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South Plainfield Observer

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MARCH 5, 1999

Basketball League Named for Ed Niemczyk

Recreation Honors 45 Years of Dedication

By Pattie Abbott

Ed Niemczyk, the man who brought youth basketball to South Plainfield four decades ago and the man who kept the league running for 45 years, was surprised when the games being played came to a sudden halt in the final hour of the season last Saturday afternoon.

Recreation Director Michael English stopped the game and gathered all in attendance to center court. Recently appointed to the position, English pointed out the importance of community; "Community — is a geographic area where men, women and children create a symbolic family. A place where everyone cares for each other. Where respect for property, individual differences and personal rights are a given." He noted that in today's world, people are often too busy and too preoccupied to become involved in their communities.

English spoke of one man who has dedicated many years to the children of South Plainfield — Ed Niemczyk. Commissioner of Recreation Jim Curcio presented a plaque to Ed as his family and friends looked on with smiling faces. The plaque honored him for his service to the community and officially renamed the league, "The Ed Niemczyk Basketball League." After the brief ceremony play resumed and the boys and

girls finished their final games of the season. The players then received trophies and happily went home to await next season.

Forty-Five Years of Service

Forty-five years ago, Ed Niemczyk saw a need in our community and filled it. He saw many children seeking something to do and wanting a place to go. Basketball was his answer. Ed Niemczyk founded the Youth Basketball League in South Plainfield and it is still going strong today. He was just doing something he felt needed to be done.

Many years ago, when the league was still young, a nine year-old-boy signed up to play basketball. It left quite an impression on him. He returned to the league years later. The league was then based at the PAL Building (Police Athletic League). The former player, now a parent, was pleased but not surprised to find his mentor, Ed Niemczyk, still there encouraging children in the sport just as he had years before. Tommy McCreesh, now a coach with the league, was that nine-year-old and he now has a ten-year-old son of his own playing basketball in the league.

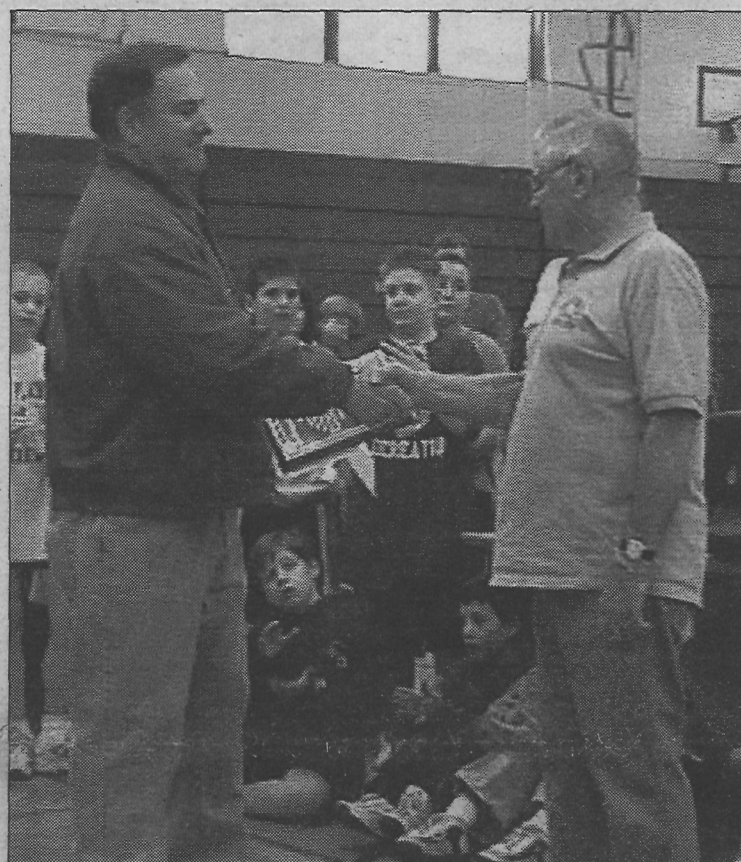
Recreation Commission President Jim Curcio has been active with the Recreation Department in one form or another for 30 years. He remembers Ed from his

work with Youth Basketball as well as the early days of open gym. He detailed Ed's job for the league, pointing out that Ed is a basketball supervisor at the PAL every Saturday in the winter from approximately 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. He coordinates the schedules and oversees the games. He handles the scorebooks and league standings. In addition to his basketball league duties Ed is a supervisor for the recreation center's open gym. He ensures that all participants have proper ID and abide by the rules.

Both Jim Curcio and Tom McCreesh spoke of the many children who have participated in the basketball program over the years and of how they have returned with their own children.

Tom McCreesh said that people tend to recognize other's accomplishments after they are gone. He said that Ed Niemczyk taught him to play basketball, he "...taught the town the game of basketball." Tom stated, "I think it is important to honor people of this community and keep the community tradition alive." To further this belief, Tom wrote a letter to the Recreation Commission in January suggesting the Youth Basketball League be named after Ed Niemczyk. It was unanimously accepted.

Niemczyk's legacy is one which any father would be proud. Hav-



Commissioner Jim Curcio presents a plaque to Ed Niemczyk in recognition of his 45 years of service to the basketball league.

ing seen so many of South Plainfield's children pass through the doors of the PAL, having taught them, watched their skills develop and gain confidence in their abilities as they shot hoops

for fun or for their team. It's a legacy that will live in the minds of South Plainfield's future shop owners, firemen, politicians and others for as long as children and basketball survive.

Borough Notes

Council Notes

- New Jersey Transit Corporation will install and maintain a bus shelter at the Oak Park Commons Shopping Center.
- Appointed Maria Perry, Acting deputy court administrator, at a salary of \$28,429, remaining in effect until a permanent replacement is employed.
- Accept resignation of Colleen Dooley, communications operator effective February 1, 1999.

Board of Adjustment

- Domenico Lettini of 207 Cedarbrook Ave. was granted a variance in order to construct a single family dwelling on the property. The property presently has an old single family house which will be demolished.
- Livingston Infusion Care on Montrose Ave. was granted preliminary and final site plan approval with conditions.
- Quick Check Food Stores, Inc. is requesting a variance for the construction of a convenience store on Durham Ave. They are proposing to build a 5,000 sq. ft. building on the corner of Durham

Ave. and Helen Street.

Truck traffic was discussed, especially tractor trailer trucks that may be making left turns from Durham Ave. or turning right from a right lane only, both in and out of the parking lot. The corner of Durham and Helen Street may become a busy corner as the Helen Street Study has proposed using Helen Street as a major truck route.

William Thomas said the Board is aware of the traffic issues and has discussed these concerns with the applicant, along with ingress and egress along Durham Ave.

Steve Ritz, attorney for the ap-
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Pictured kneeling is Jennifer Bellew. Standing left to right, Arlene Bellew, Ed Niemczyk I, Brad Campbell, Gertie Niemczyk, John Hayeck, Rosemary Niemczyk, Danny Niemczyk, Ed Niemczyk III, Allison Niemczyk Ed Niemczyk II.

In My Opinion

Letters

Dear Friends of the United Way of South Plainfield:

Thank you for helping make the United Way of South Plainfield Valentine's Day singing quartet fundraiser a huge success.

Your investment in our community yields an amazing return

— healthy children, families and a caring community.

We greatly appreciate your support and generosity!

**SINCERELY,
FRANK A. MIKORSKI AND
JAMES LENOX
CAMPAIGN VICE PRESIDENTS**

IMPORTANT MEETING DATES

Zoning Board of Adjustment
1999 Meeting Dates

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

March 16, March 30
April 6, April 20
May 4, May 18
June 1, June 15, June 29
July 6, July 20
August 3, August 17, August 30
September 21
October 5, October 19
Nov. 4 (Thursday), November 16, November 30
December 7, December 21

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

March 25, April 22, May 27, June 24,
July 22, August 26, September 23, October 28

Planning Board
1999 Meeting Dates

Second and fourth Tuesday of the month as follows:

March 9, March 23	August 10, August 24
April 13, April 27	September 14, September 28
May 11, May 25	October 26
June 8, June 22	November 9, November 23
July 13, July 27	December 14, December 28

Council Meetings

AGENDA MEETINGS PUBLIC MEETINGS

Monday, March 8	Thursday, March 11
Monday, March 22	Thursday, March 25
Monday, Apr. 5	Thursday, Apr. 8
Monday, Apr. 19	Thursday, Apr. 22
Monday, May 10	Thursday, May 13
Monday, May 24	Thursday, May 27

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.

Logon to southplainfieldnj.com for the latest meeting agenda.

South Plainfield
Observer

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in *South Plainfield Observer*:

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

Dear Editor,

As the South Plainfield Education Association gears up for the second annual Read Across America celebration in honor of Dr. Seuss on March 2, 1999, we invite the participation of a most important publication in our community — your newspaper.

We have a straightforward suggestion.

Wouldn't it be great if some of your editors wrote about their favorite books? They could choose to write about a beloved children's book they remember their mother or father reading aloud. They could write about the first book that inspired them to write. They could write about the importance of reading as a family activity. They could write about families sharing the newspaper in the evening or on the weekend.

Think of the impact of just a 200 word editorial.

Last year we estimate that 10 million children celebrated Dr. Seuss and reading on March 2. This year we hope to build an even bigger, better and bolder celebration. We want every child in every school in every community to be reading with a caring adult.

For more information about Read Across America, visit our website at <http://www.nea.org/readacross>. We look forward to working together with you to motivate children to read.

**SINCERELY, LOUISE A. MRUZ,
PRESIDENT, SPEA**

Editors Note: We will take your suggestion one step further. We invite any parent, teacher or student to write about their favorite book, both at home or in the classroom. We will publish it in the South Plainfield Observer.

Dear Editor,

Hello, I am a member of the newly created Computer Tech Club. This club is trying to make its own computers in school and after we get some revenue we will try to build then and sell the computers to the public. We also may try to make an ISP (Internet Service Provider) and a web page. I was wondering if it would be possible to put this letter in the newspaper to enhance the publicity of this club.

We are trying to get old computers that people don't want and put the parts to use as much as we can and make new computers. If you could email me back at Static930@aol.com and notify me of what we would need to do to achieve our goals.

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Notice to All
Softball Managers:

Dear Manager:

Once again this year the South Plainfield Recreation Department will be offering a variety of softball leagues for the residents and industries of South Plainfield.

Note: If you are no longer the manager of your team please pass this on to the new manager and also let us know.

Registration for each league will begin immediately and run until we have reached the maximum number of teams in each league. Registration ends Thursday, April 1 for all leagues.

The following is a brief description of the leagues that will be offered in 1999 with the rate schedule.

1. 500 League — Two leagues will be offered this year; Tuesday night and Wednesday night. Rainouts will be made up on the first available Monday or Friday. Each league is open to the first six teams to register. League play commences April 19 and will conclude in July/August. If there are not enough teams for each night, the majority night will be used for all games.

Fee: \$165 per team before 3/15; \$210. after 3/15

2. Women's League — League is open to the first six teams to register. Teams play on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. with rainouts made up on the first available Friday. League play commences on April 13 and concludes in June. No residency rule applies.

Fee: \$155 per team before 3/15; \$200 after 3/15

3. Sunday League — League is open to the first eight teams who register. Teams play on Sunday mornings and afternoons with double headers each Sunday. Rainouts will not be made up. League play commences April 18.

Fee: \$200 per team before 3/15; \$250 after 3/15

4. 6:30 A League — League is open to the first eight "A League" level teams to enter (level determined by the Recreation Dept). Last seasons' top seven teams are in the "A League" as well as the "B League" champion. Teams play on Tuesday and Thursday evenings with each team scheduled for two games per week. Game times are 6:30, 7:45, and 9:00 p.m. with rainouts made up on the first available Friday. League play commences on April 20.

Fee: \$220 per team before 3/15; \$270 after 3/15

5. 6:30 B League — League is open to the first eight "B league" level teams to enter (level determined by the Recreation Dept). Last seasons second through eighth place teams are in the B league as well as last place finisher in the A league. Teams play on Monday and Wednesday evenings with each team schedules for two games per week. Game times are 6:30, 7:45 and 9 p.m. with rainouts made up on the first available Friday. League play commences on April 19.

Fee: \$220 per team before 3/15; \$270 after 3/15

In addition, monies will be issued for all leagues based on the following formula: \$50 First Place; \$25 second place. Play-offs only.

All fees are substantially lower than previous years because each team is going to be responsible for paying half of the umpires fees before each game. Each teams share will be \$15 per game.

Rosters must be submitted to the Recreation Department by the league meeting. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of first game. This will be strictly enforced. The Recreation Department's fax number is (908) 754-8158. Roster changes may be made up to game time using the fax. A roster form can be obtained at the Recreation office.

Game times are subject to change depending on the number of teams per league.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Recreation Department at (908) 226-7713. Remember that no spots will be held, registration will be open to all teams, so please sign up early to avoid not having a spot for your team this season.

Sincerely,

Michael English, Director of Recreation

To find out
WHAT'S HAPPENING in
South Plainfield
Visit the Borough's WEB SITE at
southplainfieldnj.com

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

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS ON OUR WEB PAGE



Pictured front row: Greg Publick; middle row left to right, Galan Johnson, Randy Gemenden, Kevin Peterson, Ian Levine, Chris Uffer and Carlos Pineda and back row; adult leaders Jim Uffer, Randy Gemenden and Tom Peterson.

Troop 207 Wins District Klondike Derby

Submitted by Tom Peterson

On Jan. 30, Boy Scout Troop 207 won the District I Blue Mountain Valley Klondike Derby held at Greenbrook Swim Club.

Pictured are members of the winning sled team, who participated in orienteering, first aid, rescue techniques, fire starting and other tests of skill while pulling a sled made by Troop members through the course. As with

every Boy Scout event the troop team exhibited scout spirit while leaving the site of the derby in a better condition than when they arrived.

Troop 207 is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and meets every Thursday night between 7:30 and 9 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall located on Hamilton Blvd. in South Plainfield.

Junior Woman's Club Seeks Beautiful Baby

The GFWC Junior Woman's Club of South Plainfield is looking for South Plainfield children — newborn to 36 months — for its Annual Beautiful Baby Contest.

To enter, send two photographs, no larger than 4 1/2" x 6" with the child's name on the back. Include a \$3 registration fee and a 3" x 5" card with your name, address, phone number and the child's name and age. Also needed is a waiver granting us permission to use the photos for the advertising of the contest. Send entries

to the Junior Woman's Club of South Plainfield, P.O. Box 189, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Deadline for entries is Friday, March 19. If you would like your photos returned, include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Photos will be on display from April 1-15 at the A&P Supermarket on Oak Tree and Park Avenues and Sherban's Restaurant on Front Street.

You may vote for the 'Beautiful Baby' of your choice by dropping money into the appropriate

Board of Adjustment Restricts Temporary Use Permit For Flower Sales

Don Gural, owner of Rising Up Garden located on 2225 Park Ave., came before the Board of Adjustment last month to request a six month extension of a temporary use permit for the sale of flowers and nursery items.

Mr. Gural sold Christmas trees and wreaths last December at this site and was applying for a temporary use permit to sell Easter flowers and seasonal plants and garden items. He asked permission to erect a canvas tent to use as a sales office and to store bags of seed, mulch and other nursery items. In addition, he requested permission to build a fence along Holly Ave., use a forklift truck and string lights around the area. Gural said he is planning to erect a permanent building within six months.

Board member Rich McCriscin objected to a tent being erected on the site. He said the term temporary is usually understood to mean just that, temporary. McCriscin said he had no problem with the sale of Easter and Mother's Day flowers, however, he would object to any sales while a permanent structure is being built.

Several members of the public also objected, saying the traffic in the area is already very heavy and

constantly backing up at the intersection of Park and Maple Aves. They also felt a tent would be unsightly, especially since Park Ave. is one of the major roads used to enter South Plainfield.

After much discussion, the

Board voted to allow the sale of Easter and Mother's Day flowers from March 21 to May 16; that no tent will be erected, no fencing put up, no use of Holly Ave., no forklift, no sales during construction and other conditions.



Pictured left to right are Emil Leporino, Dr. Licato and Joe Diegnan.

Frank Licato, DMD, Wins Glitter Award

Frank Licato, DMD, recently accepted the South Plainfield Clean Business Association's Glitter Award from Joe Diegnan, CBA president. Emil Leporino, chairman of the Clean Communities Advisory Board, was also on hand to honor Dr. Licato for his contribution to the borough's visual environment.

Dr. Licato established his dental practice at 2316 Plainfield Ave., next door to the CVS which replaced the old A&P supermarket. Dr. Licato bought the building in 1997. It had been a dental office for 35 years, but was hidden behind overgrown shrubbery so very few people were even aware of its existence. After obtaining the necessary variances from the Board of Adjustment, Dr. Licato undertook a complete renovation, inside and out. He replaced the hedge with a chain link fence, put on a new roof and siding and created a neat, open look.

Dr. Licato notes there is an

ongoing problem of litter from the CVS parking lot accumulating against his fence. He has his landscaper clean this weekly. In between times, he goes out himself to pick up. He is glad to see that "things are happening" in the borough's downtown revitalization program. Dr. Licato, lifelong resident, and his family are pleased to have been able to open a practice in South Plainfield. "This is a nice community," he said. "That's why we're here."

The Clean Business Association gives Glitter Awards to South Plainfield businesses that are unusually well-maintained or have recently improved their appearance through renovation or landscaping. Membership in the CBA is open to all businesses that share its goals of enhancing the appearance of commercial districts through property maintenance and litter control. For more information, contact Alice Tempel at (908) 226-7621.

Veteran Police Officer Arrested

South Plainfield Officer John Brembt, 24-year veteran with the South Plainfield Police Department, has been suspended after charges stemming from a December 27, 1998 altercation outside a restaurant in White House Station, Readington, NJ.

Brembt allegedly fired his weapon during an off-duty dispute.

He posted \$1,000 bail and was released from Hunterdon County Jail. The investigation has been ongoing since the incident occurred.

Charges include aggravated assault, official misconduct, obstruction of justice, hindering apprehension and tampering with evidence.

Have you recently become engaged, married, given birth, retired or been promoted?

Send us your good news, along with a photo (if available), to South Plainfield Observer, 530 Union Ave., Suite 3, Middlesex, NJ 08846 and we will publish it in Milestones.

Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you would like your photos returned.

OAK TREE FARMS

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Sale starts Friday, March 5 ends Thursday March 11 (while supplies last)

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\$2.49 lb.

Washington Apples
Red or Golden 49¢ lb.

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Our Home Made Honey
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Imported Pecorino Romano
Cheese \$3.99 lb.
Grated or Chunk

Boneless
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As Is \$2.49 lb.

Bell Peppers
59¢ lb.

Kraft American
Cheese
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AROUND TOWN

EVENTS

Senior Citizens Meeting

The Adult School Seniors will hold their monthly meeting on March 5 at 10 a.m. in the Administration Building located on Cromwell Place.

After the general meeting Diane Mandle will speak about a pilot program called Listening to Children. She needs five or six volunteers for this program. Training will be provided. For information, call 754-1047. Transportation is available.

Tourette Syndrome Meeting

The next meeting of the Tourette Syndrome Association Family Support Group will be held on Tuesday evening, March 9 from 7-9:00 p.m. at JFK Hospital, 65 James Street, Edison, in the Neuroscience Institute Department.

Meetings this year will be held on May 11, Sept. 14 and Nov. 9. For more information call Debbie, 732-283-1439 or www.tsanj.org.

Come Light Up Your Life!

The Sisterhood of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Church is holding a candle and accessory sale. There will be a door prize drawing and free refreshments. Bring a friend. It will be held at the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Church Hall located on the corner of Delmore and Belmont Avenues on March 20 from 2-4 p.m. Come join us and light up your life while getting some decorating ideas. Candle sale will benefit the church chandelier fund.

For information, call Ronnie at (908) 561-9506.

Talent Show Planned

The South Plainfield High School Project Graduation Committee and Chorus are hosting a Talent Show on Friday, March 12 at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Tickets, \$6 for adults and \$4 for students and senior citizens, are available at the high school main office or can be purchased at the door the night of the show. Refreshments will be sold in the cafeteria. Proceeds will benefit South Plainfield High School Chorus and Project Graduation, an alcohol and drug-free celebration held each year on graduation night for the South Plainfield High School senior class. For information, contact Tracy Murray, chorus director at (908) 754-4620, ext. 278.

Annual Spring Egg Hunt!

All South Plainfield boys and girls nine and under are invited to the Annual Spring Egg Hunt to be held on Saturday, March 27 at 1 p.m. at the PAL field. Candy eggs, prizes,

fun and laughter are the order of the day. Also "Hoppy" Bunny will be there to meet the kids. The rain date is April 3. Make sure you bring bags or baskets for your eggs.

This egg hunt is sponsored by the South Plainfield Recreation Commission. For information, call 226-7713.

Franklin PTA Auction/Raffle Night

The Franklin School PTA is having its Third Annual Auction/Raffle Night on Saturday, March 20, at 6:30 p.m. in the high school gym. Sponsored by Franklin School PTA, the cost is \$5 in advance and \$6 at the door. For ticket information, contact Deb at (908) 757-9432.

St. Patrick's Day Celebration

The American Legion Chaumont Post will be holding its annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance on Saturday, March 13 at the Post home 243 Oak Tree Avenue. The affair will start at 6 p.m. with buffet dinner of corned beef, cabbage, potatoes and all the trimmings at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10. The proceeds will benefit Chaumont Post 243 Scholarship Fund. Music will be provided for your dancing pleasure. For info, call (908) 668-9414.

Sacred Heart Church Lenten Fish Dinner

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul of the Sacred Heart Church will sponsor Lenten Fish Dinners, March 5, 12, 19 and 26 in the school cafeteria located on South Plainfield Ave., 5-7 p.m.

The menu will feature fillet of fish (fried, broiled parmigiana) or pizza; fresh garden salad, french fries or macaroni and cheese, cole slaw, coffee, tea or cold drink, and dessert. Take out orders are also available. Admission is \$8, adults; \$7, seniors and \$4, children. Pay at the door. Stations of the Cross will be held in the Church at 7 p.m.

A/C Bus Trip to Caesars Casino

The South Plainfield High School Project Graduation Committee is sponsoring a bus trip to Caesars Casino in Atlantic City on Saturday, Mar. 20. The cost is \$20 with \$16 coin return. For reservations or more information, call Pat Anderson at (908) 756-6512 or Ellen Melanson at (908) 756-3731.

Submit your events to **Around Town**, at the South Plainfield Observer, 530 Union Ave. Suite 3, Middlesex, NJ 08846 or fax 732 805-0815.

Blood Drive at High School

The Greater Plainfield Area Chapter of the ARC and New Jersey Blood Services will hold a blood drive on March 8 at SPHS, 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

PBA Local 100 to Sponsor Car Show

PBA Local 100 is sponsoring a car show on May 22, 1-7 p.m. on Cragwood Rd. Rain date is May 23, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Admission is free.

Enjoy good food, browse vendor booths, as well as arts and crafts. A live band and D.J. is scheduled.

Two 50/50 drawings and a raffle will benefit So. Plainfield D.A.R.E. For info, call (908) 756-4466.

Columbiettes Sponsoring Trip

The South Plainfield Columbiettes are sponsoring a trip to see *Noah* at the Sight and Sound Theater on Saturday, Apr. 24.

Bus will leave the K of C Hall at 9 a.m. and return approximately 9:30 p.m. Cost is \$68 and includes show, bus and driver gratuity.

Reservation deadline is March 1. For information, call Mary Ann Tennenbaum at (908) 226-1222.

AARP Chapter 4144 Plans Trip to Show

On March 15, a trip is planned to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse Dinner Theater to see *Catch Me if You Can*. Cost is \$45, which includes transportation, dinner, show, taxes and gratuities. For information, call Lee at (732) 968-6613 or Mary at (732) 752-3764 for reservations.

Elks Ladies Auxiliary Plans Event

The Elks Ladies Auxiliary will hold "One Stop Shopping" on March 27, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Elks Lodge on New Market Ave. Vendors will include Avon, Pampered Chef, Tupperware, Party Lite and more. For information, call Barbara Shuleski 561-1663.

Single Parents Group to Meet

A newly formed Single Parents of Central New Jersey group will meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

For information, call Sandra 732-283-1250 or e-mail snlprnt nj@aol.com.

Histoical Society Meeting

The South Plainfield Historical Society will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 9 at 7:30 p.m. in the high school library at 7:30 p.m. The group plans to look into the storage room and check the archives. All are welcome.

MILESTONES

Birth

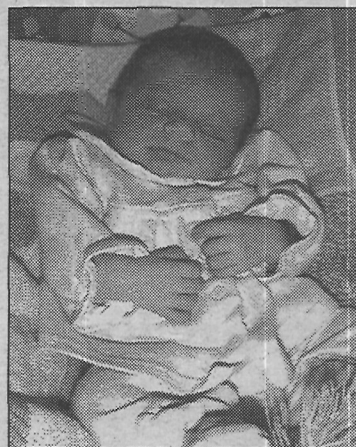
A Sweetheart of a Delivery On Valentines' Day McKenzie Ann Larsen

Georgeann and Jaime Larsen are the proud to announce the birth of their daughter, McKenzie Ann, born on Valentines' Day, February 14. She weighed in at 6 pounds 12 ounces and measured 19 inches.

Georgeann graduated from South Plainfield High School. Georgeann was captain of the high school cheerleading squad during her senior year. She continued to keep active in cheerleading by coaching the South Plainfield High School Cheerleaders for several years. Georgeann is employed at Chubb Insurance in Human Resources.

Jamie also graduated from South Plainfield High School and played football for the Tigers. He is a project engineer at Halebuilt. Georgeann and Jamie reside in South Plainfield.

The proud grandparents are Georgeann DiGrazia of South Plainfield and Robert and Maryann Larsen, also of South Plainfield.



McKenzie Ann Larsen

Engagement

Fidler/Davis Engagement Announced

Michele and Barry Fidler of South Plainfield are pleased to announce the engagement of their son Dr. Howard Alan Fidler to Dr. Jodi Lynn Davis, daughter of Arlene and Richard Davis of St. Louis Park, Minn.

Jodi attended the University of Minnesota and is a graduate of Northwestern College of Chiropractic in Bloomington, Minn.

Howard is a graduate of West Chester University in Pennsylvania and graduate of Cleveland Chiropractic College in Kansas City, MO.

The couple are in private practice together with Jodi's brother Dr. Randall Davis at Davis Chiropractic in St. Louis Park, NW.

A May 30, 1999 wedding is planned.



Howard Fidler and Jodi Davis

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Aerobics and Body Toning are ongoing programs. Each session is made up of 20 classes and meet Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9-10 a.m. for Aerobics and 10-11 a.m. for Step. Classes are limited to 50 participants. The instructor will be Maureen Noil, certified aerobics instructor.

Session seven started March 5 and ends April 28; session eight starts April 30 and ends June 16.

Registrations are accepted in the Recreation Office at the PAL Building located on Maple Ave. Fees must be paid at the time of registration and are accepted on a first come first served basis. Babysitting is available for a fee. For more information, call 226-7713.

Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave. South Plainfield, NJ

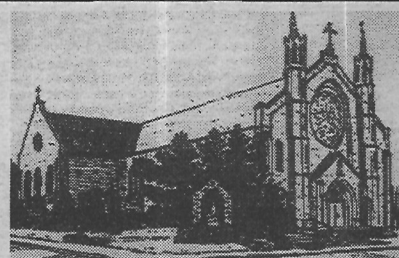
Very Rev. Michael A. McGuire, Pastor

Mass Schedule:

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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



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The Alternative View

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

Dear Dr. DeCosta:

I understand that biofeedback can be useful for reducing stress and relieving pain. Just what exactly is biofeedback and how does it work? - G.M.

Dear G.M.:

The idea that a person can learn to modify his or her own vital functions is relatively new. Before the 1960s, most scientists believed that autonomic functions, such as heart rate and pulse, digestion, blood pressure, brain waves and muscle behavior, could not be voluntarily controlled. Recently, biofeedback, which teaches a person how to change and control his or her body's vital functions through the use of simple electronic devices, along with other methods of self-regulation, such as guided imagery, progressive relaxation and meditation, has found widespread acceptance among physiologists and psychologists alike.

Instrumental biofeedback was pioneered by O. Hobart Mowrer in 1938, when he used an alarm system triggered by urine to stop bed wetting in children. But it was not until the late 1960s, when Barbara Brown, Ph.D., at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Sepulveda, California, and Elmer Green, Ph.D. and Alice Green of the Menninger Foundation in Topeka, Kansas, used EEG biofeedback to observe and record the altered states/self-regulation of yogis, that biofeedback began to attract widespread attention.

According to Melvyn Werbach, M.D., former assistant clinical professor at UCLA Medical School and director of the Biofeedback Medical Clinic in Tarzana, California, "The Greens' work with yogis and the work of the Kamly to teach subjects to experience "drugless high" is what really brought biofeedback to public notice. There started to be tremendous interest, articles on biofeedback in national newspapers and magazines and the idea of higher states of consciousness being related to something that could be scientifically measured really caught on."

Biofeedback training is a method of learning how to consciously regulate normally unconscious bodily functions (such as breathing, heart rate and blood pressure) in order to improve overall health. It refers to any process that measures and reports back immediate information about the biological system of the person being monitored so he or she can learn to consciously influence that system.

For example, a person seeking to regulate their heart rate would train with a biofeedback device set up to transmit one blinking light or one audible beep per heartbeat. By learning to alter the rate of the flashes and beeps, the subject would be subtly programmed to control the heart rate.

Patricia Norris, Ph.D., clinical director of the Biofeedback and Psychophysiology Clinic at the Center for Applied Psychophysiology at the Menninger Clinic in Topeka, Kansas, states that, "The self-regulation skills acquired through biofeedback training are retained by the individual even after the feedback device is dispensed with. In fact, with practice, biofeedback skills continue to improve. It is like taking tennis lessons. If you stop taking the lessons but continue playing, your game will improve. With biofeedback, it works the same way. The more you practice, the better you get."

The effects of biofeedback can be measured in a variety of ways: monitoring skin temperature (ST) influenced by blood flow beneath the skin; monitoring galvanic skin response (GSR), the electrical conductivity of the skin; observing muscle tension with an electro-myogram (EMG); and using an electroencephalogram (EEG) to monitor brain wave activity. Electrodes are placed on the patient's skin (a simple, painless process). The patient is then instructed to use various techniques such as meditation, relaxation, and visualization to effect the desired response (muscle relaxation, lowered heart rate or lowered temperature). The biofeedback device reports the patient's progress by a change in the speed of the beeps or flashes.

Normal, healthy, "relaxed" readings include fairly warm skin, low sweat-gland activity (this keeps the skin's conductivity low), and a slow, even heart rate. Biofeedback technologies utilize computers to provide a rapid and detailed analysis of activities with the complex human system. Biofeedback practitioners interpret changes in these readings to help the patient learn to stabilize erratic and unhealthy biological functions.

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.

Voice of Democracy Winners Honored

VFW Post 6763 honored the winners of the 'Voice of Democracy' contest during their monthly dinner. Contest winners, along with parents, friends and teachers, attended the ceremonies.

Each year the VFW holds two Voice of Democracy essay contests, one for 10, 11 and 12th graders and one for the students in the seven, eight and ninth graders. The high school winners were honored last December.

This year the VFW received the largest amount of entries, over 350. Rudy Poczak said selecting a winner was one of the hardest choices they have had to make. Rudy and his wife, Marlene co-chaired the essay contest.

The first place winner receives a \$125 award and moves on to compete at the district level and may go to the national level where prizes exceed \$5,000. Second place is a prize of \$100 and third place is \$75.

Winners from Sacred Heart School were Katie Shelby-first place, Lauren Abbate-second place and Margaret Monroe-third place. Middle School winners were Rebecca Bianchi-first place, Glenn Gross-second place and Kathrine Lawrence-third place. High school winners were Jeffrey McKnight-first place, Gina D'urso-second place and Rafael Diaz-third place.

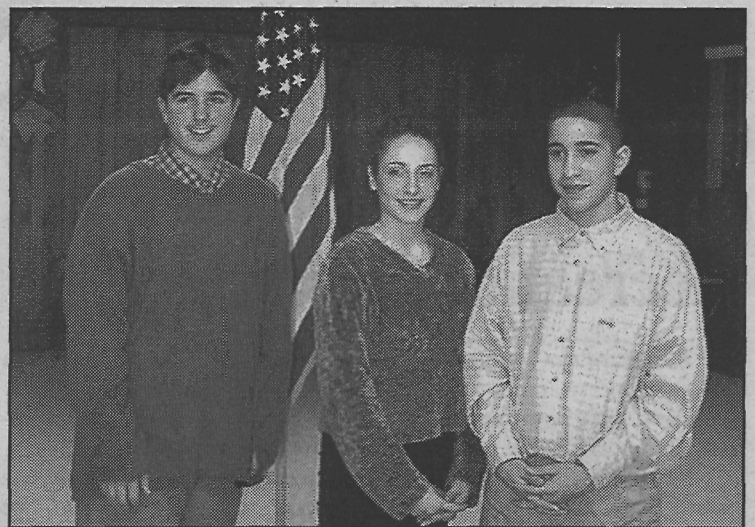
Women's Auxiliary President Joan Jepson, who also participated in the ceremony, congratulated the parents of the winners for raising such fine children. "After reading these essays, I am not worried about our future. With kids like this, we are in good hands," she said.

This year's essay theme was "What Freedom Means to Me." Students had to write no more than 300 words but less than 400.

Here are some excerpts from the winning essays:

"In my opinion, freedom is what our founding fathers gave to us over two hundred years ago. It is a special gift that no one should take for granted...One of our freedoms is the choice of religion. During World War II, over six million Jewish men, women and children were put to death senselessly simply because they were of the Jewish Faith...The one word that best describes what freedom truly means to me is...America." — Rebecca Bianchi, Middle School

"Many of the citizens of the United States do not appreciate our hard-fought freedoms (the freedom of speech, expression and worship). They take these freedoms for granted. Many people do not register to vote or, if they are registered, do not vote in the different elections, yet these same people criticize the government for the job it is doing...Whenever I attend a patriotic celebration such as the Fourth of July or Memorial Day Parade and see our



Winners from the high school: Jeffrey McKnight, Gina D'urso and Rafael Diaz



Sacred Heart winners: Lauren Abbate, Katie Shelby and Margaret Moore.



Middle School winners: Rebecca Bianchi, Kathrine Lawrence and Glenn Gross.

war veterans marching, I feel a tremendous sense of pride because I am a citizen of such a great country...I look forward to a world where freedom is found everywhere and no one is persecuted for what they believe. — Katherine Shelby, Sacred Heart School.

"I never really took the time to think about just how lucky I am to be living in freedom. There are numerous reminders of freedom throughout each and every day that are just taken for granted...I noticed a group of workers demonstrating outside of a company, carrying signs to object to unfair labor conditions. In America, we are allowed freedom of speech to speak out against what we feel is

unjust...I hear reports of the bombings in Israel, more trouble in Bosnia and political and religious strife in Ireland. So many places in this world don't have the freedom that so many of us take for granted!" — Jeffrey McKnight, South Plainfield High School.

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SPORTS

Recreation Bowling 98-99 Season Ends

Submitted by Carol Boley

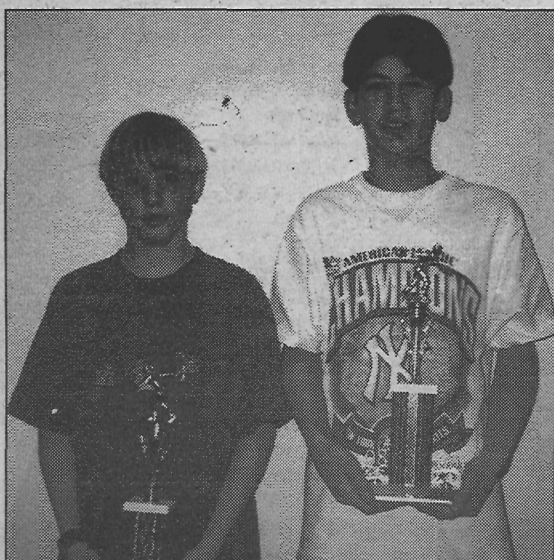
A pizza party and awards presentation was held on Sunday, Feb. 21, marking the end of the 20 week bowling season for South Plainfield Recreation participants.

The bowling program is managed by Mel Feller, who did a great job again this year. The league uses a handicap system so

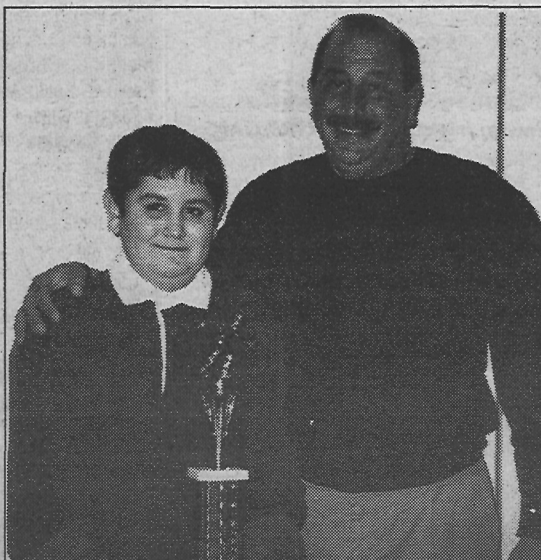
that everyone in all age groups has a fair chance to compete.

In all, 58 trophies were presented to the 30 bowlers, ranging in age from 9 through 18. The awards are divided into two age categories: Prep (9-10-11) and Junior (12 and up) with separate awards for boys and girls. Everyone who participated received an award.

In addition to the regular season, an Adult/Child Tournament was held on Sunday, Feb. 7. Congratulations to the following winners: Pat and Pat Cantarella placed first; Jerry and Matthew Boley were second; Kim and Gene Gaub were awarded third and John and Shawn Ferguson were fourth.



Third Place Team: THE WHOPPERS Jon Jeglinski and Jason Cosma

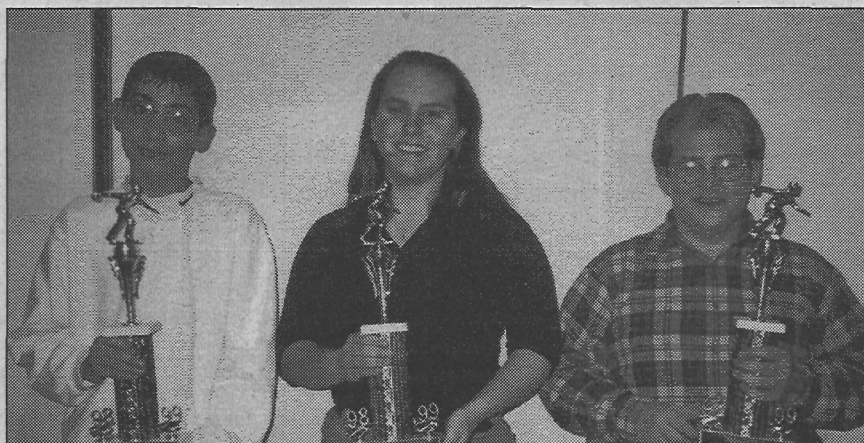


Winners of the Adult/Child Tournament: Pat and Pat Cantarella



First Place Team: STRIKE FORCE Shawn Ferguson, Ryan Curtis and Brett Morris

Second Place Team: ADRENELINE RUSH Chris Horn, Vicki Boley and Matt Boley



Rec Bowling Awards

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS	GIRLS	BOYS
High Series Scratch	Jr. Vicki Boley -532	Jason Cosma - 455
	Prep Kim Gaub - 335	Matt Boley - 446
High Series Handicap	Jr. Rachel Feller - 627	Sal Liszewski - 610
	Prep Mallory Cooper - 569	Kevin Ciampi - 608
	Prep	Richard Le - 608
High Game Scratch	Jr. Alexis Montanaro - 189	Chris Horn - 180
	Prep Melanie Foscolo - 121	Scott Hunterton - 167
High Game Handicap	Jr. Lauren Kaczka - 201	Tim McGovern - 248
	Prep Alicia Montanaro - 202	Shawn Ferguson - 222
	Prep	Mike Mocerino - 222
High Average	Jr. Vicki Boley - 144	Chris Horn - 131
	Prep Kim Gaub - 92	Matt Boley - 121
	Prep Melanie Foscolo - 92	
Most Improved Bowler	Jr. Vicki Boley +18 pins	Tim McGovern +30 pins
	Prep Alicia Montanaro +26 pins	Matt Boley +42 pins
Participation Awards		Jason Zielinski Anthony Rowlands Michael Duquette Pat Cantarella
TEAM AWARDS	TEAM NAME	TEAM MEMBERS
First Place	STRIKE FORCE	Shawn Ferguson Ryan Curtis Brett Morris
Second Place	ADRENELINE RUSH	Matt Boley Chris Horn Vicki Boley
Third Place	WHOPPERS	Jason Cosma Michael Carmon Jon Jeglinski Devin Jitten Rishi Ramgobin
Fourth Place	BULL DOGZ	
Team High Series Scratch	ADRENELINE RUSH-1309	M. Boley/C. Horn/V. Boley
Team High Series Handicap	THE MONKEES-2176	Rachel Feller Mallory Cooper Alicia Montanaro
Team High Game Scratch	I DON'T KNOW-423	Lauren Kaczka Alexis Montanaro Richard Le
Team High Game Handicap	WOLF PAC	Jimmy Milliron Tim McGovern

Weekly Horoscope

ARIES — "Looking good". With Venus in a wonderful aspect you are in a position to win over new friends and persuade them to your way of thinking. Best days are the 7th and the 12th.

TAURUS — A lot on your mind lately? It's not a good idea to rush an important issue... Patience is a virtue... and this will also be true with someone in opposition to you. Like the wind, you can wear down boulders with time.

GEMINI — For those of you in your golden years, your friends are important to you at this time. They will be happy to lend their support. Outings in groups or in your home will bring warmth.

CANCER — Stay on top of your game!! A past position in your job may come your way again — another step on the ladder of success, but no decisions need be made this month unless pressed.

LEO — You know Leo, you stick out like a sore thumb this week. Education should be utmost in your mind; this will immensely help you later down the road in your career path. But don't forget the arts for your creative side. Admirer is in the wings.

VIRGO — For those of you in the sales profession Mercury is entering your solar 8th house. And what does this mean to you? Well put on the cape for you are "supersales person" and it will also mean an increase in your finances.

LIBRA — You can say no wrong with anyone you wish to speak with. Talking from the heart is the rule here and

this really helps out, with any disagreements with a love one.

SCORPIO — "Strong like bull" as your friend Taurus. With a sun and mars transit, you should be physically strong and will excel in any sport you love. Your competitive side wants to bust loose. "Keep a note pad handy."

SAGITTARIUS — Venus says you have a love interest wanting more of your time. Family gatherings will give you the opportunity to have pleasant conversation. Be careful not to be misunderstood in what you have to say.

CAPRICORN — Boy, you are such a couch potato, the first part of the week. I guess a lot of sports are going on this weekend. Read your finance books.

AQUARIUS — Don't let anyone drag you down. Avoid disrupting talk until a better alignment comes along in about a week. A trip to the spa is in order.

PISCES — Happy birthday March Pisces. Your second house (finances) is being visited by the sun, Mercury and Venus. Plan your money well for the year.

INFO — Four female Leo's at a wine party. This recently happened to me and I was awestruck at how majestically they handled themselves. The sun, Leo's ruling planet, showed me that a star burns bright from within them, thus bestowing vitality and authority. (Particularly one lioness with golden hair.) Quote: For protection of the heart, a ruby in gold.

Basketball

By Brian Cochrane

Lady Tigers Open State Tournament With Victory

The South Plainfield girls basketball team began competition in the Central Jersey Group II Tournament with a decisive victory over Raritan 50-36.

The Tigers came out of the gate slow scoring only four points in the first quarter while trying

to get the feel for an unfamiliar Raritan team. Sheyri Cwiekalo was very busy Tuesday night scoring a team high 14 points, grabbing 7 rebounds, making 3 steals and blocking 3 shots. Kelly Ritchey tallied 11 points and Kim Wilcox added 10 in the victory.

SPORTS

Local Girls Make a Statement

Shannon Dabrio and Mary Otlowski represented South Plainfield High School at the Girls' 1999 GMC Swimming Championships held at North Brunswick Township High School on Saturday, Feb. 6.

Shannon swam in the 50 freestyle with a time of 27:87 and placed seventh out of 38 girls and in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:16:66 and placed ninth out of 30 girls.

Mary swam in the 50 Freestyle with a time of 29:56 and placed 21st out of 38 girls and in the 100 backstroke with a time of 1:18:57 and placed 16th out of 30 girls.

Both girls are freshmen at South Plainfield High School. There is currently no formal swim team at the school. Both girls currently swim on the Blue Dolphins Swim Team at the J.C.C. in Edison and on the Tiger Sharks Swim Team at the South Plain-



Shannon Dabrio, left, and Mary Otlowski, right, at Girls 1999 GMC Swimming Championship.

field Community Pool during the summer. Both girls indicated that they were excited about swimming in the GMC's and encour-

aged the creation of a swim team at South Plainfield High School in the future. How about it parents?

Junior Baseball Club Notes...

By Frank Hanley

Tryouts will be held tomorrow, March 6, at the PAL building. All players who registered should have received notification by mail. All players are urged to attend the tryout and remember to wear sneakers and bring your glove!

The Woman's Auxiliary will be taking SPJBC clothing orders during the tryouts. Also, candy orders may be turned in at this time.

Players who still wish to regis-

ter should contact the club as soon as possible as most leagues are almost full.

"Back To Baseball Night" will be held at the clubhouse on Monday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m. Players and parents are invited to meet the Executive Board, League Directors, Team Managers and Coaches.

Contact the SPJBC ... Clubhouse (908) 754-2090 or email us at spjbc99@aol.com.

More Than Just Throwing the Ball

By Naleesa Hardial

SPHS Tiger Times Co-Editor-In-Chief

Most of us think bowling is the kind of sport where you just roll the bowling ball to hit the pins. That might not be the case. Bowling takes patience, concentration, and team spirit. According to sophomore Erich Gaub, "Bowling is hard because there is so many things you have to do that people don't realize." Gaub continued to say, "It gives us a chance to have school spirit and work as a team." The only senior on the team is Joseph Grego. The juniors on the team are Douglas Laudhardt, Matthew Square, Dan Wallis. Sophomores on the team are Erich Gaub, Paul Larisch, Jeff Smith, and Raymond Tomei. The freshmen on the team are Brett Snyder and Rishi Ramgobin. The girls bowling team consist of two seniors, Jennifer Allen and Carmela Volpe.

The juniors on the girls bowling team are Jacquie Herzog, Rebecca Horn, and Amanda Smith. Sophomores are Rachel Feller, Kristen Herzog, Melissa Jamieson and Sabina Montanaro. Freshman Brett Snyder said the best thing about bowling team is "you get to meet new people, have fun while practicing, and getting a strike." The thing that excites Gaub about bowling is "the chance of winning a championship. I encourage anyone who has some spare time to try it." Freshman on the team is Brett Snyder. When I asked sophomore Sabina Montanaro what was so fun about bowling she replied, "I am with my friends and I have fun bowling. My goals for this year is to improve my average." "Bowling can also be annoying," according to Sabina. The thing that irritates the most about bowling is, "when I have a bad day or a bad game."

Coming Events at a Glance

Registration — contact the club, there are only a few openings remaining.

Tryouts on Saturday, March 6th at the PAL.

Draft Nights will be held during the week of March 8.

Back to Baseball Night — Monday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Clubhouse.

Coaches Clinic — Tuesday, March 16 at 7:30 at the Clubhouse.

Preseason practice starts Saturday, March 20.

1999 T-Ball/Teener Ball Registration

Registration for T-Ball/Teener Ball is open to all South Plainfield boys and girls in grades kindergarten through second grade.

T-Ball is open to children who were five as of Oct. 1, 1998 and Teener Ball for children who were six or seven as of Oct. 1, 1998. This program is sponsored by the South Plainfield Recreation Department.

The fee is \$14 per participant if registered by April 5, and \$19 after that date. Teener Ball has two divisions, girls play softball and boys play baseball.

Register in the recreation office at the PAL Recreation Center located on Maple Ave. Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Registration will be accepted Feb. 22-April 5. The recreation office will also be open from 6-8 p.m. on Monday, March 1 and 15 and April 5.

A birth certificate is required, for any registrants who are not yet in the Recreation Departments computer database.

If you have any questions, call the Recreation Office at 226-7713.

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	11	0
Texas	8	2
Tennessee	8	3
Georgia	7	4
Maryland	6	4
L.S.U.	3	8
Kentucky	2	8
North Carolina	2	9
Florida	0	9

A LEAGUE RESULTS-FEB. 27

Texas 57
L.S.U. 30
High scorers—Texas: Kyle Prendergest-7, Francisco Guevara-17, Justin Toth-15, Dan Melick-8, Chris Sanchez-8; LSU: Mike Espin-8, Kevin Joshi-7, Chris Catalfamo-6, James Ales-4.

North Carolina 37
Georgia 53

High scorers—NC: Ulysses Russell-13, Tom Haus-9; John Buggy-8, Mike Jaghab-6; Georgia: Lee Stellakis-16, Jason Basile-13, Mike Wiczorek-10, Phil Derosa-10, Tim Keller-4.

Maryland 60
Kentucky 33

High scorers—Maryland: Dan Pollin-22, Anthony Vitelli-19, Aaron Parks-17; Kentucky: Mike Chrysanth-16, Steven Sobel-6, Sean Kean-6, Liz Sabosik-4.

South Carolina 33
Tennessee 21

High scorers—SC: Shannon Horvath-12, Mike Alloco-8, Jeff McKnight-4; Tennessee: Mike Butrico-8, Marcellus Abrams-7.

B LEAGUE STANDINGS AGE 11-12

Michigan	11	0
Illinois	10	1
Kansas	9	3
Notre Dame	7	3
Syracuse	7	4
Ohio State	7	4
Pittsburgh	5	6
Arizona	5	6
Georgetown	4	7
Rutgers	3	8
U.C.L.A.	2	8
Seton Hall	1	11
Kentucky	0	11

B LEAGUE Results-FEB. 28

Kansas 31
Illinois 30
High scorers—Kansas: Eddie Kania-11, William Merkle-11, Vincent Velez-4; Illinois: Andre Scott-10, Danielle Arndt-8, Alan Dummett-8.

Arizona 33
Georgetown 41

High scorers—Arizona: Ryan Decker-16, Danny Sierze-4, Brian Acin-7, Thomas Whalen; Georgetown: Terry Paschall-16, Nick Cesare-10, Nick Grego-8, Thomas Holawka-5.

Michigan 48
Kentucky 22

High scorers—Michigan: Chris Bakazan-20, Daniel Pinwawar-8, David Acevedo-8, Jason Cosma-6, Nick Jefferys-4; Kentucky: Coral Willis-6, Amanda Rastelli-5, John Okuski-3, Mat Boley-3, Jason Ortiz-3.

Notre Dame 30
Pittsburgh 29

High scorers—Notre Dame: Eileen Milcare-4, Michael Hanley-10, Amanda Fugate-6, Galen Johnson-6, David Cacciature-4; Pittsburgh: Chris McKnight-13, Chris Horn-7, Adam Bianchi-4, Mike Salerno-3.

Syracuse 37
U.C.L.A. 32

High scorers—Syracuse: Andrew Cupido-21, Jonathan Danahue-8, Steven Mincevich-4; UCLA: Allen Mazurak-15, Chris Czaplinski-8, Michale Benak-6.

Rutgers 24
Seton Hall 16

High scorers—Rutgers: Jeffery Pollin-12, Brian Cantor-4, Dane Miyasato-4; Seton Hall: Daniel LaVerne-6, Chris Moore-4.

Ohio State: Bye

C LEAGUE STANDINGS AGE 9-10

Kings	11	1
Warriors	9	3
Trail Blazers	8	4
Grizzlies	8	4

Mavericks	7	5
Spurs	7	5
Nuggets	7	5
Rockets	7	5
Cavaliers	5	7
Suns	5	7
Hawks	5	7
Bucks	3	9
Supersonics	1	11
Wizards	1	11

C LEAGUE RESULTS-FEB. 27

Cavaliers 20
Warriors 27

High scorers—Cavaliers: AJ Romano-8, Robert Strani-6, Ryan Smith-3; Warriors: Billy Daly-8, Chris Pollin-7, Joey Turrise-6, Brett Morris-4.

Suns 18
Rockets 16

High Scorers—Suns: Anthony Petriello-10, Alenandria Ramos-4; Rockets: Zachary Gray-7, Harshel Patel-5, Charles Loiacono-4.

Hawks 27
Grizzlies 14

High Scorers—Hawks: Mike Mocerino-13, Matt Whitsitt-4, Joey Denizio-4, Jonathan O'Connor-4; Grizzlies: Kyle Lendach-10, Stephen Dvorak-4.

Kings 29
Wizards 20

High scorers—Kings: Chris Stallone-8, Mike Stallone-6, Allison Teal-4, Danny McCreesh-4; Wizards: Kyle Mathews-6, Bennie Gibson-6, Zack Famula-4.

Trail Blazers 34
Nuggets 20

High scorers—Trail Blazers: Andrew Roibal-8, Matt Fabino-6, Lacey Santone-6, Anthony Cassano-4, Erika Blaszk-4, Nich Giannakis-4; Nuggets: Kevin Siedenburg-11, Carlie Kazimir-5.

Supersonics 24
Spurs 26

High scorers—Supersonics: Scott Hartje-8, Billy Hodge-5, Joey Stasio-4, Samuel Martin-4; Spurs: Justin Basilone-12, Joe Defalco-6, Ryan Curtis-6.

Mavericks 20
Bucks 21

High scorers—Mavericks: Mike Piazza-6, Jonathan Guirguis-4, Bryan Wagner-4; Bucks: Keith Dezmin-17.

D LEAGUE STANDINGS AGE 7-8

Raptors	12	0
Bulls	10	2
Nets	9	3
Knicks	7	5
Clippers	6	5
76ers	6	6
Pistons	5	6
Celtics	5	7
Magic	5	7
Jazz	4	8
Hornets	4	8
Timber Wolfs	4	8
Lakers	3	9
Heat	3	9

D LEAGUE RESULTS-FEB. 27

Lakers 22
Celtics 15

High scorers—Lakers: Brendan O'Shea-12, Chris Deolivera-6, Chris Hartje-4; Celtics: Kyle Darr-10, Jordan Petriello-3.

Timberwolves 18
Nets 21

High scorers—Timberwolves: Vinnie Padula-10, John Mills-4, Nick Levandowski-4; Nets: Bobby Harrington-12, Sean Tamzoke.

Raptors 34
Knicks 16

High scorers—Raptors: Blaire Houson-22, Danny Espin-6; Knicks: Brian Hanley-6, Aaron Wright-6, Nicholas Dezmin-4.

76ers 26
Heat 24

High scorers—76ers: Andrew Gi 14, Michael Muglia-8; Heat: Troy Russell-12, Douglas Avery-6, Nick Giakas-4.

Hornets 18
Magic 12

High scorers—Hornets: Jose Chameco-6, Billy Richert-5, Jalil Williams-5; Magic: Brad Martin.

Bulls 30
Clippers 11

High scorers—Bulls: Greg Watts-14, Grey Coppi-8, Scott Bargon-64; Clippers: Peter Adornia-4, Brian Fabino-4.

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IN OUR SCHOOLS



Cat in the Hat Visits Readers at Riley School

By Patricia Abbott

The Cat in the Hat of Dr. Seuss fame drives a Saturn! But the giggling children swarming around the seven-foot plus creature couldn't care less! Saturn car dealers of New Jersey are just one of many sponsors for the second annual Read Across America Program.

From mid-January through February the famous cat has visited schools and libraries throughout the state. Saturn provided a car for the intrastate read-

ing tour.

The NJEA recently acquired their own Cat in the Hat costume and NJREA member Kathy Diehl-Spelkoman will spend much of her time portraying the Cat to grade school children.

The Cat paid a visit to Riley School on Monday, Feb. 22. The tall red and white striped stove pipe hat came within inches of the ceiling and the cat had to duck to enter doorways and he barely missed exit signs hanging from the ceiling.

Kindergarten Registration March 22-25

Registration of children for the September, 1999 kindergarten class will take place in the Board Room of the South Plainfield Board of Education Administration Building at 305 Cromwell Place during the week of March 22-25, 1999, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. To be enrolled in kindergarten this September, children must have been born on or before Oct. 1, 1994. There are no exceptions to this regulation.

Parents/guardians of prospective kindergartners are required to submit the following documents when registering their children:

1. *Application for Enrollment* — completed and signed by the parent or guardian.
2. *Original Birth Certificate* with raised seal from the Bureau of Vital Statistics OR a valid passport for the child. Photocopies of these documents are not acceptable.
3. *Child's Social Security Number*.
4. *Medical Record Form* with required immunization records — dated, stamped and signed by the child's doctor. Physical examinations must be completed after Jan. 1 of the year that the child enters kindergarten. If all immunizations cannot be completed prior to Kindergarten Registration Week, these should be completed and a physician's verification thereof submitted to the registration secretary in Room 21 of the Administration Building prior to Sept. 1, 1999. [NOTE: THE ONLY ACCEPTABLE MEDICAL RECORD FORM IS THE ONE ISSUED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT.]

5. *Two Proofs of Residency* — e.g., utility bills (PSE&G, telephone, cable, water, etc.) with parent's name and address dated within the last two months OR a current tax bill from the South

Plainfield Tax Office OR a legal contract showing purchase of home (deed) or rental of a residence (lease) in South Plainfield. A driver's license is not acceptable as a proof of residency.

6. *If the child does not reside with both parents, official custody documents will be required.*

In order to expedite the registration process, parents are encouraged to assemble, complete and bring the above documents with

them at the time of registration.

Parents/guardians may obtain blank enrollment forms prior to the Kindergarten Registration Week (March 22-25, 1999) in the office of any elementary school or in the human resources office (main office) in the Administration Building.

ANY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OR IN THE HUMAN RESOURCES

Former Dept. Chair Returns To Teach Physics Class

By Bill Tutbill

Frank Ferraro's Physics class held a special session on Friday, Feb. 26.

Ellis Williams, former chairman of the math and science area for 16 years at the high school,

fork and each had a different frequency.

The tuning fork would be tapped and held in position in front of one end of the tube. The student would move the block in the tube until a resonance point



Pictured above are high school students Roy Brandos, Joanna Alfante, Brad Tierney, Kegly Doer, Jillian Stokes, David Alles, Paul Israel, and Zachary Moore looking on as Ellis Williams demonstrates a physics problem.

returned after 26 years in retirement. He came back as a guest lecturer to demonstrate a physics problem, "The Velocity of Sound in Air."

Mr. Ferraro's College Prep Physics students were somewhat in awe of the math and mechanics of the measuring equipment. There were six devices known as wave guides. Each consisted of an aluminum tube six feet long and two inches in diameter. Inside the tube was a wooden block with a nylon cord attached so the block could be moved back and forth. Each demonstration had a tuning

was located, a measurement would be taken and the distance noted. This was repeated three more times until three or four positions were found.

The data was taken and compared between stations also taking into consideration the air temperature. The results were excellent.

The students found the lecture to be very interesting and said it was something new to them. Maybe some of Mr. Williams former students will remember the formula — Velocity of sound in air = Frequency X Wave Length.



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IN OUR SCHOOLS

Sacred Heart Holds Valentine's Tag Day

By Marsia Palma

On Friday, Feb. 12, Sacred Heart School held a tag day to celebrate St. Valentine's Day. Tag Days are when students pay fifty cents to wear their own clothes instead of uniforms and is sponsored by the student council. Since it was two days before Valentine's Day, the students were asked to wear red, pink or white clothes. The student council also sponsored a coloring contest. For the contest, students got to choose from five different pictures related to Valentine's Day and colored them. The student council collected all of the papers on Thursday, picked the best one from each class and announced the winners on Friday. All of the winners received bags filled with candy.

Each classroom also had its own small party. Students exchanged valentines, gave small gifts or cards to their teachers and enjoyed various snacks and treats they brought in to share with their class. Many grades, including the pre-k and kindergarten, decorated small bags to keep their valentines in.

The pre-k also learned about St. Valentine and practiced a song called "Here is My Heart" that they could sing for their family and friends. Some kindergartners made "heart people" to hang on their classroom walls and cards for their parents.

The older grades watched mov-



ies and listened to music while dancing and talking with their friends. The 6A class threw their teacher, Mrs. Egerton, a small surprise party complete with balloons. The seventh graders had fun doing an English assignment where everyone had to write a positive quality about each of their classmates. It made the students feel special to read all of the nice things written about them. Overall, it was an enjoyable day for everyone at Sacred Heart School.

Other exciting news from Sacred Heart concerns the V.F.W. Youth Essay Contest. The theme of the contest was "What Freedom Means to Me" and there were three winners from Sacred Heart School. In first place was Katie Selby, who won \$125. Lauren Abbate won second place and \$100 and third place went to Margaret Monroe who won \$75. The awards ceremony was held at the V.F.W. on Feb. 19.

Congratulations to the three winners!



Franklin School Winners, Samantha Deffler-Captain, Eric Reiner, Eileen Cameron, Nadine Yon, Richard Goldamez, Harmada Ahmad, alternate-Carla Zappi and Franklin School Librarian Mrs. Judy Lichenstien.

Franklin School Takes First Place at 'Battle of the Books' Competition

By Patricia Abbott

"The battle raged as it enters its final hour. The sound of silence that followed each round was deafening. The satisfaction upon scoring was almost tangible..." Sound like the beginning of a good book? Close, the sentence describes the atmosphere in the Riley School Gym as the school hosted the second annual Battle of the Books.

Each of the elementary schools and the Middle School had a team of six competing. The battle tests the memory skills of students who read books from the list. All team members are volunteers. If more than six students participate, there is a playoff within the school to

determine the team.

The winners continue on to the final battle against the other schools. The competition lasts about an hour. Each team is asked ten questions and has a limited time to reply. Franklin School took first place, Kennedy School second place and Middle School third place.

The Franklin team, under the tutelage of Librarian Mrs. Judy Lichenstein, worked hard to prepare for the Battle of the Books. The once a week practice session with Mrs. Lichenstein was not enough for this enthusiastic group. They gave up their lunch hour twice a week. The teamwork and diligence of this devoted

group of students paid off when they were awarded first place. Franklin School placed second last year in the first annual Battle of the Books. The winners will celebrate with a pizza lunch next week.

Franklin School Principal Nancy Erickson was thrilled with her school's team. She said; "The Battle of the Books is a wonderful experience for all who participated. The experience not only provided the opportunity for students to read and share ideas, but also to work together. All the students demonstrated great poise throughout the competition. We are very proud of the team from Franklin School and our Librarian Mrs. Lichenstein."

What's Going On? Find out in the Observer.

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Obituaries

Adreinne (Chargois) Fritz, 91

Adreinne (Chargois) Fritz of Basking Ridge, died on Friday, Feb. 26, at Morristown Memorial Hospital in Morristown.

She was born in Plainfield and was a former resident of Dunellen before moving to Basking Ridge 16 years ago.

Mrs. Fritz was a homemaker.

She was predeceased by her husband, Fred J. Fritz, who died in 1955 and her son, William M. Fritz, who died in 1992.

She is survived by two sons, Arthur Fritz of Branchburg and Fred J. Fritz, Jr. of Bennington, Vermont; two daughters, Ruth Hoehler of South Plainfield and Audrey Lewis of Toms River; a brother, Arthur Chargois of Boynton Beach, Fla. and 12 grandchildren and 22 great grandchildren.

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

Dorothy (Perhodka) Medici, 72

Dorothy (Perhodka) Medici of Middlesex, died Thursday, Feb. 25, at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

She was born in South Plainfield and resided here before moving to Middlesex 38 years ago.

Mrs. Medici was a member of Our Lady of Mount Virgin R. C. Church in Middlesex.

She was predeceased by her husband, Nicholas Medici, who died in 1990.

She is survived by two sons, Nicholas Medici of Dunellen and Lawrence Medici of East Windsor; two daughters, Frances Bosick of Piscataway and Linda Turzak of Gainesville, Fla.; two sisters, Dolores Prehodka of Edison and Patricia Pumm of South Plainfield and six grandchildren.

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

Helen Kedron Aniunas, 75

Helen Kedron Aniunas of Abingdon, Md., formerly of South Plainfield, died on Thursday, Feb. 25, at Falston General Hospital in Falston, Md.

She was born in New York City and was a former 45 year resident of South Plainfield before moving to Abingdon seven years ago.

Mrs. Aniunas was a research technician for Ayerst Laboratories in South Plainfield for 15 years before retiring in 1988.

Mrs. Aniunas was a member of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church and a member of the parish Rosary Society and the St. Theresa's Club. She was a life member of the Polish National Home in South Plainfield.

She was predeceased by her husband, John Aniunas, who died in 1973.

She is survived by two sons, Greg Aniunas of Long View, Texas and John Aniunas of Belair, Md.; a brother, Henry Kedron of Hasbrook Heights and four grandchildren.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to Our Lady of Czestochowa Church, 120 Kosciuszko Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Olga (Chowka) Dziomba, 72

Olga (Chowka) Dziomba died on Wednesday, Feb. 24, in The JFK/Hartwyck Nursing Home in Plainfield.

Born in Garfield, she had resided in North Jersey and New York City before moving to South Plainfield for 40 years. Mrs. Dziomba had resided in Spring Hills, Fla. for three years before moving to Plainfield in 1993.

She had been employed by Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield for 15 years as a registered nurse. She had also been employed by Dr. Steinberg of Plainfield as an office nurse for five years before her retirement.

She was a member of the American Legion Chaumont Post

#243 Ladies Auxiliary of South Plainfield, where she held many offices within the organization. She was also one of the four original women who joined the South Plainfield Rescue Squad back in the 1970's, where she had been a member for many years.

She was also a member of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Orthodox Church in South Plainfield.

Her husband, Alexander Dziomba, died in 1990.

Surviving are two sons, Timothy M. of South Plainfield and Peter A. of Saugerties, New York; a sister, Helen Klemshack of Mahwah. Also surviving are two grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Catherine (Tramutolo) Cesaro, 90

Catherine (Tramutolo) Cesaro, died on Saturday, Feb. 20, in the Genesis Elder Care/The Woodlands Nursing Home in Plainfield.

Born in Newark, she had resided in Irvington for many years before moving to South Plainfield in 1971.

Mrs. Cesaro was a homemaker and a communicant of Sacred Heart Church.

Her husband, Louis Cesaro, died in 1985 and her son, Robert Cesaro, has also predeceased her.

Surviving are her sons, Anthony R. of South Plainfield; Catiello of Delaware and Stanley of Union. Also surviving are 17 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

William P. DeFrance, 73

William P. DeFrance of Union, formerly of South Plainfield, died Sunday, Feb. 21, at Father Hudson Center of Hope in Elizabeth.

He was born in Elizabeth and was a former 37 year resident of South Plainfield before moving to Union two years ago.

Mr. DeFrance was a realtor for DeFrancisco Better Homes and Garden Realtors in Scotch Plains for the last ten years.

Mr. DeFrance was in the U.S. Navy Air Force during WWII. He was a member of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association in Frederick, Md. and was co-founder of the American Academy of Aerospace Education in Old Bridge. He was a member and served as secretary of the former South Plainfield Optimist Club.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Burleigh DeFrance; a son, William C. DeFrance of South Plainfield; three brothers, Joseph

of Dade City, Fla., Andrew of Toms River and Albert of Union; three sisters, Marie Dimperio of Elizabeth, Virginia Villani of Dade City, Fla. and Dorothy Murawski of Union.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to the Father Hudson Center for Hope 111 Dehart Place, Elizabeth, NJ 07202.

Lucrecia C. (Canonizado) Malamug, 81

Lucrecia C. (Canonizado) Malamug of South Plainfield, died on Sunday, Feb. 28 at her home here.

She was born in Panan, Botsan, Zambales Philippines. She came to the United States in 1976, settling in Newark. She was a former resident of Piscataway before moving to South Plainfield 10 years ago.

Mrs. Malamug was a member of Sacred Heart Church.

She is survived by her husband, Dionisio Malamug; three sons, Cesar Malamug of Summerville, SC; Jose and Ruben Malamug, both of Piscataway; three daughters, Lydia Pantaleon of Hillsborough, Nyda Manuel of South Plainfield and Delia See of Piscataway; four brothers, Domingo Canonizado of San Diego, Calif., Jesus of Carteret, Santiago of the Philippines and Ernesto Florita of San Francisco, Calif.; a sister, Aurelia Manangan of South Plainfield and 16 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren.

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

Joseph L. Riccardi, 72

Joseph L. Riccardi died on Saturday, Feb. 27 at his home in South Plainfield.

Mr. Riccardi was born in Plainfield and has resided in South Plainfield since 1960.

He retired in 1983 from the Mack Truck Co. of Bridgewater, where he worked as a packer for 15 years. Prior to Mack, Mr. Riccardi had worked as an iron molder for 28 years for the former Wood Newspapers, which was located in Plainfield.

He was a member of the United Auto Workers Local 229 of Plainfield and of the AFL-CIO Molders Allied Workers Union Local 305 of Plainfield.

He was a Navy Veteran of WW II. He had participated in the invasion of Anzo and in the "D" Day Invasion at Normandy Beach while serving with the Navy Armed Guard and later, with the Navy Seabees. He served in the invasion of Oakinoau. Mr. Riccardi was awarded three Navy Battle Stars.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Burleigh DeFrance; a son, William C. DeFrance of South Plainfield; three brothers, Joseph

He was a Life Member of the VFW Memorial Post 6763 and a Life Member of the Military Order of the Cooties, a Life Member of the American Legion Chaumont Post 243, the BPO Elks Lodge 2298 and a Life Member of the Italian American Club, all of South Plainfield. Mr. Riccardi was also a member of the Navy Seabees Veterans of America and the US Navy Veterans of America and the US Navy Armed Guard Veterans of America.

He was also a member of the Loyal Order of Moose Lodge 1976 of Edison and was a former member of the South Plainfield Jr. Baseball Club and the South Plainfield Pop Warner Eagles.

Mr. Riccardi was a communicant of St. Stanislaus Kosta RC Church in Plainfield.

Surviving are his wife, Jean T. (Toth) Riccardi; a son: Joseph M. Riccardi of Shohola, Pa.; three sisters, Antoinette Santo of Whitting Twsp., Helen DiDario of North Plainfield and Louise Carmon of Piscataway and two grandchildren, Kim and Michael Riccardi of Shohola, Pa.

Services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Donald L. Rinker, 74

Donald L. Rinker of South Plainfield, died on Saturday, Feb. 27 at his home.

Mr. Rinker was born in Springfield. He grew up in Plainfield and has resided in South Plainfield for the past 50 years.

For over 50 years, Mr. Rinker was a self employed carpenter. He had worked throughout the New York and New Jersey areas, before he retired 12 years ago.

He was an Army Veteran of WW II.

His wife, Elizabeth C. Rinker, died in 1982. He was also predeceased by a sister, Blanche Imporocco and by his brother, Edward Rinker.

Surviving are two daughters, Susan L. DeCosta of Plainfield and Deborah J. Dobos of South Plainfield; a son, Marshall W. Rinker of South Plainfield; four sisters, Hazel Nargi and Shirley Strauss, both of Greenbrook, Buelah Wallachowski of Rosselle Park and Audrey Sherman of the Highlands; five brothers, Eugene Rinker of South Plainfield, Mikon Rinker of Piscataway, Merle Rinker of Long Island and Arnold Rinker and Gerald Rinker, both of Florida. He is also survived by four grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

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by Robert Hunter

KINGS AND THEIR SUBJECTS

It has often been observed that, regardless of their station in life, all people come to death in a similar manner. That is to say that we shed the garb that cloaked us in insularity, and we go forth armed with only love and our convictions. Thus, death is transformational in the spiritual sense, as well as the physical. As Daniel Webster observed: "One may live as a conqueror, a king, or a magistrate; but he must die a man. The bed of death brings every human being to his pure individuality; to the intense contemplation of that deepest and most solemn of all relations - the relation between the creature and his Creator."

Those who may regret having failed to realize the goals they set themselves in youth, can take solace in the strong bonds of respect and affection that they have forged in life; bonds that shine brighter than gold in the eyes of our maker. Family owned and operated, the JAMES W. CONROY FUNERAL HOME welcomes members of all beliefs and offers courteous, professional assistance in arranging end-of-life services. To schedule a consultation, call 756-2800. We are located at 2456 Plainfield Avenue in South Plainfield.

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- Edward Young



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High School Talent Show

Mark your calendars for Friday, March 12. The SPHS annual talent show has a fun-filled line up of acts that run from vocals and hip hop to Abbott & Costello's famous "Who's On First." The show will be held in the SPHS auditorium and starts at 7:30. The doors will open at 6:45 p.m. Tickets are just \$6 for adults, \$4 for students, senior citizens and free for student gold card holders. Proceeds from the event will benefit Project Graduation and the SPHS Chorus. Emcee for the evening is Mr. Spolarich. Judging for the show are: Shayne Austin Miller, EJ. DeRobertis, Al Miller, Sandy Doyon & Tom Doyon. Cash prizes will be awarded in five categories; all over performance, band, vocal, dance and misc. For tickets or information, call Jan at 561-4416.

Some of the performers are: Alissa Gittens, Alicia Clark, Tamika Limerick, Safiyah Sadiq, Latoya Joseph and Tanisha Hoyte dancing; Jenna De Los Santos and Allison Provaire singing; Patty Reach, Jen Ward, Sara Ziobro dancing; Justin Woo reciting original poems; Rajeeayah and Qmar Madinah dancing; Lenora Zerbian and Kristyn Ciarlariello singing; Stephanie Prybella and Heather Pederse dancing; Melissa O'Conner dancing; Juliette Falocco doing a vocal; Kevin Krystopik, Fred Elliot, Billie Jean & Patrick Sarullo performing; James Fosle and Glenn Adams singing; Sabrina Hollis, Jackie Jones, Ebony Rowe and Jalilah Eure dancing; Nicole Scavone and Lisa Mocerino singing a duet; Glen Barlacs, Jason Kelly Brian Mahovetz Band; James Borgese and Joe Scott, Laura Walter, Lacey Walter and Jen Rayho dancing; Mohamed Shiliwala and Matt Wojcik doing a comedy routine; Steve Ambelli, Pulomena and Shaun Galya and Ryan Stybel, performing.

Residents Ask Questions About Helen Street Project

By Bill Turhill

A question and answer session to get input from residents was held in the form of a public information forum held on Thursday, Feb. 25 at Borough Hall.

Many people thought it was going to be a regular meeting with one person doing most of the talking. As it turned out, Mr. Christopher Donahey of the Fredrick Harris Company, who is the Chief Engineer for the project and his staff members were located in different areas of the council chamber. They pointed out the hurdles that will have to be cleared in each of the proposed routes before anything could be started.

On display were maps of six different routes under consideration. What is involved as far as the environmental impact, traffic, "land-taking" for easements, etc., was also discussed.

The hottest topic of discussion was the Park Ave. railroad bridge. It will have to be replaced with a four lane bridge in order to make it "fit" into the plan. The new bridge will have to be made nine feet higher than the old one. Raising the height of the span also means changing the slope of the road on both sides. If this new route is used, it will connect Universal Ave. in Edison out to Park Ave.

near the end of the new slope. This new slope will have a lesser angle, but it will be longer.

The biggest problem with this plan is that some of the slope will require raising the road in front of a few homes on Park Avenue up to three feet. It may also mean "taking" some footage from these properties. It was suggested that the "taking" be done from the other side of Park Ave. in front of the Dryfus Co. instead, since that area has room to spare.

Mrs. Irene Wall of Fleet Avenue in Edison seemed a bit upset by the way the session was going and called it "a farce," and said that they will do what they want to do. "There was no presentation to the masses. Only one on one. I find it to be an uninformatonal meeting," said Mrs. Wall. She is a member of the environmental group in Edison who are protesting the odor problems form the Recycling Inc. on the South Plainfield side of the railroad tracks.

Quite a few people showed up at 4 o'clock on the dot, while others came and went throughout the afternoon with an estimated count of over 100 visitors.

Those that could not get to the forum may write for info to: Mr. Christopher Donahey, Fredrick Harris, Inc., Office Building B, 485 U.S. Route 1 So., Iselin, N.J. 08830.

Borough Notes

Continued from page one

plicant, said that Quick Chek does not encourage tractor trucks coming onto the site. Rich McCriskin asked John Madden, the applicants planner, what his feelings were if a trucker wanted to come into the Quick Chek lot to make a purchase. Mr. Madden said this would be addressed by their traffic advisor.

This case will be continued to March 30.

Planning Board

■ S & L Cursi Construction Co., Inc. was granted approval for the property on Kosciusko Ave. to be classified as a minor two lot subdivision, with the condition that the applicant will address all items in the Borough Engineer's letter of Feb 10 and return to the Board to hear as a minor subdivision.

■ McCriskin Home for Funerals located on Plainfield Ave. was granted a side yard variance and a preliminary site plan approval and waivers.

POLICE REPORT

• A Middlesex resident was arrested for shoplifting \$114.96 worth of Playstation video games at Blockbuster Video, Hadley Rd.

• Mayra Cartagena, a Plainfield resident, was arrested for shoplifting merchandise totaling \$126.00 from Bradlees.

• Gloria Campbell of North Brunswick reported the theft of her purse from the Fashion Bug on Oak Tree Rd. She stated that she left the dressing room for two minutes and the purse was gone when she returned. Approximately \$425 cash was in the purse. She claimed the purse was valued at \$500.

• An Edgar Ave. resident was arrested for disorderly conduct and resisting arrest after a bar fight at KC Corners.

• Troy Henderson of Piscataway was arrested for possession of marijuana and paraphernalia.

• Sunnita Bansal of Edison was arrested for shoplifting \$14 merchandise from Bradlees.

• Jermaine Newsome of East Orange was arrested for shoplift-

ing \$300 of merchandise from Kmart, located at the Middlesex Mall.

• Nicole Sander of Piscataway reported the theft of her purse from Regal Cinema. A search of trash containers and dumpsters was conducted. The purse was located behind the theater. Missing was her driver's license and \$10.

• LJM Transportation Service, located on Front St., reported that an employee had not returned to work with the company pager, gas card and vehicle. The car was located in front of his home in Metuchen, however, residents of the house had not seen him in several days.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Thomas and Karen Magner requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of a 15' x 19' wood deck, proposed deck lacks required 8' side yard set back, 6' being proposed, said property being located on Block 68, Lot 9 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 16, 1999, in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

The maps and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Building Inspector's Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

\$20.00

1T March 5, 1999

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Leslie Graham requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit construction of a dwelling on property which is presently vacant land. This request is for affirmation of a variance granted by the Zoning Board of Adjustment of the City of Plainfield, and site plan approval, said property being located on Block(s) 14, Lot(s) 52.01 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 16, 1999, in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 pm.

The maps and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Building Inspector's office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

\$22.00

1T March 5, 1999


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Classifieds

HELP WANTED

SOUTH PLAINFIELD MUNICIPAL COURT has an opening for a Deputy Court Administrator. Must have ability to plan, develop and coordinate procedures for the efficient operation of the court. Required to supervise and instruct staff, implement court rules, state statutes, local ordinances and court policies and participate in case processing. ATS/ACS experience necessary. Hours 9am-5pm, evening court session every Wednesday. Salary \$28,429. + benefits. Contact Pat Vargo, Court Administrator, 908-226-7656.

P/T ADVERTISING SALESPERSON for local newspaper. Great opportunity. Set own hours. 732-469-4380.

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PART-TIME CLERK for store. Call 908-755-3663.

INSTRUCTION

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Classified Advertising Works.

To place your ad, call
the South Plainfield Observer
(732) 469-4380.

3 line minimum-\$10, \$1 per each additional line. To place a classified send your check to the Observer, c/o G & G Graphics, 530 Union Ave., Ste. 3, Middlesex, NJ 08846.

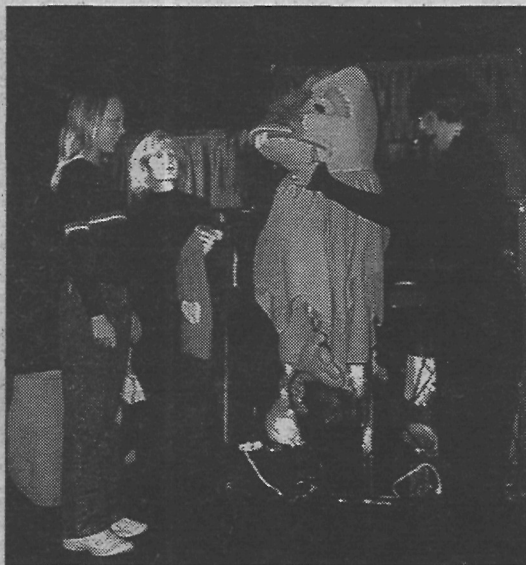
Deadline for next issue is Mon, Feb. 29.

FOR RATES & INFO CALL THE OBSERVER AT 732-469-4380.



Puppeteers Perform at the High School

Carol Saks and Lois Mettler, the founders, creators and performers of the Peppermint Playhouse, performed their infamous "The Wish Machine" show recently at the high school. Both puppeteers are former teachers with masters degrees that span pre-k through high school. With a zest for performing and teaching, they give life to dozens of zany, happy characters. The puppet show which has become an annual event, was sponsored by the South Plainfield Recreation Department and was free to residents.



The high school auditorium was filled with over 500 excited kids and parents. The theme of the show told a story which said that everyone's life may already be full of "wishful" things. During the show children from the audience were chosen to come up to the stage, put on costumes and play the parts of a dragon, a dog and a cat.

After the show Carol and Lois demonstrated how the puppet show was done. They lifted the curtains of the set and demonstrated how the puppets come alive.

The Peppermint Playhouse Puppeteers perform shows all over the state using themes such as drug awareness, the environment and tolerance toward others.

Spisso Family Renews Adopt-a-Spot

Brian Spisso and his family have renewed their Adopt-A-Spot agreement with the South Plainfield Clean Business Association for 1999. They will continue their maintenance of the stretch of Hamilton Blvd. between Somerset Ave. and the newly-

opened Pomponio Ave.

The Spisso's have been maintaining this block for several years and formally adopted it under the CBA program in 1997. Mr. Spisso was concerned about the safety of his children as they walked to school under

the overhanging poison ivy. The adoption agreement states they will keep the area litter free, keep the sidewalk free of snow and cut the grass along the road as needed.

For info, contact Clean Communities Coordinator, (908) 226-7621.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

A few days ago, we turned another page on our calendars. A few moments ago, you turned a page of this newspaper. So, now that the preliminaries are out of the way, here's March's first column from South Plainfield Library:

We'll be holding our regular schedule of storytime programs next week. For those who aren't familiar with them, they take place 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. If you'd like more details, give us a call at 754-7885 and check with Linda Hansen.

The Library Board of Trustees will meet on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend this informative meeting.

This month's group of circuit videos is in place and circulating. March's selections include *Interview with the Vampire*, *The Mask*, *Dark City*, *Scream* and *The Game*. The tapes can be borrowed free for two days.

Here's an unusual library item: sale prices. Book Lovers' Calendars, sold to benefit the Friends of the Library, are now going for \$3 each. Also, discarded juvenile and junior intermediate books are yours for 20 cents each. Get 'em while they're hot.

This month's children's craft program is set for 4 p.m. on Friday, March 19. The program is for chil-

dren ages six and over. Due to space limitations, we ask you to please pre-register for this program.

As noted last week, we've got a very special program coming up. National award-winning author Arline Zatz, writer of *New Jersey's Special Places*, will appear at the Library on Sunday, March 21, from 2-4 p.m. She will speak and autograph copies of her books, which will be available for purchase. If you'd like more information about the program or her works, stop by the main desk.

We've had another "code of conduct" problem recently. We discovered that a thoughtless, cheap patron tore out part of one of our daily newspapers. Thoughtless because the person deprived someone else of that part of the paper, cheap because they wouldn't spring for their own paper or for a 10 cent photocopy. Damaging library materials in that way is a pretty low thing to do. If you need something, just borrow it. If you need it copied, check with us. Don't take away another's right to use our materials by acting in such a callous manner. And thanks to the vast majority of our patrons who do treat our things, from the folios to the furniture, responsibly.

That's about all for this issue. Please don't be shy about sending us your comments. See you next time.

South Plainfield
Observer

is sold at the
following locations:

- 7-Eleven, Plainfield Ave.
- Bagel Pantry, Plainfield Ave.
- B & C Deli, Belmont Ave.
- Corner Deli, Hamilton Blvd.
- Carousel Hair Salon, Oak Tree Rd.
- Cookies, Oak Tree Ave.
- Dave's Stationery, Sampton Ave.
- Details, So. Clinton Ave.
- Holly Park Video, Park Ave.
- K Foods, Park Ave.
- Krauser's Food Store, Oak Tree Rd.
- Twin City Pharmacy, Park Ave.
- The Little Store, South Clinton Ave.
- Mohn's Flowers, Plainfield Ave.
- Oak Tree Farms, Oak Tree Road
- Pauls Stationery, Hamilton Blvd.
- Quick 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.

If you would like to sell the newspaper, call (732) 485-4580.

February / March 1999

Meetings & Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Copy Deadline: Friday, 5 pm Advertising Deadline: Monday, 5 pm	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 Sacred Heart Fish Dinner 5-7pm 101st Airborne Mtg. 7 pm Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	27
28 Elks Fashion Show at Holiday Inn, Noon-4 Photo Expo-Watching Arts Ctr. 1-4 pm	MARCH 1 Recreation Comm. Meeting 7 pm 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 Sacred Heart Fish Dinner 5-7pm Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	6
7	8 Blood Drive SPHS 8:30-2 p.m. 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 Borough Council Meeting 8 pm	12 Sacred Heart Fish Dinner 5-7pm Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	13 St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance, Post home, 6 pm
14	15 Land Management Advisory Committee 7:30 pm	16 Board of Adjustment 8 pm	17 Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	18	19 Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	20 Franklin PTA Auction/ Raffle 6:30
21	22 Borough Council Agenda Meeting 8 pm	23 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 Elk One-Stop-Shopping 10-4, Elks Lodge

Want to know what's going on in South Plainfield? Get home delivery of The Observer. Subscription Form on Page 6.