex in a showdown that could decide the league championship. The underdog Tigers in this match surprised Middlesex with a 36-33 victory.

Robert Gentile, 50 pounds, wasted little time with a quick takedown. He went on to dominate Joe Iannetti winning a major decision 13-0. In the 53 pound match, Patrick Hunter lost a close 5-4 decision to Mike Norgard. Nick Valone, 57 pounds, fought off early trouble before losing a 5-1 decision. Jimmy Conroy, 60 pounds, got the lead back for the Tigers when he scored a major decision over Anthony Natoli 10-0. Billy Ashnault followed with a 7-0 decision over Jason Dispenzire. In the 67 pound match Danny Bayak took his man to a scoreless third period before he got an escape and the takedown over Billy Hall for the 3-0 victory. Billy Padula 70 pounds took early control of the match and never looked back winning a 10-1 major decision over Nick Ellery. Nick Dorey lost a tough one at 73 pounds but the

Peter DeAndrea got a forfeit in the 77 pound weight class to extend the lead by twelve. Middlesex then forfeited the 80 pound match with Sam Martin picking up the win. Middlesex then came roaring back with falls in the 85 pound 90 pound and 95 pound weight classes, to tie the score at 30 all. Kevin Crilley got the early takedown in the 102 pound match and went on to win a 2-0 decision over Kyle Morrison. After a scoreless first period, Rob Maistickle scored a reversal

and then near fall points, before winning a 6-3 decision over John Caruso to give the Tigers a 36-30 lead going into the heavyweight match.

Rocco Petriello only had to avoid getting pinned to preserve the Tiger victory and he did just that. Petriello fought off his back in the third period to give the Tigers the biggest upset win of the year. Also wrestling for the Tigers were Frank Stefanelli, Brad Martin and Greg Yefko.

Tigers Rough Up Bridgewater

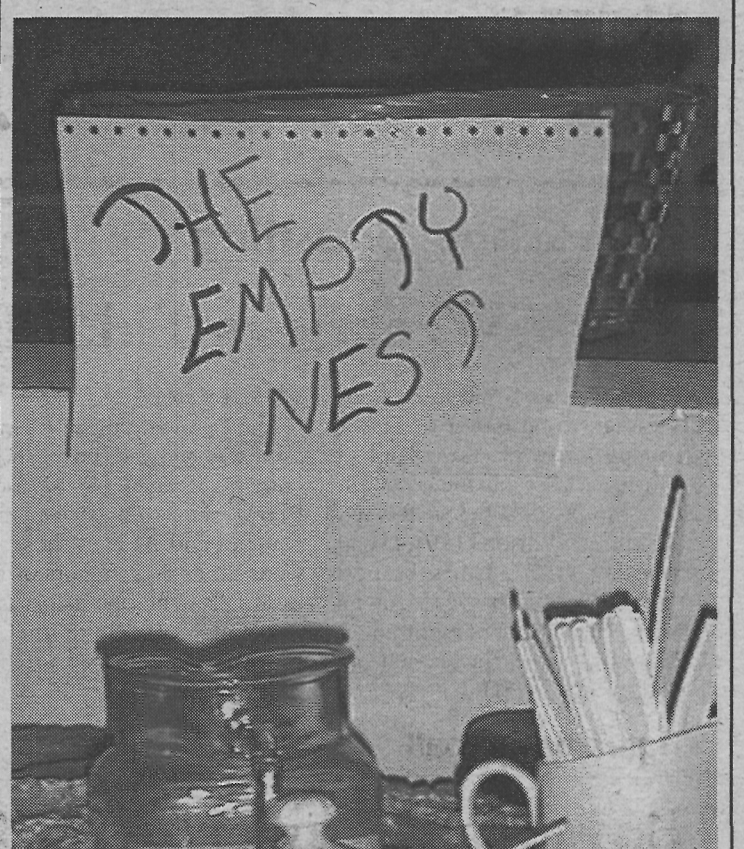
In the second match of the day, the Tigers faced a young Bridgewater team. Robert Gentile 50 pounds got the ball rolling with a fall over Jack Horvath at 0:27. At 53 pounds Patrick Hunter continued the assault with a fall over Joe Barbee at the 0:47 mark. Jimmy Conroy followed with a fall over Joey Knolmarter in the 60 pound match. Billy Ashnault followed with a fall over Dom Delcristo at the 2:56 mark in the 63 pound match. Billy Padula, 70 pounds, took early control over Dave Pellechio before scoring the fall at 1:56. In the 77 pound match, Peter DeAndrea wasted no time taking an early 5-0 lead, before winning by major decision 9-0 over Mike Deliss. Sam Martin, wrestling

at 80 pounds, scored the fall over Tom Hall at the 0:47 mark.

In the 85 pound match Brad Martin came back from being down 6-1 to take a 8-6 decision over John Cahill. Frank Stefanelli, 90 pounds followed with a 12-0 major decision over Drew Ives. Kevin Crilley won the 102 pound match with a fall over John Malesky at the 1:24 mark to give the Tigers a 53-27 win.

Also wrestling for the Tigers were Nick Valone, Bryan Hunt, Nick Dorey, Greg Yefko, Rob Maistickle and Rocco Petriello.

The South Plainfield Recreation Wrestling Team would like to thank Nancy and the *Observer* staff for making the *Observer* the official home of all Tiger wrestling news.



The Coffeehouse at the First Baptist Church awaits the return of the chicken.

Little Shop of Horrors Auditions to be Held

South Plainfield High School is 25 years old. The first classes here held in September of 1974. Among those classes was the theater arts class. The new stage and state of the art auditorium thrilled the acting students. The stage has seen many performances over the years. This year's spring musical, *Little Shop of Horrors* will celebrate those 25 years with an unusual twist. SPHS alumni are being invited to audition for the chorus of *Little Shop*.

The audition date is Feb. 16, 7-9 p.m. in the school's auditorium. Performance dates are May 6, 7 and

8. Directing the show is Shayne Miller who staged last year's hit, *Godspell*, and the Summer Drama Workshop's *Guys & Dolls*. Mr. Tracy Murray is vocal director, Bruce Mikulen is band director and Debra Bango is choreographer.

Director Shayne Miller is excited about this opportunity to bring alumni to the SPHS stage. He said that rehearsals for the alumni will be minimal. Here's a chance to relive those high school days. Whether you are an experienced performer or new to the stage, Shayne promises a good time will be had by all.

Tiger Wrestlers Qualify For State Tournament

Conroy, Crilley Win Qualifying Tournament

By Bob Hunter

Six South Plainfield Recreation wrestlers qualified for the upcoming Kids NJ State Wrestling Tournament which will be held in March. Nine Recreation wrestlers traveled to Voorhees Twp. in South Jersey for this early qualifying tournament. Six Recreation wrestlers placed in the top three and will move on to the state tournament.

Jimmy Conroy claimed his title in the midget 60 pound weigh class with a 14-3 major decision over A.J. Hrabar of Piscataway in the semi-final round and won a close 5-4 decision in the finals.

Kevin Crilley won his title in the 100 pound weight class with a fall in the semi-final round and a tech fall by 17-0 in the finals.

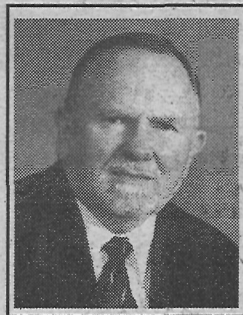
Patrick Hunter the only wrestler in the Bantam division qualified for the tournament at 55 pounds with a 9-6 win over Joe Forsyth in the opening round. He lost his next match but came back

strong to win a 6-4 decision over Jimmy Huff of Jersey Lighting for a third place finish.

Billy Ashnault qualified in the Midget 65 pound weight class. In the opening round Ashnault won an 11-3 major decision then lost in the semi final round and won his consolation match by a 13-3 major decision for third place.

Sam Martin qualified in the Midget 80 pound weight class with a 6-5 opening round decision. He lost in the semi-final round, but had to face his brother 'Brad' for the final qualifying spot. After a quick take down, the younger Martin turned his brother to his back as the buzzer. Sam then went on to score seven unanswered points to win 7-2.

Also wrestling but not qualifying were Robert Gentile 50 pounds, Bryan Hunt 65 pounds, Nick Dorey 70 pounds and Brad Martin 80 pounds.



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Obituaries

Lottie D. (Pahucki) Malecki, 83

Lottie D. (Pahucki) Malecki of South Plainfield died Tuesday, Jan. 26, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

She was born in Avoca, Pa. and was a former resident of Scranton, Pa. before moving to South Plainfield 60 years ago.

Mrs. Malecki was a machine operator for the former Cornell-Dubiler in South Plainfield for 10 years.

She was a communicant of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church and she was a life member of the South Plainfield Polish National Home.

She was predeceased by her husband, John E. Malecki, who died in 1969.

She is survived by a daughter, Bernice A. Daniels of South Plainfield; two sisters, Ann

Skutack of Midland Park, NJ and Stella Janicki of Avoca, Pa.; a brother, Joseph Pahucki of St. Petersburg, Fla. and two grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

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

Bernice (Malec) Ogonowski, 69

Bernice (Malec) Ogonowski of South Plainfield died Wednesday, Jan. 27, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

She was born in Poland and came to the U.S. in 1957, settling in Philadelphia before moving to South Plainfield 39 years ago.

Mrs. Ogonowski was an injection mold operator for Design & Molding Co. in Piscataway for 20 years before retiring in 1994.

She was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church.

She was predeceased by her husband, Marian Ogonowski, who died in 1994.

She is survived by four sons, Casimir, Frank, Joseph and Marian J. Ogonowski, all of South Plainfield; two brothers, Jerry and Walter Malec, both of Kalgoolie, Australia and three grandchildren.

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

Victor W. Pilukaitis, 76

Victor W. Pilukaitis died on Friday, Jan. 29, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Mr. Pilukaitis was born in Forest City, Pa. and had resided in Rahway before moving to South Plainfield in 1952.

He had served with the US Marine Corps during WW II and was a Life Member of the VFW Memorial Post 6763 in South Plainfield.

He had worked for over 40 years at Merck & Co. of Rahway, where he had been a supervisor in the chemical department. He retired in 1982.

Mr. Pilukaitis was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church.

His wife, Margaret L. Pilukaitis, died in 1991. He was also predeceased by his sister, Jenny Pilukaitis.

Surviving are three sons, Richard V. of Lancaster, Pa., Robert G. of Bridgewater and Raymond W. of Garland, Texas.; a sister, Ann Brassington of Williamsport, Pa. and eight grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

John S. Leso, Sr., 82

John S. Leso, Sr. of South Plainfield died Tuesday, Feb. 2, at his home.

He was born in Plainfield and was a former resident of Middlesex before moving to South Plainfield 58 years ago.

Mr. Leso was a salesman for the Absolute Fire Protection Co. in South Plainfield for 30 years before retiring in 1979.

He was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church.

He was a member of the American Motorcycle Association where he served as a race official, and a member of the Patrol Motorcycle Club in Raritan.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Mary Fetchina Leso; three sons, John Leso, Jr., William Leso and Steven Leso, all of South Plainfield; two daughters, Mary Ann Catanzaro of Dunellen and Sherry Pfister of Glen Gardner and eight grandchildren.

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

1999 Ponytail Softball Registration

The 1999 Ponytail Softball registration is open to all South Plainfield resident girls, ages 8-13, as of Oct. 1, 1998.

The fee is \$22 per participant if registered before March 5, and \$32 thereafter. Placement on a team is not guaranteed after March 5. At that time participants will be put on a waiting list.

Birth certificates are required for registrants who have not participated in a Recreation sponsored Youth League in the past year. Parents are required to provide black sweat pants.

Register at the Recreation office, or call (908) 226-7713.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

One month down, 11 to go. Here's South Plainfield Library's first column for February of 1999:

Next week, we're holding our regular storytime programs for children age three and over. These programs take place on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. We're also holding a special storytime for Chinese New Year on Saturday, Feb. 13 at 11 a.m. Finally, mark your calendars for the children's craft program, for kids ages six and over on Friday, Feb. 19 at 4 p.m. (Space is limited, so you must register for this program.) If you have any questions, call us at 754-7885 and check with Linda Hansen.

The February meeting of the Library Board of Trustees has been postponed. Normally held on the second Tuesday of each month, it's been rescheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m.

The Library will be closed on Friday, Feb. 12 in observance of Lincoln's Birthday and on Monday, Feb. 15, for Presidents' Day. We'll be open, however, on Sunday, Feb. 14.

We have an arrival and a departure in our Circuit collections. The new group from the Video circuit is available for borrowing. Titles in this month's group include "Grosse Pointe Blank", "Air Bud", "Sphere", and "Oscar and Lucinda". They will be here until Feb. 22. On the other hand, the CD Circuit group is about to be withdrawn, collected and sent away. It'll be available until the end of next week, so be sure to stop over and check it out.

Here's a reminder: a number of items in our collection come with inserts and supplemental items, usually pamphlets or computer discs. When you borrow these items, please keep track of these inserts and return them along with the other material. Some of these inserts are essential to the items and can be difficult, or even impossible, to replace. If that's not incentive enough, there is a charge for lost inserts. Thanks for your assistance in this matter.

Reading these columns each week is, if we do say so ourselves, a good way to keep up with upcoming Library events. But what if you want to plan further ahead than next week. To get a bigger picture than we have space to provide, pick up a monthly calendar of events. You can find them in the rack at the door to the Children's room.

In closing, we have an announcement. In a recent *Observer* column, it was remarked that this winter has been less mild than last winter. However, a longtime Library supporter has informed us that, statistically, it has actually been milder. While it doesn't seem that this is the case, figures don't lie. We acknowledge our error, apologize for our mistake, and thank said supporter for the information. Available space prevents us from going into a big discussion of climatic conditions and how they're perceived.

See you next week.

WE WANT YOUR NEWS!!

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

Because
We
Care



by Robert Hunter

TRYING OUR SOULS

Those who must endure sorrow and heartache brought on by the departure of a loved one can at least derive some consolation from the fact that those who properly grieve become stronger from having done so. The acceptance of death poses a challenge to one's soul that invites growth. It asks us to test ourselves in ways that we would not ordinarily be subjected. As a result, the bounds of our reasoning and faith are extended, and the depths of our emotions are plumbed to measure our compassion. As Phillips Brooks once wrote: "Wherever souls are being tried and ripened, in whatever commonplace and homely way, there God is hewing out the pillars for His temple."

At the JAMES W. CONROY FUNERAL HOME, serving area residents in their time of need, we understand the difficulty of making final arrangements for a dearly loved family member, or close friend. Our staff are caring, courteous professionals, who can help you create a memorial tribute which reflects the personality and attributes of your loved one. Please call 756-2800 to schedule a consultation. We are located at 2456 Plainfield Avenue in South Plainfield. Cremation services available.

"The mind profits by the wreck of every passion, and we may measure our road to wisdom by the sorrows we have undergone."
-Baron Lytton



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POLICE REPORT

• An unidentified caller gave police information concerning marijuana she had knowledge of in a resident's home. Upon searching a West 7th Street household the officers found 3.70 lbs marijuana and a small scale.

• Officers observed a car parked in a handicapped parking space at 7-11. After stopping the vehicle, it was determined the car was registered to a Ellen Schoifet of Plainfield, a suspended driver. The operator of the car offered identification of a Jeanine L. Roll of Edison. Upon further questioning it was determined that the ID was false and the driver was Ellen Schoifet.

• Police responded to a call from F & G Glass located on South Clinton Ave. A cell phone was reported stolen from one of the work trucks parked in their lot.

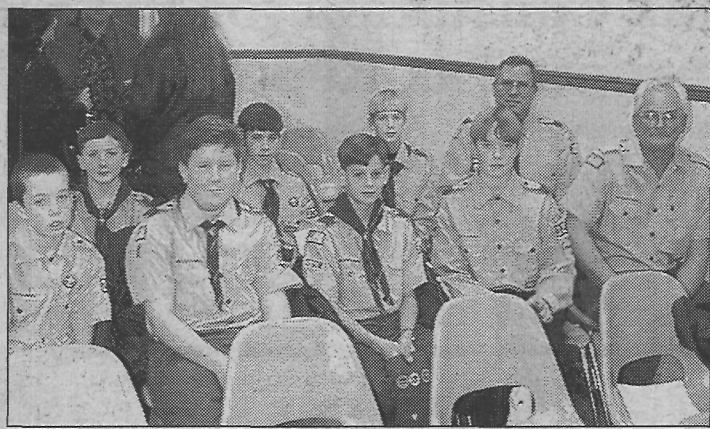
• Med Tech Group reported a snow plow stolen. The brand new plow had been housed on the side of a garage under a canopy.

• A referee with Recreation Commission basketball reported to police headquarters that he had been allegedly assaulted by a basketball player from Colonia. The referee ejected the player from the game. The player became abusive, throwing a basketball at the referee's head. The ref signed a complaint at police headquarters.

• The Park Ave. Burger King manager arrived and found the front door unlocked. Police arrived and determined that no one was inside and that nothing appeared to be disturbed. It was concluded that the door had been left unlocked the previous night. Later in the day police were again called to Burger King after a manager discovered that \$1,829. had been removed from the safe.

• Two men attending Sunday morning services at Wesley Methodist Church on Plainfield Ave. reported keys stolen from their coats. One coat was located on a rack in the basement of the church. The second coat was in the kitchen area.

• A Kenwood Ave. resident reported the theft of a ring, ring jacket and watch. The victim reported that the items were missed after a visit by her daughter. The items were valued at \$2,060.



Boy Scouts of Troop 324 attended a recent council meeting as part of their Citizenship Badge. The scouts are Tim and Conor O'Brien, Doug Johnson, Ryan Suleski, Joey Helgesen, Todd Rivers, Justin Reid and Scoutmasters Jim Nagy and Ray Johnson.

Classifieds

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SO. PLF. ROOSEVELT SCHOOL AREA. 3 BR, 1.5 bath, CAC, must see. Avail. May 1. Credit report req. \$1300/mo. Eves. 908-561-8430. Day beeper 732-989-0210. 2X

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. Wkday 3:30-9:30pm, Weekend 11am-9:30pm.

WANTED

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

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

LOST

LOST—PAPER MACHE CHICKEN, approximately 24" tall, white with black spots and red feathers on top of head. Last seen at First Baptist Church Coffee House on Oct. 23. Reward for return. No questions asked. Call (908) 754-3214.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

January 29, 1999

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the Planning Board of the Borough of South Plainfield at its meeting held on January 26, 1999.

CASE No. 611/A—Bett-A-Way—Block 308; Lot 35.01; M-3 Zone; 110 Sylvania Place—Applicant's request for a minor amendment to their approved final site plan was hereby GRANTED.

CASE No. 08-3—Tonsar, Inc.—Block 367; Lot 2.01; R-10 Zone; Delmore Ave.—Applicant's request for preliminary and final two lot subdivision was hereby GRANTED.

The appointment of John Jorgensen, Esq. as Board Attorney was hereby APPROVED. The appointment of CME Associates as outside Engineer was hereby APPROVED.

The appointment of THP, Inc. as Borough Planner was hereby APPROVED.

The appointment of Janice Muccilli as Recording Secretary to the Planning Board was hereby APPROVED.

Janice Muccilli
Recording Secretary Planning Board
\$16.20 1T 2/5/99

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ORDINANCE #1501

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE VII OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD REPLACING THE BOARD OF HEALTH WITH A HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Whereas, the Borough of South Plainfield transferred responsibility for health services to Middlesex County during calendar year 1998; and

Whereas, as a result of said transfer there is no longer a need for a Board of Health; and

Whereas, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield find a need for an advisory board to make recommendations to the Mayor and Council for issues affecting the health and welfare of the Borough of South Plainfield.

Now therefore be it ordained by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, New Jersey, that Article VII of the Borough Code is revised as follows:

ARTICLE VII - Health Advisory Board
Section 5-20 - Appointment of Members

The Mayor shall nominate and subject to the approval of the Council shall appoint five (5) citizens of the Borough of South Plainfield to be members of the Health Advisory Board for the Borough of South Plainfield.

Section 5-21 - Terms

The members of the Health Advisory Board shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years until such time as their successors are appointed and qualified however the initial term of the members shall be as follows: two (2) such members for a term of three (3) years; two (2) members for a term of two (2) years and one (1) member for a term of one (1) year.

Section 5-22 - Vacancies
Vacancies occurring in the Health Advisory

Board either at the expiration of term or otherwise shall be filled by the appointment of the Mayor subject to the approval of the Council.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon publication and adoption in accordance with New Jersey Law.

Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor

ATTEST:
James Eckert/Municipal Clerk
\$27.80

1T 2/5/99

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ORDINANCE #1500

AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT LEFT HAND TURNS AT CERTAIN LOCATIONS WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY, THAT no person shall make a left turn at the following location listed:

Westerly from shopping center on Park Avenue and Oak Tree Road onto Park Avenue south-erly

Penalty for a violation of this Ordinance. The penalty shall be as provided by New Jersey Statute.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon publication and adoption in accordance with New Jersey Law and adoption of a consuming resolution by the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor

ATTEST:
James V. Eckert/Municipal Clerk
\$14.20

1T 2/5/99

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ORDINANCE #1499

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE #1278 ENTITLED "ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD"

518. Designation of Residential Units for Sale or Rent

518.1 Each development application for development for multi-family residential development in all Planned Residential Development, Multi-Family, Senior Citizens Residential, Mixed Use Development Zones and Affordable Housing Zones (PRD-1, PRD-2, MF-1, SC-1, MUD-1, MUD-2, AH-1 and AH-2) shall indicate whether the proposed individual dwelling units will be offered for sale or for rent. Any approval granted for multi-family residential development for which the applicant has indicated that the individual dwelling units shall be offered for sale shall not be amended to permit the individual dwelling units being offered for rent, unless the applicant files an amended application for development, and receives an approval for the rental of the individual dwelling units.

Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor

ATTEST:
James V. Eckert/Municipal Clerk
\$16.75

1T 2/5/99

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- Details, So. Clinton Ave.
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- Holly Park Video, Park Ave.
- K Foods, Park Ave.
- Krauser's Food Store, Oak Tree Rd.
- Twin City Pharmacy, Park Ave.
- The Little Store, South Clinton Ave.
- Mohn's Flowers, Plainfield Ave.
- Oak Tree Farms, Oak Tree Road
- Pauls Stationery, Hamilton Blvd.
- Quick Chek, Sampton Ave.
- 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.

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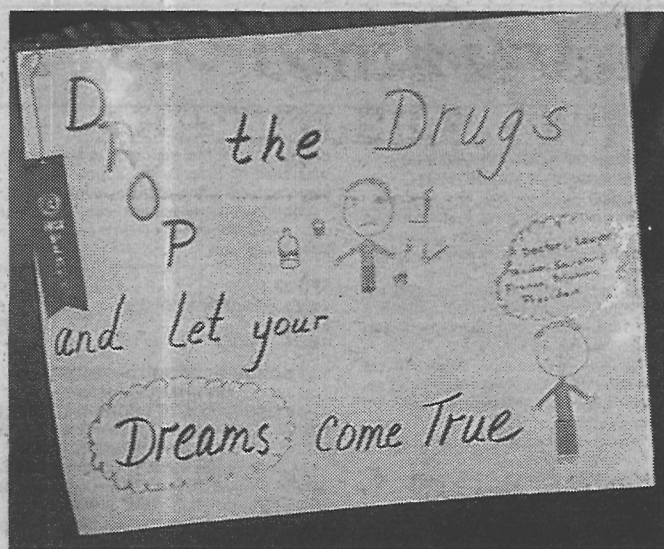
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Deadline for next issue is Mon, Feb. 8.



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should come to the PAL Building on Maple Ave., where they can get help in doing their reports or have one of the counselors do it. This service is provided in conjunction with the AARP and the IRS by counselors that have been

trained for this. They will be available every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m.-12 noon starting Feb. 16, and continuing until April 13. No appointments are necessary.

Applicants must bring in all records or information on their 1998 income, including earnings (W-2s), dividends (1099-DIVs), interest (1099-INTs), pensions or IRAs (1099-Rs), gambling winnings. Also, if filing for the Homestead Rebate, they must bring in their real estate tax bill for 1998 or the green post card (which shows the 1998 taxes paid and the block and the lot number. If they feel that it might be to their advantage to itemize their deductions they should bring in all their deductible information. Also they should bring in a copy of their 1997 tax reports, if they filed last year.

New this year is the PTR-1, which freezes the real estate tax at the 1997 level. Generally anyone qualified for PAAD may be qualified for this tax freeze. Very important, this form must be filed by March 15, 1999, so if you feel that you are qualified, you must file with this report (PTR-1) a photocopy of your tax bill and proof of payment.

For further information, call Sue Mischa at 908-754-1047.

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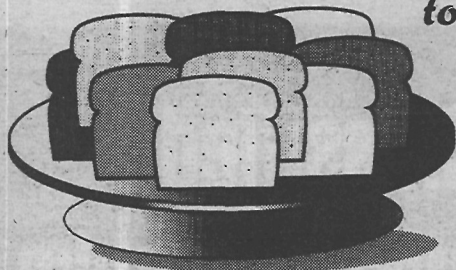
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Janet Palazzi
Paul/Maryhelen
Theivon &
Elizabeth Thievon

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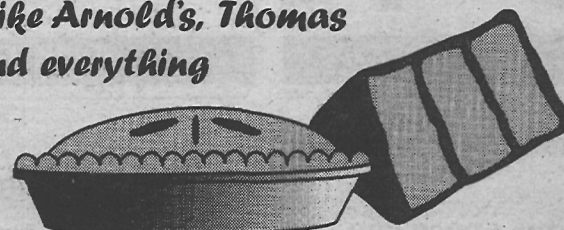
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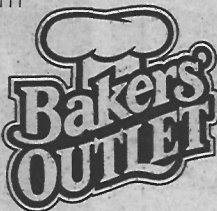
purchase. Each entitles you to a free item from our shelves.

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



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



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(Buy two, get one free)

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



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