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South Plainfield Observer

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50 CENTS

MARCH 26, 1999



School children serenade their grandparents at a Riley School "Grandparents Day" celebration. For story and additional photos, see page 5.

Franklin School Third-Grader Wins International Woman's Day Writing Contest

By Patricia Abbott

One of life's toughest decisions is "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Franklin School student Taryn Billich wants to be a journalist. A lofty ambition for anyone, but third grader Taryn is at an age when most students are not even familiar with the word "journalist." Despite her tender years, she is off to a good start. Taryn recently won first prize in her age group in the International Woman's Day-NJ Student Writing contest. Third/fourth grade, the earliest grade allowed to enter the contest, had only one winner, while the others grades offer several second, third and honorable mention placements. Taryn and her mother, Michelle, credit her teacher Mrs. Kane, along with student teacher Miss Mastrull, with encouraging her to participate in the contest.



Taryn Billich and Franklin School Teacher Mrs. Kane

The topic for the contest was Women Working for Health: Body, Spirit, Mind. Taryn said she originally chose Clara Barton for her essay. Over winter break the students worked on researching their topics. Michelle said that

Taryn put the project off until the last minute, as children often do. She was not sure that Taryn would finish the essay on time but felt it would be a good learning experience for her daughter. Taryn, however, was still optimistic. In a book about New Jersey's important women Taryn discovered Dr. Virginia Apgar, the New Jersey doctor who created the Apgar baby scoring system for newborns. With time running out Taryn plunged ahead. She photocopied many pages of notes for her research. She said her mother gave her a highlighter and told her "to highlight what was most important."

Taryn said her parents were very positive and tried to help her. She faced the problem of many journalists, putting the research information into her own words. She said she felt very frustrated. Taryn said, "My dad tried to help but he kept using too many adult words!" After three drafts Taryn was happy with the results. The

Continued on page 12

School Board Votes 'Yes' to New Roosevelt School

The Board of Education voted unanimously to go forward with construction of a new, 600-student Roosevelt Elementary School. Plans also include the construction of a 10-classroom addition to the existing Grant School and the relocation of the administrative offices to the present Roosevelt School building.

Roosevelt School, located on the south side of town, is the one of the oldest grade schools in the district. During the last few months, meetings and discussions have been taking place to explore ways of accommodating the proposed enrollment of 800 children during the next few years. Roosevelt School has been experiencing increased enrollment over the past few years.

The new school will be built on the present Roosevelt School property. A 10-classroom addition will be added to Grant School for use as an elementary school. Grant School currently houses the administrative offices, Latch Key Program and Future Stars Preschool Program.

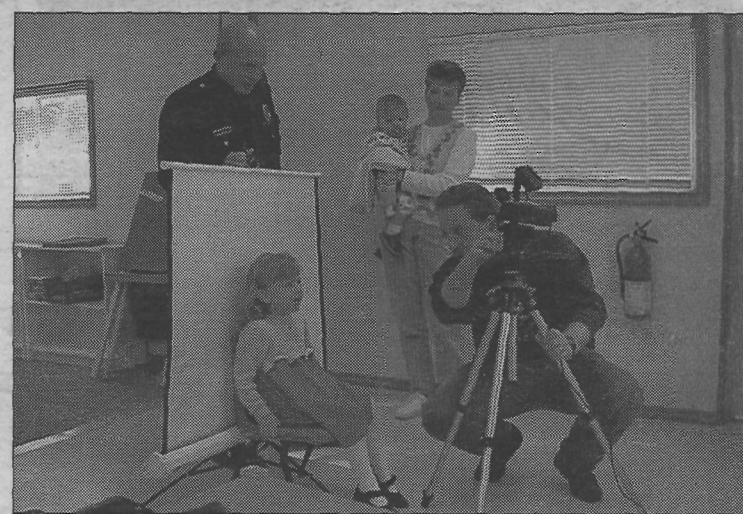
After construction of the new school is complete, renovations to the old school and relocation of the administration offices and ancillary programs will take place. The plans also include the replacement of the track at Jost Field.

Superintendent of Schools Guy Ferri said the school board's goal is to have the new Roosevelt School ready for the 2001-2002 school year. He also asked that Roosevelt School Principal Mario Barbieri assist in the planning of the new school so that the academic as well as classroom needs for the future are considered.

The estimated cost of the new school, the addition to Grant School, renovations of the old Roosevelt School and replacement of Jost Field track will be about \$21 million.

Scott Prisco of Prisco & Edwards has been appointed to start the building plan initiative. A required referendum vote for the necessary funding is planned for the fall.

Secure-A-Child Program Premiered at Pilgrim Covenant Pre-School



Police Officer Joe Papa looks on as Chris Modesto photographs a Pilgrim Covenant Pre-Schooler for the Secure-A-Child program.

By Patricia Abbott

Pilgrim Covenant Pre-School is the first area school to offer the Secure-A-Child program to the families of their students. The 18-month-old program was created by K & A Industries of South Plainfield. South Plainfield Police Officer Joe Papa and K & A Program Coordinator Gail Ball have joined forces to introduce the unique program to local grade schools, including Sacred Heart School and the Middle School.

On St. Patrick's Day lively pre-schoolers at Pilgrim Covenant Pre-School awaited their turns to be photographed by Chris Modesto. He carefully explained to the children to look right at the camera and cajoled a smile out of each child.

Secure-A-Child is a photo and identification program that works via a Police Identification Network (PIN). PIN places a child's picture and vital statistics in a

Continued on page 12



Students warm-up for their performance at the All District Music and Art Festival. Story and additional photos on page 8.

Front page photos by Patricia Abbott

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In My Opinion

To the Editor,

Being a board member is sometimes a complicated job. There are so many things that make up any decisions you must render. The impact on the students, the staff and the taxpayers are all a part of it. Providing a good learning and working atmosphere while keeping a rein on spending is a constant balancing act. Not having a private agenda for your actions makes life a little simpler.

Over the years there have been people who think that, by being elected to the board, they have a right to dictate the day to day

operation of the district. This is not so! The board is the policy maker, the staff are the implementers. Having an axe to grind only makes life more complicated for the board members and the people they interact with.

At this point in South Plainfield's history, stability and experience are crucial. The arrival of over 800 new students in the not too distant future, new mandates by the State and Federal governments on teacher training and instructional standards and the necessity of providing the infrastructure to make it all viable, are not

work for novices.

Myra Stillman, Ken LaFreniere and I have the necessary abilities and experience to serve the South Plainfield community. We ask that you support our candidacy for the Board of Education on April 20 to continue to provide an affordable, quality educational future for our children. **EXPERIENCE COUNTS!**

Vote for Carol M. Byrne, Line 1; Myra M. Stillman, Line 2 & Kenneth LaFreniere, Line 3.

CAROL M. BYRNE

Dear Mrs. Grennier,

On behalf of the South Plainfield Education Association I was very pleased to see your response to my letter regarding *Read Across America* and Dr. Seuss's celebration. I hope that your readership will respond to your suggestion that they, as well as your staff, write about their favorite book, or about a personal positive reading experience. This is a wonderful way for adults to model for children that reading is a lifelong fun activity.

Members of the SPEA—South Plainfield's teachers, teacher aides and school secretaries—know how much parents want their children to enjoy reading. Parents know that good reading skills help their children succeed in school. The love of reading is the greatest educational gift we can give our children.

To help families instill a love of reading in their children, the SPEA offers these additional ten suggestions:

- Link reading to children's current interests – comic books, fashion magazines, even retail catalogues and the Guinness Book of World Records can be a beginning.
- Keep a selection of library books linked to their interests at home and let them browse.
- Stack appealing reading materials wherever your children sit—on the kitchen table, in front of the TV, in the bathroom, by their bedside, etc.
- Let your children see you reading everyday. Don't put off reading until the children are in bed.
- Discuss articles you've read in magazines and newspapers with your children.
- Be flexible and tolerant. Don't insist that children finish a book. Let them read while the TV or radio is on.
- Give books and magazine subscriptions as gifts. Treat them to movies and plays based on books they've read. Ask them to compare.
- Share the reading experience. From infancy to middle school, read to your children every day or have your child read aloud to you. Act out scenes.
- Ask questions such as "What do you think will happen next?" "Why did that character do that?"
- Be optimistic and patient. Every child can learn to love reading—eventually.

The SPEA wants every child to experience the lifelong joy of reading. We believe that parents are our true partners in education.

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

Voters of South Plainfield,

I have lived in South Plainfield for the last 28 years. My three daughters were graduates of South Plainfield High School and have all completed a college education. My wife Chris and I are the happy grandparents of twin girls. While our children were growing up, I felt it important to be involved. I was the treasurer for the Pop Warner Eagles many years ago. I was the director of Project Graduation for nine years, SPSHS PTA president for six years and trustee of the Hall of Fame for SPSHS for two years. Currently, I'm a trustee member for the Vision 2001 Education Foundation of South Plainfield. As you can see I have been involved with our students at many levels and many positions.

As a board member I have learned that there are many things that need to be completed. However, you need to have the understanding and focus to achieve these goals. I have been the chairperson for the Curriculum Committee for the last three years that I have been on the Board of Education (BOE). We now have showcased all of the departments, from the elementary schools to the high school. In showcasing the department it was not to tell what you are doing but what can you do better to give our children a better education. This forum provided an avenue for the teachers and staff to voice their needs with the understanding that money was not the way to achieve these goals. Many creative instructional items have been completed, such as a foreign language club in the elementary schools, interaction with the police and clergy to assist with crisis intervention when school is closed and many more. During my tenure I have been a member of the following committees: Finance (two years), Building and Grounds (one year), Transportation (one year), Policy (three years) and Student Activity (one year).

My goal, when I ran three years ago, was to get the technology in South Plainfield up to par. I was instrumental in getting the five-year rolling Technology Plan in place. We have this plan and it is a living document. We have been able to receive grants that have helped to pay for some of the things that are in place today, i.e. Internet access. This could not have been completed if we did not have direction, which was articulated in the plan.

Our district shared the technical expertise (a person) with another district to reduce our cost and to maintain quality of the

computer equipment. Our district was the first to obtain this type of an agreement (shared services) in our county.

During the summer I attended one of the in-service classes for our teachers. The purpose was to understand some of the needs of our teachers. During the class, the teachers indicated to me that this program has helped them to do their jobs better. This service gives the teacher the best tools to do their job of teaching our students. When teachers are learning and excited, the students only benefit more. These are the reasons why I am running for the board again. The Board of Education has grown this service to where it also a shared service. This allows us to receive money from other districts as well as other in-service instruction. This is, again, very progressive thinking to get more with less. This less is taxpayers dollars.

Our board has been in the forefront of the battle to make the state aware that giving the special needs district (28 school districts) half of the State educational budget is not working. Giving money will not help the students learn better unless there is a plan in place to achieve this goal. The State needs to hold people accountable for the money that is given to each district.

Our board has done well in the area of planning and accountability but it is my feeling that up to the classroom door (teachers' domain) the BOE should be conducted like a business and hold people accountable. Again, this is a viewpoint that might not be popular, but with a \$35.5 million budget, it has to be that way in order to provide the resources for the additional programs that our children will need. Our board has also been involved with the battle to remove property tax as the source of school funding. Not only has the BOE sent letters to the legislators, individual BOE members have as well. Our board has gone to meet with the local PTA and PTSO organizations to solicit their support on these programs.

I would like you to support me for a position on the Board of Education of the South Plainfield School District. I believe that my running mates, Myra Stillman and Carol Byrne, have the integrity and creativity that is needed to continue the many things that are on our plates to achieve as we go into the next millennium. Please support the team that believes that the children come first.

**KENNETH E. LA FRENIERE
LINE #3**

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:

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:

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

**ALL MEETINGS ARE
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Council Meetings

AGENDA MEETINGS	PUBLIC MEETINGS
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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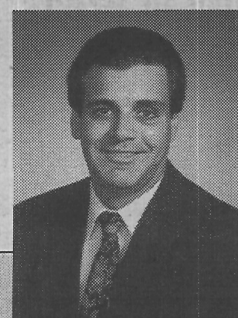
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South Plainfield Observer, 530 Union Ave., Suite 3, Middlesex, NJ 08846 or drop it in the box at Mohn's Flowers on Plainfield Ave. or Twice Is Nice, Front St. or fax us at (732) 805-0815 or e-mail us on the web page at spobserver.com. Include your name, address, telephone number.

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Roxanne Cortese Joins the Observer Staff

The *South Plainfield Observer* welcomes Roxanne Cortese to our staff as Advertising Sales Representative.

A resident of South Plainfield since 1979, Roxanne moved here from Hazleton, Pa. with her family. She graduated from Hazleton High School and attended Bloomsburg College.

Roxanne has a full time private practice, Mind Waves, a Holistic Center for Prevention and Healing here in South Plainfield. She is a holistic practitioner using alternative therapies such as Hypnosis, Reiki and Foot Reflexology to enhance wellness, alleviate discomfort and to help make positive changes. She is also a motivational speaker and conducts workshops on Stress Management, Stop Smoking and Build-



Roxanne Cortese

ing Self-Esteem to Corporations, as well as teaching Reiki and ADD/ADHD Workshops.

Roxanne is the author of two books, *Medical/Legal Handbook for Hypnotherapists*, and *Parenting the Parent of an ADD/ADHD*

Child. She volunteers as a teacher and trainer for the W.I.S.E. program for the National Council of Alcohol and Drug Dependence of Union County and the South Plainfield Crisis Intervention Team and is a board member of U.N.I.C.O. and is also their public relations coordinator.

Roxanne is married to Michael, who has two businesses in town, Health Care Management Association, and Snap Shot Greetings. Roxanne, mother of seven grown boys and an 11-year-old daughter who attends JFK Elementary School, has six grandchildren.

Look for Roxanne, an enthusiastic and energetic person, visiting businesses around town. She is dedicated to encourage the growth of the *Observer* and has great ideas for future special features.

Business Association Golf Outing Set for May 4

The Business Association will hold its Annual Golf Outing on Tuesday, May 4 at the Cranbury Golf Club in Cranbury. This popular annual event was a sell-out last year.

Prizes will be awarded for longest drive, closest to the pin, straightest drive, low net, low gross, most honest golfer and a hole in one. Some of the prizes include a car and a set of golf clubs. There will also be many door prizes.

The Business Association is looking for sponsors in several categories. A Gold Corp. Sponsor, at the cost of \$1,000, includes

a foursome, a BBQ lunch, signage and recognition. A Silver Sponsor costs \$500 and includes a twosome and signage. Companies may also sponsor a Tee Sign, Flags, Hospitality, Beverage Cart and Breakfast. Individual golfers fee is \$100, which includes the BBQ lunch.

The day will begin with registration and continental breakfast from 8-8:45 a.m., shot gun start at 9 a.m., a BBQ lunch at 2 p.m. and awards presentation at 3 p.m.

For information on becoming a sponsor or to register for the golf outing, call Paulett Giroux at (908) 754-8086 or Carolyn Allen at (908) 757-1055.

United Way Nominates Three New Board Members

The South Plainfield Chapter of the United Way held its bi-monthly meeting and nominated three new board members. Nominated were Dave Slavin, director of quality assurance from MedTech Group, Inc., Aida Santos, assistant vice president from Valley National Bank and Nancy Grennier publisher of the *South Plainfield Observer*. The three nominees will be formally voted on at the June meeting.

The Valentine's Day Quartet, which successfully raised over \$800 in their first endeavor to serenade sweethearts on Valentine's Day, were given a plaque in recognition of their special fundraising effort. The quartet hopes to raise more

money next year by promoting the event at an earlier date. One member of the quartet reported his company promised to give matching funds if they repeat the fundraiser next year.

The South Plainfield Chapter of the United Way contributes to the funding many local programs. All local fundraising money is funneled back to South Plainfield.

Vote Scheduled

The Board of Education will vote on the proposed budget at the March 29 Board of Education meeting.

Borough Notes

Council

■ Due to the persistence of Court Administrator Pat Vargo and the progressive thinking of Mayor Dan Gallagher, the Borough now accepts credit and debit cards for the payment of bail, violations and court fines. South Plainfield is the first town in Middlesex County and the second in the state to accept credit card payment. Pat has been working on this project for several years. The cards may be used for paying tickets, posting bail and court fines.

■ The mayor expressed his displeasure with the company who, for the past three years, has left a plastic bag in his driveway. The bag has a note on it saying to fill the bag with used clothing and they will pick it up. Gallagher said he checked out the company and found they do not give clothing to the needy. Rather, they resell the clothing. He has asked the company to stop this practice immediately. He also warned that this practice is against the law in South Plainfield.

■ The hockey rink behind Borough Hall will soon be under the direction of the Recreation Department. They plan to start hockey leagues as soon as possible.

Planning Board

■ Bill Wilkins was granted a final three-lot subdivision approval to build three houses on Bullard and Pershing Place.

Board of Adjustment

■ David Terry of Maple Place was granted permission to build a detached two car garage on his property.

■ Thomas and Karen Magner received approval to erect a wood deck on their property.

■ Leslie Graham was granted approval to build a single-family house on vacant property located on Lewis Ave.

■ Home Depot was granted an extension of the temporary use permit for an addition.

Pool Offers Early Bird Rate

Summer is just around the corner! Now is the time for residents to get in on South Plainfield's premier social scene. Sign up for the Community Pool before April 15 and save money.

This year the pool will offer a variety of programs including swimming lessons and a recreation program for children in the pool compound as well as top-notch and fun competition on their award-winning swimming and diving teams.

Registrations are now being accepted at the PAL Building located on Maple Ave. Take advantage of the reduced prices and sign up before April 15. Membership rates are \$200 for a family, \$120 for individuals, \$45 for senior citizens and \$175 for a husband and wife.

Other memberships are available. Call (908) 226-7713 for details.

Recycling Center and Yard Waste Site Closed on Good Friday

The South Plainfield Recycling Center and the Yard Waste Site, located on Kenneth Ave. will be closed on Friday, April 2. Both facilities will be open as usual on Saturday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Regular spring hours (through May 1) are Tuesdays, noon-7 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. For updates, call the hotline at (908) 226-7620.



Daniel LaSpata and Beck Perez.

Players' Drama Club Members Enter State Wide Competition

Congratulations to all the Players' Drama Club members for their participation in Monmouth University's State wide competition held on Feb. 27.

Awarded a fifth place overall finish in dramatic pairs were Becky Perez and Daniel LaSpata, for their scene from *Laura*.

Other members of the teams participating doing dramatic pairs were: Matt Wojcik and Mohamed Shiliwala, Jenna DeLosSantos and Cassie Bosse; improvisation: Kayan Bowman and Allison Butrico, Matt LaSpata and Dan LaSpata and Malika Aaron and Tawawa Nichols.

School Calendar Changes

Due to the storm that hit the borough this past Labor Day, the school board has revised the school 1998/99 calendar.

Last September's storm, which caused extensive damage to roads and power outages throughout much of the town, resulted in

four-day school closings.

In order to comply with the 180 day statutory requirements, April 8 and 9, which had been part of spring break will now be regular school days. In addition May 28 will also be a regular school day.

OAK TREE FARMS 136 South Plainfield Ave. South Plainfield, NJ Sale Starts Friday, March 26 Ends Thursday, April 1 (While Supplies Last)			
Kohler's Turkey Breast \$5.49 lb.	2% Milk \$2.49 gallon With coupon	New Jersey Extra Large Eggs 89¢ Doz.	Fresh Ham Whole or Half 99¢ lb.
Hormel Slicing Pepperoni \$3.99 lb.	Florida Tomatoes 69¢ lb.	Delicious Fresh Pierogis \$3.49 lb.	Chicken 1/4 Legs 49¢ lb.
Thuman's Hard Salami \$5.49 lb.	Italian Sausages Hot or Sweet \$1.99 lb.		Veal Stew \$2.49 lb.
Boars Head Mozzarella \$3.99 lb.	Green Peppers 59¢ lb.	Iceberg Lettuce 79¢ ea.	Top Round London Broil \$2.99 lb.
	Red Peppers 79¢ lb.	Red or Golden Delicious Apples 49¢ lb.	
	Fryers 69¢ lb.		
	California Celery 59¢ stalk		

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AROUND TOWN

EVENTS

U.N.I.C.O. Sponsors Golf Outing

Plainfields' Unico Chapter of South Plainfield invites you and/or your foursome to join them on Monday, May 17 at the Beaver Brook Golf Club in Clinton. Registration is 12 noon with a shotgun start at 1 p.m.. A buffet dinner will be served at 6 p.m. and awards and prizes will be at 7 p.m. There will be a \$10,000 putting contest, longest drive, closest to the pin on all par 3's, low net and low gross prizes. The Calloway system will be used for scoring. The cost for the day, including green fees, cart, buffet dinner, locker and storage, is \$110 per person.

Gold and Silver Corporate Sponsorship are still available. Dinner only is \$25. If you would like to play, sponsor a hole, donate a door prize, or help out, call Mike Cortese at (908) 561-1539 or Dick Grillo at (908) 754-1653.

AARP Chapter 4144 Meeting

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 information or reservations. For information about how to join the chapter call Mary at (732) 752-3764.

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.

This is a 2½-hour "Buffet Cruise," which includes pastas, omelettes and carving stations. Brochures and tickets are \$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.

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

Our Lady of Czestochowa Events

Blessing of Easter Food

Our Lady of Czestochowa will hold its annual blessing of Easter food on Saturday, April 3, 11 a.m.-noon and 1-2 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Lenten Devotions

March 26, 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—The Rosary Society is holding a Chicken Dinner on Sunday, Mar. 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 27 and 28 after weekend masses.

Tourette Syndrome Meeting

The next meeting 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.

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. For information, 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 Dinner on March 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 information, call Sandra 732-283-1250 or e-mail snglprn@tj@aol.com.

Senior Trip to Atlantic City

Sign ups are being taken for the senior trip to the Tropicana and the Senior Festival on April 29. The cost is \$10 for a resident and \$15 for non-residents. The bus leaves at 7:45 a.m. and returns at approximately 8 p.m.

The first stop will be the Tropicana Casino where you receive \$10 in coins and a free brunch. The bus will depart at 3 p.m. and take the group to the new Atlantic City Convention Center and pick up there at 6 p.m. for the return trip.

Sign at the PAL Building located on Maple Ave.

First Baptist Church Spring Fashion Show

The Women's Evening Circle will be sponsoring a Spring Fashion Show on Saturday, May 1 at 2 p.m.

Clothing and accessories, compliments of Dress Barn and Dress Barn Plus, will be modeled by members. The cost is \$10 per ticket. This event is a fundraiser for the church general fund.

Ticket information may be obtained by calling Midge at (908) 561-0482.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

We're just about to change months and we changed seasons a few days ago. So, to provide some stability, here's the weekly news from South Plainfield Library:

We'll adhere to the regular schedule of storytimes next week. The programs, each for children ages 3 and up, take place on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. As always, Linda Hansen can provide more information; you can reach her by calling (908) 754-7885.

We're having a bit of a turnover in our Circuit collections. This month's Circuit videos will be available until tomorrow, while the Circuit books-on-tape will be around until Wednesday. The Circuit large print books are between groups right now. We'll get all three of them back on the shelves with new groups as soon as we're able to.

As if that isn't enough, we're also changing displays next week. The well-received exhibit of photos, provided by the Plainfield Camera Club, will be up until Monday. Wednesday will be the last day to see the equally popular display of work by tinsmith Henry Phelps.

The library will be closed on Friday, April 2, for Good Friday.

When you get right down to it, we're pretty proud of the way our renovations have come out. And, next month, we'll get the chance to share it with you in style. Our Library Open House is set for Sunday, April 11, from 2-4 p.m. Refreshments will be served and

everyone is invited to attend.

As it happens, our improvements are ongoing. We've just added some new shelving and chairs, as well as a new Internet workstation next to our microform machines. Thanks to Comcast Cable for providing the on-line hook up.

This leads us to a subject that some patrons have asked us about: Internet safeguards. We've noted in previous columns that we don't use filtering software or actively monitor the websites that our patrons access. But, we're not entirely hands-off either. We've purposely set up our terminals in open, frequently used areas. Also, patrons must sign up to use the terminals and a staff member must log the terminals on. And, as previously said, we'll insist that a patron change sites if they're found to be viewing inappropriate material. In future, we plan to enable parents to decide on whether or not their children can go on-line, much in the same way that they decide about them borrowing A/V items. We'll keep you informed on this matter as things develop.

Lastly, here's a request from the staff. When you read one of our collection of magazines, please take care putting them back on the shelf. If you're not certain where it belongs, leave it on a table. Don't just put it back wherever there's a spot; they need to be kept in proper order.

That'll just about do it for today's column. As always, feel free to let us know your comments and opinions. We'll have more next month.

MILESTONES

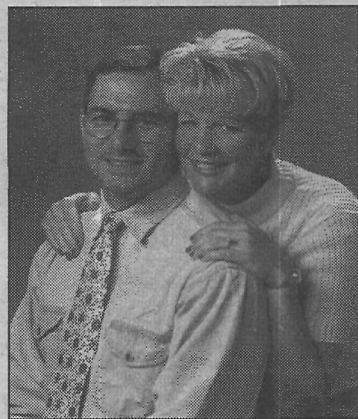
Engagement

Bergen/Bartolomei To Wed

James and Natalie Bergen of South Plainfield are pleased to announce the engagement of their son, Richard, to Rita Marie Bartolomei, daughter of James and Rita Bartolomei of Bordentown.

Miss Bartolomei received a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Trenton State College and a Master of Arts from Seton Hall University. She is employed by Prudential Insurance Company as an investigator.

Mr. Bergen received a Bachelor of Science degree from Trenton State College in accounting. He is presently employed at SAP America as a software instructor.



Richard Bergen and Rita Bartolomei

A May 23, 1999 wedding is planned.

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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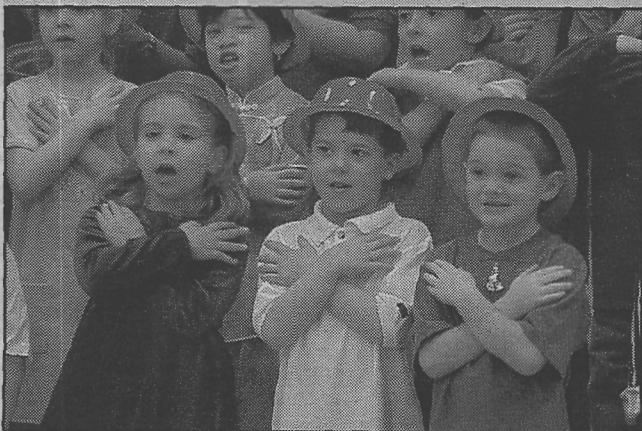
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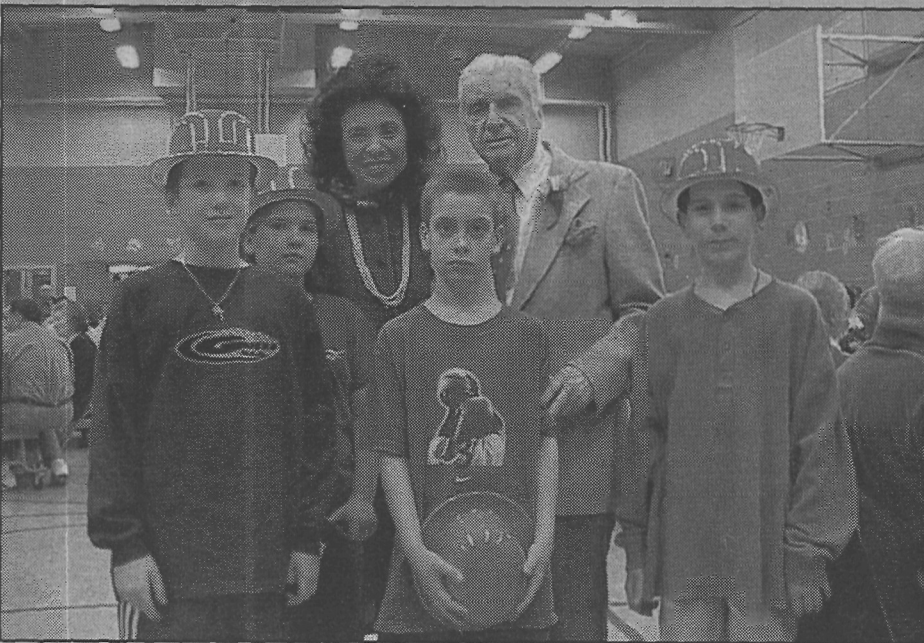
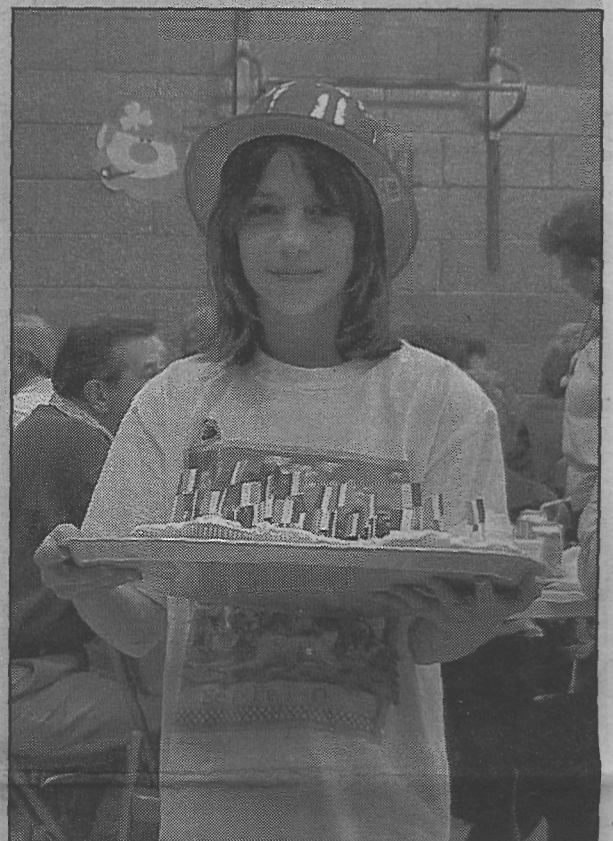


John E. Riley School Children Celebrate Grandparents



On Saint Patrick's Day, Riley School held its annual Grandparents' Luncheon. Grandparents were greeted at the door by student council members and offered paper corsages. The students also helped serve the guests. Among those attending the event was board of education member and former principal, Mr. Sincavage. Special guest for the day was Mr. John E. Riley (pictured below, left, along with Principal Janet Munger and student council members). The gym was decorated in the traditional green and white and was filled to near capacity. The highlight of the afternoon was the performances by the students. Each group displayed their "Irish" with hats, ties and shamrocks. The Irish Jig, songs and a poem that spelled out 'grandparents' were enjoyed and appreciated by the guests.

Story and Photos by Patricia Abbott



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

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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.

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

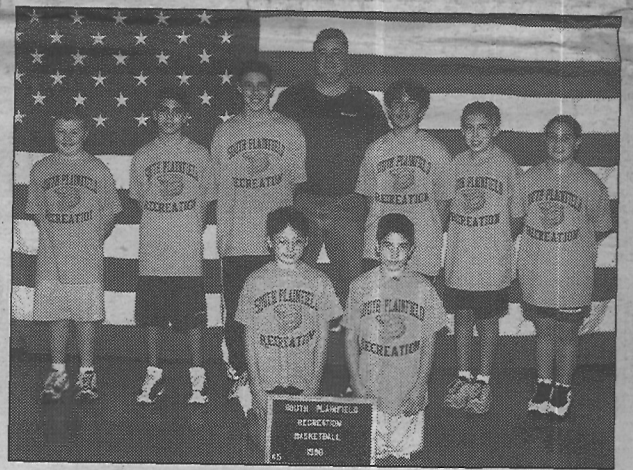
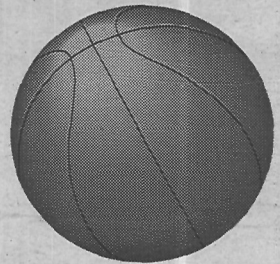
Ticket Price: \$5.00

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



SPORTS

The Observer Congratulations All Recreation Basketball Players and Coaches



Recreation Basketball.

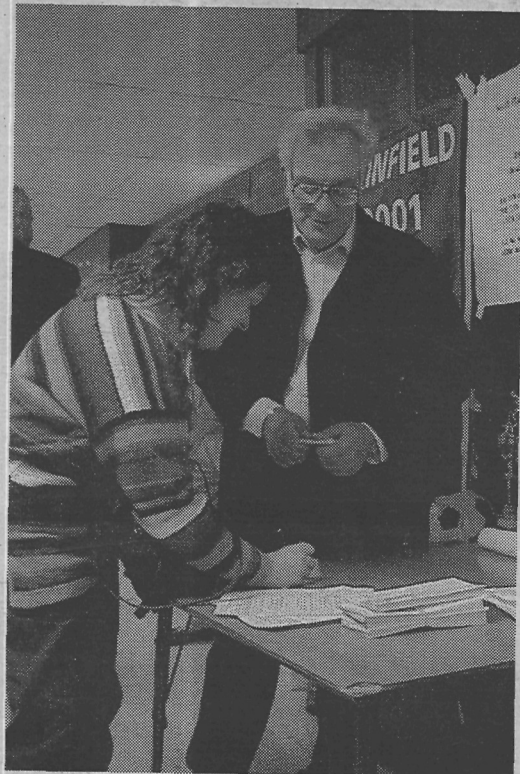
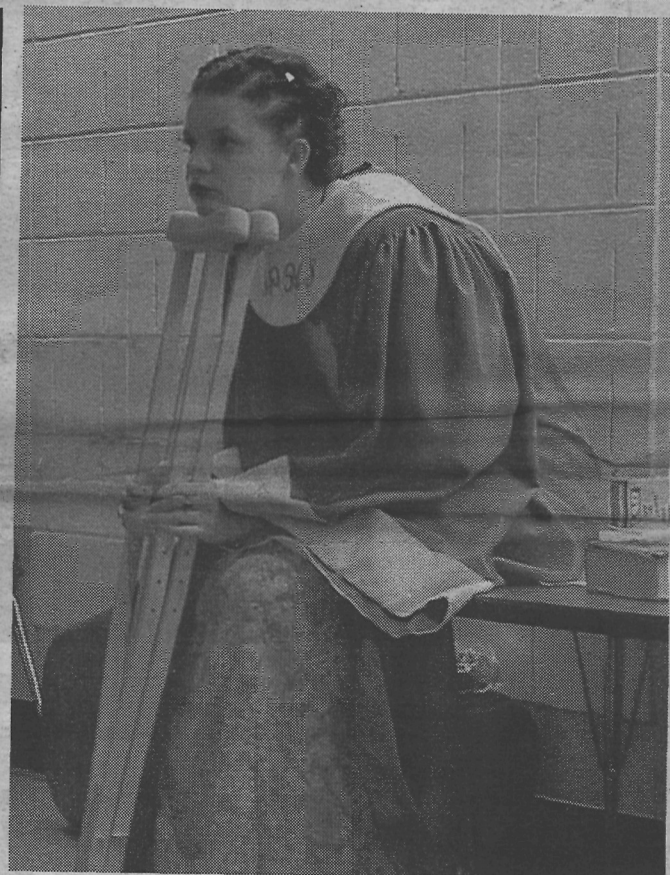


Scenes from All District Music & Art Festival



A choir and orchestra of elementary school students, along with numerous instrumental and vocal groups from the middle and high schools, participated in the 30th Annual All District Music & Art Festival, which was held on March 19. The evening was a tribute to Mr. Peter Franks, who began the festival 30 years ago. In addition to the music, the festival featured artwork from students throughout the school district.

—Story/Photos by Patricia Abbott



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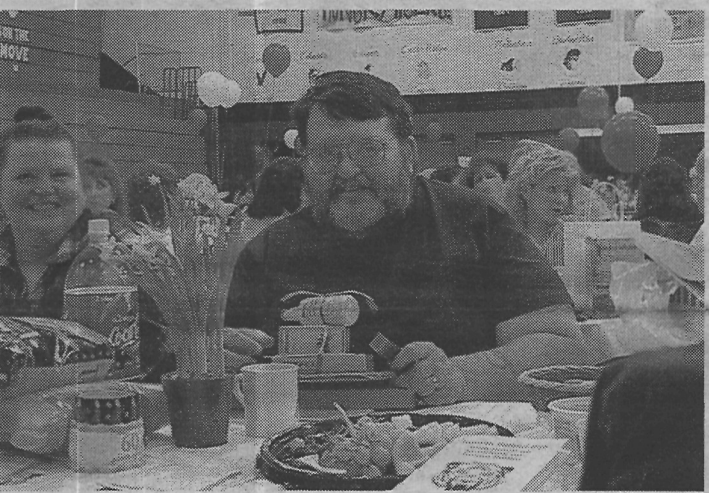
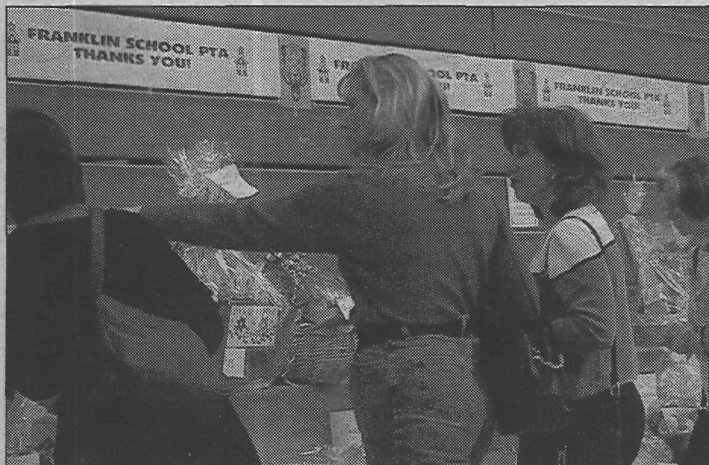
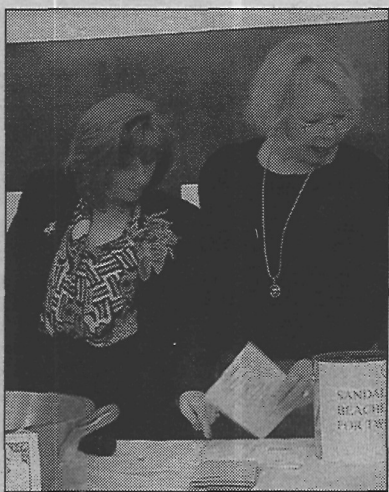
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Franklin School Auction/Raffle Held

The Franklin School Auction held last Saturday night was a huge success. Over 350 people attended and \$10,000 was raised. The money will be used towards playground equipment and cultural arts. Grand prize winner of 4 days/3 nights at Sandals was Denise Maistick. Other winners were, Michelle Stavina-a gas grill, Sue Gaughin-a 25" TV and a VCR, Lenny Santora-a CD stereo cassette recorder, Sharon Geczy - a Sony Discman, Kathy Thomas - two summer memberships at the Ricochet Health & Racquet Club and Laura McCreesh - a breadmaker. The chairpeople of the event were Ann Marie Seyffart and Debra Krawiec.



The Small Fry players are out in force for the club's annual booster weekend. This is a major fund-raising event for the club. All players and parents are urged to participate. Thanks in advance to everyone for your continued support of our baseball program. The club has scheduled work details over the next few weekends to prepare the complex for the upcoming season. All are welcome to stop at the complex to lend a hand. Work details are scheduled for Saturday April 3rd at 7:00 a.m., Saturday April 10th at 7:00 a.m., and Friday April 16th at 4:00 p.m.

Opening day is almost here. As in the past, there will be an opening day parade, followed by a brief ceremony at the complex, and an afternoon of baseball. Players will march from Boro Hall to the complex for the Opening Day ceremonies. This year, Sparkee, the mascot for the Somerset Patriots, will be joining us. Members of the Patriots

Junior Baseball Club Notes

organization will also be on hand. The club is currently arranging for players from the Patriots to visit the SPJBC complex once the team returns from spring training.

The club has organizing a trip to see the Trenton Thunder on Friday night May 14th. Tickets are \$13.00 which includes admission, hot dogs, soda, and a souvenir cup. Contact John Rayho at 754-8904 for tickets and more information.

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 8 inch hanging baskets (Geraniums, Fuchsia, New Guinea Impatiens, Proven Winners, and Verbena) and 2 - 3 gallon perennials. The SPJBC Dance will

be held on Saturday night June 12th from 7 p.m. to midnight at the Polish National Home on New Market Avenue. Tickets are \$35 per person and must be purchased by May 29th. A \$10 deposit is required and must be received by May 15th. 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 spjbc99@aol.com.

Events at a glance

Booster Weekend — Thursday March 25th thru Saturday March 27th; Work Detail — Saturday April 3rd - all hands welcome; Work Detail — Saturday April 10th - all hands welcome; Opening Day — Saturday April 17th; Trenton Thunder Trip — Friday May 14th.

March Madness Hits South Plainfield

March Madness came to South Plainfield in the form of a sixth and seventh grade basketball tournament held at the high school earlier this month.

Teams from Bound Brook, Branchburg, Dunellen, Flemington, North Plainfield, Sacred Heart and South Plainfield participated in the tournament.

In the sixth grade boys finals, South Plainfield lost to longtime rival North Plainfield.

In the seventh grade girls final, Sacred Heart defeated South Plainfield and took the championship.



Rescue Squad Holds Recruitment Meeting

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad is inviting all sophomores, juniors and seniors to attend a recruitment meeting, which will

be held in the library at South Plainfield High School on Wednesday, March 31 during first period.

Board of Education

MEETING NOTICE CHANGE

The Special Public Meeting for the Formal Budget Hearing and Adoption of Final Budget 1999/2000, which was originally scheduled for Tuesday, March 30, has been changed to Monday, March 29 at 8 p.m. in the Board Conference Room, Administration Building located on Cromwell Place.

Fr. John invites you to worship with him at

Our Lady of Czestochowa R.C. Church

807 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield

EASTER WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday Services
8:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Holy Thursday Service
7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Services
3:00 pm. & 7:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday
7:00 p.m. Service and Mass

Easter Sunday Masses
8:00, 11:00 and 12:15

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Obituaries

Helen C. (Busa) Zmuda, 79

Helen C. (Busa) Zmuda of South Plainfield died on Wednesday, March 17 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Cannonsburg, Pa., she was a former resident of Plainfield before moving to South Plainfield 35 years ago.

Mrs. Zmuda was a salesperson for the former Two Guys From Harrison in Watchung.

She was a communicant of Our Lady Fatima RC Church in Piscataway.

She was predeceased by her husband, Joseph Zmuda, who died in 1975.

Surviving are three sons, Joseph F. Zmuda Jr. of Palm Harbor, Fla., Robert A. Zmuda of Piscataway and William E. Zmuda of South Plainfield; two daughters, Carol A. DiDario of Dunedin, Fla. and Nancy Zmuda of South Plainfield; a sister, Elizabeth Fedish of Edison; a brother, John Busa of Linden; nine grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

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

Mildred G. Crowe, 79

Mildred G. Crowe died on Sunday, March 14 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Tuckahoe, NY, she had resided in Plainfield before moving to South Plainfield 47 years ago.

She had been a homemaker and a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield.

Her husband, John "Jack" Crowe, died in 1992.

Surviving are a daughter, Linda

Joyce Coffman of Annapolis, Maryland; a son, Robert J. Crowe of North Brunswick; a sister, Tessie Ciriselle of Tuckahoe, NY; four brothers, Peter and John Gallo of Toms River, Carmen Gallo of South Plainfield and Larry Gallo of Westchester County, NY. Also surviving are five grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Claire R. Raiello, 65

Claire R. Raiello died on Friday, March 19 in Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in New Brunswick, she had resided in Plainfield for 20 years before moving to South Plainfield in 1990.

She had been employed as the office manager for Hmieski Trucking of Somerset for the past nine years.

Mrs. Raiello was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church.

Surviving are her husband, Joseph J. Raiello, two daughters, Patti-Jo Urban of Bound Brook and Faye Sandor of Sacramento, Calif.; two sons, Joseph J. Raiello, Jr. of South Plainfield, Frank Sandor of South Plainfield; two brothers, Mickey Haefner of New Brunswick and Bobby Haefner of Sacramento, Calif. Also surviving is one grandson.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Florence (Lopilato) Ardis, 90

Florence (Lopilato) Ardis of South Plainfield died on Saturday, March 20 at her home.

She was born in Brooklyn, NY and was a former long time resident of Yonkers, NY before moving to South Plainfield a year ago.

Mrs. Ardis was a bookkeeper for Consolidated Foods in Mt. Vernon, NY for many years before retiring in 1985.

She was a member of the Italian American Club in Yonkers.

She is survived by her husband, Emanuel Ardis; two stepsons, Robert Ardis of South Plainfield and Dennis Ardis of Houston, Texas and seven grandchildren.

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

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For all you computer users out there, online or not, there's a great site you should visit even if you have to visit the library to access it. www.smartcomputing.com is the website for one of the finest computer magazines I've ever seen. It is written in simple terms (it used to be called "pcNovice") and always has helpful information. Their website archives back issues too, as well as their incredibly valuable "Guides To" series. This is a great resource for help with any computer issue from first purchase to upgrades and tips. I've subscribed for years and always recommend it to new users and old hands too.

I was asked recently what security issues remain regarding online shopping. "Pretty much old hat" was my reply. Though this issue just won't die, it's safe to say that common sense should always rule the day. Forget the Internet and electronic commerce for a moment and realize that no buying season or occasion passes when there isn't a warning about this or that scam, or illegitimate effort by some to separate you from your money. Heck, I'm actually starting to think that such crooks play a necessary role in society just to keep us alert from bigger screw-ups! Buyer beware! (ever hear that one before?). Now, back to electronic commerce. Online buying is safe if you follow these two rules always: 1) Never, ever give out your bank account numbers or info online for any reason whatsoever! Not even to "confirm" or for "electronic checks."

If you gave me your bank account number, I could empty your account without any further authorization from you. It's that simple! (It is true, but I won't prove it. You're welcome!) 2) Always use a credit card (NOT a debit card!). Credit cards will limit any loss to \$50 and will engage a posse to track down the bad guys. Nuff said.

TIP: Be sure your online commerce is over a secure site! You'll know that because the web address will start with "https," not the usual "http"! That indicates that your now communicating on secure web server.

Secure web servers the SSL or SET online protocol. SSL or Secure Sockets Layer insures that the data transfers securely without corruption. SET or Secure Electronic Transaction insures that you are in fact sending data to whom you intend to receive it using digital signatures for that purpose. It is somewhat slower than SSL, but safer. "A fool and his (or her) money are soon parted" will always apply, yet online business has become sur-

Of particular help for window95 & 98 users is their current

issue with helpful techniques for speeding up your machine. I particularly liked their article on Performance Optimization. It addresses the Windows swap file and disk cache management. If these terms are unfamiliar to you, read this magazine. You will thank me!

I hope all of you college bound students took advantage of online SAT help and did well with the test just given this last weekend. (Not to mention all the scholarship info and financial aid help that can be found for when you do get accepted). If our SPHS Guidance Department doesn't have a huge sign over their main office saying "Use the Internet & Find it Online!" shame on them. If you didn't anyway, shame on you! Good luck to you! See you next issue.

Kennedy School Plans Get Acquainted Program

John F. Kennedy School PTSO will be holding 'Get Acquainted' classes for all students who will be attending Kindergarten at JFK in September. The purpose of the class is to familiarize the students with the school and staff. Hopefully any anxieties the children may have about coming to a new school will be alleviated. Some of the activities during the program are visits to the school nurse, the principal and taking a mini-bus ride.

The sessions for Get Ac-

quainted are as follows: Tuesdays, May 4, 11 and 18 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and Wednesdays, May 5, 12 and 19 from 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Parents may register for this program during the month of April in the Kennedy School main office between 9-11 a.m. or 1-3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Registration must be completed by April 30. If you need further information about Get Acquainted, call Rosann Coppi at 908-757-8174.

Ponytail Association Accepting Applications for Scholarships

The South Plainfield Parents' Ponytail Association is now accepting applications for our college scholarships. Applications can be picked up at the guidance department of the high school or by writing to the South Plainfield Parents' Ponytail Association, P.O. Box 441, South Plainfield, NJ

07080.

Applicants must be graduating high school student this June, a South Plainfield resident and must have participated in the South Plainfield Recreation Ponytail Softball Program for a minimum of three years. The filing deadline is May 1, 1999.



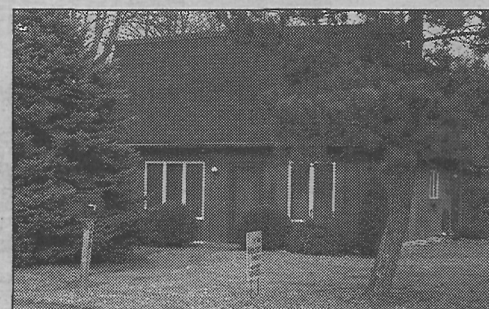
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Weekly Horoscope

ARIES — March 21-April 19. You are the first sign in the zodiac which means new beginnings. Some traits you may have are: energetic, active, open to change and impulsive. Mars is your ruling planet, ancient god of war. Your color is red like fire. Birthstone is the diamond—there you go lady Aries. A city to visit—England. The Ram goes head first into situations so ease up as these may get out of hand sometimes.

TAURUS—April 20-May 20. Your favorite trait as seen in the eyes of others is dependability. Your ruling planet is Venus, the Roman goddess of beauty and the arts. You may be quiet but make no mistake, the Bull is strong and can be fierce. Lucky day, Friday. Birthstone is the emerald. Pale blue is always a nice color to wear. For a country may I suggest Cyprus?

GEMINI—May 21-June 20. The sign of communication: Quick witted full of ideas. One who wants to play all the parts, actor, director, producer and stagehand. Mercury rules over this sign. Ancient messenger of the gods, which also rules communication and travel. Birthstone is the agate. A cool city for you to check out would be San Francisco. Wear your seat belt in the car. People of this sign are prone to injury while traveling.

CANCER—June 21-July 22. The Moon is your ruler, as a satellite around the earth it moves and wanes a strong magnetic force in your life. And need I say it 'emotions.' Some of your nice traits are sympathy and being receptive. You also can be shrewd but be careful it doesn't backfire on you. The pearl is your stone, this can change bad fortune into good. And a nice country for you to travel is Scotland. Your colors are sea green and silver.

LEO—July 23-Aug. 22. Your loyalty is without question. You control your own domain no matter how small or large. While others will accept second best, you will not. And why not, the SUN is your ruler, the center of the solar system. Other words to describe you are powerful, creative and generous. Well don't you know there is a down side? Don't draw people into confrontations—you are not always right. And you can also be the target of slander. Your birthstone is the ruby. And your place to visit is Hollywood, where else?

VIRGO—Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Never put off anything that can be done today instead of tomorrow. That is the code for this other Mercury ruler. The

Virgin who is the symbol for this sign represents purity, modesty and service to your fellow human being. Since Virgo rules the nervous system in the body, you can be prone to illness caused by stress and tension. So do things to lighten the load. A trip to Greece would be nice and Paris on the way home. Sapphire is your stone. Your lucky numbers are 5 and 3.

LIBRA—Sept 23-Oct 22. You Libras are easy to like. You make anyone you come in contact with comfortable. Venus is your planet ruler, the goddess of love and beauty. Your symbol, the scales, show you are a person of balance and justice. Your stone, the opal, can bring financial success. A visit to Charleston or to Japan will bring adventure. Be careful not to anger or disappoint them you love. Friday is your day.

SCORPIO - Oct. 23-Nov. 21. Intense, persistent, imaginative and emotional these are some of your qualities. Your planet ruler Pluto is the ancient god of the nether world and the dead. This represents the beginnings and end phases in our life. You have a sixth sense that works for you. You are clever with money and know how to culminate wealth. Do not use your secretiveness and jealousy to hurt others. Your stone is topaz, it brings serenity of the mind. Color is burgundy. Your numbers are 2 and 4.

SAGITTARIUS—Nov. 22-Dec. 21. You are ruled by the planet of fortune. You always seem to be in the right place at the right time. Jupiter was the most important Roman god of all. He ruled the heavens. Some traits you may show are ambition, energetic and freedom lover. Turquoise is your stone, it can help you attract love. If I were you, I'd visit Alcapulco and Spain. Your strong feelings about freedom can make people jealous and possessive.

CAPRICORN—Dec. 22-Jan. 19. Ambition seems to be the goal for most goats who are sure-footed animals. You have a motivating structure for success in the areas of money, status, and authority. Saturn is your ruling planet, which governs limitations, obstacles and discipline. Your lucky day is Saturday, along with numbers 2 and 8. The stone that helps you attract true love and high esteem is the garnet. Secrets in your past can be used against you. A city to visit is Boston. A country is Mexico.

AQUARIUS—Jan. 20-Feb. 18. Off on your own path. This is a trait for

your sign. Unorthodox and original are a couple of others. After all you're ruling planet is Uranus the ancient Greek sky god, first ruler of the universe. The planet represents change and the unexpected. Your symbol is the water bearer who represents the giving of life or representing life. Your stone is the amethyst with this it brings the gift of prescience. You should visit Buenos Aires. Be careful of unusual situations. Electric blue.

PISCES—Feb. 19-March 20. You are ruled by Neptune, ancient god of the sea. This installs the illusion, glamour and mystery of this sign. Your symbol is two fish tied together in opposite directions. This signifies hidden depths, shifting emotional currents. Aquamarine is your stone, which can bring serenity of the mind. You should visit Portugal and the city of Dublin. Be careful not to let drugs and alcohol be your down fall. Pisces end the circle of the signs and is believed to be a link to the spirit world. With your imagination, you make wonderful poets.

INFO—Well this is just the tip of the iceberg of how we perceive ourselves. There are so many formulations that make up ones character that I can write till my fingers fall off. Remember "time, place and date" will map out your own individual personality. There are many books on the subject to be read. Any Questions can be forwarded to the **Observer**. So have fun with what you read. Be aware with what's going on so you can use a better thought process in the situations that you encounter in your life.

Quote: We are all one seeking our own individuality—Cyrus N. Moon

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Zoning Board of Adjustment

March 17, 1999

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the Zoning Board of Adjustment of the Borough of South Plainfield at its meeting held on March 16, 1999.

A. Case No. 60-98/S - Bell Atlantic-New Jersey, Inc. - Block 420; Lot 11.01; Montrose Ave. & Second Place - Applicant's request for a use variance, front yard set back variance and preliminary and final site plan, with waivers, to construct an underground concrete vault, was hereby GRANTED.

Janice Muccilli
Secretary Zoning Board of Adjustment
\$15.00 1T March 26, 1999

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

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

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** be adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, March 26, 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 # 1504

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.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Borough

Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, by not less than two thirds of the full membership thereof affirmatively concurring that:

Section 1. That there is hereby authorized pursuant to the applicable statutes of the State of New Jersey, as a sewer utility capital improvement for the repair of the sanitary sewer line on Kennedy Road in the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, New Jersey.

Section 2. It is hereby determined and declared by this Mayor and Borough Council as follows:

A. That the maximum estimated amount of money to be raised from all sources for the purpose stated in section 1 hereof is \$100,000.

B. That the cost of said project shall be financed from the Sewer Utility Capital Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, \$100,000, which said sum is available for said purpose.

C. That the estimated useful life of said improvement is hereby determined to be forty (40) years.

D. That this appropriation will be used to fund the Emergency appropriation for the Sewer Utility fund that was adopted by the Borough Council on February 11, 1999.

Section 3. That the total amount of the appropriation to be expended for architectural and inspection costs, legal costs, advertisement of ordinance and other expenses as provided in Section 48-2-20 of the Revised Statutes, is not exceeding \$15,000.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication in accordance with the law.

Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor

ATTEST:
James Eckert/Municipal Clerk

\$81.00 1T March 26, 1999

POLICE REPORT

- A resident of Easton Blvd. reported that someone was on his property taking photographs. He said that he asked the man to stop and leave several times. The resident claims the man got into his truck and backed up towards him several times, causing him to injure his leg as he was moving out of the way. The photographer claims he was taking pictures for the owner of the property. The resident allegedly grabbed the photographer from truck. Both parties were advised of complaint procedures and the photographer was issued a summons for blocking their driveway. It was noted that there has been an ongoing dispute between the two men.
- Yeovone White of Piscataway re-

ported the theft of her son's bike from the front of KB toys on Stelton Road. The bike was unlocked at the time.

- A resident of New Brunswick Ave. reported a fire at her home. When flames were spotted coming from a room in the front of the house she called 911. It is believed that the fire started at or near a television. There were no injuries and most of the damage was confined to one room.

- Police responded to a call from high school Assistant Principal Dr. Ken May, who signed a complaint against a female student after a fight. The minor was charged with disorderly conduct.

- Yogarajah Nithianangthan of Canada reported the theft of his passport, airline

ticket and other items from his room at the Ramada Inn on Hamilton Blvd. The hotel manager stated that all belongings were removed from the room because Nithianangthan was to have left at 11 a.m. on 3/21 and had not. His belongings were placed in a storage locker but a check of the locker did not turn up the passport or the ticket.

- Debra Thomas of Greenbrook, owner of a house at 172 Somerset St., reported that someone had egged the sides and front of the house. The handrail on the steps was damaged and a light was smashed and the mailbox was thrown in the garage. The house is unoccupied.


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Center has a part-time opening in data entry. Eves. 6-11 pm. M-F. Call Suzanne 908-756-6242 ext. 203

TEACHERS WANTED FOR
South Plainfield Adult School in Saturday Scene Youth Program and Adult High School in the following areas: dance, computers, mathematics, English, history, science, English as a Second Language, adult basic education, GED, and deaf education. For info and application please call Jim Lennox at 908-754-4620, ext. 213.

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

HELP WANTED

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.

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.

BABYSITTING

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.

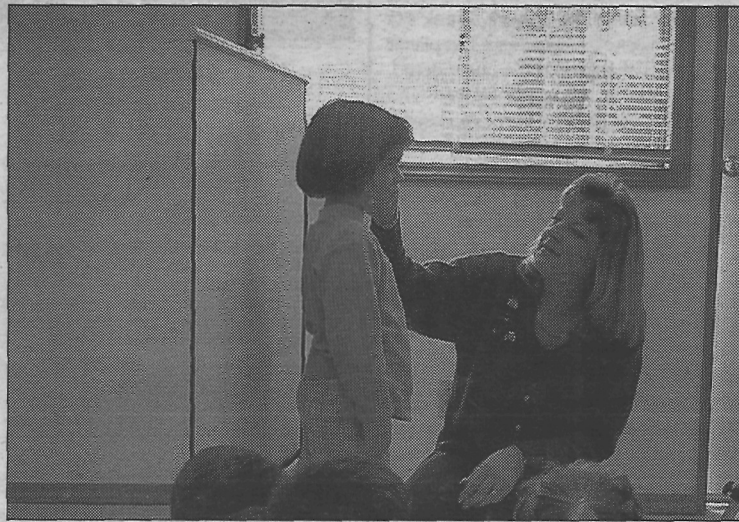
FOR RATES & INFO CALL THE OBSERVER AT 732-469-4380.

Secure-A-Child Program

Continued from page one

database stored at the local police department. When a child is reported missing, every minute is critical. The program allows any police department to access the child's ID number and missing persons posters can be created within minutes instead of hours or even days. The program does not replace the standard fingerprinting of children but instead enhances the information available to law enforcement officials. It must be noted that this information is only available to police personnel. Great care has been taken to avoid the information being accessed by hackers. Information garnered from each child is stored locally and is not shared with any other police department unless a child is reported missing. The Secure-a-Child cards are \$12 each. Additional cards are \$2.

K & A Industries moved to South Plainfield on March 1 of this year. They were previously located



Teacher Nancy Murtaugh and a student prepare to have a Secure--Child photo taken.

at Raritan Center in Edison. Secure-A-Child is now up and running in 13 municipalities. More towns have contacted K & A to begin the program as well. Over 2,700 children have been registered with the program.

K & A Industries was founded in January of 1991 for the purpose of developing ID card technologies, software and card issuing systems for high security environments.

The company has developed a patented tamper-proof plastic card. The first full color tamper proof cards in the United States. Their customer base ranges from Fortune 1000 companies to all branches of government, including the House of Representatives. The Secure-a-Child card goal is to keep children safe but the wish behind the technology is that the cards never need be used.

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.

Franklin Third-Grader Taryn Billich Wins Writing Contest

Continued from page one

essay was completed just in time.

Taryn said she chose Dr. Virginia Apgar because she played the violin "just like I do"! She admires the great things the doctor did and hopes to do some great things herself one day. The busy nine-year-old loves to write. Her mother noted that she had been writing stories for a long time. Taryn recalled a song she had written when she was five years old. Taryn is also involved with the newsletter club.

On Sunday, March 7, Metuchen High School hosted the YWCA statewide celebration of International Woman's Day. Winners of the contest were present at the event. Taryn said, "I was excited and nervous!" Franklin School Principal Nancy Erickson joined Taryn and her proud parents, Michelle and Paul Billich, at the presentation.

They discovered when they arrived that Taryn would have to read her essay to the audience of about 200 people. Nancy Erickson commented that the surprise announcement didn't seem to phase Taryn a bit.

International Woman's Day is celebrated world-wide on March 8. The day, not yet widely known, began in 1911. It is an observance of "working women and their contributions to history" according to the YWCA. The celebration is a project of the YWCA of the USA. Since 1993 the YWCA has been actively involved in the celebration. New Jersey schools and communities were among the first to participate in honoring the day.

Taryn continues writing, both at school and at home. With the head start and the determination that Taryn possesses, this Observer writer would not be surprised to see the byline "Taryn Billich" in the not too distant future.

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- The Little Store, South Clinton Ave.
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- 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

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

March / April 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 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 Education 8 p.m. Board of Adjustment 8 pm	31 Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	APRIL 1 Taxpayers Advisory Group 8 pm First Day of Passover	2 Good Friday Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	3
Easter Sunday 4 First Day of Daylight Savings Time	5 Borough Council Agenda Meeting 8 pm Recreation Comm. Meeting 7 pm PAL	6 Board of Adjustment 8 pm	7 Business Advisory Group 5:30 pm Court 9:30 am	8 Borough Council Meeting 8 pm	9 Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	10
11	12	13 Library Board 7:30 pm Planning Board Meeting 8 pm	14 Environmental Comm. 8 pm Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	15	16 Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	17
18	19 Borough Council Agenda Meeting 8 pm Land Management Advisory Committee 7:30 pm	20 Board of Adjustment 8 pm	21 Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	22 Recycling Com. 8 p.m. Borough Council Meeting 8 pm	23 Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	24

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