

South Plainfield Observer

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MARCH 19, 1999



Some of the International Woman's Day panel members with their children: Ann Simone and son Anthony, Sue Ashnault and son Billy, Suzanne Butrico with daughter Gina, Jayne Mott with daughters Susan and Sarah.

Franklin Celebrates International Woman's Day

By Patricia Abbott

Franklin School celebrated International Woman's Day on Monday, March 8 with a panel of women representing a wide variety of professions. The program was presented to fourth grade



Susan Mott listens to her mom and the others on the panel.

classes. The students listened attentively and had planned questions that they asked of each panelist. Seven women volunteered to speak to the students.

Most of the panelists are full time mothers of school-age children as well as career women. Mrs. Claire Mosier, the school's

beloved crossing guard, was amongst the guests. She explained the details of her job, such as the importance of always being alert. She has two grown children. Mrs. Suzanne Butrico was there as a mother, certainly a job in itself. She has a degree in psychology and is a former teacher. She assists in her husband's business and has four children. Mrs. Ann Simone spoke to the students about being a graphic artist. She has three children. Kindergarten teacher Mrs. Rosemarie Pelton was there - not representing education - but the real estate profession. She is one of the top 100 Prudential salespeople in the country. Dr. Lillian DeSimon, assistant superintendent of schools, was on hand as well. She is mother of four grown children. Mrs. Jayne Mott, mother of four, is a nurse. She pointed out the education involved in the nursing field as well as the fact that many nurses today are males. Mrs. Sue Ashnault has three children, and is the director of Creative Kids Academy. She spoke to the children about both the business and educational aspects of her career.

Fourth grade student Susan Mott was really proud to have her

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Caldors Closes After 13 Years

By Patricia Abbott

Caldor opened its doors in South Plainfield in 1986. Despite its popularity in the South Plainfield area, Caldor has been plagued with problems for several years. Unofficially, failures in upper management, along with bankruptcy, led to the demise of the store chain. Over 20,000 people are left without jobs, approximately 100 were employed at the South Plainfield location.

On March 13, thirteen years after opening, Caldors closed its doors for the last time. Saturday was the last day for shoppers to visit the once thriving department store.

Since word of the closing was announced, employees worked hard to keep up with customers searching for bargains. The bargain-hunting took its toll on the store. Merchandise was tossed with abandon and open packages were thrown on the floor by shoppers.

Most employees who spoke to *The Observer* were hesitant to give their names. Some were told not to discuss the store's closing and are fearful of losing their severance benefits. Several spoke on the condition of anonymity.

One employee of nine years explained, "There has been a lot of crying. It is very sad. It is not the store itself I will miss but interacting with the customers and my friends. Employees came and went but the old-timers formed a



Last Saturday, the aisles of Caldors were empty of merchandise and customers.

bond with each other. The closing of Caldor is like a family coming apart." She commented on the managers as well. "There were a lot of managers over the years. Some were very good, but others were lacking in human relations skills." Most employees spoke fondly of about their time at Caldor and their relationships with management and other employees.

Tom McCreesh Named Art Auction Chairman



Tom McCreesh

Vision 2001 spokesman Emil Leporino announced that Tom McCreesh has been chosen as Honorary Chairman for the Annual Art Auction to be held on April 16.

Tom McCreesh has been an ac-

tive member of various youth organizations in South Plainfield. With his children in various recreation programs, including baseball, softball, soccer and basketball, he has been active in all sports functions.

Tom has coached t-ball, boys and girls teener ball and he has been a junior baseball manager. He also coached recreation soccer, basketball and was a coach of the All-Star Traveling Baseball Team.

Tom has been a referee in youth basketball for over 20 years, as well as a referee for youth hockey and an umpire in junior baseball.

He has been active in the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club, serving on the executive board, as a trustee and a director of C-League. He was also on the booster and scholarship committees in Pony A and B Leagues.

A South Plainfield resident, who was a Caldor employee for several years, agreed that there were frequent turnovers of employees. "It was like a revolving door. People took jobs and didn't do any work, creating more work for others. If you were lucky you made a few good friends and kept them. Managers came and went. Some were more people oriented than others."

Marie Roseo, a South Plainfield resident who had been working the switchboard for four years, said, "I loved my job and everyone I worked with. But towards the end some of the customers got very nasty. One woman who called said she had bought

Continued on page 10

Traffic Advisory

Beginning Monday, March 22 through Wednesday, March 24, Conrail will close New Brunswick Ave. at the Tyler Place railroad crossing. Traffic will be detoured for the entire three-day period.

Motorists are asked to avoid the area and find alternative routes until completion of the construction project.

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To subscribe to the Observer, see page 9.

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

We would like to extend our congratulations to the new police officers sworn in last week. Dennis Cerami, along with the other council members said, "South Plainfield has the finest police department in the state."

We would also like to welcome the new advertisers in the *Observer*. We Care is located on Plainfield Ave. and Here's The Scoop is in Golden Acres Shopping Center. Both are newly opened businesses in town. We also welcome some of our new advertisers: Oak Tree Farms on Oak Tree Ave., The Bagel Stop on South Plainfield Ave. and Audio-Tel on Hamilton Blvd. Also welcome, in the new Business Directory, SnapShot Greetings, Mind Waves and Lordina Builders. All of these businesses are showing a commitment to our community by supporting the local paper. Please think of them when shopping in our town. Stop by and thank them for advertising in the *Observer*.

IMPORTANT MEETING DATES

Zoning Board of Adjustment 1999 Meeting Dates

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

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

Council Meetings

AGENDA MEETINGS	PUBLIC MEETINGS
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 Mohr'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.

Governor Whitman Signs "DeMolay Week" Proclamation

New Jersey Governor Christine Todd Whitman has officially designated the month of March as "DeMolay Month" and specified March 14-20 as "New Jersey DeMolay Week" to commemorate the 80th anniversary of DeMolay, an international youth organization that encourages leadership, charity and civic service.

The proclamation calls upon the citizens of New Jersey to salute the young men of the Order of DeMolay, "whose fine examples ... contribute to the welfare of our community by addressing themselves to the building of good character and aiding in the development of leadership for tomorrow," by observing March as DeMolay Month in New Jersey.

Founded in 1919, and headquartered in Kansas City, Missouri, DeMolay provides young men ages 12 to 21 a safe and positive environment that encourages leadership, personal growth, self-confidence, education, teamwork and service to the community. Famous senior DeMolays include: John Wayne, Senator Bill Bradley, astronauts Frank Borman and Neil Armstrong, Walt Disney, Mel Blanc, Olympic great Bob Mathias, Walter Cronkite, Willard Scott, The Smothers Brothers, Dallas Green, Dan Rather and Fran Tarkenton, among its many notable government, sports, entertainment, business and industry leaders.

DeMolay chapters throughout New Jersey are organizing a variety of activities throughout the month to celebrate the occasion and invite the public to learn more about the group by participating in its events. Chapters are located throughout New Jersey, from Bergen County to Cape May County, and hold meetings twice a month.

For more information a chapter near you, call (800) 792-8690.

Rescue Squad Answers 102 February Calls

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad logged 102 calls in February, including 83 medical assistance requests, 10 motor vehicle accidents, one transportation, one community service request and seven maintenance runs.

The squad's volunteers spent 1,981 crew hours answering the February calls.

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New Officers Take Oath

Last week's council meeting turned out to be a very special evening. It was the borough's 78th birthday and Sherlyn Courtney became the first woman police officer in South Plainfield.

Mark Hollain, son of a borough employee, was also sworn in as a police officer.

The meeting room was packed beyond capacity. Some of the crowd overflowed into the corridor. Family, friends and police officers were there to show their support and wish the new officers good luck. Former Police Chief Tulio Capperelli presented the officers a plaque with the Police Officers Prayer on it.

Both officers will be attending the Sea Girt Police Academy.



Police Officer Sherlyn Courtney and Mayor Daniel Gallagher



Police Officer Mark Hollain with his parents, Dieter and Gabriele Hollain, and former South Plainfield Police Chief Tulio Capperelli.

Join the team.

The *South Plainfield Observer* is looking for highly motivated individuals to join our growing weekly newspaper in the position of advertising salesperson. No experience is necessary - we're looking for a self-starter with the desire to earn commission in a position with limitless earnings potential.

Respond to South Plainfield Observer at 469-4380.

Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield, NJ

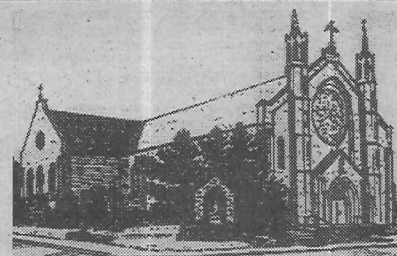
Very Rev. Michael A.
McGuire, Pastor

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





Unico, Korman Tobacco Hold Cigar Dinner Fundraiser

The Plainfield Chapter of Unico sponsored a Cigar Dinner Evening on February 24, at Carpaccio's Italian Restaurant in Middlesex. The proceeds go toward scholarship awards and the Brian Piccolo Awards which benefit local area high school students.

The event was co-sponsored by Korman Tobacco and chaired by Michael Cortese. It was a huge success, considering it was a first time event. A humidor, cigars and other prizes were given to lucky recipients. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed the excellent food.

Dick Grillo was presented with

his membership award for joining Unico.

Unico's next scheduled fundraiser will be the "Second Unico Annual Golf Outing," which will be held Monday, May 17 at Beaver Brook Golf Club. Details on this event will be announced soon.

Unico is a nationwide service organization whose membership consists exclusively of American men and women of Italian extraction, or married spouses of Italian extraction, of good character and reputation. They are united together in a national chain, working jointly together on national

projects and separately on local community activities.

Unico grants scholarship awards, recognizes outstanding individuals, participates in underprivileged and handicapped children's work, charities, community and civic activities, mental health programs, and promotes good fellowship among members.

Unico is looking for members to join the Unico Plainfield Chapter, which holds meetings in South Plainfield. If you are interested in joining or have any questions about Unico, please contact Frank Licato. Sr. at (908) 757-5500.

Annual Music Festival Coming to High School

The South Plainfield High School Fine Arts Department will hold its 30th Annual All District Music and Art Festival on Friday, March 19 at South Plainfield High School starting at 7 p.m. The festival will feature music performed by instrumental and vocal ensembles as well as displays of artwork by many talented art students from each of the town's schools.

The music program will feature performances by The Elementary String Ensemble, under the direction of Carleen Cunningham-Tedeschi and Bruce Mikolon; The Elementary District Chorus, directed by Joanne Gursky, Barbara Habeeb, Glenn Parisi and Sharon Perez and The Elementary District Band, under the direction of Tobie Baldwin, Joan Stasio and Paul Sturm.

The District Festival, directed by Mrs. Tedeschi and Mr. Mikolon, will follow these vocal musicians. The Gems, an all girl chorus from our middle school and the Middle School Festival Chorus, under the direction of Doris Younken, will then perform followed by the Middle School Jazz Band and Middle School Concert Band led by Andrew Weiss. Tracey Murray will direct the Jades (an all-male chorus), the Emeralds (an all-female chorus) and the High School Chorus. The concert will conclude with performances from the High School Jazz Ensemble and the High School Concert Band, under the direction of Mark Tweed.

A short tribute and presentation to the family of Peter Franks in memory of Mr. Franks, who

passed away this past December. Mr. Franks retired in 1990 after more than 30 years as a music teacher at South Plainfield High School. He established the festival in 1969.

The art display will be a delightful combination of styles and techniques. All grade schools will be representing the artistic development and interests of students, both young and older. The works on display are done in oils, acrylics, pen and ink, watercolor, tempera, markers and crayons.

Denise Timinski, high school art teacher; Diane Kardos, Middle School art teacher; Barbara Harris, Mary Ellen Kopf, and Genda Posey, elementary art teachers, want to thank all the students who made the display possible for the Festival.

The festival is open to the public. Tickets may be purchased at the door the evening of the Festival for \$2 per person. Everyone is cordially invited to attend and enjoy this delightful, once-a-year event.

The elementary groups (band, orchestra and chorus) are comprised of students from all four elementary schools. Selection to these groups is by audition. These students are bused to either the Middle School or the high school one day each week for five weeks to rehearse together in preparation for the festival. The remaining rehearsals take place on Mondays from 12:20 until 2. The Elementary Chorus and The Elementary Orchestra practice at Band practices at the Middle School.

International Women's Day at Franklin School

Continued from page one

mother on the panel. She said, "I thought it was really interesting, I even learned some things about my mother's job that I didn't know before. She had to take lots of math and that's my favorite subject!" When asked if she wanted to be a nurse, Susan replied, "I wanted to be a nurse when I was seven or eight. I wanted to be a teacher. I want to be a lot of things, something helping people. I'll probably change my mind again too!"

International Woman's Day has been celebrated in New Jersey since 1991. Franklin School has honored the day for the past four years. While the students sat in the classroom and absorbed how important the careers of women are in our lives, activity at the United Nations building closely



Franklin School International Woman's Day panel members.

resembled the students interactive panel. Women from around the world who had made their mark

spoke to the world, bringing women from all over the vast planet a little bit closer.

Borough Notes

Council News

■ Councilwoman Darlene Pinto said that she and Code Enforcement Officer Mike Zushma have been visiting downtown businesses to promote the Facade Improvement Program. The program will provide a 50/50 matching grant to business up to \$5,000. Funding is made available through a Community Development Block Grant.

■ The council authorized a lease/purchase agreement for three 1999 Ford Crown Victoria sedans to be used as police patrol vehicles. The three year lease will cost \$26,939 per year. The borough will assume ownership at the termination for a cost of \$1 per vehicle.

■ Ed Kubula has asked that all borough employees use local merchants for purchases and services whenever possible.

■ The mayor received a check for \$1 million from the Middlesex County Freeholders to be used towards the purchase of homes on the corner of Oak Tree and Park Ave. in order to expand of Putnam Park.

■ The Library will show off its renovations at an open house on April 11 from 2-4 p.m. Last year the Library expanded and redecorated. All residents are invited.

OAK TREE FARMS

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\$1.99 lb.

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3 lb. or More

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AROUND TOWN

EVENTS

AARP Chapter 4144 Meeting

AARP Chapter 4144 of South Plainfield will be meeting on March 19 at 12:30 p.m. at the PAL Building on Maple Ave.

South Plainfield resident Paul Rosengren, Media Relationship Manager from PSE&G, will give a presentation of their program "Electric Deregulation — Let's Get it Right for New Jersey."

Myrtle Beach, SC is the destination of a seven-day, six-night trip planned from Sunday, April 25-Saturday, May 1. The cost is all inclusive, except for lunch. A double room is \$490 and a single is \$585. A complete itinerary is available upon request.

Call Mary at (732) 752-3764 or Lee at (732) 968-6613 for more information or reservations. For information about how to join the chapter call Mary at (732) 752-3764.

VFW Holds Dinner

The VFW located on Front St. will hold its monthly dinner on March 19 from 5-8 p.m. Stuffed cabbage or a fish dinner will be available.

Author to Appear At Library

Arlene Zatz will be signing books at the library on Sunday, March 21 from 2-4 p.m. She is the author of many books about things to do in New Jersey. Arlene holds a B.A. degree in journalism and communications from Rutgers University. She has received awards from numerous organizations, including a best book award in non-fiction from the National Federation of Press Women.

Some of her works include: *30 Bicycle Tours in New Jersey*, *New Jersey's Special Places*, *Best Hikes With Children in New Jersey* and *New Jersey's Great Gardens*.

Everyone is invited to come out and meet Arlene Zatz.

Historical Society Plans Harbor Cruise

The South Plainfield Historical Society will be sponsoring a New York Harbor Cruise from Perth Amboy on Sunday, May 30, aboard the *Cornucopia Princess*. Boarding will take place at 11 a.m. from the Smith Street Dock. The cruise begins at noon and returns at 2:30 p.m.

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

This is a 2½ hour "Buffer Cruise," which includes, pastas, omelettes and carving stations. Brochures and tickets are available for \$40. Price includes tax and gratuities.

Call Bill Tuthill at (908) 756-9654 or Mary Mazepa at 754-3503 for further information. Send your check or money order to South Plainfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 11, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 by May 25.

Our Lady of Czesochowa Upcoming Events

Lenten Devotions

March 19 at 7 p.m. — Mary's Way of The Cross — *Come and hear Mary tell her story and feelings.*

March 26 at 7 p.m. — Journey of Decision — *Come and hear live testimonies of people who took part at the original Stations of the Cross, Pilate, Barabbas, Herod, Mary (Mother of Jesus), Simon of Cyrene, Veronica, Caiaphas, Woman in the Crowd, Roman Centurion, Unrepentant Criminal, Good Thief, Mary Magdalene, Salome and Nicodemus.*

Chicken Dinner Planned—Our Lady of Czesochowa Rosary Society is holding a Chicken Dinner on Sunday, March 21 from 2 to 6 p.m. at the church hall on Hamilton Blvd.

The cost is adults-\$7, senior citizens \$6, children ages 5-12 \$3.50 and children under five are free. For additional information, please call Marie at (908) 755-7328 or Ann at (908) 757-4192.

Special Polish Pastry Sale—Kruschiki (Polish pastry) can be ordered for \$3.50 per tray. To place an order, call Ann at (908) 757-4192. Kruschiki orders will be available for pick-up on March 13, 14, 27, 28 after all weekend masses.

Tourette Syndrome Meeting

The next meeting of the Tourette Syndrome Association Family Support Group will be held on Tuesday evening, May 11 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 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.

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 South Plainfield Recreation Commission. For info, call 226-7713.

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.

Sacred Heart Church Lenten Fish Dinner

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul of the Sacred Heart Church will sponsor Lenten Fish Dinners, March 19 and 26 in the school cafeteria on So. 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.

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 info, call Sandra 732-283-1250 or e-mail snglprntnj@aol.com.



Junior Troop #958 visited the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia for a girl scout sleepover. The happy faces standing in front of the giant heart (front row) are Louri Sepkowski, Rachel Miliron, Becky Keller and Stephanie Hanson. Back row are Dana Caccatore, Katie Hardy, Taylor Kurilew, Katie Eder, Kory McGovern, Selene Rayho, Amanada Harzula, Ali Baggstrom and Liz Pisack.

Rescue Squad Plans Flower Sale

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad will hold its annual spring flower sale from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, April 2-3 at the squad building on Plainfield Ave. (behind the library, across from Spring Lake Park).

Hanging baskets, daffodils, tu-

lips, Easter lilies, mums, hyacinths and other flowering plants will be on sale. Prices range from \$8 to \$15.

All proceeds will benefit the 100% volunteer rescue squad. This event takes place rain or shine.



Pictured above is a sampling of the baskets prepared for the Franklin School Annual Auction/Raffle.

Auction/Raffle Night at Franklin School

The Franklin School PTA will hold its Third Annual Auction/Raffle Night on Saturday, March 20 in the South Plainfield High School gym. The doors will open at 6:30 p.m.

Prizes include a TV, BBQ grill, VCR and a set of patio furniture, just to mention a few. You can also take a chance to win a night out at a restaurant and a theater or a family fun day at The Land of Make Believe, or a birthday party.

The grand prize is an all inclusive four night/three day trip to the "Sandals Resort."

Tickets are \$5, if purchased in advance and \$6 at the door, if still available. The admission price includes coffee, tea and light snacks. You can also bring your own snack or appetizers for you and your friends. No one under the age of 18 is allowed to attend.

For ticket information, call (908) 757-9432.

Lions Palm Sunday Breakfast

Sponsored by the South Plainfield Lions Club
Helping the Visually & Hearing Impaired Since 1947....

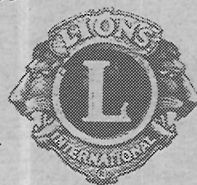
When: Palm Sunday, March 28, 1999

Where: South Plainfield High School Cafeteria

Time: 8:00 am to 12:00 noon

Ticket Price: \$5.00

Tickets may be purchased at the door or through a Lions member.
For information, please call 755-2289.



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Josef Rodriguez Joins NJIO at UN Performance

Josef Rodriguez showcased his musical talent when he played his cello with the New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra (NJIO) at a concert held at the UN Building in New York.

The February concert was held

in celebration of 1999 As The International Year of Older Persons Towards a Society of All Ages. The theme, "Musical Passport To The World," included masterpieces like *Emerald Isle*, *Kumbaya*, *Shawnie Dance*, *Gavotte*, *Sakura*,

Sakura, *Viva Italia*, *Intermezzo* and *Artista Alinu*.

Rodriguez plays with the NJIO Full Orchestra of over 100 musicians and also the Chamber Orchestra which consists of a small group of more advanced professional musicians conducted by Lorraine Marks, vice president of The Association of NJ Orchestras.

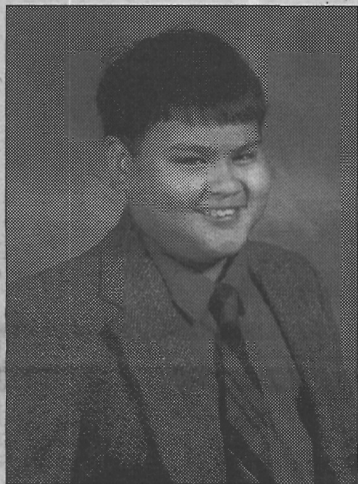
A seventh grader at the South Plainfield Middle School, Josef Rodriguez has also been a cellist in the school orchestra since he was eight years old under the tutelage of Carleen Tedeschi.

Currently, he attends the vocal music sessions sponsored by the Middlesex County of The Arts and Education Council. He was selected after meeting the requirements and passing the audition among the gifted and talented students in all Middlesex County public and private schools.

Rodriguez channels his musical energies into sublimated desires as he sings at the early morning Mass at the Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield. The churchgoers know him as "the youngest cantor we have seen and he lifts our spirits by his voice."



Josef Rodriguez performs with the Chamber Orchestra of the New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra.



Josef Rodriguez



The UN concert

Passport Services Program Offered

The Middlesex County Clerk's Office is extending its Passport Services to South Plainfield residents through a program in which staff members visit our Borough.

Individuals who avail themselves of this service will be able to apply for a passport by simply coming to Borough Hall.

The Passport Service will be in South Plainfield from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on Monday, April 26 in the municipal building. Applicants may pick up an applications and instructions in advance from the administrator's office.

Applicants over the age of 13 must appear in person. They must

have a certified birth certificate from vital statistics with a raised seal and a file date, or a previous U.S. Passport or a naturalization certificate. Hospital birth certificates are not acceptable. Two passport photos are required along with a drivers license.

The fee is payable by check or money order only — no cash is acceptable. Residents can still visit the County Administration Building in New Brunswick to obtain a passport.

Call the County Clerk's Office at (732)745-5723 for hours of operation and for information on the expanded services.

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.



The Alternative View

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

Dear Dr. DeCosta:

With all the craze about Viagra, are there any natural or herbal products that one can more safely use to enhance libido and sexual performance? - C.G.

Dear C. G.:

While scientific research on the sexual effects of specific herbs, nutrients and nutrient formulas is limited, the available evidence suggests that some herbs and amino acids excite desire and arousal. Some herbs and nutrients increase blood flow for arousal, while others help maintain sufficient testosterone levels for desire, and/or fine-tune the nervous system so it can effectively transmit signals from the brain to the genitals.

Renowned board-certified sex therapist and radio talk-show host Roger Libby, Ph.D., author of *Super Healthy Sex*, (Let's Live, 2/99), states that, "A healthy sex life begins with a strong body and mind. While no herb formula is a substitute for a low-fat diet and regular exercise, herbs can supplement an already healthy lifestyle."

Dr. Libby writes that the amino acid arginine is helpful for arousal because it is a key source of nitric oxide, a powerful blood vessel dilator. To create an erection, pelvic nerves stimulate the penis to produce nitric oxide, which causes blood vessels to dilate as the smooth muscles of the penis swell, trapping blood in the penis.

Arginine is present in protein-rich foods such as turkey, chicken, milk and soybeans, but a supplement of L-arginine form of the amino acid is more powerful than foods alone. Arginine works best in conjunction with vitamin B5 and choline, and a normal intake of vitamins C and E should complement the effect of the amino acid.

"Since the synthetic drug (Viagra) and the natural amino acid arginine both produce more nitric oxide for arousal, why not go with the safest and least expensive alternative?" poses Dr. Libby. He further states, "I am convinced that many — if not most — men who take Viagra could do very well with natural herbs and amino acids along with exercise and a low fat diet."

A Brazilian folk remedy commonly known as "potency wood" is muira puama. According to Cynthia Watson, M.D., in *Love Potions: A Guide to Aphrodisiacs and Sexual Pleasures*, muira puama has a reputation "as a sexual enhancer and as a treatment for impotence and frigidity." It is not completely understood how this Brazilian herb works, but like L-arginine, it both enhances libido and extends arousal, probably through a similar alpha-blocking mechanism in which nerve endings are stimulated and blood is blocked in the genitals.

While L-arginine and muira puama add desire and escalate and extend arousal, Tribulus terrestris, a Bulgarian herb, may enhance desire — and arousal — by increasing luteinizing hormone and testosterone. Tribulus may also improve the strength and endurance of erections and the formation and development of sperm. For women, Tribulus may increase libido, improve ovulation, help regulate hormone imbalances, decrease menopause problems, and help to restore orgasmic capacity.

Tribulus is widely used in Europe and has only recently been introduced in the U.S. Commonly known as "puncture vine," it has been used in Asia as a stimulant to treat sexual deficiency. Tribulus is also known as *gokshura* in the Ayurvedic *Materia Medica*.

Dr. Libby states that, "Low sexual desire and arousal problems often occur when people do not exercise enough. For many, high levels of stress are compounded by a lack of exercise and a junk-food diet. No nutritional supplement can take the place of daily exercise."

Dr. Libby feels that, "Exercise raises testosterone and increases blood flow, enhancing desire, arousal and orgasms. Many of my patients rave about the effect of exercise on their sex lives. I suggest that couples work out together and then make love. It works!"

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

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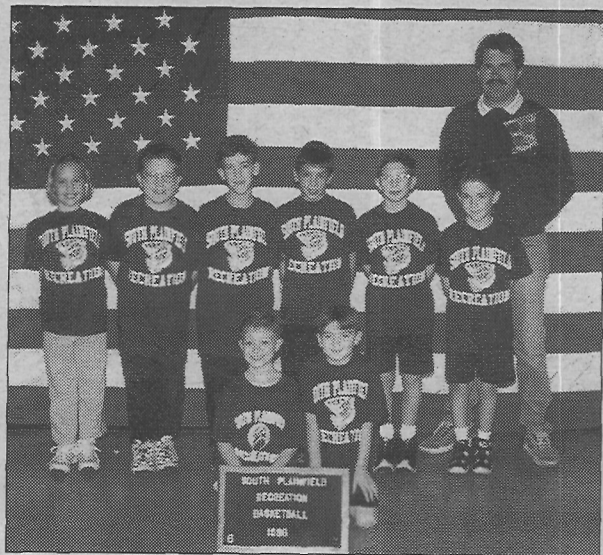
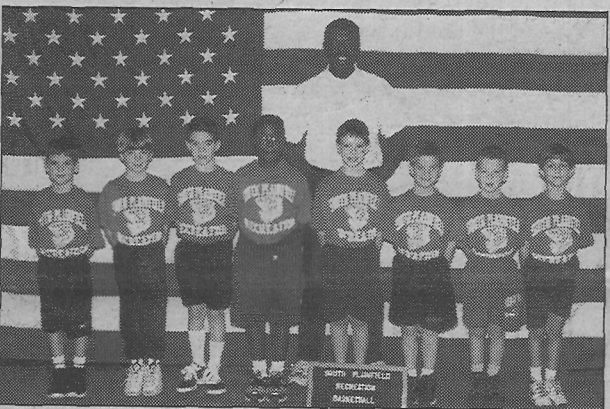
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SPORTS

Congratulations to This Year's



Novice Wrestlers Strong at Metuchen Tournament

Pauls and Vallone Win Titles

By Bob Hunter

The South Plainfield Recreation Novice Wrestlers competed this past weekend at the Annual Metuchen Novice Wrestling Tournament.

South Plainfield once again showed they are tough to beat. Overall the junior Tigers won six medals including two championships, two second place finishes and two third place winners.

Nick Pauls, Bantam 50 pounds, won his first match by the score of 6-2 and his semi final match by the score of 2-0. In the finals he won by fall for the first Tiger championship.

Nick Vallone, Bantam 58 pounds, won his first match and his semifinal match, both by fall. In the finals he won by major

Recreation Wrestling

decision 14-3 for the second Tiger championship.

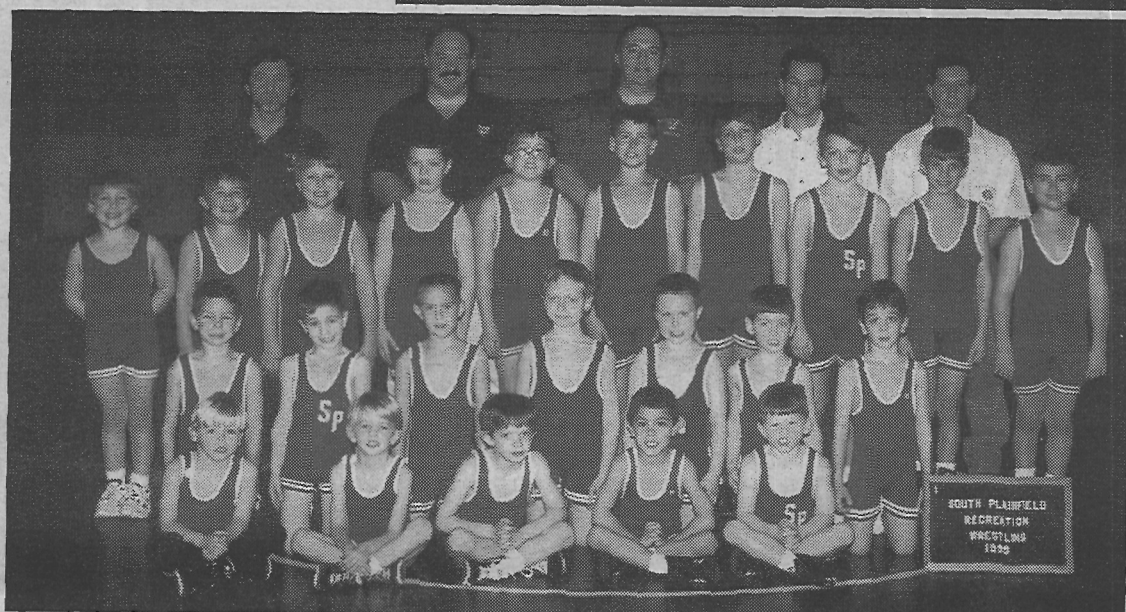
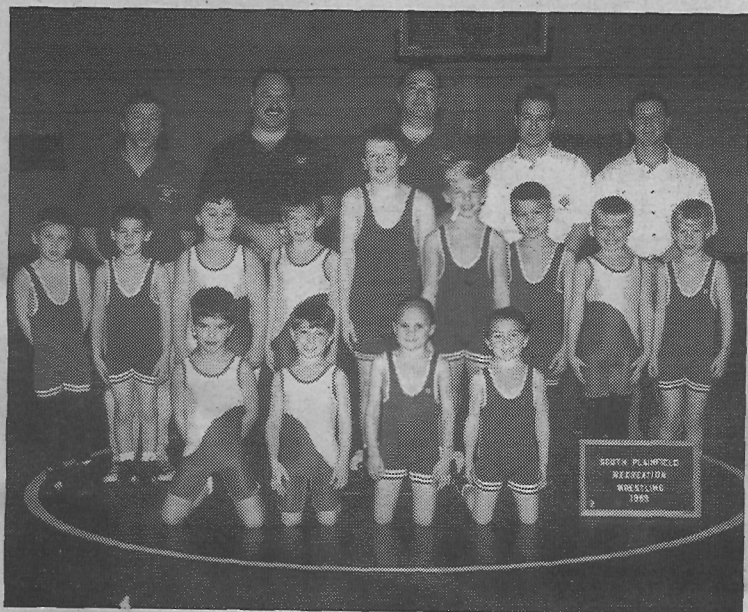
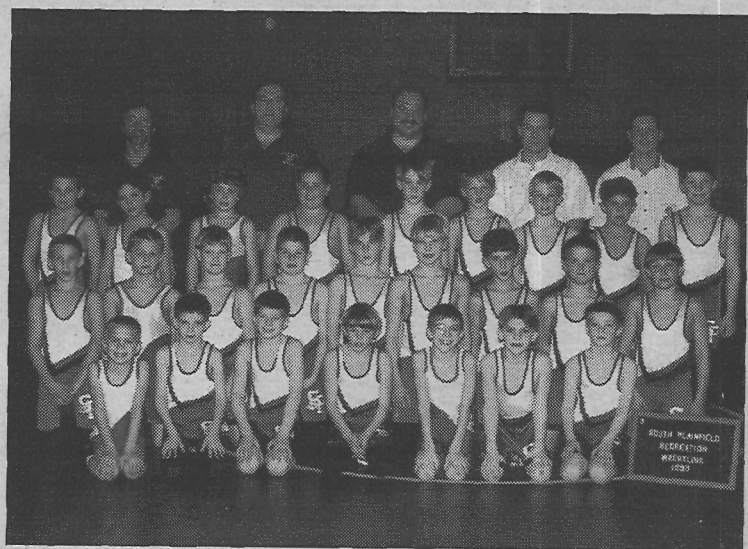
Frank DeBiase, Pee Wee 49 pounds, won his first two matches by fall before dropping his final for second place.

Pat Millard, Pee Wee heavy-weight, won his first match by fall but lost his bid for a title losing by decision in the final for second place.

Mark Benak, Pee Wee 51 pounds, won his opening round match by fall. He lost his second match but came back strong in the consolation round with a 4-2 decision for a third place finish.

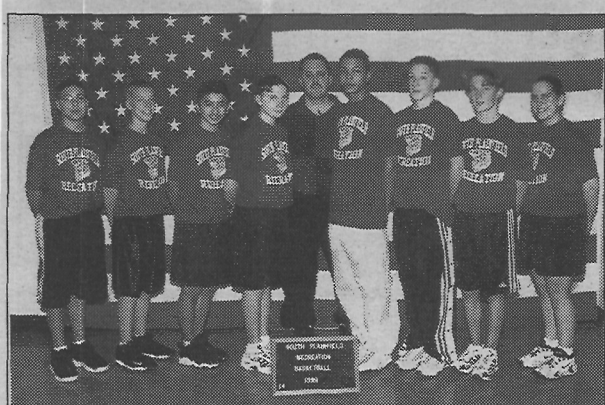
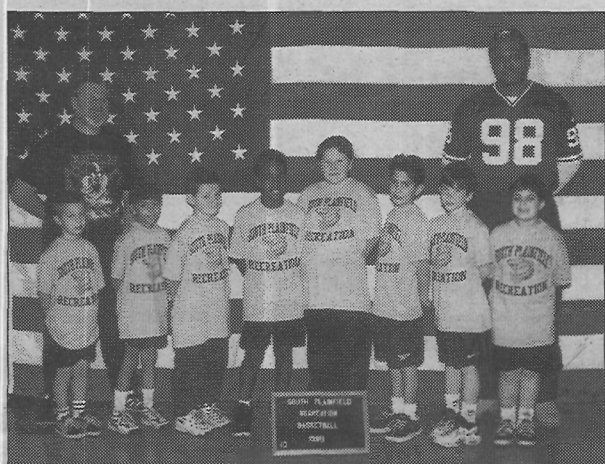
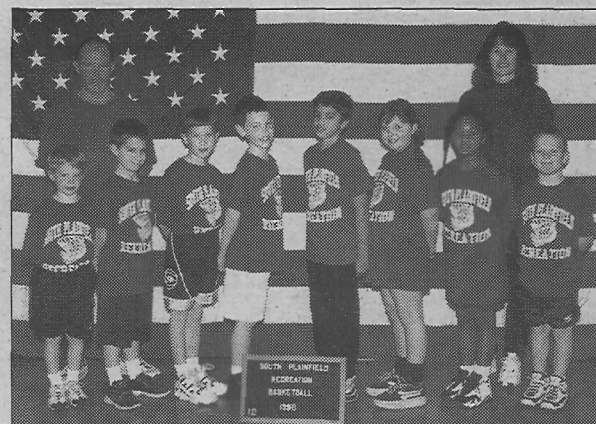
Billy Daly, Midget 104 pounds, lost his semi final match but came on strong in the consolation finals and won by fall for third place.

Also winning matches but not placing for the Tigers were Fred Reichert, Bantam 50 pounds; Jonathan Ditmars, Pee Wee 46 pounds; Ryan Szumski, Bantam 89 pounds and Steve Paskowitz, Pee Wee 58 pounds.



SPORTS

Recreation Basketball Players and Coaches



Junior Baseball Club Notes

By Frank Hanley

Draft nights were held last week. All players should have been contacted by their team manager. If not, players should contact the club as soon as possible. Pre-season practice begins this Saturday, March 20.

The final "Coaches Clinic" was postponed from Tuesday, March 16th to Tuesday, March 23rd. The main topic of this session will be practice organization.

Booster weekend will be held next Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, March 25, 26, and 27. Tentatively, the Small Fry A players will be out on Thursday night, Small Fry B on Friday night and Small Fry C on Saturday. Parents are asked to help if possible. Thanks in advance to all of the participating local businesses for their support.

Woman's Auxiliary

The Woman's Auxiliary will be selling "cash and carry" flowers at the complex on Opening Day. The flowers will consist of eight inch hanging baskets (Geraniums, Fuchsia, New Guinea Impatiens, Proven Winners, and Verbena) and 2-3 gallon perennials.

The South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club Dance will be held on Saturday night June 12 from 7 p.m. to midnight at the Polish National Home on New Market Ave. Tickets are \$35 per person and must be purchased by May 29. A \$10 deposit is required and must be received by May 15. Admission includes an open bar, buffet, entertainment and tickets for great door prizes. Groups may reserve tables. Contact any member of the Woman's Auxiliary or call Cindy Eichler at 908-769-4047.

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

Events at a glance

Preseason Practice starts Saturday, March 20.

Coaches Clinic—Tuesday March 23 at 7:30 at the Clubhouse.

Booster Weekend—Thursday, March 25 thru Saturday, March 27.

Work Detail—Saturday, April 3—all hands welcome.

Work Detail—Saturday, April 10—all hands welcome.

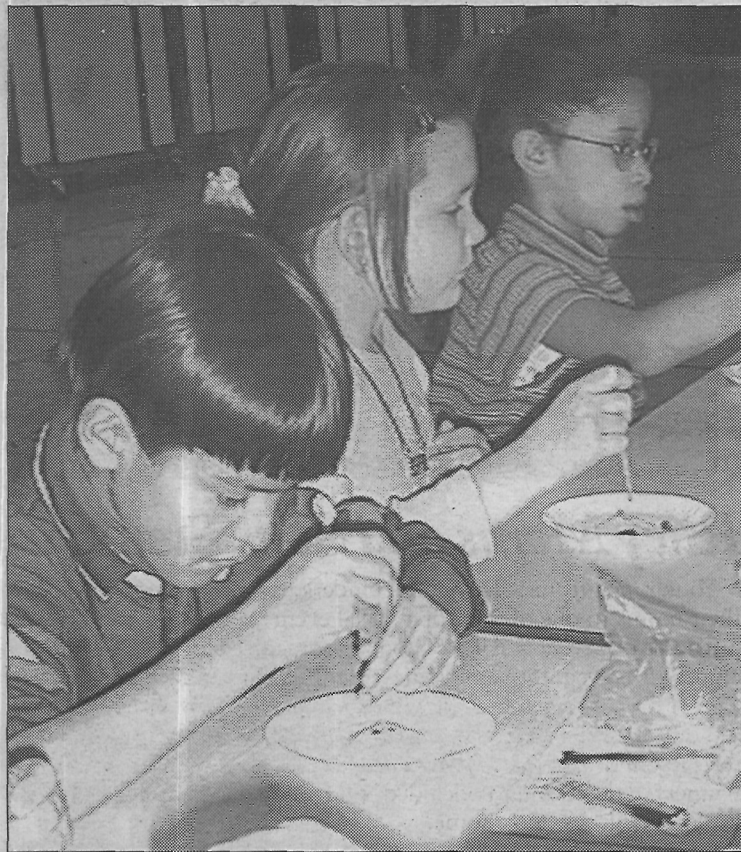
Opening Day—Saturday, April 17.

Trenton Thunder Trip—Friday, May 14.

More photos in next week's Observer

IN OUR SCHOOLS

Riley Hands-On Science Program



ducted by High Tech scientists Mr. Bob Johnson and Mr. Larry Weser. A different 90-minute session was set up for each grade level over six days. There were two sessions each day. Parents and teachers provided help with the experiments.

Kindergarten students experimented with sound in a program called *Sounds Like Fun*. They learned what sounds are and they built an eardrum. The first grade group learned about geology with *Dig It*. They "panned" for gems and performed acid tests and even got to keep their finds. Second graders found themselves amongst dinosaurs with the *Jurassic* program. They created their own fossils.

The third grade classes studied chemistry with their *Chemfun* session. They watched colors separate before their eyes and learned how to make their own silly putty and gummy bears. Fourth grade students had fun with *Globs, Goo and Guts*. They had a look at real cow muscle and had a lot of fun creating sticky stuff.

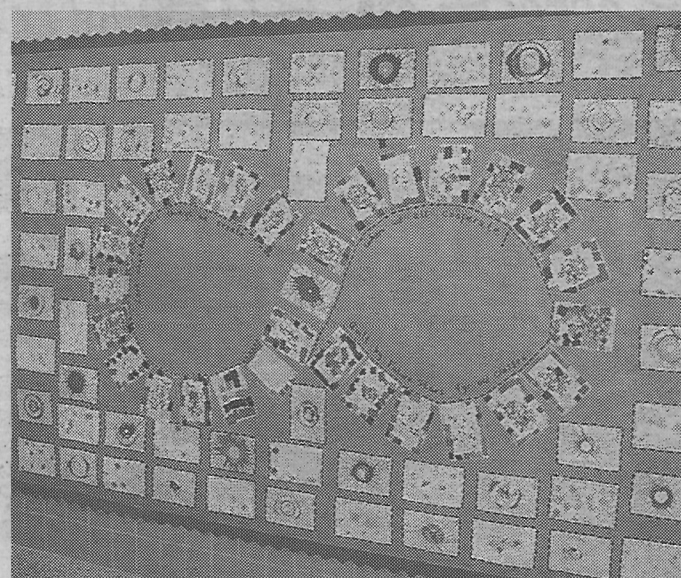
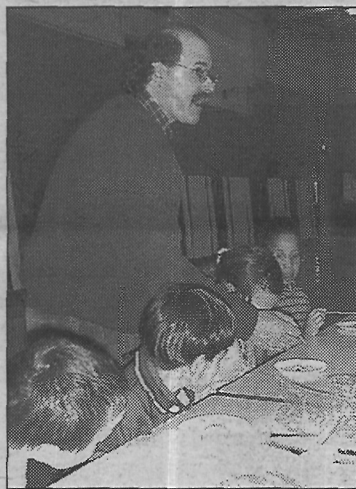
They learned about they systems of the body and what makes them work. The fifth grade classes participated in the *Finally Fun Machines* session.

They made a corkscrew carrot and learned about pulleys and wedges. They each made a level to bring home.

Each hands-on session was grade appropriate and materials were provided by High Touch-High Tech. The experiments all meet the National Science Student Performance Standards.

By Patricia Abbott
Riley School's PTSO took science out of the text books and put it into the hands of each and every student in their school. For the second year the PTSO has brought High Touch-High Tech Company to the school. The students experienced 90 minute in-school "field trips." The hands-on science experiments were con-

Pictured above are Riley School third graders making gummy bears. Pictured left is Mr. Larry Weser and students



Future Stars Friendship Quilt made by Future Stars four-year-old students. It features artwork in different mediums such as spin art, mosaic collages and koosh ball painting.

Summer Drama Workshop Seeks Staff for The Music Man

The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop has selected Meredith Willson's American musical classic *The Music Man* as their 1999 production and they are seeking a production staff for their 28th season.

Auditions will be held in early June, with rehearsals starting at the end of June. Performance dates are August 5-8, 1999.

Resumes are being sought for the positions of Director, Musical Director, Choreographer, Vocal Director, Technical Coordinator, Production Stage Manager, Assistant Musical Director, and Rehearsal Pianist. The staff will be responsible for the creative, educational and production aspects of a large-scale musical pro-

duction. All of these positions are paid a fee.

The deadline for applying for these positions is Wednesday April 7. Resumes and related materials can be mailed to 210 Oakland Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or faxed to (908) 756-8790. They can also be dropped off at the South Plainfield Adult School offices on Cromwell Place in South Plainfield.

For more information, call (908) 756-0539.

Photos by Patricia Abbott are available for purchase.

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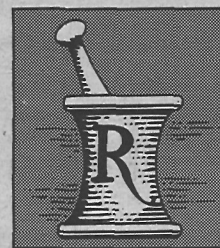
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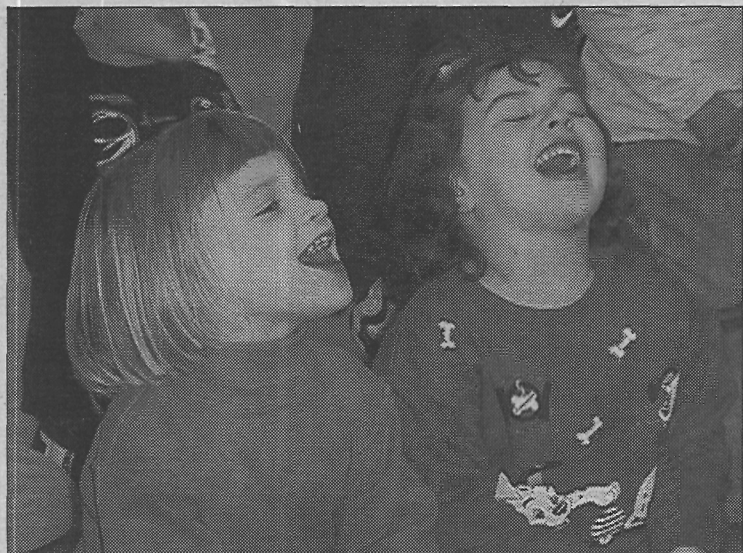
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IN OUR SCHOOLS



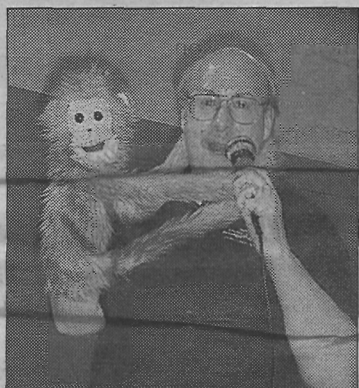
Future Stars Enjoy Puppet Show

By Patricia Abbott

On March 10 the Future Stars parents group invited Uncle John's Traveling Musical Puppet Show to entertain the students. The children shrieked warnings as a spider crept up on the puppet leading the children in *Itsy Bitsy Spider*. They howled at the wolf atop the stage during a rendition of *Home On The Range*. A succession of favorite characters, coupled with music, jokes and dancing, kept the children's attention riveted to the stage.

John Slevens of Berkley Heights has an interesting history behind his menagerie of puppets. After 22 years in the corporate world he and his wife switched places. In 1993 he became the stay-at-home dad and she returned to work. Drawing on a childhood talent of mimicking characters voices John created his traveling puppet show. Primarily a weekend business he be-

gan performing at birthday parties and schools. The job allows him the flexibility to be at home for his children. His love of his craft is obvious in his attention to detail. Funny routines know no age limits, he said. His skits are often gleaned from classic 40's-50's comedy routines but the 1999 South Plainfield Future Stars laughed just the same.



"Uncle John"

Riley Schools "Read Across America"

Riley School began celebrating "Read Across America" and Dr. Seuss's birthday a week early. On Monday, Feb. 22, through the invitation of Speech Therapist Marty Klink and the NJEA, The Cat in the Hat paid a surprise visit to all the classrooms at Riley School!

The following week a variety of exciting activities took place.

On Tuesday March 2 the entire school participated in the Student Council-sponsored "Hats Off to Reading Day." Students wore their favorite "craziest" hats and brought their favorite books. During the day students shared these favorite books with their teachers and classmates and told why they loved them so much.

Meanwhile the various classes and grade levels were also doing their "own thing."

Dr. Munger read *Green Eggs and Ham* to all the kindergarten classes. After listening to the story the children celebrated by having green eggs and ham for snack!

The first graders read their favorite Dr. Seuss stories and then wrote and drew pictures about them. Mrs. Brenda Krushinski, Resource Room teacher, had first grade students discuss and point out rhyming patterns and other phonetic Project Read rules and patterns which they had learned this year.

Mrs. Maria Sottiriou's second graders shared their favorite books with the class, after which

Continued on page 12



Dance organizer Tracy Hartmann dances with son Willy.

Riley Moms and Sons Step Out

Young men from Riley School kindergarten to grade five escorted their moms to one of their first social events, a Mother-Son Dance.

The annual event at Riley School was organized by Tracy Hartmann along with a committee of volunteers. The boys and their moms had a great time dancing and enjoying an array of snacks provided. They did the twist, the electric slide and more. They participated in a variety of contests ranging from dance to hula hoops with many happy winners. The evening concluded with tired but happy young men leading their best girls home.

Scenes from the Middle School Multi-Cultural Celebration



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Obituaries

Kathleen B. Darge, 45

Kathleen B. Darge of Scottsdale, Az., formerly of South Plainfield, died on Saturday, March 6 at the Scottsdale Memorial Hospital in Scottsdale, Az.

She was born in Plainfield and was a former long time resident of South Plainfield before moving to Scottsdale six years ago.

Ms. Darge was a sales clerk for the DeMarco Gift Store in Phoenix for the last five years.

She was predeceased by her son, Justin Weirich, who died in 1976, and her father, David Darge, Sr.

She is survived by her mother, Barbara (Blackwood); her stepfather, Salvatore Perrette, of Scottsdale; three brothers, David Darge, Jr. of Scotch Plains, Donald Darge of Beach Haven and Kenneth Darge of Tempe AZ.

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

Louis Lisko, 77

Louis Lisko of Sussex died on Tuesday, March 9, at the St. Claire's Hospital in Sussex.

He was born in New Castle, Pa. and was a former resident of South Plainfield, North Branch and Charlotte, NC before moving to Sussex 11 years ago.

Mr. Lisko was a collection supervisor for PSE&G in Plainfield for 25 years before retiring in 1980.

He was a fighter pilot in the U.S. Army Air Corps during WWII.

He was predeceased by his son, William L. Lisko, who died in 1956.

He is survived by his wife, Elise (Renovetz) Lisko; three daughters, Patricia Monz of Moscow, Tenn., Susan Huddy of Williamsport, Pa. and Jane Cavalear of Harmony; a sister, Olga Kiernie-ski of Millville.

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

Katherine B. (Zwolak) Stashefski, 79

Katherine B. (Zwolak) Stashefski died on Wednesday, March 10 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Born in Philadelphia, Pa., Mrs. Stashefski had resided in South Plainfield all her life.

Mrs. Stashefski was a dress seamstress for Robert David Dress Co., formerly of Highland Park, for 10 years before her retirement in 1984.

She is a member of the South Plainfield Senior Citizens and a communicant of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church.

Surviving are her husband, John Stashefski; a daughter, Rose Rodriguez of Nags Head, North Carolina; two sons, John Stashefski of Middlesex and Stanley Stashefski of Gardner, Mass.; three sisters, Stella Laskowski of South Plainfield, Olga DeLaurier of Daytona, Florida and Jean Helbo of South Plainfield and a brother, Frank Zwolak of South Plainfield.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

John "Jack" Lonergan, 83

John "Jack" Lonergan died on Friday, March 12 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in New York City, Mr. Lonergan had resided in Brooklyn before settling in South Plainfield 28 years ago.

He had been a World War II Veteran of the U.S. Army where he served in the 164th Infantry during combat in Japan.

Mr. Lonergan was employed as a "burner" for Ira S. Bushey & Sons, Inc. and Local # 13 of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, AFL-CIO for many years, before his retirement in the early 1980's. He had served the union as their president, prior to his retirement.

He was also the co-owner, along with his late wife, of the Sterling Sweet Shop on Nostrand Ave. in Brooklyn, NY in the late 1960's.

He was a member of the Wesley United Methodist Church in South Plainfield and a member of

their mens club.

Mr. Lonergan is predeceased by his wife, Elizabeth (Glass) Lonergan, who died in May of 1997.

Surviving are his two daughters, Linda O'Leary of Piscataway and Joyce Dillon of Whiting; three sons, Walter Ray Ferguson of Cranford, Gene Sherman Ferguson of Brooklyn, NY. and Sterling E. Ferguson of South Hampton, NY and a sister, Laurette Gatje of Fishkill, NY. Also surviving are 15 grandchildren and 27 great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Julius G. "Jules" Fischer, 85

Julius G. "Jules" Fischer died on Friday, March 12 at the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Mr. Fischer was born in Newark and had resided in Pompton Plains, Westfield and in Plainfield before moving to South Plainfield 46 years ago.

He had worked for 27 years in the maintenance department for the former Berkley Chemical Co. in Berkley Heights, before he retired 20 years ago.

Surviving are his wife of 50 years, Marian Gage Fischer; a daughter, Nancy O. Rice-Marotta of Spotswood; a son, Conrad Fischer of South Plainfield and a sister, Evelyn Krume of Pendleton, SC. He is also survived by four grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Memorial donations to the Emergency Fund at St. Luke's Evangelical Church, 264 New Market Road, Dunellen, NJ.

Mary Ann (Skula) Haydock, 91

Mary Ann (Skula) Haydock died on Saturday, March 13 in Harborside Healthcare Center in Bridgewater.

Born in Mahanoy City, Pa., she had resided in the Arbors section of Piscataway for 30 years and South Plainfield for 22 years before moving to Bridgewater with her daughter in 1986. Mrs. Haydock was a homemaker.

She was a former communicant of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church, where she was a member of the Altar Rosary Society.

Her husband, Walter Hajduk, died in 1985.

Surviving are two daughters, Betty Stephens of Bridgewater and Florence Szymialowicz of Totowa; a sister, Francis Yagiolo of Palm Harbor, Fla. Also surviving are five grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Funeral services were at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Here's this week's news from South Plainfield Library:

We'll follow our usual schedule for our storytime programs next week. They take place on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. These programs are for children ages three and over; no registration is needed. We also have our children's craft program today at 4 p.m. It's for kids ages six and over. You have to sign up for this program, so you'd better call us ASAP. For more details, call us at (908) 754-7885; ask for Linda Hansen.

And for you adults, there's this Sunday's program with author Arlene Zatz. She'll give a talk and sign copies of her work. This program will run from 2-4 p.m.

Here's some A/V news. After an unavoidable delay, the new batch of Circuit CD's is available. This group, as usual, features a wide range of styles (opera, country, jazz, rock) and artists (Louis Armstrong, the Rolling Stones, Boys II Men, Yanni). This group will be available until mid-July.

While we're already on the subject of Compact Discs, we've just finished our long-awaited update of the CD List at the main desk. For your convenience, it's divided into listings for new additions, alphabetically by artist/composer, and alphabetically by title. This information can also be found in our catalog terminals.

Throughout March, we've been celebrating the birthday of celebrated children's author Dr. Seuss. You can find many of his books on display in our children's

room. You can also find many of his works adapted for the screen in our video section. These tapes include *The Cat in the Hat* (with Allan Sherman in the title role), *Hop on Pop* and, on one cassette, *Horton Hears a Who* (with the voice of Hans Conreid) and *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (wonderfully narrated by Boris Karloff). We also feature the tribute tape *In Search of Doctor Seuss*, featuring Matt Frewer, Kathy Nijimy and Robin Williams. All of these selections are in the juvenile video section under "SEU" for Seuss, of course.

As we understand it, there's been a shortage of NJ State resident tax forms in this area. As a result, our supply of them went pretty fast. After a brief form-less period, though, we've gotten a new supply of forms and booklets. Stop in and get one, if you need it.

Today, we'll close out the column with a word about something bad that has happened to some of our Library cards: they've been orphaned. People signed up for cards at Back-to-School Night, or mistakenly left their cards at the desk, but never stopped in to pick them up. Library cards are such useful items that it's rather sad when they just sit around gathering dust. Lately, we've attempted to call the patrons involved to remind them to collect their cards. If we reach you, please respond. And thanks very much to those of you who already have.

And thanks, also, to you for reading this column. See you next week.

Because We Care



by Robert Hunter

EASING A SPOUSE'S LOSS

Words cannot adequately express the loneliness and sadness that may overwhelm spouses who lose their life partners. It is not surprising, therefore, that older adults are at increased risk of death and disability after the recent loss of a loved one. Equally important is that strong social and emotional support can ameliorate the impact of bereavement. Thus, friends and family are urged to help older adults ease their loss by being open to signs of emotional need. It may also prove helpful to bring up the issue of loss themselves, encourage socialization, and give grieving spouses the time and place to express their grief. As Joseph Fort Newton said, "People are lonely because they build walls instead of bridges."

We are often so immersed in our own discomfort in not knowing what to say, that we forget to practice the most important social art; listening. Rather than be consoled, most mourners need to speak their feelings and share their memories of those who have passed away. At the JAMES W. CONROY FUNERAL HOME, we provide courteous, respectful assistance to members of all beliefs and financial ability, and are located at 2456 Plainfield Avenue in South Plainfield. To schedule a consultation, call 756-2800.

"If there is anything better than to be loved, it is loving."

- Anonymous



Employees of Caldors at their Farewell Party

Continued from page one

clothes for her child and they were too small. I explained to her the signs clearly stated no returns, refunds or exchanges. The woman said, I'm glad Caldor is closing and I'm glad you are losing your job." Marie also said there were many customers who expressed sorrow over the store closing and the loss of jobs.

An employee of three years

said, "It was just horrible, it was like a stampede at the end. The people would walk on the clothes they had tossed on the floor." Of her three years she said, "We felt like a family. It was very hard to leave."

On March 5 a party at Ben-nigans provided a chance for employees past and present to say farewell to friends. The food and fellowship lasted for many hours allowing those who were still working to attend. Almost all those the *Observer* spoke to commented on the state of chaos that reigned during the final weeks and the feeling of loss. There is never a good time to lose a job, but there is a special sense of loss when so many are involved, each with different set memories and bonds to the store and its people. When the doors closed at 7 p.m. on Saturday March 13, the doors also closed a small piece of many lives.



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LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance #1499 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE #1278 ENTITLED "ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD"** was presented and adopted after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, February 25, 1999 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

/s/Mary Blue, Deputy Municipal Clerk
\$10.50 1T March 19, 1999

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance #1501 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE VII OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD REPLACING THE BOARD OF HEALTH WITH A HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD** was presented and adopted after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, February 25, 1999 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

/s/Mary Blue, Deputy Municipal Clerk
\$11.00 1T March 19, 1999

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance #1500 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT LEFT HAND TURNS AT CERTAIN LOCATIONS WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD** was presented and adopted after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, February 25, 1999 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

/s/Mary Blue, Deputy Municipal Clerk
\$10.50 1T March 19, 1999

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance #1503 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE TO PURCHASE BLOCK 329, LOT 10 WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD** was presented and adopted after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, March 11, 1999 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

/s/James Eckert/Municipal Clerk
\$10.50 1T March 19, 1999

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY THAT:

Ordinance #1483A entitled: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 1483 ENTITLED "ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD"** be adopted on first reading and advertised in the Observer on Friday, March 19, 1999 and that a public hearing be held Thursday, April 8, 1999 at 8:00 PM in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

ORDINANCE #1483A

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 1483 ENTITLED "ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD"

Ordinance #1483 is hereby amended as follows:

712.4 Application of Design and Landscaping Standards

The following provisions of Section 711 shall apply in the AH-1 Zone:

Section 711.2B(2), Section 711.2B(1)(4), (5) and the first two sentences of (7); Section 711.4A(1), (2) and (3); and Section 711.4B(2), (3), (4), (5), (6) and (7).

Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor

ATTEST:
James Eckert/Municipal Clerk
\$27.00 1T March 19, 1999

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance #1502 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A COMMERCIAL FACADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR BUSINESSES LOCATED IN THE DOWNTOWN BUSINESS ZONE WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD** was presented and adopted after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, March 11, 1999 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

/s/James Eckert/Municipal Clerk
\$12.00 1T March 19, 1999

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance #1504 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$100,000 FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF SANITARY SEWER LINE FOR THE SEWER UTILITY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MORE SPECIFICALLY, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPLACEMENT OF THE SANITARY SEWER LINE ON KENNEDY ROAD** was presented and adopted after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, March 11, 1999 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

/s/James Eckert/Municipal Clerk
\$13.50 1T March 19, 1999

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

LEGAL NOTICE

March 11, 1999
Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by Planning Board of the Borough of South Plainfield at its meeting held on March 9, 1999.

A. Case No. 615/V — McCrisken Home for Funerals, Inc. — Block 188; Lot 53; OPA-1 Zone; 2425 Plainfield Ave. — Applicant's request for preliminary site plan, and a variance and waivers, for the construction of an addition, was hereby GRANTED with conditions.

Janice Muccilli
Recording Secretary Planning Board
\$15.00 1T March 19, 1999

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY THAT:

ORDINANCE #1505 - AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING STOPPING OR STANDING ON THE EASTERLY SIDE OF FRONT STREET FROM ITS INTERSECTION WITH SOUTH PLAINFIELD AVENUE TO A POINT 110 FEET NORTH OF THE INTERSECTION be adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, March 19, 1999 and that a Public Hearing be held April 8, 1999 at 8:00 PM in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey, 07080.

ORDINANCE NO. 1505

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING PARKING, STOPPING AND STANDING ON A PORTION OF FRONT STREET IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

1) It shall be unlawful for any person to park, stop or stand a vehicle at any time on the easterly side of Front Street from the most northerly curbline of South Plainfield Avenue to a point 110 feet northerly therefrom

2) Appropriate signs will be posted indicating "No Stopping or Standing".

3) Any person or persons violating the provisions of this Ordinance shall upon conviction thereof, pay a fine of not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00).

The Clerk of the Borough of South Plainfield shall forward a copy of this Ordinance to the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders for adoption of a consenting Resolution.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage and publication.

Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor

ATTEST:
James V. Eckert/Municipal Clerk
\$41.00 1T March 19, 1999

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by James and Sharon Moore requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit construction of a Bi-Level Single Family Residence: where lot lacks required 100' lot width 60' existing. Home would lack required 30' front setback, 24' proposed. Lot lacks required 10,000 sq. ft. area, 9898.2 exists, (and site plan approval) said property being located on Block(s) 193, Lot(s) 12 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, April 6, 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.

James & Sharon Moore
415 Edgar Ave.
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
\$22.00 1T March 19, 1999

POLICE REPORT

• Carlos Tecun-Canil of Plainfield was arrested on Clinton Ave. for DWI, careless driving and no inspection sticker.

• Cirilo T. Cumatiz of Plainfield was arrested on Clinton Ave. after a motor vehicle accident. He was charged with DWI, careless and driving without a license.

• Karatik L. Patel of Piscataway was arrested for possession of stolen credit cards. American Express security confirmed that the cards had been reported stolen in December.

• A South Plainfield resident reported the theft of items from a safe kept in her home. The items were taken sometime between late October and present. The safe was kept set except for the last number and the dial only need be turned until it clicked. Cash in the amount of \$4,050 along with a savings bank book were removed from the safe. Other items left in the safe were taken by police and checked for fingerprints.

• Joseph A. Harrah reported a window smashed in his van and a duffel bag of hockey equipment stolen. The bag contained equipment valued at \$980.

• Royal Deli on New Brunswick Ave. reported a burglary. A back door was pried open. The phone line was disabled and the cordless phone removed. Also taken were cartons of cigarettes, phone cards, lottery tickets and cash.

• A Pennsylvania resident reported the theft of her purse and drivers license from the Holiday Inn on Stelfton Rd.

• A South Plainfield Ave. resident reported the window of his car smashed and a cue stick and case were removed along with a drill. Value of missing items was \$1040.

• An employee of GE Capital Solutions reported the theft of office equipment. Upon arrival at work, she noticed a laptop computer, a projector and a palm computer missing from the office.

• Centre Deli reported someone smashed a brick wall around the garbage dumpster.

• A Pitt St. resident reported his mailbox was damaged. He said it was the third time in a year.

• A PSE&G manager reported that a PSE&G vehicle had been vandalized. A cellular phone was removed from the vehicle.

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

ADVERTISEMENT AND NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED proposals will be received by the Borough of South Plainfield in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey at the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ at 11:00 AM prevailing time on Tuesday, March 30, 1999, and at the time and place publicly opened for the construction of a project known as:

FRONT STREET REHABILITATION — PHASE II

Approximate Quantities for This Contract are:

550	S.Y.	Bituminous Stabilized Base Mix I-2 (6" Thick)
310	Tons	Bituminous Concrete Surface Course Mix I-5 (2" Thick)
1700	S.Y.	Pavement Milling
1200	L.F.	Granite Block Curb
550	S.Y.	Concrete Sidewalk Four (4) Inches Thick
225	S.Y.	Concrete Driveway Six (6) Inches Thick

NOTE: The Bituminous Concrete Surface Course will be constructed at Night

All work and material shall be in accordance with Plans and specifications prepared by the Borough of South Plainfield, Proposal Forms, Specifications and Instructions to Bidders may be obtained at the office of the Borough Engineer, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ for a NON-REFUNDABLE FEE OF \$50.00

Each proposal must be enclosed in a sealed envelope with the name of the project "FRONT STREET REHABILITATION — PHASE II" and addressed to the Borough of South Plainfield, Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080 Attn: James E. Eckert, Borough Clerk.

Each proposal must be accompanied by a certificate from the bidders bonding or surety company stating that it will provide the bidder with the required performance bond, if the bidder is successful in his bid, a certified or cashier's check or bid bond in the amount of 10% of the amount of bid but not more than \$20,000. Bidders must also complete the Non-Collusion Affidavit, Equal Employment Bidders Qualification Questionnaire and Corporate/Partnership Disclosure forms included in the proposal.

The Borough of South Plainfield reserves the right to reject any or all bids and/or to waive any informalities as may be deemed to be in the best interest of the Borough of South Plainfield.

All bidders are required to comply with the requirements and provisions of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27); New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act Chapter 150, Laws of 1963 effective January 1, 1974 and N.J.S.A. 10:2 — Any corporation or partnership submitting a bid shall complete the statement setting forth the name and address of all stockholders or partners who own a ten percent (10%) or more of the stock of any class of the corporation, or own a ten (10%) or greater interest in the partnership.

All materials used in the project shall be products of the United States whenever available.

By order of the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield.

John N. Corica,
Borough Administrator
March 19, 1999
\$80.00

1T March 19, 1999

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HELP WANTED

PART-TIME RECEPTIONIST—Local Architectural firm seeking part time receptionist for afternoon hours. Good telephone manners necessary. General office skills and knowledge of PC a plus. Benefit package available. Contact Candy at Cornerstone Architectural Group, 908-753-7004.

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

PART-TIME RECEPTIONIST for medical office. Will train. 908-756-5908. Leave message or ask for Randi.

DANCE INSTRUCTOR for Saturday Scene Program. Call South Plainfield Adult School 754-4620 x218.

YARD WASTE RECYCLING GROUNDS-KEEPER - Operations & maintenance at So. Plainfield municipal drop-off. 10-20 hrs/wk, May 1-Labor Day. Call Recycling Coord. (908) 226-7621. EOE.

HELP WANTED

PART-TIME MEDICAL ASSISTANT. Will train. Call 756-5908. Ask for Randi or lea message. **PART-TIME CLERK** for local store. Call 908-755-3663.

FOR SALE

STANDARD OFFICE METAL DESK w/formica top. 30 x 60. 5 drawers. \$80. 908-754-6856.

INSTRUCTION

The Total Body Workout! Get in the best shape of your life with **TAE BOX AEROBICS!** The hottest craze in fitness. Only \$20 per month for group classes! Call Ken @ (908) 412-1777.

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DEAD OR ALIVE-ROTOTILLERS, snowblowers, air conditioners, riding mowers. Cash paid. 732-463-3923.

BABYSITTING POSITIONS WANTED

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

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.

Garden Club Presents Slide Program

The Terra Nova Garden club will meet on Wednesday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the North Edison Library on Grove Ave. A slide Program entitled "New Jersey's Rare and Endangered Wildlife" will be presented by Karen Dixon of the Endangered and Non-Game Program.

Hostesses for the evening will be Theresa Bucolo and Kathi Stern

and the table design will be by Denise MacDonnell.

The Garden Therapy Committee will Meet at Chairman Virginia Nuzzo's home on March 16 to prepare for the Muhlenberg Hospital Adultcare Workshop on the following day. A St. Patrick's Day theme is planned.

Members Robin Jess and Mary Mazzpa visited some of the Veter-

ans at the New Jersey Home for Disabled Soldiers on Thursday, March 11. With assistance from Robin's four year-old son, Adam, they presented the men and women with African Violet plants. All were delighted to receive the plants and promised to care for them.

Mrs. Jess said, "Many New Jersey residents are unaware of this facility in Menlo Park. The volunteer organizations in the area would find it a worthwhile project, as have several of the local garden clubs affiliated with the Garden Club of New Jersey and National Council of State Garden Clubs."

Read Across America

Continued from page 9

they illustrated a favorite part. Miss Lisa Ventriglia's second grade class had a birthday in Dr. Seuss's honor. While wearing their favorite hats the children spoke to their classmates about their favorite books. After the party Miss Ventriglia read *The Cat In the Hat* to the class. Mrs. Pauline Lando's second grade selected a variety of Dr. Seuss books to read. Students wrote letters to a friend reviewing the book and drawing pictures illustrating a favorite excerpt.

Mrs. Krushinski also joined the third grades, where the children watched a video of *The Lorax* — and then discussed the environment and the importance of conserving our natural resources. Mrs. Krushinski's reading group also did a writing a on conservation. During the week of March 2, the third graders also read *The Butter Battle Book* and discussed the topics of individual differences, tolerance and

acceptance.

In fourth grade, Mrs. Cate Bonanno's reading classes also read *The Lorax*, and tied the story into aspects of science and social studies. Miss Lori Dress's fourth grade readers used *Happy Birthday to You*, a descriptive book about celebrations, to identify adjectives and metaphors, and then discussed how it appealed to our senses. Mrs. Beth Giakis, Resource Room teacher, asked her fourth graders to bring in their favorite Dr. Seuss books, which they then read to the class.

In fifth grade Mrs. Krushinski read *The Butter Battle Book* to her class. They discussed the necessity of accepting everyone despite their differences. They wrote a new ending to the story, explaining how the "two sides" could have settled their differences in a positive way.

The day concluded with a school-wide salute to Dr. Seuss on what would have been his 95th birthday by singing "Happy Birthday."

The Observer is sold at the following locations:

- 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.

South Plainfield Observer Advertisers are Listed in Bold Print

Applications Being Accepted for Part-Time Communications Operators

The South Plainfield Police Department is currently accepting applications for the position of Communications Operator. The minimum requirements for this position are:

- 18 years of age or older.
- Graduation from a high school or vocational high school or possession of an approved high school equivalent certification.
- A citizen of the United States.
- Be able to accurately type a minimum of 20 words per minute.
- Currently certified by a New Jersey Public Safety Answering Point to answer the 9-1-1 System (including completion of the Emergency Medical Dispatch course),
- Currently certified by a Law Enforcement agency to use the Criminal Justice Information System as a "Full Access-Operator."

Please submit a resume no later than April 2. If you have any questions, contact Sgt. Michael Grenier at (908) 226-7673.

Preferences will be given to South Plainfield residents. The Borough of South Plainfield is an equal opportunity employer.

Weekly Horoscope

ARIES — Take a stand! Someone dear to you may be drifting away. Also watch your spending at this time as you may find yourself short later on when you need it.

TAURUS — You should be getting a pat on the back from your boss. A project you been working on has been noticed while you did not know you were being observed. Congratulations!

GEMINI — Are you feeling the credit card crunch. One way to play catch up is cut up those extra 10 cards you have. Look for difficult relationships to end around the 31st.

CANCER — Be easy on the flirting as signals can be misinterpreted. Also don't be pressured into a situation where you have to pick between a romantic partner and friends. You have room for all.

LEO — Creativity is at a peak for you. When the sun and Neptune align you are full of wonderful visions. The only problem I see is that you need to write or draw your ideas.

VIRGO — Someone you have an eye on is too much in love with himself or herself. Around

the 27th, a Venus-Mars can throw your plans array. This could also include communications with others.

LIBRA — Why are you procrastinating on someone who has an eye for you? Others who have an interest in you are not what they seem. Is that not always the way it seems? Financial bonus on the way.

SCORPIO — Hold back, now is not a good time to jump head first into a deal that seem to have soured. Have an expert take a look at what is happening. Legal matters can be messy when you do not have a clue.

SAGITTARIUS — Doing any match making these days? Well as long as your honest with the ones you set up, you can be asked to be in that wedding party. Take a day off from work. You will be glad you did.

CAPRICORN — Go into the attic or basement. I do believe there are treasures to be found. Avoid one night stands at this time. A friend's advice will help you with a Venus-Mars opposition.

AQUARIUS — Don't go it alone at work with help from fellow employee's. The project will work out beautifully and the rewards can be shared by all. A trip to Atlantic City can be lucky for you. Take the money and run.

PIECES — Gossip! Boy I hate that word. Take it with a grain of salt. If you want to avoid it use your ID caller. If someone is willing to wine and dine you "why not." Cut down on red meat. You'll feel better.

INFO — There is three significant points in ones birth. They are the sun sign, moon sign and the rising sign. It's the rising sign which I will speak of. It appears in your first house (self). This is determined by the time of your birth as well as the date and place. This is how people will perceive you. It's the first impression and physical appearance that will have people form an opinion of you.

Quote: I will love you, if you love me back—Cyrus N. Moon



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March / April 1999

Meetings & Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Copy Deadline: Friday, 5 pm Advertising Deadline: Monday, 5 pm	8 Blood Drive SPSHS 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 Talent Show at SPSHS - 7 pm Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	13 St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance, American Legion Post, 6 pm Rescue Squad Western Dance Polish Home -8 pm
14	15 Land Management Advisory Committee 7:30 pm	16 Board of Education 8 p.m. Board of Adjustment 8 pm	17 Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	18	19 Sacred Heart Fish Dinner 5-7pm Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	20 Franklin PTA Auction/ Raffle 6:30 Candle Sale Blessed Virgin Church 2-4 pm
21 Chicken Dinner Our Lady of Czestochowa 2-6 pm	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 Sacred Heart Fish Dinner 5-7pm Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	27 Easter Egg Hunt PAL Building 1 pm Elk One-Stop-Shopping 10-4, Elks Lodge
Palm Sunday 28 Lions Breakfast at the High School 8 a.m.-12 p.m	29	30 Board of Adjustment 8 pm	31	APRIL 1 First Day of Passover	2 Good Friday Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	3
Easter Sunday 4 First Day of Daylight Savings Time	5 Recreation Comm. Meeting 7 pm PAL	6 Board of Adjustment 8 pm	7 Business Advisory Group 5:30 pm Court 9:30 am	8 Taxpayers Advisory Group 8 pm	9 Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	10

Want to know what's going on in South Plainfield? Get home delivery of The Observer. Subscription form on page 9.